

Partner, Brussels

Antitrust/Competition



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Education

LL.M., The University of
Chicago Law School, 1999

J.D., Catholic University
of Leuven, 1998

Bar Admissions

Brussels
New York

Languages

Dutch
English
French

Ingrid Vandendorre is the partner in charge of Skadden's Brussels office and co-head of Skadden's European Antitrust/Competition Practice. Her practice focuses on EU and international merger control and competition law enforcement.

Ms. Vandendorre has been consistently named as a leading practitioner in *Who's Who Legal* guides in both competition and life sciences, as well as repeatedly in *Chambers Global*, *Chambers Europe* and *The Legal 500 EMEA*. In 2023, she was named Antitrust & Competition Lawyer of the Year at the Women in Business Law EMEA Awards. Ms. Vandendorre was also named Lawyer of the Year by *Global Competition Review* in 2022, was selected to *GCR's* Women in Antitrust list in 2021 and was recognized for her representation of Aspen Pharmacare in relation to the European Commission's (EC) Article 102 investigation of the company's pricing practices, which was named European Behavioural Matter of the Year by the publication. In addition, she was named a 2021 Competition MVP by *Law360*, a 2021 Litigation Star for Belgium - Competition/Antitrust by *Benchmark Litigation Europe* and Competition Lawyer of the Year at *Benchmark Litigation Europe's* 2020 Awards, which also recognized her work advising Aspen as an Impact Case of the Year. Ms. Vandendorre has also been recognized as one of Lawdragon's 500 Leading Global Litigators and 500 Leading Global Antitrust & Competition Lawyers. She currently serves as nongovernmental adviser to the intergovernmental International Competition Network.

Ms. Vandendorre has significant experience in Article 101 and 102 issues in relation to cartel arrangements, as well as vertical and competitive agreements and alleged abuse of dominance. Relevant representations include:

- Södra in relation to the EC's investigation into pricing in the wood pulp sector. The EC raided the premises of Södra and other wood pulp companies in October 2021, but ultimately terminated the investigation in June 2023 without an infringement finding, indicating it had insufficient grounds to continue the investigations based on a thorough analysis and careful assessment of the evidence
- Aspen Pharmacare Holdings in relation to EC allegations of excessive pricing. The EC accepted proposed commitments that ended the investigation without an infringement finding on the part of Aspen
- Kuoni and Thomas Cook in relation to the EC's investigation of geo-blocking clauses that provided for different hotel accommodation conditions depending on the location or residence of the traveler. The EC ultimately suspended its investigation in relation to both Thomas Cook and Kuoni without penalty, with the investigation resulting in an infringement finding only against Melia
- GE in relation to allegations of anticompetitive practices in the maintenance and repair of commercial aircraft engines by CFM International, a GE joint venture with Safran Aircraft Engines following a complaint to the EC by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). Following a successful resolution of IATA's concerns through a settlement agreement, IATA withdrew its complaint and the EC closed its inquiry
- Xperi and Auro in relation to a complaint with the EC regarding Dolby's post-processing policy. After discussions with the EC, Dolby withdrew all limitations that it placed on the use of third-party post-processing technologies

- ABB in its successful appeal before the European Court of Justice against the EC's power cable cartel decision that had been confirmed by the General Court
- GUK, a Mylan entity, in relation to the EC's investigation of the company's patent settlement agreements with Lundbeck, and in the subsequent appeals of the EC decision before the General Court and the Court of Justice of the EU. Ms. Vandendorre also is assisting in the defence relating to claims for compensation based on the EC's decision
- UniCredit, in relation to the EC investigation of an alleged cartel violation in relation to European government bonds

Ms. Vandendorre also has a significant merger control practice, extending to the EC and the U.K. Competition and Markets Authority. Examples of her recent merger control work include advising:

- Activision Blizzard Inc. on its US\$75 billion acquisition by Microsoft Corporation. This is the largest-ever technology deal and the largest-ever gaming industry deal
- Adobe Inc. in relation to the antitrust aspects of its proposed (but terminated) US\$20 billion acquisition of Figma, Inc.
- Getty Images Holdings, Inc. on its merger of equals with Shutterstock, Inc. at an enterprise value of US\$3.7 billion
- PayPal Holdings, Inc. on:
 - the antitrust aspects of its acquisition of Israeli-based Curv, a startup and leading provider of digital asset security technology, one of the world's first cryptocurrency business acquisitions
 - its US\$4 billion acquisition of Honey Science Corporation
- Electronic Arts Inc. on:
 - its US\$1.4 billion acquisition of Playdemic Ltd. from Warner Bros. Games and AT&T Inc.
 - the antitrust aspects of its US\$1.2 billion recommended cash offer for Codemasters Group Holdings plc
- Visa Inc. on its:
 - acquisition of Featurespace Limited
 - proposed (but terminated) US\$5.3 billion acquisition of Plaid Inc.
 - US\$2.2 billion acquisition of Tink AB
- ABB Ltd with the antitrust aspects of its US\$7.8 billion sale of a 80.1% stake in its Power Grids division to Hitachi, Ltd.
- Stryker Corporation on its US\$5.4 billion acquisition of Wright Medical Group N.V.
- NXP Semiconductors N.V. on its
 - \$625 million acquisition of TTTech Auto
 - proposed (but terminated) US\$47 billion acquisition by Qualcomm Incorporated

Selected Publications

"The Guide to Life Sciences (Introduction: Life Sciences Antitrust Enforcement Remains Robust Worldwide)," *Global Competition Review*, 2024

"European Commission Blocked From Reviewing Below-Threshold Mergers," *Skadden Publication*, September 2024

"EU Court of Justice Takes a Firm Stance Against Patent Settlement Agreements," *Skadden Publication*, July 2024

"European Commission Workshop on Competition in Generative AI: Highlights," *Skadden Publication*, July 2024

"European Commission Turns Focus to Competition in Labour Markets, Targeting Wage-Fixing and No-Poach Agreements," *Skadden Publication*, June 2024

"U.K. Revamps Merger Control, Expanding CMA's Jurisdiction

and Making Procedures More Flexible," *Thomson Reuters' FinTech Law Report*, May-June 2024

"UK Enacts a New Digital Regime Regulating the Conduct of Major Tech Platforms," *Skadden Publication*, May 2024

"EU and UK Consider First Stand-Alone Disparagement Cases," *Skadden Publication*, April 2024

"Antitrust in Life Sciences: A Dialogue With Anna Vernet," *Skadden Publication*, April 2024

"Managing Deal Risks in a Challenging Regulatory Environment: Strategies and Deal Terms," *Insights Special Edition: Women's History Month*, March 2024

"The European Commission's Revised Market Definition Notice: A New Approach to Digital Markets" *Skadden Publication*, February 2024

Recent Speaking Engagements

"Antitrust Enforcement in the EU, US and UK Following the 2024 Elections," Skadden webinar, December 2024

"Global Mergers in an Increasingly Divergent Antitrust Climate — The Case of Illumina-Grail," American Bar Association's International Law Section Annual Conference, May 2023

"Digital Mergers: A "Whack-a-Mole" Approach," GCR Live: Telecoms, Media & Technology, March 2023

"Merger Control & Market Definition in the Pharma Sector: A New Tougher Approach?," Informa's Competition Law in the Pharmaceutical Sector, December 2022

"Review of the Digital Markets Act," Informa's Advanced EU Competition Law, November 2022