

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT



17 December 2025, 14:00 - 15:30 (CET) Online

## **Research Partnership Platform**

## **Webinar: Highly Concentrated Global Food** Value Chains

The Research Partnership Platform (RPP), created in 2010, provides an informal forum that brings together scholars and competition law enforcers to support dialogue and cooperation in competition law and policy. The United Nations Conference on Competition and Consumer Protection, in its 9th session held in 2025, recognized the role of the platform in strengthening UNCTAD's research and policy analysis capacities and linking research findings to its technical cooperation pillar.

Global food value chains play an important role in achieving food security and ensuring affordability of food prices, and the livelihoods of farmers and communities. Consumers bear the consequences of any anti-competitive practices in terms of higher prices, reduced availability and choice, or lower quality in food markets.

Highly concentrated segments of global food value chains are dominated by a handful of enterprises that can exercise pricing power in multiple national markets. This concentration has resulted from both horizontal and vertical integration of large companies. Many national competition authorities are not notified of these mergers. However, their economies will be affected by them in terms of more concentrated markets, higher prices for consumers and lower prices for farmers. This brings to our attention the importance of research and understanding of these markets, where distortions lie and how international cooperation can help address some of the challenges.

RPP webinars aim to discuss important competition issues with renown scholars and provide space for competition law enforcers to interact with them. In this RPP webinar, we will discuss high concentration in global food value chains from a broader policy perspective on what are the concerns, which policy areas are involved and how Government bodies, competition authorities and relevant sector regulators can respond to resolve these issues.

Register here.

