

Suyong Kim

Partner

London

Biography

Suyong Kim has extensive experience working in the London and Brussels competition environment and is one of only a handful of EU practitioners equally at home handling complex mergers and JVs, high-stakes cartel and abuse of market power investigations, as well as the resulting appeals and damages litigation before the EU and national courts.

She is recognized as a leader in the field of competition/EU law and praised for her "accuracy of analysis," "responsiveness," and "ability to break down complex issues into effective and pragmatic advice." Suyong has an MBA from the London Business School and offers clients an acute understanding of the commercial issues they face when navigating antitrust challenges. Suyong's practice is notable not only for its coverage across different aspects of EU and UK competition law, but also for the varied sectors (both regulated and unregulated) in which her clients operate.

She has particular experience of the FMCG, financial services, TMT, energy, retailing, and transport sectors.

Representative experience

Advised Amcor Plc in obtaining numerous multi-jurisdictional merger clearances required for its US\$6.8 billion acquisition of Bemis Company, Inc.

Advised Bottomline Technologies (DE) Inc, a global payments software group, in obtaining unconditional



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Languages

English

Practices

Antitrust and Competition

Areas of focus

Merger Control

Antitrust and Competition Litigation

Abuse of Dominance and Restrictive Practices

Cartel Investigations

Dawn Raids

Leniency Applications

Competition Compliance

Phase 2 merger clearance before the UK CMA for its acquisition of assets from Experian Limited.

Advised a digital services provider in relation to the UK Competition and Markets Authority's (CMA) online platforms and digital advertising market study.

Represented News Corp in connection with the public interest aspects of the merger review by the CMA of the Fox/Sky acquisition.

Represented a FTSE 100 diversified group in obtaining unconditional clearance following an intensive Phase I review initiated by the CMA also involving extensive hold-separate requirements.

Advised SABMiller on the EU merger control aspects of its acquisition by Anheuser-Busch InBev NV for US\$104 billion.

Advised ALSTOM in the context of GE's €12.4 billion acquisition of ALSTOM's power business with merger and foreign investment clearances obtained in over 30 jurisdictions.

Won a landmark victory before the EU General Court on behalf of Air Canada in overturning the European Commission's 2010 air cargo decision.

Represented an international engineering company before the English High Court in defending an action for damages for alleged abuse of dominance.

Obtained unconditional clearance in the first phase from the European Commission for Liberty Global's £15 billion acquisition of Virgin Media.

Defended a European manufacturing company in relation to two High Court damages actions following on from cartel prohibition decisions by the European Commission.

Acted for a leading retailer before the UK Office of Fair Trading in successfully contesting allegations of cartel practices in the supply of dairy products.

Acted for a UK retailer in a successful appeal to the Competition Appeal Tribunal against an infringement decision by the OFT concerning the sale of tobacco

Education and admissions

Education

M.B.A., London Business School, 1990

CPE, The College of Law, 1986

M.A., University of Oxford, 1984

Memberships

Advisory Board, Oxera

Steering Committee, International Forum on Antitrust Regulation

Bar admissions and qualifications

Solicitor, England and Wales

Brussels (A-List)

Solicitor, Republic of Ireland

products.

Acted for a pharmaceutical company in relation to a EC dawn raid and investigation of its settlement with a generic manufacturer of a patent infringement action.

Represented a UK water company before the Competition Appeal Tribunal in relation to a follow on antitrust damages action.

Acted for a UK bank intervening in support of MasterCard in the General Court with the prohibition decision of the European Commission on interchange fees.

Acted for a main party in the UK Competition Commission market investigation into movies on Pay TV.

Advised a major bank in connection with the European Commission's retail banking sector inquiry.

Awards and rankings

- Shortlisted, Competition Team of the Year, *Legal Business Awards*, 2021
- Competition, *Who's Who Legal Thought Leaders*, 2020
- Hall of Fame, *Legal 500*, 2020
- Competition, *Chambers UK*, 2020
- Competition Litigation, *Chambers UK*, 2020
- The Lawyers Hot 100, 2017
- Competition, *Who's Who Legal*, 2016-2019
- Nominated Lawyer of the Year, *Global Competition Review Awards*, 2016
- Winner, Merger Control - Europe, *Global Competition Review Awards*, 2016
- Winner, Matter of the Year, *Global Competition Review Awards*, 2016
- Women in Antitrust, *Global Competition Review*, 2016
- Winner, Competition/Regulatory Team of the Year, *The Lawyer*, 2012

- Competition Law: Litigation (UK), *Chambers Global*, 2018-2019
- Competition Law (UK), *Chambers Global*, 2018-2019

Latest thinking and events

- News
 - Blocked: UK Government uses new powers to block deal raising national security concerns
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- News
 - National Security and Investment Act: first Annual Report published
- News
 - UK's Vertical Agreement Block Exemption Order goes live - heralding a new age of vertical divergence?
- News
 - UK competition reforms: new CMA powers confirmed
- News
 - (Solo self-employed) Workers of the World Unite!
– EC draft guidance on application of competition law to collective bargaining