Held under the High Patronage of the President of Romania

LIDC

Congress 2026 Bucharest

InterContinental AthéNéE Palace, **15–18 October 2026**



Congress Magazine of the

Romanian Association for Competition Law

(ARCON)

Program, Questions, Speakers, Sponsors and About the LIDC

LIDC 2026

ARCON
ASOCIAȚIA ROMÂNĂ DE DREPTUL CONCURENȚEI

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Foreword

It is both a great honour and a personal joy to welcome the international LIDC community to Bucharest for the 2026 LIDC Congress, taking place from 15 to 18 October 2026. For the first time in its distinguished history, the Congress will be hosted in Romania — a milestone moment for ARCON, for the Romanian legal community, and for all those who have contributed over the years to strengthening the dialogue between competition law, intellectual property and unfair competition law at both national and international level.

The 2026 Congress is further distinguished by being held under the High Patronage of the President of Romania, a recognition that highlights the importance of the event for Romania's legal community and its international partners. The patronage reflects the relevance of the Congress themes in today's rapidly evolving economic and technological landscape and reaffirms Romania's commitment to supporting dialogue, innovation and international cooperation in the fields of competition law, intellectual property and regulation. For ARCON, it is a great honour and a meaningful acknowledgment of the role that the LIDC Congress plays in bringing together leading experts from around the world.

The 2026 edition carries a special symbolic significance. It coincides with two remarkable anniversaries connected to one of Romania's greatest cultural figures, Constantin Brâncuși: 150 years since his birth and 100 years since the landmark "Bird in Space" litigation in the United States. That case fundamentally challenged the legal understanding of art and remains one of the most influential intersections between artistic expression and legal interpretation. Nearly a century later, as artificial intelligence, digital technologies and evolving creative industries continue to reshape the concept of authorship and innovation, the legal questions surrounding the definition of art, originality and intellectual property protection are more relevant than ever.

Against this backdrop, the Congress agenda will bring together leading practitioners, academics, judges, competition officials and in-house counsel from across jurisdictions to discuss some of the most pressing developments in antitrust, intellectual property and digital regulation. The scientific program includes high-level panels dedicated to merger control and foreign investment screening, digital markets, defence rights in antitrust proceedings, algorithmic pricing, AI-assisted creation and standard essential patents, alongside the traditional LIDC working sessions on the two annual study questions. More than twenty Romanian and international speakers are expected to contribute to these discussions, ensuring a truly global and interdisciplinary exchange of ideas.

Beyond the academic program, we hope participants will also discover the energy, elegance and contrasts that define Bucharest today. A city where Belle Époque architecture coexists with contemporary creativity and entrepreneurial dynamism, Bucharest offers a unique setting for dialogue, connection and inspiration. We are convinced that our guests will enjoy not only the intellectual substance of the Congress, but also the warmth, hospitality and vibrant atmosphere of the Romanian capital.

The Congress will be hosted at the InterContinental AthéNéE Palace Bucharest, one of the city's most iconic landmarks. Overlooking the Romanian Athenaeum and located in the historic heart of Bucharest, the hotel has witnessed more than a century of political, cultural and diplomatic history. Its remarkable heritage, refined architecture and timeless elegance make it a fitting venue for a congress dedicated to legal tradition, innovation and international exchange.

On behalf of ARCON, I warmly thank the LIDC leadership, the organising committees, our speakers, sponsors and partners for their trust and support. We look forward to welcoming you to Bucharest for what promises to be a memorable Congress.

Anca Buta Mușat
Chair of ARCON
Vice-Chair of LIDC



Nearly a century after the landmark Bird in Space litigation, the legal questions surrounding art, originality and innovation remain more relevant than ever.

Program

of the Congress LIDC 2026 in Bucharest

THURSDAY, 15TH OCTOBER 2026

InterContinental AthénéE Palace

13:00–18:00 Registration of Delegates (Mozart meeting room, 1st floor)

14:00–15:00 Meeting of the Scientific Committee (Mozart meeting room, 1st floor)

15:00–17:00 Meeting of the Bureau (Mozart meeting room, 1st floor)

17:00–18:00 Meeting of the Council (Mozart meeting room, 1st floor)

18:00–20:00 Welcome Cocktail, hosted by Mușat & Asociații (Aviatorilor Blvd. 43)

20:30–22:30 Young Members/NexGen (Evening event with drinks & music / Naive, Ion C. Bratianu Blvd. 36)

FRIDAY, 16TH OCTOBER 2026

InterContinental AthénéE Palace

08:30–13:00 Registration of Delegates (Le Diplomate conference room, ground floor)

09:00–09:15 Opening Session (Le Diplomate)
Opening message from the Presidential Administration – **Cosmin-Alexandru Soare-Filatov**, Presidential Adviser on Constitutional Affairs
Introduction LIDC International: **Zoltán Barakonyi**, LIDC President and Senior Counsel Baker McKenzie LLP (Hungary, Budapest)
Introduction LIDC Romania: **Anca Buta Mușat**, ARCON Chair and Partner at Mușat & Asociații

09:15–10:00 Keynote speech
Emeritus Professor Richard Whish, King's College London
Bogdan Chirițoiu, Chairman of the Romanian Competition Council

10:00–11:15 **Panel I** - Regulatory Challenges to M&A Transactions (Le Diplomate)

11:15–11:45 Coffee Break

11:45–12:45 **Panel II** (parallel) - New Theories of Harm in "by Object" Agreements (Le Diplomate)
Panel III (parallel) - Protecting AI-Generated Innovation and Creativity: Patent, Trademark, Copyright and Competition Challenges (Enescu meeting room, 1st floor)

12:45–13:45 Lunch Break

14:00–15:00 **Panel IV** (parallel) - Defence Rights in Antitrust Litigations (Le Diplomate)
Panel V (parallel) – New Developments in Copyright: Originality, Derivative Works and Limitations (Enescu)

15:00–15:30 Afternoon Coffee

15:30–16:30 **Panel VI** (parallel) – Digital Markets in the Framework of Competition Law: Difficulties in Applying Conventional Legal Concepts (Le Diplomate)
Panel VII (parallel) - Standard Essential Patents and Judicial Overreach: Towards Balanced Global Solutions (Enescu)

18:00–18:15 Meeting in the Lobby

20:00–23:00 Dinner at Cotroceni Palace

SATURDAY, 17TH OCTOBER 2026

InterContinental AthénéE Palace

09:00–10:30 Working Session: Question A (parallel) (Regina Maria conference room, ground floor)

09:00–10:30 Working Session: Question B (parallel) (Enescu meeting room, 1st floor)

10:30–11:00 Morning Coffee

11:00–12:00 **Extra Panel** – Current developments at the intersection of Intellectual Property Law and Competition Law (Regina Maria conference room, ground floor)

12:00–13:30 General Assembly

13:30–14:30 Lunch

14:30–17:30 Time to visit Bucharest

17:45 Meeting Point

InterContinental AthénéE Palace

19:00-23:00 Cocktail & Gala Dinner

SUNDAY, 18TH OCTOBER 2026

08:30 Meeting Point: InterContinental AthénéE Palace

09:00–12:30 Guided Tour Mogoșoaia Palace

12:30–14:00 Lunch

12:30 & 14:00 Buses back to the hotel

Details

Scientific Program

Friday:

Opening Session (09:00)

Introduction LIDC International and Romanian Group

Keynote Speech (09:15)

Current developments from the European / UK and the Romanian perspective in competition law

Panel 1:

Regulatory Challenges to M&A Transactions (10:00)

Focus will be on mergers, FDI and FSR

Panel 2:

New Theories of Harm in "by Object" Agreements (11:45)

Focus will be on no-poaching agreements, and exchange of sensitive information in the digital age, signaling and algorithmic pricing

Panel 3:

Protecting AI-Generated Innovation and Creativity: Patent, Trademark, Copyright and Competition Challenges (11:45)

The discussion will deal with developments in AI and AI-related technologies and their characterization under Intellectual Property and Unfair Competition Law rules

Panel 4:

Defence Rights in Antitrust Litigations (14:00)

The discussion will focus on new developments in terms of procedural safeguards for parties to antitrust litigations, including use and misuse of presumptions

Panel 5:

New Developments in Copyright: Derivative Works and Limitations (14:00)

Focus on developments in copyright law, especially new decisions concerning the criterion of originality for copyright protection, protection of derivative works and limitations to copyright

Panel 6:

Digital Markets in the Framework of Competition Law: Difficulties in Applying Conventional Legal Concepts (15:30)

This panel will explore the challenges that digital markets pose to the application of traditional competition law concepts. Discussions will focus on issues such as market power in digital ecosystems, data-driven competitive advantages, platform dynamics, network effects, and the adequacy of existing analytical tools in addressing rapidly evolving digital business models

Panel 7:

Standard Essential Patents and Judicial Overreach: Towards Balanced Global Solutions (15:30)

Focus will be on judicial overreach/imperialism and supra-national solutions as a response to current challenges posed by fast-paced innovation and globalized markets for IP-driven technology

Saturday Extra Panel:

Current Developments at the Intersection of Intellectual Property Law and Competition Law (11:00)

Focus will be on the developments in practice and theory on issues at the intersection of Intellectual Property Law and Competition Law

