

HMM Personalia

- **Romanian Competition Council Conference, November 6, 2023, at the National Military Circle, Marble Hall**



Romanian Competition Council Conference "Competition in Key Sectors" was a successful event (<https://www.consiliulconcurentei.ro/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Conferin%C8%9Ba-Concuren%C8%9Ba-%C3%AEn-sectoare-cheie.pdf>).

The proceedings of the Competition Council Conference with the theme “Competition in key sectors” took place on Monday, November 6, 2023, at the National Military Circle, in the historic Marble Hall. On this occasion, the Report on Competition in Key Sectors – 2023 was launched.

In opening the proceedings of the conference, the President of the Competition Council, Bogdan M. Chirițoiu, emphasized the efforts of the competition authority in Romania (in the unpredictable and tense contexts experienced today) to ensure greater transparency and predictability for the business environment, both through openness and communication with the economic operators, as well as through the sustained contribution brought for a close collaboration between the authorities to identify the most suitable solutions based on the in-depth analysis of the particularities of the markets and the careful follow-up of the evolution of these relevant markets (an essential thing in the development of interventionist measures in the crisis situations experienced), to observe the changes and intervene in a timely manner.

At the same time, the President of the Competition Council, Bogdan M. Chirițoiu, referred to the approach – on the occasion of this year’s edition – of the aspects related to bilateral cooperation

with the Republic of Moldova, both to support the European path and to reduce the economic development gap (by increasing the interconnection in the region in the fields of energy, transportation and digital). The President of the Competition Council, invited then the special guest, namely the President of the Constitutional Court, Mr. Marian Enache, to speak.

The President of the Constitutional Court, Mr. Marian Enache, thanked for the invitation to participate in this event, congratulating and appreciating the efforts of President Bogdan Chiritoiu and the Competition Council team, who “succeeded in imprinting the whole activity with a managerial concept adapted to the economic and social realities that Romanian society is going through.” The President of the Constitutional Court highlighted the nature of the Competition Council as an autonomous administrative authority in the field of competition, with legal personality and endowed with the prerogative to ensure the operation of one of the fundamental fields of the country’s economy, competition, a field enshrined at constitutional level.

Also, the President of the Constitutional Court emphasized important aspects, such as the following: “constitutional provisions do not have a declarative or abstract nature, on the contrary, they have normative and binding value for public authorities”; “the market economy is a living, evolving concept, its content being determined according to the socioeconomic situation of the state”, hence the need for the state to display a “flexible attitude in stimulating economic operators in promoting progress, in the freedom of to undertake and increase efficiency, to give the opportunity to buyers to choose in a free market, which expresses the ways of orienting human action towards satisfying the system of needs and requirements”, while “economic operators must undertake acts of trade for which they were authorized, respecting the requirements of fair competition”; complex investigative activities carried out by the Competition Council in order to “exercise its role as a supervisor of how economic operators understand how to comply with competition policies and the existing legal framework in the field”; the sanctions for those who violate the competition rules producing serious consequences “must send a strong message of deterrence to the violators and be in an amount necessary to achieve the dissuasive effect”; “a close collaboration is needed both at the national level and - especially - at the European level”; “the efforts of the Competition Council to actively support the authorities of the Republic of Moldova in its field of competence” are remarkable.

At the end of his speech, the President of the Constitutional Court, Mr. Marian Enache, congratulated “the leadership of the Competition Council for the good institutional collaboration that it promotes in the interest of the citizen, as well as for the way in which it understands how to exercise its skills and the know-how that it has acquired in its 30 years of existence”, expressing at the same time the belief that “improving the activity of the Competition Council will become a permanent objective in the attention of political decision-makers in order to provide the management of this institution with the necessary legislative and logistical support appropriate to the dynamics of Romanian socioeconomic realities”.