

Annual Conference of the Mannheim Centre for Competition and Innovation (MaCCI)

19 – 20 March 2026 · Conference venue: ZEW, Mannheim · Time zone: CET (Germany)

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 19 MARCH 2026

9:00 – 9:15 INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

9:15 – 10:45 **PARALLEL SESSION I**

(A) COMPETITION LAW I
(B) AUCTIONS
(C) INNOVATION
(D) CONTRACTS AND BARGAINING
(E) MARKET POWER

10:45 – 11:00 BREAK

11:00 – 12:15 **KEYNOTE LECTURE: INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND INNOVATION**
ROOM BRÜSSEL

Jean Tirole (Toulouse School of Economics)
Chair: Martin Peitz (University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

12:15 – 13:30 LUNCH BREAK

13:30 – 15:00 **PARALLEL SESSION II**

(A) SPECIAL SESSION – BUNDESKARTELLAMT
(B) INVESTMENT AND CONTRACTS
(C) OLIGOPOLY THEORY
(D) ECONOMICS OF AI
(E) ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES IN TRANSPORT MARKETS

15:00 – 15:15 BREAK

15:15 – 16:45 **PARALLEL SESSION III**

(A) SPECIAL SESSION – STUDIENVEREINIGUNG KARTELLRECHT
(B) COLLUSION
(C) CONSUMER SEARCH MARKETS
(D) INTANGIBLES AND WELFARE
(E) FIRM PERFORMANCE AND POLICY

16:45 – 17:15 BREAK

17:15 – 18:30 **HEIKE SCHWEITZER KEYNOTE LECTURE: THE LIMITS OF ANTITRUST REVISITED: HUMILITY, LEGITIMACY, JUSTICE**
ROOM BRÜSSEL
Cani Fernández Vicién (President of the Spanish National Authority for Markets and Competition)
Chair: Jens-Uwe Franck (University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

19:00 DINNER UPON INVITATION

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 20 MARCH 2026

09:00 – 10:30 **PARALLEL SESSION IV**

(A) SPECIAL SESSION – STUDIENVEREINIGUNG KARTELLRECHT
(B) INSTITUTIONS AND REGULATION
(C) MERGERS
(D) CONSUMER BEHAVIOR

10:30 – 10:45 BREAK

10:45 – 12:15 **PARALLEL SESSION V**

(A) COMPETITION LAW II
(B) ACQUISITIONS
(C) PLATFORM GOVERNANCE
(D) MARKETS WITH STRATEGIC CONSUMERS

12:15 – 13:45 LUNCH BREAK

13:45 – 15:15 **PARALLEL SESSION VI**

(A) SPECIAL SESSION – EUROPEAN COMMISSION – DG COMP
(B) BEHAVIOR IN ONLINE MARKETS
(C) ALGORITHMIC DESIGN
(D) COMPETITION LAW III
(E) PLATFORM COMPETITION

15:15 CLOSING REMARKS

RULES FOR PRESENTATION

20 minutes presentation, 5 minutes discussion, 5 minutes general discussion

PARALLEL SESSION I

THURSDAY, 19 MARCH, 9:15 – 10:45

SESSION I A – ROOM
BRÜSSEL

COMPETITION LAW I

Chair: Alexandre de Streef
(University of Namur)

A FRAMEWORK FOR
UNDERSTANDING THE OPTIMAL USE
OF ECONOMIC EVIDENCE IN
COMPETITION LAW ENFORCEMENT

Paula ROLDÁN
(Maastricht University)
Discussant: Stefan Thomas

COLLECTIVE BENEFITS

Stefan THOMAS
(Eberhard Karls University Tübingen)
Discussant: Alexandre de Streef

EU BIG TECH LAWS: AN EMERGING
PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATION

Alexandre DE STREEF
(University of Namur)
Discussant: Paula Roldán

SESSION I B – ROOM 1

AUCTIONS

Chair: Sander Onderstal
(University of Amsterdam)

AUCTION IDENTIFICATION WITH
UNOBSERVED REJECTED OFFERS

David GENESOVE
(Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Discussant: Emanuele Tarantino

DYNAMIC MERGER EFFECTS IN
BIDDING MARKETS

Emanuele TARANTINO
(European Commission & Luiss)
Discussant: Sander Onderstal

VERTICAL INTEGRATION IN AUCTION
MARKETS

Sander ONDERSTAL
(University of Amsterdam)
Discussant: David Genesove

SESSION I C – ROOM 2

INNOVATION

Chair: Enrico de Monte
(ZEW Mannheim & MaCCI)