Panels and panelists

of the Congress LIDC 2026 in Bucharest

FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2026

Opening Session (09:00)

Opening message from the Presidential Administration:

- **Cosmin-Alexandru Soare-Filatov**, Presidential Adviser on Constitutional Affairs

Introduction LIDC International:

- **Zoltán Barakonyi**, LIDC President and Senior Counsel at Baker McKenzie LLP (Hungary, Budapest)

Introduction LIDC Romania:

- **Anca Buta Mușat**, ARCON Chair and Partner at Mușat & Asociații

Keynote Speech (09:15)

- Emeritus Professor **Richard Whish**, King's College London
- **Bogdan Chirițoiu**, Chairman of the Romanian Competition Council

Panel I - Regulatory Challenges to M&A Transactions (10:00)

Speakers:

- **Leo Flynn** (Principal Legal Adviser, European Commission)
- **Ioannis Kokkoris** (Professor, Queen Mary University; Member of the Competition Appeal Tribunal)
- Prof. Dr. **George Anglitoiu** (Secretary of the Romanian Investment Screening Commission - CEISD)
- **Gabriela Mihailescu** (Legal & Compliance Director, Penny)

Moderator: **Anca Jurcovan** (Partner, Wolf Theiss)

Panel II (parallel) - New Theories of Harm in "by Object" Agreements (11:45)

Speakers:

- **Filip Tuytschaever** (Professor of Competition Law at Brussels University and Partner with Contrast law firm)
- **Marek Jahudka** (Senior case-handler DG COMP, European Commission)
- **Vivien Terrien** (Vice-Chairman, French Competition Authority)
- **Cătălin Graure** (Counsel, Kinstellar)

Moderator: **Silviu Vasile** (Partner, Filip & Company)

Panel III (parallel) - Protecting AI-Generated Innovation and Creativity: Patent, Trademark, Copyright and Competition Challenges (11:45)

Speakers:

- **Viorel Roș,** Managing Partner, Roș Și Asociații
- **Alexandra Bensamoun** (Professor of private law and criminal sciences, Université Paris-Saclay)
- **Ben Evans** (University of East Anglia)
- **Adrian Comănescu** (Member of the Plenum, Romanian Competition Council)

Moderator: **Andreea Livădariu** (Partner, Roș Și Asociații)

Panel IV (parallel) - Defence rights in Antitrust Litigations (14:00)

Organized in partnership with the National Institute for Magistracy, as continuous professional development for Romanian judges.

Speakers:

- **Eugene Regan** (Judge, CJEU)
- **Diana Tamaga** (President of the Administrative Division, High Court of Cassation and Justice)
- **Anne-Marie Witters** (President of Brussels Market Court, President of the Association of European Competition Law Judges)
- **Mark Hamer** (Partner, Baker McKenzie)
- **Anca Diaconu** (Partner, NNDKP)

Moderator: **Paul Buta** (Managing Partner, Mușat & Asociații)

Panel V (parallel) – New Developments in Copyright: Derivative Works and Limitations (14:00)

Speakers:

- **Andreia Constanda** (Judge, High Court of Cassation and Justice)
- **Justine Pila** (Professor, University of Oxford)
- **Dr. Anna-Kristine Wipper** (Partner, PwC)
- **Julie Samnadda** (Member of the Legal Service, European Commission)

Moderator: **Luminița Olteanu** (Associate Professor, School of Law, University of Warwick)

Panel VI (parallel) – Digital Markets in the Framework of Competition Law: Difficulties in Applying Conventional Legal Concepts (15:30)

Speakers:

- **Cristina Volpin** (Expert in Competition Policy, OECD)
- **Alexandru Șotropa** (Legal Director – Competition Law, eMAG)
- **Thibault Schrepel** (Professor, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
- **Adina Claici** (Managing Director, BRG)

Moderator: **Adrian Ster**, Founding Partner, 360 Competition

Panel VII (parallel) - Standard Essential Patents and Judicial Overreach: Towards Balanced Global Solutions (15:30)

Speakers:

- **Liviu Zidaru** (Judge, High Court of Cassation and Justice)
- Prof. Dr. **Nadia de Araujo** (Law Faculty at the Pontifical Catholic University, Rio de Janeiro)
- **Katalin Tőzsér** (Judge, Munich I Regional Court)
- **Collette Rawnsley** (Vice President, IP Policy & Advocacy, Nokia)

Moderator: **Felipe Oquendo** (Partner, Licks Attorneys)

SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2026

Extra Panel – Current Developments at the Intersection of Intellectual Property Law and Competition Law (11:00)

Speakers:

- **Octavia Spineanu-Matei** (Judge, CJEU)
- **Daniel Severinsson** (Judge, UPC Central Division Munich
- **Anselm Kamperman-Sanders** (Professor, Maastricht University; Deputy Judge, Court of Appeal The Hague)
- **Josef Drexl** (Professor, University of Munich; Director of the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition in Munich)

Moderator: **Anca Buta Mușat** (Partner, Mușat & Asociații)



Questions

of the Congress LIDC Bucharest 2026

Every year, the LIDC organises an international Congress dedicated to the in-depth examination of two specific issues within this field of law. National Groups or individual members prepare national reports on each topic, which serve as the foundation for a comprehensive international report discussed during the Congress. All reports are published by Springer and LIDC in the series "LIDC Contributions on Antitrust Law, Intellectual Property and Unfair Competition."





We are pleased to announce that the two study questions prepared by the rapporteurs and discussed at the Bucharest Congress are as follows:

Question A

To what extent and in what way have the negotiated procedures (leniency, commitments, settlements and, where applicable, consent decrees) improved the effectiveness of Antitrust Law without unduly conflicting with fundamental principles such as the rights of defense and confidentiality?

International Reporter **Prof. Dr. Eckart Bueren**
(Georg-August-Universität Göttingen)

Background & Context

Procedures for the public enforcement of antitrust rules are long and very resource intensive. This is because their very ambitious public policy objectives are only matched by the seriousness of their consequences. Moreover, the procedures regularly involve collecting and carefully scrutinizing a huge amount of evidence which needs to then be analyzed through a variety of economic and legal lenses in order to check whether it supports one of the many theories of harm antitrust law is now concerned with.

In this context, negotiated procedures, which result in a quicker restoration of the competitive landscape but under terms which are acceptable to both the competition authorities and the undertakings under investigation, which benefit consumers and also allow for the limited public resources to last for even more antitrust enforcement procedures, appear as very important policy tools. This was, in general, also proven in practice by their wide adoption, once enacted.

A variety of negotiated procedures was gradually made available for the goal of balancing different incentives and objectives: assistance in the detection of antitrust infringements and the gathering of evidence (e.g. leniency), the faster restoration of the competitive landscape (e.g. commitments), the faster resolution of the case and avoiding prolonged annulment litigation (e.g. settlements), or some part of each of these (consent decrees).

However, negotiated procedures, being concluded between the competition authority and the undertakings under investigation, do not generally include a full and exhaustive analysis of the facts and legal arguments pertaining to the infringement and, in some cases, are not subject to review by the courts. Therefore questions arise regarding whether the effectiveness of this type of procedure is up to the standard of effectiveness of antitrust law and how is the public interest served by such procedure being concluded instead of a full investigation being conducted.

Moreover, not only the rights and interests of the general public need to be addressed, but also the rights and interests of the investigated undertakings and of the other persons impacted by the investigation (e.g. author of the complaint, possible claimants of private damages etc.). The need to protect the fundamental rights and principles of all these various parties must be weaved into how these procedures are designed, how they differ from each other and into how they can be used.

Question B

To what extent does intellectual property law recognize the evolving concept of "art," including in the context of AI-assisted creation, and how does this shape the limits between the different types of Intellectual Property Rights and their role in enabling innovation, investment and the monetization of creative outputs?

International Reporter **Prof. Justine Pila**
(University of Oxford)

Background & Context

Next year marks one hundred years since Constantin Brâncuși cast one of his Bird in Space statues, a work that traveled to the United States and prompted the courts to ask: "What is art in the eyes of the law?"

In the century since, both art and our understanding of it have transformed dramatically. Artistic expression has taken countless forms, propelled by technological developments, and is now consumed—and monetized—in ways far removed from those imaginable when the Bird in Space case was argued.

As intellectual property law remains the primary framework for protecting and monetizing artistic expression, it is imperative that it evolves in step with contemporary conceptions of art. IP law must ensure that its incentive producing mechanisms are properly aligned with new dimensions of artistic creation and the technological means of making, disseminating, and consuming art.

At its most ambitious reading, the question seeks to explore how "art" is understood within the protected domain of intellectual property law—whether under creative, utilitarian, or distinctive regimes of protection—the boundaries of that understanding (for example, whether the law should operate with closed or open lists of protected subject matter and where those boundaries should be drawn), and how the relationship between art and the technological means of its production should be defined, particularly in the context of AI assisted creation. Ultimately, it asks how these evolving dynamics will affect artists, businesses, and society at large in terms of fostering innovation, attracting investment, and generating value.

