



**Bastien Thomas**  
**Partner**

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T. +33 (0)1 44 82 44 40  
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Paris Bar (2006)  
Partner at Racine  
since 2015

## COMPETITION - DISTRIBUTION

Bastien Thomas co-heads Racine's Competition Law team.

With 15 years of experience in French and European competition law, Bastien is specialised in merger control at French and European levels, antitrust (anticompetitive agreements and abuse of a dominant position) as well as private actions. Bastien has also extensive experience in the field of State aid.

Providing French and international companies with his expertise on complex and demanding issues relating to antitrust, merger control or State aid, Bastien has acquired in-depth experience and knowledge of very specific sectors, particularly in the automotive and mobility sectors, but also in agri-food, energy and media industries.

He regularly assists and represents his clients before the European Commission, the French Competition Authority and French and European courts.

### Recent transactions :

- Advising NJJ Presse (Xavier Niel), Groupe Troisième Oeil (Pierre-Antoine Capton) and LNEI (Matthieu Pigasse) in the framework of their acquisition of joint control over Mediawan
- Advising Suez in the context of the sale of its subsidiary OSIS to Veolia Environnement
- Advising a leading industrial group on their defence against a complaint for use of pricing algorithms filed before the Paris Commercial Court
- Advising Groupe PSA and Saft (Groupe Total) in the framework of a State aid (IPCEI) notification to the European Commission of a pan European project involving 17 companies in the electric vehicle batteries sector, of a total amount of 3.2 billion euros
- Advising Fondation Hôpital Saint-Joseph in the framework of its merger with Hôpital Marie Lannelongue, specialised in thoracic pathologies
- Advising Groupe PSA and Punch Powertrain on the creation of a second joint venture in the car gearboxes sector
- Advising Groupe PSA on the creation of a joint-venture with Punch Powertrain
- Advising Groupe Caisse des Dépôts and Infravia Capital Partners in the framework of their acquisition over Etix Everywhere
- Advising Engie on its acquisition of Pierre Guérin a company providing products and services in the agri-food sector
- Advising Terreal on its acquisition on its acquisition of joint control over GSE Intégration
- Advising Groupe PSA on the setting-up of a JV with the Japanese group Nidec
- Advising CDC Habitat and Epinorpa on the acquisition of joint control over the public limited company HLM Maisons & Cités
- Advising Mediawan on its acquisition of AB Group
- Advising Groupe Caisse des Dépôts and Engie / Solairedirect on their acquisition of photovoltaic plants
- Advising Econom on its acquisition of Aciernet
- Advising Groupe PSA in the framework of the creation of Emov, active in the car car-sharing rental sector in Spain
- Representing Eurofins Scientific Group before the French Supreme Court (Conseil d'État) with respect to appeals lodged against the French Competition Authority's clearances of the Bio-Access and Biomnis merger acquisitions
- Advising Perceva on the takeover of Cauval
- Advising LBO France / Karavel on the takeover of Fram
- Advising Eurofins Scientific Group in its acquisition of Bio-Access (medical biology laboratories)

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Merger control
- Anti-competitive practices
- State aid
- Private actions
- Distribution

## CAREER BEFORE JOINING RACINE

- Jeantet Associés (2005-2008)
- Linklaters (2008-2015)

## EDUCATION

- Master II, European Business Law (Université Paris II Panthéon-Assas - 2004)
- ESSEC (2003)

## LANGUAGES

French / English / German / Italian

## OTHER

- Lecturer in competition law - Masters 2 “Global Business Law and Governance” (Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne University, Columbia University and Sciences Po) and “Droit international économique” (Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne University).
- Member of the Association of Competition Law Practitioners (Association des Avocats Pratiquant le Droit de la Concurrence)
- Founding Member of the State Aid Monitoring Association (Association de Suivi des Aides d’État)

## PUBLICATIONS

- Co-author of the *Private Enforcement* column of the quarterly review *Concurrences*, 2020
- Author of the “France”, *Global Legal Insights - Merger Control*, 2019, 2020
- “Abuse of dependency: A new prohibition”, *Journal des Sociétés*, no. 144, September 2016
- “The recent approach of the Paris Court of Appeal to the indemnity actions of foreclosed competitors”, *Revue Lamy de la Concurrence*, January 2018
- “Gun jumping - First sanction in France of an early implementation of a notified merger; Severity of sanctions and a reminder of the applicable rules”, *Racine client Alert*, November 2016
- “Abuse of dependency: A new prohibition”, *Journal des Sociétés*, no. 144, September 2016
- “The 2015 Orange Settlement Decision: How the French Competition Authority Defines, Addresses, and Remedies Abusive Conduct in the Telecommunications Sector”, *Journal of European Competition Law & Practice*, August 2016
- “Farming sector: Towards a temporary and partial waiver of competition law” *Racine Client Alert*, March 2016
- Author of the “France” chapter in *Global Legal Insights – Cartels*, 2015 to 2018
- Co-author of the “France” chapter in *Chambers Legal Practice Guide – Merger Control*, 2014
- Co-author of the “France” chapter in *Chambers Legal Practice Guide : Merger Control*, 2014
- Co-head of the “Review of Competition Journals” column of the quarterly review *Concurrences*

## RANKINGS

- “Future Leader”, *Who’s Who Legal / Global Competition Review* since 2017
- Appointed in the Competition / Antitrust law category of the review *Best Lawyers for 2019 and 2020*
- “Leading individual”, *Chambers Europe*, 2015 and 2016