MACHINE DATA SHARING AND
INNOVATION INCENTIVES

Flavio PINO
(Polytechnic of Turin)
Discussant: Federico Vaccari

ON NEGOTIATING PRICES IN
STANDARD SETTING
ORGANIZATIONS

Federico VACCARI
(University of Bergamo)
Discussant: Marc Bourreau

INNOVATION AND STARTUP
ACQUISITION

Marc BOURREAU
(Telecom Paris)
Discussant: Flavio Pino

SESSION I D – ROOM MEDIA

CONTRACTS AND BARGAINING

Chair: Gerard Llobet
(CEMFI)

EMPLOYMENT RELATIONSHIPS,
WAGE SETTING, AND LABOR
MARKET POWER

Leonard TREUREN
(KU Leuven)
Discussant: Alessandro de Chiara

MITIGATING GENERATIVE AI
HALLUCINATIONS

Alessandro DE CHIARA
(University of Barcelona)
Discussant: Gerard Llobet

THE COSTS OF COUNTERPARTY RISK
IN LONG-TERM CONTRACTS

Gerard LLOBET
(CEMFI)
Discussant: Leonard Treuren

SESSION I E – HKH

MARKET POWER

Chair: Laura Grigolon
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

CORPORATE AND PRIVATE-EQUITY
ACQUISITIONS IN THE ENGLISH CARE
HOMES MARKET

Dong XU
(Bayes Business School)
Discussant: Rhys Williams

NEVER KNOWINGLY UNDERSOLD:
DO LOW PRICE GUARANTEES
RESULT IN LOWER PRICES?

Rhys WILLIAMS
(King's College Cambridge)
Discussant: Catarina Marvao

COMMON OWNERSHIP AND
COLLUSION

Catarina MARVAO
(University College Dublin)
Discussant: Dong Xu

PARALLEL SESSION II

THURSDAY, 19 MARCH, 13:30 – 15:00

**SESSION II A – ROOM
BRÜSSEL**

SPECIAL SESSION ON MERGER
CASES AT THE BUNDESKARTELLAMT
Chair: Martin Peitz
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

ANSYS/SAFEARENT
Elisabeth BORCHERT
(Bundeskartellamt)
Discussant: Annabelle Jochem
(RBB Economics)

TÖNNIES/VION
Christoph WIGGER
(Bundeskartellamt)

SESSION II B – ROOM 1

INVESTMENT AND CONTRACTS
Chair: Philipp Schmidt-Dengler
(University of Vienna)

WHY SUPPLIERS MIGHT PREFER
LINEAR AND SECRET VERTICAL
CONTRACTS?
David GILO
(Tel Aviv University)
Discussant: Nicolas de Roos

ELIMINATION TOURNAMENTS WITH
RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS
Nicolas DE ROOS
(University of Liverpool)
Discussant: Philipp Schmidt-Dengler

A COMPUTABLE DYNAMIC
OLIGOPOLY MODEL OF CAPACITY
INVESTMENT
Philipp SCHMIDT-DENGLER
(University of Vienna)
Discussant: David Gilo

SESSION II C – ROOM 2

OLIGOPOLY THEORY
Chair: Volker Nocke
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

ASYMMETRIC HOTELLING
COMPETITION
Markus REISINGER
(Frankfurt School of Finance &
Management)

MERGER ANALYSIS WITH SUFFICIENT
STATISTICS
Nicolas SCHUTZ
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

CONCENTRATION INDICES, WELFARE
DISTORTIONS, AND MISALLOCATION
IN OLIGOPOLY
Volker NOCKE
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

SESSION II D – ROOM MEDIA

ECONOMICS OF AI
Chair: Robin Ng
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF
DWARFS: DEPENDENCIES IN AI OPEN
SOURCE SOFTWARE
Jérémie HAESE
(ETH Zürich)

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND
COLLUSION: EVIDENCE FROM LARGE
LANGUAGE MODELS
Marek GIEBEL
(Copenhagen Business School)

MODERATING CONTENT HOSTING
PLATFORMS
Robin NG
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

SESSION II E – HKH

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES IN
TRANSPORT MARKETS
Chair: Kevin Remmy
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

BINDING EMISSION STANDARDS IN
THE EUROPEAN CAR MARKET
Thomas WIEDENHOFER
(University of Mannheim)
Discussant: Morten Sæthre

EXTERNALITIES, MARKET POWER
AND VEHICLE TAXATION
Morten SÆTHRE
(Norwegian School of Economics)
Discussant: Kevin Remmy

