

# GCR

GLOBAL COMPETITION REVIEW



## **ECONOMICS ROUNDTABLE**

BEHAVIOURAL ECONOMICS  
AND STATE INTERVENTION

# Greece's competition bar

As Greece's Competition Commission evolves into a more active, efficient enforcer, activity at the country's most notable competition practices is likely to increase in tandem. **Ron Knox** examines which Athens firms are best positioned to take on the workload

## Elite

Since leaving his post as president of Greece's Competition Commission in 2003, Dimitris Tzouganatos has split his time between a professorship at the Law School of Athens and in-house counselling. He decided to break away from his in-house duties and return to full-time practice in February last year, forming a private competition practice considered the only antitrust boutique in the country, **DN Tzouganatos & Partners**.

Tzouganatos says even he wasn't sure there would be enough competition work to justify a dedicated boutique. "I wasn't sure about that at the beginning, a year ago when we started," he says. "I was asking myself if the cases would be enough to make things alright."

But so far so good for the latest incarnation of Tzouganatos' private practice. The firm's four lawyers and two special advisers have already picked up a slew of top-tier clients, including Unilever, Vivartia, Interamerican and others, and are handling an abundance of other advisory work for outside companies attempting to strike deals that will show up on the Greek enforcer's radar. Indeed, Tzouganatos has become the go-to firm for clients of some of the most prominent competition practices in the world when looking for advice on Greek competition law, as both Jones Day and Howrey LLP have turned to Tzouganatos for advice since the firm's rebirth last year.

It helps that Tzouganatos has attracted some of the most well-regarded young practitioners in Greece to help advise clients. Along with his own extensive understanding of the inner workings of the commission, Tzouganatos hired lawyer Nikos Kosmidis, as well as former Howrey LLP and Arnold & Porter LLP senior associate Stamatis Drakakakis, to help run the firm. He also added two specialist counsels – professor at the Economic University of Athens Ioannis Katsoulakos and litigation and collective action adviser Athanasios Pouliades, who teaches law at the University of Thessalonica – positioning the firm at the forefront of competition law developments in Greece.

Firm	Head of competition	No. of lawyers	Key clients
<b>ELITE</b>			
DN Tzouganatos & Partners	Dimitris Tzouganatos	3p, 1a, 2c	Interamerican Hellenic Life Insurance, Unilever, Nissan Hellas, Alpha Bank
M&P Bernitsas			
<b>HIGHLY RECOMMENDED</b>			
Dryllerakis & Associates			
KGDI Law Firm			
Panagopoulos Vainanidis Schina Economou			
<b>RECOMMENDED</b>			
Calavros & Partners			
Helen Papaconstantinou, John Filias & Associates			