

Francesco Pili

Counsel
Brussels

Biography

Francesco Pili concentrates on EU and national competition law and litigation. He has extensive experience in antitrust investigations, representing clients before the European Commission, the Italian Competition Authority, and the UK's Competition and Markets Authority.

Francesco's practice is at the forefront of digital technology and internet regulation. He handles investigations into platform regulation and its impact on competition law, and he regularly advises clients on antitrust issues related to privacy, digital services, and online copyrights.

Francesco has also a proven track record in the field of State aid and EU Foreign subsidy control. He successfully represented multinational companies, public entities, and organizations in high-profile European Commission State aid investigations and related litigation before EU Courts.

Francesco has also substantive experience in advising and acting for multinational companies and foreign governments in challenges against EU trade defence measures and sanctions.

His background includes serving as a Judicial Clerk in the Chambers of Antonio Tizzano, then Vice-President of the European Court of Justice. This role provided him with deep insights into EU procedural and substantive



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Languages

English
Italian
French
German

Practices

Antitrust and Competition

Industries

Consumer
Energy
Technology and Telecoms
Transportation and Logistics
Manufacturing and Industrials

law, covering areas such as competition and State aid, data protection, access to documents, free movement rules, and fundamental rights.

Representative experience

Acting for a French multinational utility company before the EU Court of Justice in its action for annulment against a State aid decision of the EU Commission concerning tax rulings from Luxembourg

Acting for a Korean EV battery and electronic materials manufacturer in a formal State aid investigation before the EU Commission, in relation to Regional aid for a large investment project

Advising several major digital platforms on the EU Commission's legislative initiatives regarding contestable and fair markets in the digital sector, and electronic transactions in the internal market

Advised one of the largest shipbuilding groups on the merger control-related aspects of setting-up a Joint Venture in the military shipbuilding sector*

Advised the State-owned operator of one of the largest airports in Europe in the context of a formal State aid investigation into ground-handling services*

Advised an association representing right holders in the recording industry on stakeholders consultations regarding Directive (EU) 2019/790 on copyright and related rights*

Advised an association of food packaging companies on stakeholders consultations regarding Directive (EU) 2019/904 on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment*

Acting for several multinational companies in the context of investigations and notifications based on the Foreign Subsidy Regulation, and advising clients on compliance with EU subsidy control rules

Acting for multinational companies before the EU Court

Areas of focus

Abuse of Dominance and Restrictive Practices

Antitrust and Competition Litigation

Cartel Investigations

Competition Compliance

State Aid and Subsidy Control

Broadband, Internet, and E-commerce

Education and admissions

Education

Master of Law, Catholic University of Leuven, 2015

Bachelor of Laws, Università degli Studi di Torino, 2013

Bar admissions and qualifications

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of Justice in actions for annulment against trade defence measures including anti-dumping duties, countervailing duties and safeguard measures.

Acting for an Italian company in a cartel investigation by the Italian Competition Authority in the cement sector*

Acting for a Finnish global food packaging company in a State aid investigation by the EU Commission concerning tax rulings from Luxembourg, and in related proceedings before the EU General Court

*Matter handled prior to joining Hogan Lovells.

Latest thinking and events

- Insights and Analysis
 - The EC publishes clarifications on the assessment whether Foreign Subsidies distort the internal market
- News
 - The European Commission launches its first ex-officio investigation under the FSR into Chinese wind turbines
- Press releases
 - Hogan Lovells secures key victory at European Court of Justice in Engie's challenge against European Commission's order to recover €120 million in unpaid tax
- Insights and Analysis
 - The EU FSR, how should undertakings operating from the U.S. navigate through it? – webinar recording
- News
 - A new dawn: The EU's Foreign Subsidies Regulation applies from today
- Hogan Lovells Events
 - The EU Foreign Subsidy Regulation, in between burden, threat, and opportunity – How should undertakings operating from Asia navigate through it?