EQUILIBRIUM EFFECTS IN
COMPLEMENTARY MARKETS:
ELECTRIC VEHICLE ADOPTION AND
ELECTRICITY PRICING
Kevin REMMY
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)
Discussant: Thomas Wiedenhofer

PARALLEL SESSION III

THURSDAY, 19 MARCH, 15:15 – 16:45

**SESSION III A – ROOM
BRÜSSEL**

PANEL ON “WHICH ECONOMICS FOR
A MULTIPOLAR COMPETITION
ENFORCEMENT?” BY THE
STUDIENVEREINIGUNG
KARTELLRECHT
Chair: Bernd Meyring
(Linklaters)

PANELLISTS

Fiona SCOTT MORTON
(Yale University)

Jorge PADILLA
(Compass Lexecon)

Emanuele TARANTINO
(European Competition and LUISS)

Bernd MEYRING
(Linklaters)

SESSION III B – ROOM 1

COLLUSION
Chair: Anton Sobolev
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

FINANCIAL AID COORDINATION AND
STUDENT DEBT

Silke FORBES
(Tufts University)
Discussant: Flavio Toxvaerd

COMPETITION AND COLLUSION
WITH STRATEGIC INVENTORIES

Flavio TOXVAERD
(University of Cambridge)
Discussant: Yaron Yehezkel

MARKET-WIDE COLLUSION
BETWEEN SUPPLIERS AND
RETAILERS

Yaron YEHEZKEL
(Tel Aviv University)
Discussant: Silke Forbes

SESSION III C – ROOM 2

CONSUMER SEARCH MARKETS
Chair: Atabek Atayev
(ZEW Mannheim & MaCCI)

OPTIMAL SEARCH WITH COSTLY
RETURNS

Sebastian ERTNER
(University of Vienna)

CONTEXT EFFECTS AND PRICE
DISPERSION IN SEARCH MARKETS

Heiko KARLE
(Frankfurt School of Finance &
Management)

GENERAL SEARCH FOR PRICES

Atabek ATAYEV
(ZEW Mannheim & MaCCI)

SESSION III D – ROOM MEDIA

INTANGIBLES AND WELFARE
Chair: Thomas Tröger
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

THE COMPOUNDING EFFECT OF
EXPERIENCE IN INNOVATION
DYNAMICS

Saleh ZAKERINIA
(Ohio State University)
Discussant: Afonso Rodrigues

CONSUMER CHOICE OVER SHOPPING
BASKETS: A LINEAR DEMAND
APPROACH

Afonso RODRIGUES
(University of Oxford)
Discussant: Alminas Žaldokas

NEW PRODUCTS

Alminas ŽALDOKAS
(National University of Singapore)
Discussant: Saleh Zakerinia

SESSION III E – HKH

FIRM PERFORMANCE AND POLICY
Chair: Richard Friberg
(Stockholm School of Economics)

WHEN PROTECTION ATTRACTS
TALENT: MANAGERIAL
REALLOCATION AND PRODUCTIVITY
IN GERMAN COAL MINING

Kai FISCHER
(WU Vienna)
Discussant: Richard Friberg

HAVE WE GOT NEWS FOR YOU: FIRM-
LEVEL EVIDENCE ON THE OPTIMAL
CHOICE OF EXPECTED CAPACITY
UTILIZATION

Richard FRIBERG
(Stockholm School of Economics)

PARALLEL SESSION IV

FRIDAY, 20 MARCH, 09:00 – 10:30

SESSION IV A – ROOM BRÜSSEL

PANEL ON NON-PRICE RESTRICTIONS AMONG
COMPETITORS (NO-POACH AGREEMENTS,
INNOVATION COMPETITION, AND ESG) BY THE
STUDIENVEREINIGUNG KARTELLRECHT

Chair: Daniela Seeliger
(Linklaters)

PANELLISTS

Bertold BÄR-BOUYSSIÈRE
(Dentons)

Christina MALZ
(Schilling, Zutt & Anschütz)

Andreas SCHÜSSEL
(Gleiss Lutz)

Daniela SEELIGER
(Linklaters)

SESSION IV B – ROOM 1

INSTITUTIONS AND REGULATION

Chair: Francisco Poggi
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

THE OPTIMAL REGULATION OF UNIVERSITIES

Robert GARY-BOBO
(Université Paris-I Panthéon-Sorbonne)
Discussant: Konstantinos Serfes