Reporters

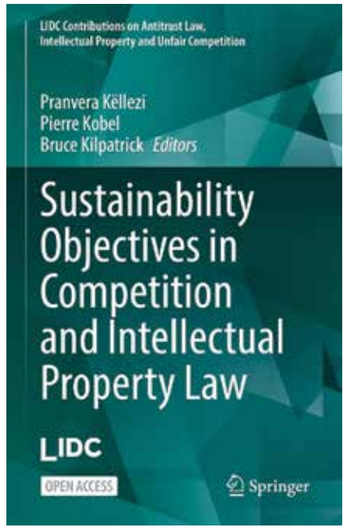
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Question A

To what extent and in what way have the negotiated procedures (leniency, commitments, settlements and, where applicable, consent decrees) improved the effectiveness of Antitrust Law without unduly conflicting with fundamental principles such as the rights of defense and confidentiality?

International Reporter **Prof. Dr. Eckart Bueren**
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Publication of the international and national reports

Pranvera Këllezi, Pierre Kobel, Bruce Kilpatrick (Editors): Sustainability Objectives in Competition and Intellectual Property Law (LIDC, Springer)

Question B

To what extent does intellectual property law recognize the evolving concept of "art," including in the context of AI-assisted creation, and how does this shape the limits between the different types of Intellectual Property Rights and their role in enabling innovation, investment and the monetization of creative outputs?

International Reporter **Prof. Justine Pila**
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Judge
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President of the
Association of European
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Liviu Zidaru
Judge
High Court of
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About the social program

Beyond the scientific discussions and professional exchanges, the LIDC Congress 2026 in Bucharest offers participants the opportunity to experience some of Romania's most remarkable historical and cultural landmarks through a carefully curated social program. Designed to combine elegance, hospitality and local identity, the program reflects the spirit of Bucharest itself — a city where history, architecture and contemporary energy coexist in a unique vibrant atmosphere.





Cotroceni Palace — Friday Evening Cocktail Dinner

On Friday evening, participants will be welcomed at the Cotroceni Palace, one of Romania's most prestigious historical and institutional landmarks. Serving today as the official residence of the President of Romania, the Palace occupies a unique place in the country's political and cultural history.

Originally built at the end of the 19th century on the site of a former royal residence and monastery, Cotroceni Palace combines neo-classical elegance with rich Romanian architectural influences. Throughout its history, it has witnessed defining moments of Romanian political, diplomatic and royal life, while also preserving an atmosphere of refinement and discretion that continues to distinguish it today.

The Palace is surrounded by extensive gardens and ceremonial courtyards, offering a remarkable setting in the heart of Bucharest. Its interiors reflect a blend of royal heritage, historical symbolism and architectural sophistication, with reception halls and salons that have hosted state visits, diplomatic meetings and official ceremonies over the decades.

The Friday evening cocktail dinner will take place in this exceptional setting and will offer participants the opportunity to enjoy Romanian hospitality in an atmosphere that combines history, elegance and contemporary institutional prestige. The event will feature a refined flying buffet and networking reception, allowing guests to connect informally while discovering one of Bucharest's most emblematic landmarks.

Gala Dinner at UNDA — Saturday Evening

On Saturday evening, the Congress Gala Dinner will take place at UNDA, one of Bucharest's most elegant contemporary venues, beautifully situated on the shores of a lake. Known for its modern design, relaxed sophistication and panoramic lakeside views, UNDA has become a well-known destination for cultural, social and corporate events in the Romanian capital.

The venue is defined by its seamless integration of architecture and nature. Surrounded by greenery and reflecting the calm ambiance of the lake, UNDA offers a distinctly different perspective on Bucharest — one that highlights the city's modern lifestyle and cosmopolitan energy.

The Gala Dinner represents one of the social highlights of the Congress and provides participants with an opportunity to continue discussions and strengthen international connections in a more informal and celebratory setting. Guests will enjoy an evening combining fine dining, music and networking in a venue that reflects the contemporary spirit of Bucharest while preserving an atmosphere of elegance and exclusivity.

The lakeside setting, together with the carefully designed architecture of the venue, creates a memorable backdrop for the traditional LIDC Gala Dinner and offers participants an opportunity to experience the city beyond its institutional and historical landmarks.

Mogoșoaia Palace — Sunday Cultural Visit

On Sunday morning, participants will have the opportunity to join a guided visit to Mogoșoaia Palace, one of the most beautiful and historically significant cultural monuments near Bucharest.

Located approximately 15 kilometres from the city centre, the palace was built between 1698 and 1702 by Prince Constantin Brâncoveanu and represents one of the finest examples of Brâncovenesc architecture — a distinctive Romanian architectural style that harmoniously combines Byzantine, Ottoman, Renaissance and Baroque influences.

Set on the shores of Lake Mogoșoaia and surrounded by extensive gardens and parkland, the palace offers an atmosphere of serenity and elegance. Its open loggias, stone arcades, intricate carvings and balanced proportions reflect the artistic sophistication of the Brâncovenesc period, which remains one of the defining expressions of Romanian cultural heritage.

Throughout the centuries, Mogoșoaia Palace has served as a royal residence, cultural retreat and meeting place for intellectual and artistic circles. Today, it functions as an important cultural and historical site, hosting exhibitions,



artistic events and educational programs dedicated to preserving Romanian heritage.

The Sunday excursion will provide participants with an opportunity to discover a different dimension of Romanian history and architecture beyond the urban landscape of Bucharest. The visit will include a guided tour of the palace and its grounds.

Together, these events aim to complement the academic program of the Congress by creating opportunities for dialogue, cultural discovery and international exchange in some of Romania's most distinctive and memorable locations.

About the accompanying persons program

In parallel with the scientific sessions of the Congress, a special accompanying persons program will offer guests the opportunity to discover Bucharest through two carefully curated guided tours dedicated to the city's history, architecture, cultural life and distinctive atmosphere. Designed as relaxed explorations of the Romanian capital, the tours combine historical landmarks, cultural institutions and local experiences, allowing participants to discover both the monumental and intimate dimensions of Bucharest.

Friday, 16 October 2026

"Bucharest Between History, Finance and Modern Art"

The Friday program will explore the historical centre of Bucharest and some of its most emblematic institutional and architectural landmarks, revealing the city's transformation from a late nineteenth-century commercial capital into a vibrant contemporary cultural destination.

The tour will begin with a visit to the National Bank of Romania (BNR), one of the country's most important institutional buildings and a symbol of Romania's modern economic development. Built in a monumental neoclassical style, the BNR Palace reflects the ambitions of Romania during the Belle Époque period, when Bucharest became known as the "Little Paris of the East." Located in the historic Lipscani district, the building remains one of the city's architectural landmarks and an important witness to Romania's political and financial history.

The route will continue through the old commercial quarter towards Stavropoleos Monastery, one of the most charming and refined religious monuments in Bucharest. Built in the early eighteenth century in the Brâncovenesc style, the monastery is renowned for its elegant stone carvings, delicate arches and peaceful courtyard hidden among the lively streets of the Old Town. Despite the constant transformation of the surrounding city, Stavropoleos has preserved an atmosphere of tranquillity and historical continuity that makes it one of Bucharest's most beloved cultural landmarks.

Nearby, participants will discover the impressive CEC Palace, one of the city's grandest architectural monuments. Inaugurated in 1900 and distinguished by its monumental dome and eclectic French-inspired design, the building reflects the optimism and cosmopolitan spirit of Bucharest at the turn of the twentieth century. Facing the National Museum of Romanian History on Calea Victoriei, the palace remains one of the capital's most recognizable landmarks.

The tour will also include the Telephone Palace, considered one of the first modern skyscrapers in Bucharest. Completed in the 1930s in an Art Deco and early modernist style, the building represented a symbol of technological progress and urban modernity during the interwar period. Its elegant vertical lines and American-inspired architecture marked a significant moment in the city's architectural evolution.

A central moment of the afternoon will be the visit to Art Safari and its special exhibition dedicated to Constantin Brâncuși, marking 150 years since the birth of Romania's most internationally celebrated artist. Brâncuși fundamentally transformed modern sculpture through his radical simplicity of form and his search for the essence of movement, space and materiality. The exhibition offers participants an opportunity to engage with the artistic legacy of a figure whose work continues to influence contemporary understandings of art, originality and creativity — themes closely connected to the broader discussions of the Congress itself.

The program will conclude with a relaxing stop at one of the elegant cafés located in the historic centre, offering participants the opportunity to enjoy Bucharest's vibrant café culture while continuing conversations in an informal setting.



CEC Palace



Central University Library Carol I
Source: Calea Victoriei Foundation, photograph by Roza Zah

Saturday, 17 October 2026

"Dorobanți, Elegant Bucharest and the Spirit of Calea Victoriei"

The Saturday program will focus on a different side of Bucharest — the refined residential areas, quiet architectural streets and cultural atmosphere that continue to define the city's distinctive charm.

