

**Feedback on the e-ITEC course on Competition Law by Representative from the Competition  
Commission of Brunei Darussalam**

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First and foremost, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the lecturers for enlightening us with various insightful lectures throughout the Five-Day Special Training Programme in “Competition Law”.

In Brunei, competition law is a technical and relatively new concept that requires pro-active and open advocacy efforts over time to build up the competition culture and promote competition. Furthermore, to ensure that well-intended policies are aligned with competition objectives, and that business practices that impede a fair competitive process are curtailed. This programme is especially beneficial for a young agency as Competition Commission Brunei Darussalam.

Throughout the programme, all lecturers shared their expertise in their respective field within the ambit of competition. The topics discussed were intellectually challenging yet an eye-opener to some as it was acknowledged during the programme that all competition authorities may differ in terms of experience and the institutional, legislative and legal framework of competition in the country. Moreover, the programme also provided a platform for participants and lecturers to exchange views, discuss challenges and come up with concrete solutions either in a mitigative way or a preventative measure. By having these discussions, we identified a common pattern with all participating countries that:

- 1) Competition authorities are there to protect the competitive process and not the competitors.
- 2) The competitive process is there to give a fair level playing field to existing competitors and new competitors.
- 3) There is a growing need to tackle the challenges posed by the rise of e-commerce and digitalization within the context of competition.
- 4) Each country’s legislative and legal framework needs to be reviewed accordingly to make it more relevant and meet the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- 5) Competition authorities should ramp up and increase cooperation regionally and internationally. This can be by having workshops and capacity building between countries or providing technical assistance to competition authorities that needs it.

Overall, this programme has enriched us with the necessary knowledge and broaden our perspective on various aspects of competition. We therefore would like to thank the organizing team from National Law University Jodhpur, India for organizing and facilitating the program. We truly appreciate what we learnt and gained in this program both academically and for self-development.

Lastly, we would also like to convey our sincere thanks to the High Commission of India in Brunei Darussalam for assisting us with the smooth process of enrolment.