

# Three-party Chats on Mergers

The Mergers Unit of the *Autorité de la concurrence* co-organises seminars with students and law or economics firms to present and discuss hot topics in merger control.

## New meetings in January 2026

The “**Three-party Chats on Mergers**” aim to foster reflection on **merger control** by bringing together representatives from the *Autorité de la concurrence*, legal practitioners, academics and students specialising in competition law.

Each edition is designed as a forum for discussion on topical issues, encouraging dialogue between institutions, professionals and the next generation of legal practitioners.

- **29 January 2026 – The suspensive effect of merger control**

# THREE-PARTY CHATS ON MERGERS

## Derogation from the suspensive effect of merger control



Mergers Unit of the *Autorité de la concurrence*



In partnership with **A&O Shearman**



With the participation of students from the “**Business Law & Management**”  
double degree at the Faculty of Law, Catholic University of Lille



With the participation of **Émilie Berthier**,  
Legal Operations Director, Auchan

**3<sup>RD</sup> EDITION**

**29 JANUARY 2026**

**10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

**Campus Lille  
Amphi RS 31  
58 rue du Port  
Lille**



A&O SHEARMAN



The third edition focused on derogation from the suspensive effect of merger control, taking a legal, operational and forward-looking approach.

With the participation of:

- the Mergers Unit of the *Autorité de la concurrence*;
- A&O Shearman (event partner);
- students from the “**Business Law & Management**” double degree at the Faculty of Law, Catholic University of Lille;
- **Émilie Berthier**, Legal Operations Director, Auchan.



## Previous events

**Second edition, 19 January 2026 - The suspensive effect of merger control**

# THREE-PARTY CHATS ON MERGERS

## The suspensive effect of merger control



Mergers Unit of the *Autorité de la concurrence*



In partnership with **BBLM Avocats**



With the participation of students from the **Distribution and Competition Law master's** at **Aix-Marseille University** and the programme director, **Professor D. Bosco**

**2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION**

**19 JANUARY 2026**  
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

at **BBLM**  
**1 place Félix Baret**  
**13006 Marseille**

Autorité  
de la concurrence

bblm  
avocats

amU

### 19 January 2026 – The suspensive effect of merger control

The second edition of the “Three-party Chats on Mergers” explored the suspensive effect of merger control, a central aspect of merger law and its practical application.

With the participation of:

- the Mergers Unit of the *Autorité de la concurrence*;
- Maître Hélène Coulibaly Le Gac, partner at BBLM, and Maître Julia Coste, lawyer at BBLM;
- students from the Distribution and Competition Law master's at Aix-Marseille University, under the direction of Professor D. Bosco.





**First edition, 27 May 2025 - The status and role of the monitoring trustee in merger control**

# THREE-PARTY CHATS ON MERGERS

## Status and role of the monitoring trustee



Mergers Unit of the *Autorité de la concurrence*



In partnership with Linklaters,  
Nicolas Zacharie (Partner)



With the participation of students from  
the Competition and Distribution Law master's  
at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University  
and the programme director, Professor Prieto

**1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION**

**27 MAY 2025**  
**5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.**

**at Linklaters**  
**25 rue de Marignan**  
**75008 Paris**

## 27 May 2025 - The status and role of the monitoring trustee in merger control

The first edition of the "Three-party Chats on Mergers" was held on 27 May at the Linklaters office in Paris, with students from the Business Law master's (Competition and Distribution) at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University, under the direction of Professor Catherine Prieto.

The seminar brought together Jérôme Vidal, Head of the Mergers Unit, and Nicolas Zacharie, lawyer at Linklaters, to discuss "*The status and role of the monitoring trustee in merger control*".

During the seminar, the *Autorité de la concurrence* announced that several requests made by respondents to the public consultation launched on 14 March 2025 could be implemented in the coming months, without any legislative changes to the texts in force:

- the possibility of appointing a monitoring trustee upon submission of the commitments;
- an explanation or reasons for a decision to refuse the approval of a monitoring trustee;
- the systematic organisation of a meeting, at the start of the monitoring of the commitments, with the approved monitoring trustee;
- a systematically formalised procedure for the discharge of the monitoring trustee at the end of its mandate;
- the creation of a dedicated page on the *Autorité* website, presenting the monitoring trustees.

[Watch the replay \(in French\)](#)