THE RISE AND FALL OF DISINTERMEDIATED
PLATFORM LENDING

Konstantinos SERFES
(Drexel University)
Discussant: Juan-José Ganuza

DESIGNING: STANDARDS FOR A SINGLE
MARKET. THE 28TH EU COUNTRY

Juan-José GANUZA
(University Pompeu Fabra & Barcelona School of
Economics)
Discussant: Robert Gary-Bobo

SESSION IV C – ROOM 2

MERGERS

Chair: Nicolas Schutz
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

HORIZONTAL MERGERS IN INDUSTRIES WITH
CONGESTION EFFECTS AND CAPACITY-
ENHANCING INVESTMENTS

Ángel Luis LÓPEZ
(CSIC & Barcelona School of Economics)
Discussant: Christopher Teh

ROBUST INNOVATION INCENTIVES AND
MERGER POLICY

Christopher TEH
(Toulouse School of Economics)
Discussant: Armin Schmutzler

POLICIES AGAINST MERGERS AND ABUSE OF
DOMINANCE: WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS ON
INNOVATION AND ENTRY?

Armin SCHMUTZLER
(University of Zürich)
Discussant: Ángel Luis López

SESSION IV D – ROOM MEDIA

CONSUMER BEHAVIOR

Chair: Michael Ward
(University of Texas at Arlington)

WHEN THE MERGER IS REVIEWED BY
CONSUMERS: STEALTH ACQUISITIONS AND
ONLINE RATINGS

Reinhold KESLER
(Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf)
Discussant: Brett Hollenbeck

THE IMPACT OF LLM ADOPTION ON ONLINE
USER BEHAVIOR

Brett HOLLENBECK
(UCLA Anderson School of Management)
Discussant: Michael Ward

THE DYNAMICS OF ATTENTION, STATUS, AND
INFLUENCE IN THE MAKING OF A TWITCH
INFLUENCER

Michael WARD
(University of Texas at Arlington)
Discussant: Reinhold Kesler

PARALLEL SESSION V

FRIDAY, 20 MARCH, 10:45 – 12:15

SESSION V A – ROOM BRÜSSEL

COMPETITION LAW II

Chair: Sandra Marco Colino
(Chinese University of Hong Kong)

BEYOND RIVALRY: EXPANDING THE INCENTIVE
FRAMEWORK FOR INNOVATION

Selçukhan ÜNEKBAŞ
(European University Institute)
Discussant: Tjaša Petročnik

THE STARTUP INNOVATION PARADOX: HOW
STARTUP ACQUISITIONS STEER VENTURE
CAPITAL INCENTIVES AND THE DIRECTION OF
INNOVATION

Max VAN IERSEL
(Tilburg University)
Discussant: Miłosz Malaga

BOOSTING SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGY
THROUGH THE NEW EU COMPETITION POLICY

Sandra MARCO COLINO
(Chinese University of Hong Kong)
Discussant: Kalpana Tyagi

SESSION V B – ROOM 1

ACQUISITIONS

Chair: Melissa Newham
(ETH Zürich)

WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT PARTIAL
OWNERSHIP?

Yossi SPIEGEL
(Tel Aviv University)

GREENING THE DEAL: CAN MERGERS
REDIRECT INNOVATION?

Melissa NEWHAM
(ETH Zürich)
Discussant: Yossi Spiegel

HORIZONTAL MINORITY STAKE ACQUISITIONS
AND PATENT ACTIVITY

Sven HEIM
(Mines Paris & PSL Research University)
Discussant: Melissa Newham

SESSION V C – ROOM 2

PLATFORM GOVERNANCE

Chair: Massimo Motta
(University Pompeu Fabra & Barcelona School of
Economics)

A NETWORK APPROACH TO
INTEROPERABILITY

Guofu TAN
(University of Southern California)
Discussant: José Moraga-González

THE AGENCY AND WHOLESALE MODELS
WHEN A PLATFORM CAN CHARGE ENTRY FEES

José MORAGA-GONZÁLEZ
(Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
Discussant: Massimo Motta

PLATFORM TYING AND ITS EFFECTS

Massimo MOTTA
(University Pompeu Fabra & Barcelona School of
Economics)
Discussant: Guofu Tan

SESSION V D – ROOM MEDIA

MARKETS WITH STRATEGIC CONSUMERS

Chair: Michelle Sovinsky
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

ENDOGENOUS CONSIDERATION SETS AND
PRICE COMPETITION

Philip ZILKE
(University of Münster)

DUAL LEARNING: HOW AND HOW MUCH CAN
PLATFORMS LEARN FROM SEARCHING
CONSUMERS?

