

Simona Castellini

Consultant

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Languages: English, Italian and French



Expertise

- Antitrust
- Antitrust Damages
- Collective and Class Actions
- Market Investigations
- Mergers

Sectors

- Energy
- Financial Services
- Retail and Consumer
- Telecoms, Media and Technology
- Water

Profile

Simona is a member of Oxera's Competition and Analytics teams. She has advised clients in cases involving horizontal and vertical agreements, abuse of dominance (including in the context of private litigation), mergers, regulatory appeals, and market investigations by the UK Competition and Markets Authority (CMA), the Italian competition authority (ICA) and other competition and regulatory authorities in Europe. Simona is also highly experienced in applying quantitative techniques for analysing efficiency arguments in regulatory and competition settings. She has worked on these issues across a broad range of sectors including financial services, digital, energy, and retail.

Selected professional experience

- Advice to a manufacturer in the context of an investigation by the ICA into an alleged breach of Article 102 (2022–)
- Advice to a large digital platform on ongoing competition and regulatory investigations (2021–)
- Advice to VetPartners during the CMA investigation of its acquisition of Goddard (2021–)
- Advice to an airline on a number of abuse of dominance cases brought by online travel agencies in the Irish and UK High Courts (2021–)
- Advising comparethemarket.com in the context of the CMA's investigation into its use of most-favoured-nation clauses in home insurance and the appeal process to the CAT (2019–)

- Advice to Coop in the context of a merger in the grocery sector (2021)
- Advice to Intesa Sanpaolo on its acquisition of UBI banca, which was cleared with commitments by the ICA (2020)
- Quantification of the damages suffered by a provider of cash-handling services due to exclusivity agreements (2020)
- Advice to an Italian wholesaler regarding a damages claim against a cartel on cosmetic products (2020–)
- Advice to a gas company on the impact of unbundling on competition in Finland (2020)
- Advice to a consortium for the collection, recycling and recovery of plastic packaging in the context of an investigation by the ICA into an alleged breach of Article 102 (2020)
- Economic advice in a UK litigation case involving abuse of dominance and FRAND analysis (2019–20)
- Advising a microelectronics producer in a commercial dispute claim in relation to industrial design (2020)
- Advising a UK online retailer in a dispute regarding the selection criteria in a selective distribution system (2020)
- Advice to an operator in the Italian printing industry in relation to an alleged abuse of dominance claim by a customer in the media industry (2019)
- Advising a German gas distribution company in its appeal regarding the regulator's approach to estimating ongoing efficiency (2019)
- Competition advice to Standard Life Aberdeen, helping it to achieve success in its commercial dispute with Lloyds Banking Group (2018–19)
- Advising an international bank in the context of the European Commission's competition investigation into the European Government Bond market (2018)
- Providing advice to a number of UK water companies in their response to Ofwat's draft determinations, with a particular focus on econometric modelling and the estimation of ongoing efficiencies (2018–19)
- Advising the European Commission on the EU loan syndication market and its impact on competition in credit markets (2018–19)
- Developing an econometric framework to assess international competitiveness in the EU, for the European Commission (2018)
- Advising Ofwat on the impact of mergers on the ability to benchmark in the water sector (2017)
- Assisting the Financial Conduct Authority in developing the econometric analysis for the Asset Management Market Study (2016–17)
- Assisting the Financial Conduct Authority in setting a cap on pension exit charges and assessing its impact on competition (2016–17)

Qualifications

- MSc Economic and Social Sciences, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy
- BA International Economics, University of Padua, Padua, Italy