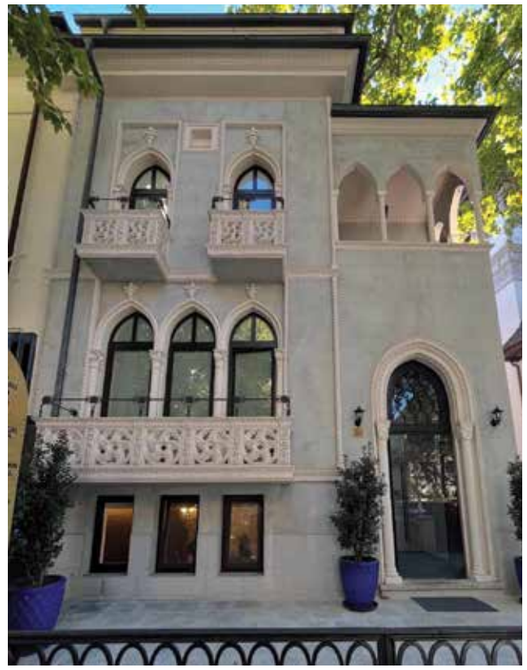
The tour will begin in the Dorobanți district, one of Bucharest's most elegant neighbourhoods, known for its tree-lined streets, early twentieth-century villas and refined urban atmosphere. Developed primarily during the interwar period, the area reflects the cosmopolitan aspirations of Bucharest's intellectual, diplomatic and political elites. Walking through its narrow and peaceful streets, participants will discover an architectural landscape where Neo-Romanian, Art Deco, modernist and neoclassical influences coexist harmoniously.

A highlight of the tour will be the Zambaccian Museum, one of Romania's most important small art museums and a hidden cultural gem of Bucharest. Housed in the former residence of art collector Krikor H. Zambaccian, the museum contains remarkable works by Romanian masters including Nicolae Grigorescu, Ștefan Luchian and Theodor Pallady, alongside works by European artists. The intimate scale of the museum and the elegance of the residence itself offer a unique insight into Bucharest's interwar cultural sophistication.

The walk will continue through the elegant residential streets surrounding Dorobanți and Primăverii, areas that preserve much of Bucharest's historic urban fabric despite the transformations of recent decades. Participants will discover discreet villas, diplomatic residences and architectural details that reveal the city's layered history and complex identity.

The program will also include a coffee break in the area of the Government. Beyond its official character, the district is also appreciated for its quiet cafés, green avenues and relaxed atmosphere.

The tour will conclude with a walk along Calea Victoriei, Bucharest's most famous boulevard and one of the city's great symbolic arteries. Originally developed as a princely road linking the old royal court to the north of the city, Calea Victoriei gradually became the social, political and cultural centre of Bucharest. Lined with grand hotels, palaces, theatres, libraries and historic residences, the avenue still preserves fragments of the elegance that once earned Bucharest its reputation as the "Little Paris." Today, it remains one of the city's most vibrant and atmospheric spaces, where history and contemporary urban life continue to intersect.



Source: photograph by Lorin Braticevici



The Jacques Lassier Prize

One of the most prestigious distinctions awarded within the international LIDC community is the Jacques Lassier Prize, a prize that reflects the League's long-standing commitment to promoting academic excellence and encouraging innovative research in the fields of competition law, intellectual property and unfair competition law.

Established in memory of Jacques Lassier, a distinguished French lawyer and former Chairman of the International League of Competition Law (LIDC), the prize was created to honour his contribution to the development of legal scholarship and international cooperation in these areas of law. Through this award, the LIDC seeks to encourage young academics and researchers to pursue ambitious and original work capable of advancing legal thinking and contributing to the evolution of competition and intellectual property law worldwide.

Awarded every two years, the Jacques Lassier Prize recognizes an outstanding doctoral dissertation devoted to competition law in its broadest sense, including antitrust law, unfair competition law, unfair commercial practices and intellectual property law. The competition is open to candidates from countries represented within the LIDC, and submissions are evaluated by an international jury composed of leading academics and practitioners from different jurisdictions.

What makes the Jacques Lassier Prize particularly significant is its focus on original academic research. At a time when competition law and intellectual property law are increasingly confronted with complex challenges arising from digitalization, artificial intelligence, global markets and rapidly evolving business models, rigorous scholarly analysis plays a vital role in shaping future legal frameworks. The Prize therefore serves not only as a recognition of academic achievement but also as a platform for identifying ideas and research that may influence legal practice, policy-making and judicial reasoning for years to come.

Over the years, the Prize has highlighted exceptional work produced by emerging scholars from different legal traditions and jurisdictions. Many former recipients have gone on to become respected academics, practitioners, judges, competition officials or policy-makers, contributing significantly to the development of competition and intellectual property law at both national and international levels.

The most recent recipient of the Jacques Lassier Prize is Niccolò Galli, who received the award in 2024 for his dissertation "Patent Aggregation, Innovation and EU Competition Law." His research explored the increasingly important relationship between patent aggregation practices, innovation incentives and European competition law, addressing issues that are highly relevant in today's technology-driven economy. The award once again demonstrated the Prize's ability to identify research that combines academic excellence with practical relevance for businesses, regulators and legal practitioners.

The 2026 edition of the Jacques Lassier Prize will continue this tradition of excellence. The winner will be announced and honoured during the LIDC Congress in Bucharest, providing an opportunity to showcase outstanding scholarship before an international audience of academics, judges, competition authorities, in-house counsel and practitioners.

The 2026 Jacques Lassier Prize is evaluated by an outstanding international jury composed of leading academics and practitioners from across Europe, reflecting the Prize's reputation as one of the most prestigious distinctions in the fields of competition and intellectual property law. The jury is chaired by Professor Jules Stuyck (KU Leuven and Crowell & Moring, Brussels) and brings together distinguished experts including Muriel Chagny (Université Paris-Saclay), Godefroy de Boiscuillé (Université Côte d'Azur and Université Paris Panthéon-Assas), Pranvera Këllezi (Geneva Bar and Swiss Federal Competition Commission), Radka MacGregor Pelikanova (Metropolitan University Prague and University of New York in Prague), Julia Suderow (Universidad de Deusto and Suderow Fernandez Abogadas), and Professor Răzvan Dincă, Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of Bucharest. Their combined expertise spans academia, private practice, arbitration, competition enforcement and intellectual property, ensuring a rigorous and internationally recognized evaluation process.



By celebrating intellectual curiosity, rigorous analysis and innovative legal thinking, the Jacques Lassier Prize remains one of the most respected academic distinctions in the LIDC community and an enduring tribute to the values of scholarship, international dialogue and legal excellence that have shaped the organisation since its foundation.

The Distinguished Members of the Jury for the The Jacques Lassier Prize 2026



Jules Stuyck
(President)

Emeritus Professor, KU Leuven and RU Nijmegen

Senior Counsel, Crowell & Moring, Brussels



Godefroy de Boiscuillé

Associate Professor (MCF), Université Côte d'Azur, Nice

Co-Director, Chair Competition & Digital Economics, Université Paris Panthéon-Assas (Fondation)

External Expert, European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA Maastricht–Luxembourg)



Muriel Chagny

Professor, Université de Versailles (Paris-Saclay)

Director, Competition and Contract Law Master

Vice-President, Arbitration Chamber for Large Retailers

(CAGD)



Razvan Dinca

Professor, University of Bucharest, Dean of the Faculty of Law

Co-director of the French-Romanian Law College of European Studies

Founding Partner – Dinca & Speciac International Arbitrator (ICC, CCIR, VIAC, LCIA)



Pranvera Këllezi

Dr. iur., LLM College of Europe

Attorney at law at the Geneva Bar

Commissioner, Swiss Federal Competition Commission

Lecturer at the University of Neuchâtel



Radka MacGregor Pelikanova

Senior academic lecturer at Metropolitan University Prague

Research lead at University of New York in Prague

Lawyer admitted to the Czech Bar Association and Michigan Bar Association



Julia Suderow

Associate Professor, Universidad de Deusto, Bilbao, Spain

Managing Partner, Suderow Fernandez Abogadas (Madrid, Bilbao)

InterContinental AthéNéE Palace



From Historic Legacy to Modern Refinement:

A century-old Bucharest landmark shaped by history and intrigue, now restored into a refined contemporary luxury experience while preserving its timeless character.

InterContinental AthéNéE Palace Bucharest is a landmark of timeless elegance in the very heart of Bucharest, blending over a century of history with refined contemporary luxury. Originally opened in 1914, the hotel stands as one of the city's most iconic architectural jewels, showcasing the grace of early Art Nouveau design later enriched with Art Deco influences. Its prime location on Calea Victoriei, overlooking the Romanian Athenaeum and Revolution Square, places it at the cultural and historical epicenter of the capital.

Designed by French architect Théophile Bradeau, it was built during a period of architectural transition and stands today as one of the city's most recognizable heritage buildings, blending historical significance with modern hospitality.

Beyond its striking façade, the hotel carries a remarkable legacy. In the decades leading up to World War II and throughout the Cold War, it gained a reputation as one of Europe's most intriguing and secretive meeting places—where diplomats, journalists, spies, and political figures crossed paths beneath its glittering chandeliers and ornate interiors. This layered past adds a unique sense of character and mystery to its sophisticated ambiance.

During the communist period, the hotel underwent significant changes after being nationalized in 1948. It became heavily monitored, with extensive surveillance systems reportedly installed throughout the building. Staff and guests were often under observation, reflecting the broader political climate of the time. Despite these conditions, the hotel remained an important meeting point for both locals and international visitors.

Today, after careful restorations and modern upgrades, the InterContinental AthéNéE Palace Bucharest offers a seamless fusion of heritage and modern comfort. Its grand interiors, luxurious rooms, and attentive service reflect a tradition of excellence, while its historic charm remains unmistakably present. More than just a hotel, it is a living piece of Bucharest's history—where elegance, culture, and stories from another era continue to resonate.







