

Representative Legal Matters

Bram Hoorelbeke

- Successfully represented Global Blue, a multinational company active in VAT-refund services and direct currency conversion, in a European Commission investigation into alleged abuse of dominance. The European Commission closed the case without imposing a fine or commitments.
- Representing a leading Belgian insurance provider in a damage action case based on competition law infringements before the Belgian commercial court.
- Representing a leading Belgian insurance provider in multiple investigations by the Belgian Competition Authority relating to the insurance sector.
- Represented an international fashion company as immunity applicant in a cartel investigation in the EU, UK and US.
- Representing an IT wholesaler in a cartel investigation by the Dutch Competition Authority.
- Advising a private equity firm in preparing for upcoming EU Foreign Subsidy Regulation notifications.
- Advised leading payment technology solution provider on competition law compliance of envisaged changes to the network rules.
- Successfully represented an elevator company before the Belgium courts in several damages actions following the elevators and escalators cartel.
- Assisted a client in the animal feed phosphates sector in the first ever "hybrid" cartel settlement case adopted by the European Commission.
- Acted for a large multinational retail chain in the Belgian Competition Authority's first cartel settlement decision concerning the Belgian grocery sector.
- Represented a generic medicines company in challenging the EU General Court's judgment on patent settlements.
- Represented several companies in the ongoing procedures before the EU General Court seeking the annulment of the European Commission's decision regarding Belgian Excess Profit Rulings (SA.37667 Excess Profit exemption in Belgium – Art. 185§2 b) CIR92).
- Challenged a European Commission recovery decision on behalf of an international chemicals group before the EU General Court.
- Represented Oracle Belgium in a state-aid recovery procedure, leading to a preliminary ruling request before the ECJ.

- Acted for Apple against the EU General Court's judgment in Case T-101/17 dismissing the action against the EU Commission's State aid decision to allow Germany to target foreign video-on-demand providers, such as iTunes, with levies (Case C-633/18 P).
- Advised Belgian state-owned investment funds in setting up a fund for funds.
- Advised multiple Irish public investors in investing and setting up funds in line with EU State aid law.
- Advised Intel on its application for State aid funding for its multibillion-dollar investment in the construction of a semi-conductor fab in Magdeburg.
- Represented multinational clients in their challenge before the EU General Court against the European Commission's decision on State aid relating to the UK CFCs.
- Represented several EU institutions, bodies and agencies before the EU General Court and Court of Justice regarding contested public procurement procedures.
- Represented several clients before the Belgian Competition Authority and the EU Commission in merger proceedings in the sectors of insurance, consumer goods, IT consultancy, brokerage, automotive and aeronautics.
- Advised the CAF (Confederation of African Football) regarding investigations by the Egyptian Competition Authority and COMESA concerning the sale of broadcasting and marketing rights related to competitions organised by CAF.
- Advised the UCI (International Cycling Union) regarding the organisation of the tender procedure for the sale of broadcasting rights for the Cyclo-cross World Cup.