Eeva MAURING
(University of Bergen)

DANCE TO MY TUNE! DISCOVERY MODE AND
BUILT-IN RECOMMENDATION BIAS

Jacopo GAMBATO
(University of Vienna)

PARALLEL SESSION VI

FRIDAY, 20 MARCH, 13:45 – 15:15

**SESSION VI A – ROOM
BRÜSSEL**

SPECIAL SESSION ON CASES FROM
THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION BY
THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION – DG
COMP

Chair: Martin Peitz
(University of Mannheim & MaCCI)

NET AVOIDED COST IN THE POSTAL
SECTOR

Zlata JAKUBOVIC
(European Commission)
Discussant: Joan-Ramon Borrell
(University of Barcelona)

MARS/KELLANOVA: A LARGE
MERGER IN THE FOOD SECTOR WITH
A NOVEL BARGAINING THEORY OF
HARM

Benedikt HERZ
Hans ZENGER
(European Commission)
Discussant: Giulio Federico
(Oxera)

SESSION VI B – ROOM 1

BEHAVIOR IN ONLINE MARKETS

Chair: Luca Sandrini
(ZEW Mannheim & MaCCI)

PLATFORM LIABILITY, PRODUCT
SAFETY AND OPTIMAL PRICING

Gerd MUEHLHEUSSER
(University of Hamburg)
Discussant: Marco Haan

ABSENTMINDED CONSUMER
SEARCH AND ONLINE ADVERTISING

Marco HAAN
(University of Groningen)
Discussant: Luca Sandrini

THE EVOLUTION OF CONSUMER
NAIVETE IN A MARKET WITH
NETWORK EXTERNALITIES

Luca SANDRINI
(ZEW Mannheim & MaCCI)
Discussant: Gerd Muehlheusser

SESSION VI C – ROOM 2

ALGORITHMIC DESIGN

Chair: Sandro Shelegia
(University Pompeu Fabra)

BEHAVIOR-BASED PRICE
DISCRIMINATION WITH
ENDOGENOUS LEARNING IN A
REPEATED HOTELLING MODEL

Semih KARAORMAN
(University of Bremen)
Discussant: Stephan Waizmann

AI IN ACTION: ALGORITHMIC
LEARNING WITH STRATEGIC
CONSUMERS

Stephan WAIZMANN
(University College London)
Discussant: Sandro Shelegia

RANKING ALGORITHMS, LEARNING,
AND PRICING

Sandro SHELEGIA
(University Pompeu Fabra)
Discussant: Semih Karaorman

SESSION VI D – ROOM MEDIA

COMPETITION LAW III

Chair: Kalpana Tyagi
(Maastricht University)

BIG TECH, PUBLIC POLICY
CONSIDERATIONS, AND A LESS-
ECONOMIC APPROACH TO EU
COMPETITION LAW

Tjaša PETROČNIK
(Tilburg University)
Discussant: Max van Iersel

ENERGY SOLIDARITY IN
COMPETITION LAW'S TOOLBOX:
ALIVE AND DEAD UNTIL OBSERVED.
CASE COMMENT TO CJEU'S
JUDGEMENT IN C-255/22 P ORLEN V
COMMISSION

Miłosz MALAGA
(Adam Mickiewicz University in
Poznań)
Discussant: Sandra Marco Colino

ASSESSING THE RESILIENCE OF THE
GOOGLE SEARCH DECISION AND
REMEDIES FOR GENERATIVE AI

Kalpana TYAGI
(Maastricht University)
Discussant: Selçukhan Ünekbaş

SESSION VI E – ROOM HKH

PLATFORM COMPETITION

Chair: Laura Lasio
(European Commission – Joint
Research Centre)

COMPETITION AMONG DIGITAL
SERVICES: EVIDENCE FROM THE 2021
META OUTAGE

Sebastian VALET
(ZEW Mannheim)
Discussant: Benjamin Leyden

SHERLOCKING: THE EFFECTS OF
PLATFORM-OWNER ENTRY ON THE
COMPETITIVE BEHAVIOR OF THIRD-
PARTY FIRMS

Benjamin LEYDEN
(Cornell University)
Discussant: Laura Lasio

ONLINE TRAVEL AGENCIES AND
BEYOND: THE ROLE OF SALES
CHANNELS FOR HOTELS AND
CONSUMERS

Laura LASIO
(European Commission – Joint
Research Centre)
Discussant: Sebastian Valet