Practical Information

Venue of the Congress

The whole of the Congress will be held at the InterContinental AthéNéE Palace, Episcopiei Street 1-3, 010292 Bucharest.

Language

The official language used during the work of the Congress is English.

Climate

Bucharest sees an average high temperature of 19° C during daytime at the beginning of October.

Contact

For any further questions relating to the Congress, please email: office@arcon.org.ro

Accompanying Persons

A special program is organized that is open to all accompanying persons on Friday and on Saturday. If you are bringing a companion who is interested in taking part in this program, please contact office@arcon.org.ro for more information.

Hotel

We booked 75 classic rooms for the international participants for the period 14.10.2026 – 18.10.2026 at the InterContinental Athénée Palace Bucharest by IHG, which is also the hotel where the conference is taking place.

The special price for a room per night is EUR 185 + taxes for one person, with a supplement of 20 EUR + taxes for two persons. Please check the Congress website for booking.





About Bucharest

Host city of the Congress LIDC 2026

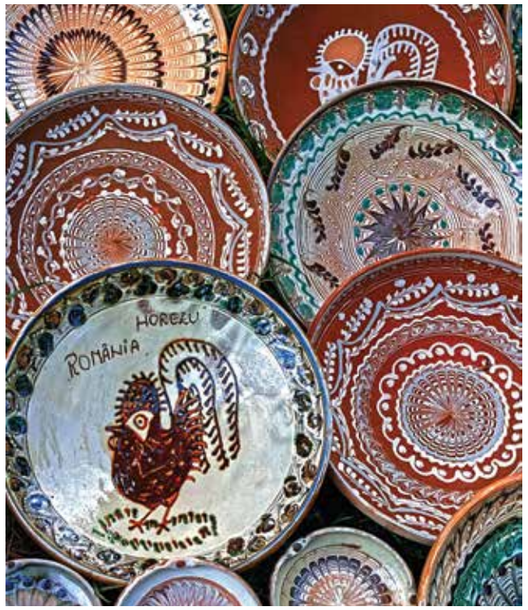
Bucharest — Where history, creativity and contrasts meet

Bucharest, the capital of Romania, is a dynamic European city shaped by contrast, creativity and resilience. Known for its layered history, bold architecture and vibrant urban life, the city offers a compelling setting for international dialogue and exchange.



Identity & Innovation

The city's identity is defined by the coexistence of heritage and modernity. Elegant landmarks such as the Romanian Athenaeum and historic neighborhoods stand alongside contemporary business districts, creative hubs and rapidly developing infrastructure. This visual and cultural contrast reflects Bucharest's openness to new ideas and transformation.





Connectivity & Energy

Strategically located at the crossroads of Eastern and Western Europe, Bucharest is well connected and easily accessible. Its energy, diversity and forward-looking spirit make it an inspiring host city for international conferences.

Bucharest has long been a place of innovation, education and intellectual contribution, supported by leading universities, research centers and a growing entrepreneurial ecosystem. Its cultural life is equally rich, with museums, theaters, festivals and a lively gastronomy scene that blends local traditions with international influences.

By combining authenticity, creativity and momentum, Bucharest offers more than a location — it provides a space where ideas can evolve, connect and move forward.

ARCON

The Romanian Association of Competition Law

Founded with the mission of fostering excellence in the field of competition law, ARCON – the Romanian Association of Competition Law – serves as a platform for the study, discussion and promotion of developments in competition law at national, European and international level. Since its establishment, ARCON has brought together legal practitioners, academics, economists, public officials and other professionals who share an interest in the evolution and application of competition law and its interaction with adjacent fields, including intellectual property law and unfair competition law.

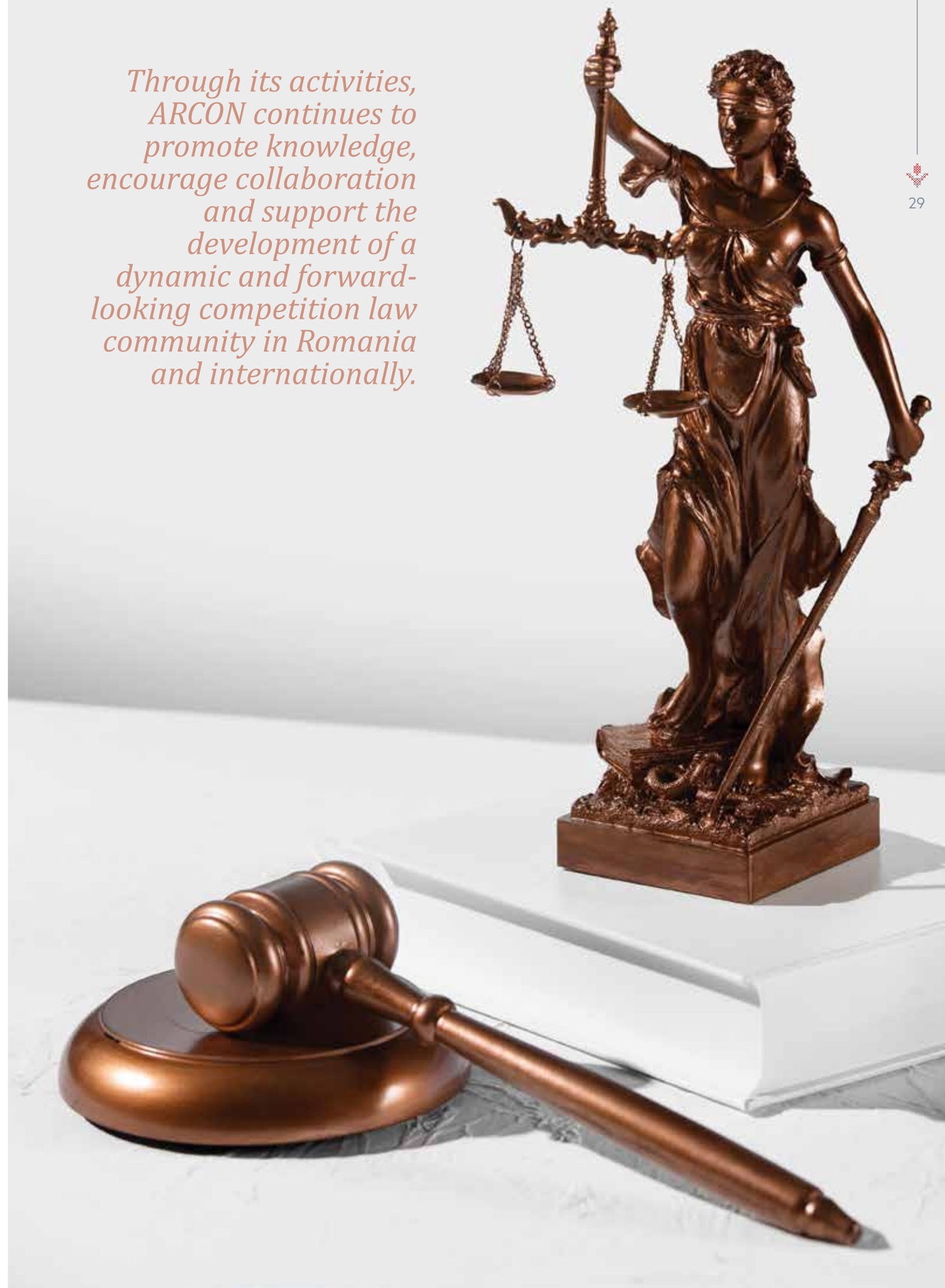


ARCON was created as an independent forum dedicated to the exchange of ideas, experiences and best practices among all stakeholders active in these areas. Through conferences, seminars, training programs, publications and academic initiatives, the Association encourages informed debate on the most pressing legal and economic issues shaping markets today. By facilitating dialogue between the private sector, public authorities, the judiciary and academia, ARCON contributes to the development of a coherent and balanced competition culture in Romania and beyond.

ARCON is proud to represent Romania within the International League of Competition Law (LIDC), one of the world's most respected organisations dedicated to the study of competition law, intellectual property law and unfair competition law. Established in 1930, LIDC brings together experts from around the globe to examine contemporary legal challenges and develop comparative solutions to issues affecting markets and innovation. As the Romanian national group of LIDC, ARCON actively participates in international research projects, working groups and congresses, helping to connect Romanian professionals with the broader international legal community.

The Association welcomes members from a wide range of professional backgrounds, reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of competition law. Its membership includes judges, lawyers, in-house counsel, academics, economists, civil servants, trademark and patent attorneys, business professionals, students and researchers. This diversity of perspectives enriches the discussions within the Association and strengthens its role as a trusted forum for professional exchange.

Through its activities, ARCON continues to promote knowledge, encourage collaboration and support the development of a dynamic and forward-looking competition law community in Romania and internationally.



National Institute of Magistracy

The National Institute of Magistracy (NIM) is Romania's leading judicial training institution, responsible for the education and professional development of judges and prosecutors. Established in 1992 and operating under the coordination of the Superior Council of Magistracy, NIM plays a central role in strengthening the independence, professionalism and integrity of the Romanian judiciary by providing high-quality initial and continuous judicial training, organising examinations and competitions related to the judicial career, and promoting excellence in legal education.

