



# MEMORANDUM FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF COMPETITION POLICY BETWEEN THE GEORGIAN NATIONAL COMPETITION AGENCY AND THE CROATIAN COMPETITION AGENCY

The Georgian National Competition Agency and the Croatian Competition Agency (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

Expressing the wish to promote cooperation in the field of competition policy and competition law enforcement of the States of the Parties,

Aiming to establish favorable conditions for the advancing of bilateral relations,

Based on principles of equality and mutual benefit,

Underlining the role of competition as an effective mechanism to a developed market economy,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

#### Article I

The Parties shall promote and strengthen cooperation in competition law enforcement in accordance with their national laws and regulations and with EU law.

### Article II

In line with the mutual interest of the Parties, cooperation will be realized in the following basic directions subject to reasonably available resources:

- a) exchange of information on legislative developments;
- b) exchange of experience in the field of investigations, regarding the violation of competition rules;
- c) exchange of experience regarding the relations between competition authorities and national regulatory agencies;
- d) exchange of information on major areas of interest in the field of competition law and policy.

#### **Article III**

The main forms of interaction between the Parties may be as follows:

- a) exchange of non-confidential documents on cases and market studies;
- b) organizing study visits and experts training;
- c) attendance at international conferences, symposiums, seminars and other events organized by the Parties;
- d) expert meetings or consultation via e-mail between experts of the Parties regarding exchange of non-confidential information on specific issues of mutual interest;
- e) organization of high level-meetings/visits for discussing the perspectives and directions in which the bilateral cooperation will continue;
- f) exchange of non-confidential documents, studies, books etc., which have been published by the Parties.

## **Article IV**

The transfer or sharing of information will be in English and by official mail and e-mail through designated point of contacts or on the occasion of Parties representatives' meetings.

# Article V

The agenda, place and other elements of activities, including financial aspects, shall be individually established by Parties by mutual agreement.

#### Article VI

In order to implement the activities under this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties will designate the contact persons to be notified.

#### **Article VII**

Disputes regarding the interpretation and implementation of the present Memorandum, if any, shall be settled by the means of consultations, and negotiations.

#### Article VIII

This Memorandum is concluded with a view to enhancing and developing cooperation between the Parties and does not constitute an agreement binding upon the States of the Parties under international law. No provision of this Memorandum shall be interpreted and implemented as creating legal rights or commitments for the States of the Parties.

#### Article IX

The present Memorandum shall be jointly revised by the Parties following prior consultations.

# Article X

The present Memorandum is concluded for an unlimited period of time and enters into force on the date of its signing.

# Article XI

The Memorandum can be terminated by either Party by submitting a written notification to the other Party.

The Memorandum will expire after three months from the date of receipt of the written notification.

## Article XII

The present Memorandum is signed on the occasion of the ICN annual conference in Barcelona, on October, 2023 in three copies each in the Georgian, Croatian and English language, one for each of the Parties and each text being authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Georgian National Competition

Agency

Irak<del>li Lek</del>vinadze

Chairman

For the Croatian Competition

1Agency

Mirta Kapural

President of the Council