#### Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy, Fifteenth Session

Geneva, 19-21 October 2016

#### **RPP Reseach and Partnership Platform**

Contribution

by

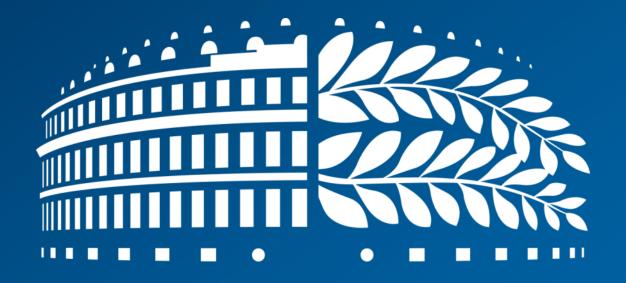
#### Dr. iur. Fabio Babey, Senior Lecturer

The views expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD



7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the UNCTAD Research Partnership Platform Geneva, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2016

# **Class Actions in Competition Law**



**Building Competence. Crossing Borders.** 

Dr. iur. Fabio Babey, Senior Lecturer

\* The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD and ZHAW

# **Class Actions in Competition Law**

# Agenda

- I. Framework
- II. Substance
- III. Outlook



#### **Mission**

# **Strengthening Antitrust Civil Law** Introduction of Class Action Law Suits

Analyse the functioning of antitrust class action lawsuits

2 Establish « Best Practices Class Action in Competition Law »



# I. Framework

2016

January

#### Timeline December 2016 December 2017 October 2016 (RPP Meeting) Summer 2018 (RPP Meeting) May 2018 July 2017 Kick-off Presentation

Questionnaire

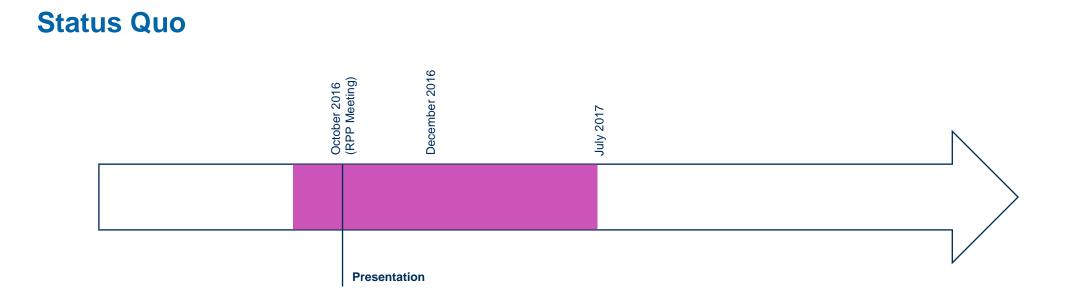
Working Paper

4

Presentation

- **Phase 1**: Survey the relevant legal systems and case studies  $\rightarrow$  identify the substance and implementation of class actions
- Phase 2: Evaluate results and create «Best Practices Class Action in Competition Law Regimes»
- **Phase 3**: Propositions for implementation in specific law regimes
- **Phase 4**: Evaluate tools and tricks and assist legal framework guaranteeing class actions

## I. Framework



# Evaluate results and create «Best Practices Class Action in Competition Law Regimes»



19th October 2016

#### Questionnaire



19th October 2016

#### **Empirical Study**

- Questionnaire based on extensive research
- Sent to 56 universities in all the relevant countries



**First observations** 

**Analyse** the functioning of antitrust class action lawsuits

2 Establish « Best Practices Class Action in Competition Law »

Damages were awarded in very few cases.

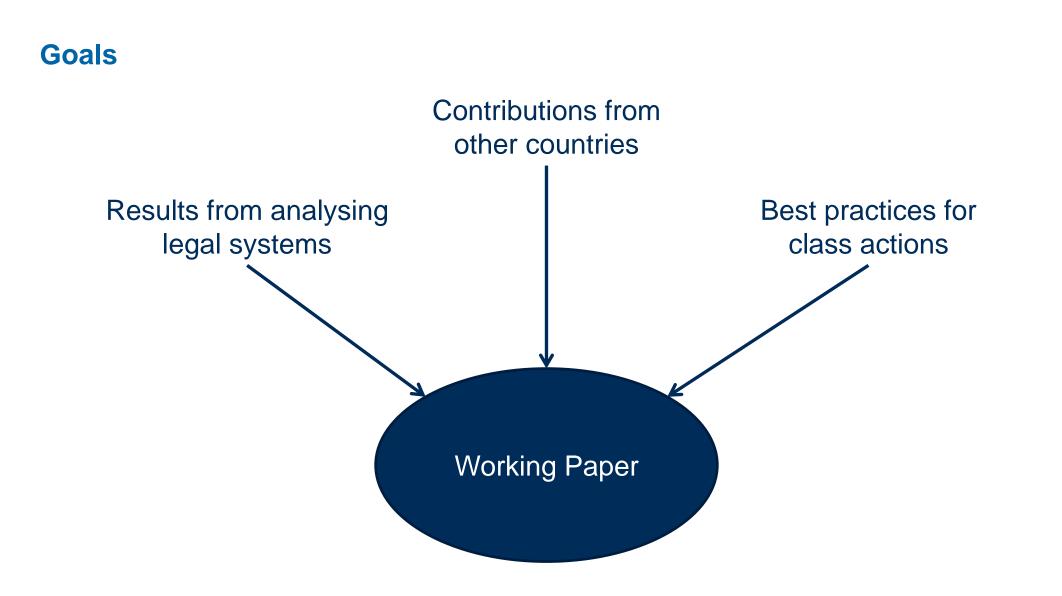
#### **First observations**

#### Reasons

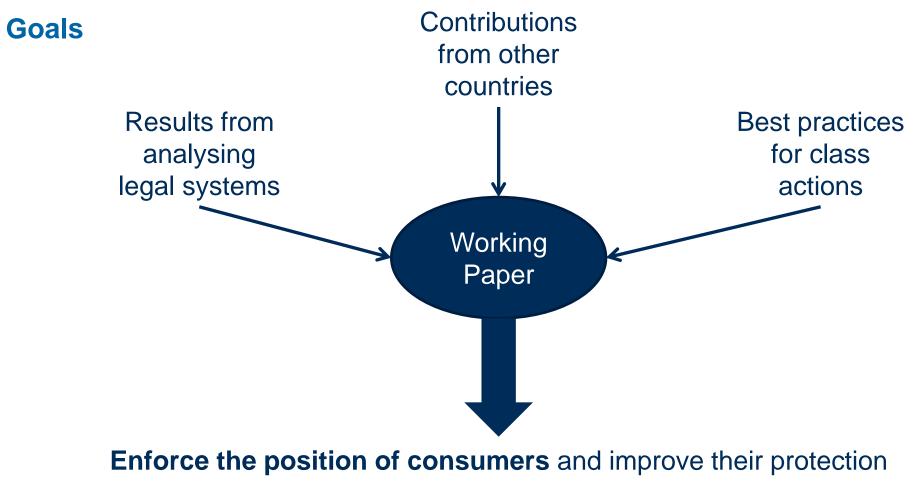
- High formal requirements
- Difficulty to provide evidence
- Unreasonable risks and costs



# III. Outlook



# III. Outlook



without leading to « over the top » claims for damages

Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften



# Thank you for your attention!

Dr. iur. Fabio Babey

Managing Director / Senior Lecturer Center for Competition Law (ZHAW) +41 (0)76 323 41 31 fabio.babey@zhaw.ch