The Institute's mission extends beyond the transmission of legal knowledge. Through a modern, competency-based approach, NIM develops the practical skills, ethical standards and professional values required of judges and prosecutors, while fostering a deep understanding of the social role of justice and the responsibility that accompanies judicial office. Initial training combines legal education with practical internships in courts, prosecutor's offices and other legal institutions, complemented by interdisciplinary subjects such as psychology, communication, critical thinking, digital skills and foreign languages. Innovative teaching methods (including case studies, simulations, mock trials and practical exercises) ensure that future magistrates are fully prepared for the realities of judicial practice.

Continuous professional development is equally central to NIM's activity. Every year, the Institute delivers an extensive program of specialised training for judges, prosecutors and other judicial professionals, covering both substantive and procedural law, European Union law, the case law of the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the European Union, judicial ethics, leadership, communication, digitalisation and emerging legal challenges. In 2024 alone, more than 3,100 participants attended NIM's continuous training programs through both in-person and online formats.

NIM is also a recognised European leader in judicial training. An active member of the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN), the Institute was re-elected to the EJTN Steering Committee, reflecting its significant contribution to the development of judicial education across Europe. It participates in and coordinates numerous international projects, facilitates judicial exchanges, and promotes cross-border cooperation among European magistrates, reinforcing a shared legal culture founded on the rule of law and the protection of fundamental rights.



Beyond its educational mission, NIM actively contributes to research, institutional dialogue and public engagement. Through initiatives such as the THEMIS journal, international competitions, conferences, outreach programs for law students and innovative projects such as The People Beyond the Robe, the Institute promotes legal scholarship, judicial transparency and closer connections between the judiciary and society.

The partnership between the National Institute of Magistracy and ARCON builds on a successful collaboration initiated in 2025, when the two institutions, together with the Romanian Competition Council, organised a specialised judicial training program dedicated to recent developments in EU competition law. Hosted by the National Institute of Magistracy in Bucharest, the program brought together leading judges, academics and competition law practitioners from Romania, Belgium, the United Kingdom and the Republic of Moldova to discuss key topics including vertical and horizontal agreements, as well as the standard of proof in competition law infringements. The initiative reflected the shared commitment of NIM and ARCON to promoting judicial excellence, facilitating the exchange of international expertise and supporting the consistent application of competition law. This collaboration continues at the LIDC Congress 2026 Bucharest, where the National Institute of Magistracy joins the Congress as an institutional partner and contributes to a dedicated judicial training session, further strengthening the dialogue between the judiciary, competition authorities, academia and legal practitioners.

INSTITUTUL NATIONAL AL MAGISTRATURII

MUȘAT & ASOCIAȚII

PLATINUM SPONSOR

Redefining the standards in business

For more than 35 years, Mușat & Asociații has been at the forefront of Romania's legal and business development, building a strong reputation as one of the country's leading independent law firms. Founded in 1990 by Gheorghe Mușat and partners, the firm grew alongside the Romanian business environment and became involved in many of the largest national and regional transactions, investments and strategic projects shaping the economy.

Today, Mușat & Asociații brings together 18 partners and over 100 lawyers and consultants, offering full-service legal assistance across all major practice areas. Over the years, the firm has advised leading Romanian and international companies, including Fortune 500 corporations, as well as public authorities and state-owned entities, in sectors such as banking and finance, energy, infrastructure, technology, pharmaceuticals, telecommunications, aviation, real estate and capital markets.

Recognized by international legal directories including Chambers & Partners, Legal 500 and IFLR, Mușat & Asociații is known for combining deep legal expertise with a practical understanding of business realities, anticipating legal challenges and delivering strategic solutions tailored to complex and evolving markets.

Competition law is one of the firm's flagship practices. Mușat & Asociații has one of the most experienced competition and antitrust teams in Romania, advising clients on the full spectrum of Romanian and EU competition matters. The team regularly assists in cartel and abuse of dominance investigations, merger control procedures, dawn raids, compliance programs and litigation before national courts and European authorities. The firm also provides extensive competition compliance trainings and audits across a wide range of industries.

The Intellectual Property practice is equally recognized for its multidisciplinary approach and extensive expertise in the protection, enforcement and commercialization of intellectual property rights, including patents, trademarks, copyrights, designs and domain names. The team advises on both contentious and non-contentious IP matters, including franchising, technology-driven industries and complex transactional projects where IP assets play a central role.

By supporting innovation, protecting creativity and helping businesses navigate competitive markets, Mușat & Asociații continues to redefine the standards of excellence in Romanian business law.





MUSAT & ASOCIATII

PENNY | REWE Romania

PLATINUM SPONSOR

PENNY is the successful concept of the German group REWE and one of the most active retailers in Romania, with the first store opened on the local market in 2005. The entire network is served by five logistics centers located in the towns of Ștefănești de Jos, Turda, Bacău, Filiași and Mihăilești.

Currently, the PENNY network in Romania consists of more than 460 stores nationwide and a dedicated team of 8,000 employees.

PENNY is among the top organizations that have received the title of Top Employer in Romania and Europe in 2026. The Top Employer certification reflects the care and commitment to the team and the performance in human resources practices.

For more details about the company, access the official website https://www.penny.ro/



HUAWEI

Founded in 1987, Huawei is a leading global provider of information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure and smart devices. The company has approximately 213,000 employees and operates in more than 170 countries and regions, serving more than 3 billion people around the world. Huawei has been operating in Romania for over 20 years, offering a comprehensive portfolio of products, services, and solutions. Huawei is committed to bringing digital to every person, home and organization for a fully connected, intelligent world.





Kaufland Romania

Part of the Schwarz Group, Kaufland is one of Europe's largest retail companies, with over 1,500 stores and 155,000 employees in 8 countries.



Part of the Schwarz Group, Kaufland is one of Europe's largest retail companies, with over 1,500 stores and 155,000 employees in 8 countries.

In Romania, Kaufland is one of the leading food retailers, with over 17.000 staff and over 200 stores. Since the opening in 2005, the headquarters of Kaufland Romania has been in Bucharest. In line with the principle "Kaufland makes it possible for everyone to purchase good, healthy, and sustainable products", Kaufland hypermarkets, as full-range retailers, offer a broad selection of food and other products to meet all needs. The core focus is on fresh produce. The product range includes brand name goods, attractive private label items, regional products and a wide variety of articles that help protect people and animals and conserve nature.

Sustainability is also an essential part of daily business operations and future plans for Kaufland Romania. The company believes that focusing on sustainability not only strengthens their operations over time but also helps maintain the trust customers, employees, and partners have in the business.

A significant part of responsibility lies in the value chain. By adhering to rigorous quality standards and collaborating closely with Romanian suppliers, Kaufland aims to bolster local economic growth while minimizing the environmental impact of long supply chains. According to the latest socio-economic study, 80% of all expenses with suppliers went to local suppliers. Investment in locally sourced products increased by over 10% from 2023, which showcases a dedication to building long-term, transparent relationships with local producers.

Kaufland is a dynamic, strong, and fair company that offers their employees a balanced working environment built on strong values and principles, such as open communication and mutual respect. It is a priority that all Kaufland team members feel safe at work and find stability and predictability – both in terms of working conditions and the pay they always receive on time. The benefits package has continually been adapted so that it remains relevant to colleagues and their families.

For more information, please visit the company's website https://www.kaufland.ro/



Nestor Nestor Diculescu Kingston Petersen (NNDKP)

Is a promoter of business law in Romania, being acknowledged as a pioneer of the Romanian legal market

As a full-service law firm providing integrated legal and tax advice to clients in a wide range of industries, NNDKP's expertise is covering virtually all major areas relevant for businesses. For the past three decades, NNDKP lawyers have provided expertise in landmark deals and projects in the local market, contributing to the development of Romania's business environment, including in innovative and niche economic sectors.

NNDKP's team brings together knowledgeable and highly respected lawyers and tax advisors active in Romania, with an impressive track record that reflects a mix of industry insights, courtroom experience and practical business sense. NNDKP is on the ground where needed, assisting clients either from its headquarters in Bucharest or from its regional offices in Timisoara and Cluj-Napoca.

Committed to achieving the highest standards of excellence, NNDKP has established connections and forged strong partnerships with law firms in numerous other jurisdictions. NNDKP is the exclusive member firm in Romania of some of the most important international professional alliances, such as Lex Mundi and WSG, and International Attorneys Club, and is a founding member of SEE Legal and Three Seas Legal Alliance.

NNDKP has been traditionally top ranked in all practice areas by the renowned international guides Chambers & Partners, Legal 500 and IFLR 1000. In 2025 NNDKP became a 7-time winner of the prestigious "Romania Law Firm of the Year" award at the Chambers Europe Awards gala, an unmatched performance on the local legal services market, and was named "Romania Firm of the Year" by Benchmark Litigation and "Romania Patent Firm of the Year" by Managing IP.

In over three decades of practice, NNDKP has fostered a culture of continuous improvement to meet clients' expectations and adapt to a fast-changing economic landscape. Today, NNDKP is an entrepreneurial success story whose narrative thread follows natural evolution, adapted to the dynamics of the Romanian business environment.



Kinstellar

Exceptional, together.

