



Bastien Thomas

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Paris Bar (2006)
Partner at Racine
since 2015

COMPETITION – DISTRIBUTION

Bastien Thomas co-manages Racine's Competition – Distribution team.

With over 12 years of experience in French and European competition law, Bastien advises both French and international companies on their antitrust, merger control, state aid and private actions issues. He regularly assists and represents his clients before the European Commission, the French Competition Authority as well as French and European courts.

His sectors of expertise include automotive, agri-food, transportation, energy, the media, luxury and e-commerce sectors.

RECENT TRANSACTIONS

- Advising Groupe PSA on the setting-up of a JV with the Nippon group Nidec
- Advising the AMIV in the framework of a procedure of the French Competition Authority in the agri-food sector in the French overseas departments
- Advising Mediawan on its acquisition of AB Group
- Advising the CDC and Engie / Solairedirect on their acquisition of photovoltaic plants
- Advising Econocom on its acquisition of Aciernet
- Advising Groupe PSA in the framework of the creation of Emov, active in the car-sharing rental sector in Spain
- Representing Eurofins before the Conseil d'État with respect to appeals lodged against the French Competition Authority's authorisations of the Bio-Access and Biomnis merger transactions
- Advising Perceva on the takeover of Cauval
- Advising LBO France / Karavel on the takeover of Fram
- Advising Eurofins in its acquisition of Bio-Access

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Merger control
- Anti-competitive practices
- State aid
- Compensation proceedings
- Distribution

CAREER BEFORE JOINING RACINE

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

- “*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*, since 2015
- Co-author of the “*France*” chapter in *Chambers Legal Practice Guide – Merger Control*, 2014
- Co-head of the “*Review of Competition Journals*” section of *Concurrences*
- “*Amazon/Deliveroo in the UK: the application of the failing company exception, a sign of the times?*”, in *Le droit face au coronavirus : comment une pandémie inédite a mis à l’épreuve notre système juridique*, Ouvrage collectif, Le club des juristes, 2023
- Author of the “*France*” chapter in *Global Legal Insights – Cartels*, 2015 and 2016
- Co-author of the “*France*” chapter in *Chambers Legal Practice Guide – Merger Control*, 2014
- Co-head of the “*Review of Competition Journals*” section of *Concurrences*

RANKINGS

- “*Leading individual*”, *Chambers and Partners Europe*, 2022
- “*Leading individual*”, *Legal 500 EMEA* 2022
- “*Future Leader*”, *Who's Who Legal / Global Competition Review*, since 2017
- Named in the *Competition / Antitrust law* category of *Best Lawyers* 2020, 2021 and 2022