Kinstellar is a leading independent law firm across Central and Eastern Europe (CEE), Southeast Europe (SEE), Central Asia, and, through our sister law firm, Southeast Asia. Kinstellar has offices in Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Turkey, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

Kinstellar South East Asia has offices in Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh City) and Cambodia (Phnom Penh).

Operating as a single fully integrated firm, Kinstellar delivers consistently high-quality services across all jurisdictions in an integrated and seamless style. We are particularly well suited to servicing complex transactions and advisory requirements spanning several jurisdictions.

Our Competition Law team advises clients on the full range of competition and regulatory matters, including merger control, antitrust investigations, unfair competition, state aid, public procurement, cartel agreements, joint ventures, abuse of dominance, dawn raids and regulatory clearances. We support clients in both day-to-day compliance and complex, high-stakes matters, including cross-border transactions and investigations.

With a deep understanding of local regulatory environments and EU competition rules, our lawyers provide clear, practical and business-oriented advice. We work closely with clients to identify risks early, manage interactions with authorities and deliver effective solutions aligned with their commercial objectives.





KINSTELLAR

The Romanian Federation for the Digital Economy (FRED)



The Romanian Federation for the Digital Economy (FRED) represents stakeholders in the digital economy, covering areas such as e-commerce, digital payments, online platforms, digital marketing services, and other related industries. FRED actively contributes to shaping an open, fair, and sustainable digital ecosystem, where technology and entrepreneurship can evolve within a predictable and investment-friendly framework.

The Federation supports the digitalization of SMEs, the development of digital skills, and the adoption of new technologies among consumers and businesses alike, acting as a dialogue partner for national and European institutions. FRED advocates for the development of a legislative and economic framework that supports innovation and digital transformation in Romania.

FEDERAȚIA ROMÂNĂ A ECONOMIEI DIGITALE

Roș Și Asociații

Roș Și Asociații is a Romanian law firm based in Bucharest, providing comprehensive legal advisory and dispute resolution services to domestic and international clients. Combining academic excellence with extensive practical experience, the firm is recognized for delivering strategic, business-oriented legal solutions across a broad range of industries.

The firm's multidisciplinary team advises clients in key areas including intellectual property, international commercial arbitration, public procurement, corporate and commercial law, real estate, employment, tax litigation, insolvency and criminal law. Roș Și Asociații is particularly renowned for its longstanding expertise in intellectual property, assisting clients with the protection, enforcement and commercialization of intellectual assets in complex and innovative matters.

The firm is led by a team of highly regarded practitioners. Professor Viorel Roș, Founding Partner, is one of Romania's leading experts in business and intellectual property law, serving as an arbitrator with the International Commercial Arbitration Court attached to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania and as an industrial property counsellor. The partnership also includes Ciprian-Raul Romițan and Andreea Livădariu, who bring extensive expertise across the firm's core practice areas, advising clients on complex transactional, regulatory and contentious matters.

Committed to professionalism, integrity and client-focused service, Roș Și Asociații has built a strong reputation for excellence in both advisory work and high-profile litigation, making it a trusted legal partner for businesses, public authorities and institutional clients alike.



Viorel Roș



Ciprian-Raul Romițan



Andreea Livădariu

Roș Și Asociații
ROȘ ROMIȚAN LIVĂDARIU

Wolf Theiss

Law done right

Founded in 1957, Wolf Theiss is a leading law firm in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe (CEE/SEE), known for its strong local expertise combined with international capabilities. With over 410 lawyers across 13 countries and a hub in Brussels, more than 80% of its work involves cross-border matters for international clients.

Austria, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brussels, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine, the firm advises industrial, trade and service companies, as well as financial institutions, focusing on the fast-evolving CEE/SEE region. Its integrated network enables it to deliver innovative, business-oriented solutions that combine legal, financial and commercial insight.

Wolf Theiss measures success by client results, aligning closely with client goals in complex, multi-jurisdictional matters. Its market reputation is confirmed by consistent top rankings and awards from organizations such as The Lawyer, Financial Times and European Women in Business Law.

Opened in 2005 the Romania office has over 40 lawyers and is a key part of the network, consistently ranked among Romania's top firms for M&A transactions by EMIS DealWatch. The team advises on banking and finance, corporate, competition, dispute resolution, employment, IP/TMT, real estate and public procurement.

Our expertise includes banking and finance, competition, corporate law, dispute resolution, employment, IP/TMT, real estate and public procurement. This broad capability, combined with strong industry insight, enables us to support clients across sectors, both locally and in complex cross-border transactions. We assist international companies and local entrepreneurs in unlocking opportunities in the Romanian market.

With over 20 years of experience in Romania, we provide trusted, business-focused legal solutions, combining deep local knowledge with the strength of our regional network.

Strategically positioned at the heart of the European Union's operations, our Brussels office serves as a hub for businesses from CEE/SEE. We support companies in ensuring regulatory compliance and in driving growth within the competitive European market. Additionally, our Brussels office acts as a gateway for international companies seeking to invest in this vibrant and expanding region.

Our team of competition and antitrust lawyers has many years of experience and regularly represents clients before the European Commission, national competition authorities, as well as EU and national courts. With deep expertise in navigating the increasingly complex landscape of EU regulations, we provide comprehensive advice on matters including antitrust, mergers, foreign direct investment, foreign subsidies regulation (FSR), state aid and competition compliance.

Through close collaboration with our offices across 13 countries in the CEE/SEE region, we offer seamless, full-scope legal support both at the European level and within the entire region.





Wolf Theiss

Filip & Company

Business Law

Filip & Company is one of the leading law firms in Romania, providing top-quality legal assistance in all relevant areas of law for businesses operating in Romania or considering Romania. Specialized in complex projects requiring an innovative and business-oriented approach, Filip & Company lawyers have extensive experience across a wide range of industries and practice areas, including infrastructure and concessions, mergers and acquisitions, energy, corporate, real estate, competition law, finance and capital markets, as well as labour law, data protection, consumer protection and environmental law. The firm also provides legal assistance and representation in disputes and arbitrations with significant implications for clients' businesses.

Filip & Company's Competition practice is widely recognised as one of the leading teams in Romania, advising clients on the full spectrum of EU and Romanian competition law matters, including merger control, antitrust investigations, foreign direct investment matters, state aid, abuse of dominance cases and compliance projects. The team regularly assists multinational corporations, investment funds and major local players in sensitive and high-profile matters, combining strong technical expertise with a pragmatic understanding of clients' commercial objectives and regulatory challenges.

Our lawyers have extensive experience in dealing with competition authorities, coordinating multi-jurisdictional projects and advising clients active in highly regulated sectors such as energy, retail, healthcare, technology, financial services and infrastructure. The practice is consistently ranked Top Tier by Chambers and Partners and Legal 500, with clients appreciating the team's responsiveness, strategic thinking and business-oriented approach.

To learn more about Filip & Company's expertise and team, please visit **www.filipandcompany.com**.



Catalin Suliman
Partner



Silviu Vasile
Partner



Roxana Rosca
Counsel

Filip&Company Business Law

BRG

Intelligence That Works

BRG's Antitrust & Competition practice combines deep economic expertise with an integrated international team to support clients with their most complex competition issues worldwide.

We blend intellectual rigor with practical, real-world experience. We have an in-depth understanding of industries and markets with expertise spanning the major sectors of the global economy. Over the last several years, we have continued to expand our Global Antitrust & Competition Practice by creating one of the most substantial on-the-ground teams of senior experts in Europe, including the recent acquisition of E.CA Economics, which establishes BRG presence in Germany and enhances our teams across Europe. Our team unites closely aligned values and culture with a shared commitment to independence of thought, analytical discipline and the highest standards of intellectual and technical excellence. Together we collaborate to advise clients on the most complex mergers, investigations and litigation.

We are distinguished by the calibre and experience of our senior team which includes five former chief economists of major competition authorities, including two from DG Competition, and seven Lexology Index Global Elite Thought Leaders in competition economics. Our experts have long records of advising on the highest-profile cases across major jurisdictions.

We have significant experience in Romania, in interactions with the Romanian Competition Council, advising major law firms and their clients on matters including mergers, abuse of dominance, agreements and State aid cases. With native Romanian-language capabilities and first-hand knowledge of the local competition landscape, we are well-placed to support clients on competition matters in Romania.





BRG

360Competition

360Competition is Romania's first boutique law firm dedicated exclusively to competition law, foreign investment screening and state aid. Our team advises on the full spectrum of competition matters, including antitrust investigations, merger control, foreign investment screening, compliance, state aid and competition litigation. We represent multinational corporations, investment funds, entrepreneurs and public institutions in some of Romania's most complex and strategically significant mandates, many of them with cross-border dimensions.

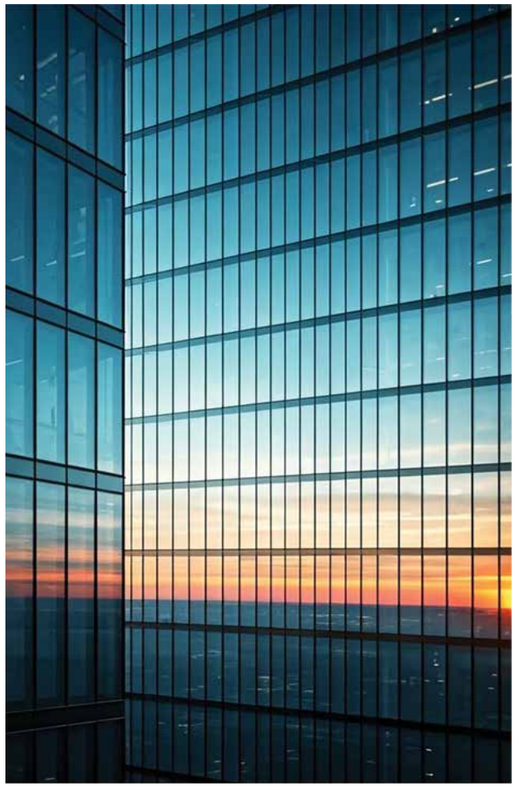
Competition law sits at the intersection of law, economics, business strategy and public policy. It is not about finding the single correct answer, but about weighing uncertainty, understanding regulators, anticipating outcomes and identifying the course of action that best serves a client's long-term objectives.

We were founded on a simple conviction: in a world overflowing with information, the real value of legal counsel lies not in knowing the most, but in helping clients make the best decisions. As a boutique firm, we deliberately chose depth over breadth. Every matter is led by senior specialists dedicated exclusively to competition law. Our structure is not a constraint; it is a design choice that enables us to move quickly, think independently, and stay closely involved in every decision our clients face.

This philosophy is reflected in our standing within the profession. 360Competition is the Romanian law firm with most lawyers individually ranked in Competition/Antitrust by Chambers Europe 2026, a recognition of the firm's specialist focus and the strength of its team. The firm is also recognized for competition law by all major international legal directories, confirming the consistency of our work and the trust placed in us by clients and peers.

The future of legal services will not be defined by access to information. Artificial intelligence has already transformed that. It will be defined by the ability to distinguish signal from noise, reconcile legal and commercial realities, and exercise sound judgment when the stakes are highest.

That is the standard we have set for ourselves.



360 COMPETITION

LexisNexis

LN Austria & CEE:

LexisNexis Austria is a leading provider of intelligent legal information and a trusted legal-solutions-partner. As a pioneer in new technologies, LexisNexis combines high-quality information from law, tax, and business with forward-looking digital solutions, enabling its customers to obtain faster and more relevant answers, make confident, well-informed decisions, and gain a sustainable competitive edge in their professional daily work. The product portfolio includes advanced legal tech solutions such as MLex, Closd, Caselex and Lexis Create+, as well as the legal research platform Lexis+, supporting legal professionals across the full decision-making and workflow spectrum. With powerful AI solutions added to the portfolio like Protégé, LexisNexis Austria is at the forefront of Legal AI, enabling streamlined and efficient legal workflows.

Since June 2025, LexisNexis Austria has expanded its business to include the entire CEE region, also covering Switzerland and Liechtenstein, from its base in Austria, further strengthening its role as a reliable regional hub and long-term partner for legal information and technology expertise.

LN Global:

LexisNexis is a global information and analytics company with approximately 11,800 colleagues serving customers in more than 150 countries worldwide. By combining unparalleled legal, regulatory, business, and news information with advanced analytics and cutting-edge technology, our teams are transforming the way professionals work and make decisions. We deliver powerful, innovative decision tools by applying machine learning, natural language processing, data visualization, and artificial intelligence to one of the world's most comprehensive legal and news databases. These technologies enable our customers to work more efficiently, gain deeper insights, and make well-informed decisions in an increasingly complex world. Driven by a strong mission to advance the Rule of Law globally, we are committed to supporting a more just world.

LexisNexis is a division of RELX, a global provider of information-based analytics and decision tools for professional and business customers. Together with Elsevier, LexisNexis Risk Solutions, and Reed Exhibitions, we contribute to RELX's purpose of enabling better decision-making, improved outcomes, and greater productivity through trusted information and insight.



LexisNexis®

Servier

Moved by you

We are an independent international pharmaceutical company, innovating for and with patients. Being governed by a non-profit foundation gives us a patient-centric long-term vision; concretely, we prioritize long-term innovation for patients by reinvesting 100% of our profit in the development of the company. We are committed to advancing healthcare and creating a meaningful social impact, for a more sustainable world. As a result, patients are the ultimate beneficiaries of this uncommon and differentiated approach.

Our Patient-Centric approach is driven by Innovation and digital solutions. We bring breakthrough innovation in hard-to-treat diseases and incremental innovation in chronic diseases. In Oncology, as of today: We use precision medicine, backed by 'companion diagnostics', to create breakthrough drugs, 70% of our R&D budget being committed to oncology, focusing on gastro-intestinal cancers, In Neurology, in the medium-term, we will leverage our successes in Oncology, using the same precision medicine approach, which should also work particularly well in neurodegenerative diseases, a TA with no new drugs in over 50 years. In chronic cardiovascular diseases, we have a holistic portfolio approach, our single pill combinations being a game changer for therapeutic adherence: WHO estimates that if every patient with a chronic disease followed their treatment exactly, 200,000 deaths would be avoided each year in Europe.

As a global player, we manage all our activities efficiently for the ultimate benefit of patients with significant assets in each therapy area and geography, creating value and making us a partner of choice. As a mid-size pharma company, we invest more resources in fewer projects, ensuring continuity and a long-term perspective in partnerships, promoting short decision-making circuits with accessible leaders and top managers, over 70 strategic alliances with other pharma companies, biotech companies and academics worldwide to accelerate innovation.



SERVIER
moved by you

Licks Attorneys

Licks Attorneys is Brazil's largest patent litigation practice and one of Latin America's leading firms in intellectual property, regulatory and technology law.

Founded in 2011, the firm has grown to more than 350 professionals across offices in Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Brasília, Curitiba, Tokyo and Shenzhen (opening soon).

Since its inception, Licks Attorneys has litigated more than 3,000 cases, including over 630 patent disputes involving pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, telecommunications, software, electronics, medical devices and other technology-intensive sectors.

The firm's multidisciplinary team includes more than 90 attorneys and over 70 technical specialists—such as engineers, pharmacists, chemists, biologists and data scientists—enabling it to combine legal, scientific and technical expertise in highly complex matters.

Licks Attorneys is widely recognized by Chambers & Partners, The Legal 500, IAM Patent 1000, WTR 1000, Lexology Index, IP Stars and Leaders League, and is consistently ranked among the leading firms for intellectual property litigation and innovation-related disputes in Brazil.

Through technical excellence, business-oriented solutions and international collaboration, Licks Attorneys helps multinational and domestic companies protect, enforce and maximize the value of their intellectual assets.



Licks
ATTORNEYS

ABOUT THE LIDC



The International League of Competition Law (Ligue Internationale du droit de la concurrence – LIDC) focuses on the study of competition law, intellectual property law and unfair competition law. This international association is constituted by National Groups worldwide that agree with the LIDC's purposes and participate in its activities. Individual members from countries where no national group is currently constituted can also become a LIDC member.

The LIDC's objectives are:

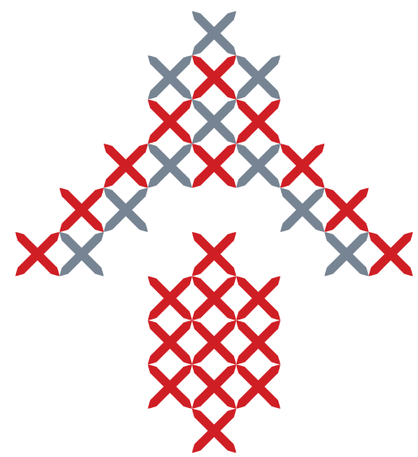
- to promote the principles of fairness and justice in competitive trade;
- to collect together information and documentation relating to (unfair) competition law and intellectual property law in various countries;
- to provide documentation and information on these subjects;
- to study and compare the legislation of the different member countries and to propose solutions for the problems faced in (unfair) competition and intellectual property law at both the national and the international level;
- to publish the principles formulated by the LIDC in the fields of competition law, intellectual property law and unfair competition;
- to research and defend the means of assuring freedom in commerce and business.

Every year, the LIDC organises an international Congress like last year 2025 in Vienna and this year in Bucharest. The LIDC further organises Webinars on competition law, intellectual property and unfair competition issues of relevance and interest for its members. Finally Working Groups are constituted to study in-depth certain legal developments.

The LIDC is a Swiss association governed by Article 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code with its registered office in Geneva and its administrative office in Lausanne. The organs of the association are the General Assembly, the Council and the Bureau.

The Bureau comprises the President, the First Vice President, the Vice Presidents, the former President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer General and the Reporter General and their deputies as well as the person responsible for other specific tasks (Officers).

You can find detailed information under www.ligue.org or follow the LIDC on LinkedIn for more contents and news



LIDC

LIDC
INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE OF COMPETITION LAW

Berlin Congress 2027

Hilton Gendarmenmarkt 7-10 October 2027



Save the date for the Annual Congress of the LIDC 2027 in the vibrant city of Berlin, bringing significant national and international speakers as well as an exciting program together. We look forward to welcoming you!

Förderkreis für Internationales Wettbewerbsrecht der Wettbewerbszentrale e. V.