

## **14th ASCOLA Conference**

### **CHALLENGES TO THE ASSUMPTIONS AT THE BASIS OF COMPETITION LAW**

**+ WORKSHOP ON COMPETITION LAW ISSUES**

**Aix en Provence, France**

**June 27 to June 29, 2019**

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

The Academic Society for Competition Law (ASCOLA) will hold its 14th annual conference from Thursday June 27 to Saturday June 29, 2019 at the University of Aix en Provence, in Aix en Provence, France.

#### **Main Topic**

“Challenges to the Assumptions at the Basis of competition Law”

Competition law is based on certain assumptions. These relate, inter alia to:

- (1) The goals of competition law and how they can be achieved;
- (2) How markets operate (including the effects of certain types of conduct and/or technologies on market performance);
- (3) The correct balance between risks and benefits of certain market actions or technological changes;
- (4) The institutional structure that best serves competition law enforcement;
- (5) Burdens of proof, and economic and legal presumptions that best serve its goals;
- (6) The interaction of competition law with other legal or regulatory spheres, and how they affect overall social welfare.

Social, economic and technological changes have challenged some of these assumptions, as well as and/or additional ones on which competition law is based. Accordingly, at the 14th ASCOLA conference, we would like to reflect systematically and critically on these assumptions. The conference topic is not limited to any specific jurisdiction, but aims to promote a discussion on the evolution of such assumptions throughout the world. The papers should preferably facilitate a discussion with regard to (relatively) similar problems encountered worldwide.

#### **Parallel Sessions**

As in previous years, part of the conference will take place in the form of parallel sessions. These sessions allow interested scholars to present their most recent research on any topic related to competition law (including jurisdiction-specific topics). Thus, submissions do not have to relate to the themes of the conference.

The papers for the parallel sessions will undergo the same evaluation process applicable to papers relating to the conference’s general theme.

## Submission of Papers

ASCOLA members are invited to submit DRAFT PAPERS or EXTENDED ABSTRACTS (minimum of 8 pages) no later than **January 15, 2019**. Authors will be informed by March 15, 2019, by the latest, whether they have been selected for the conference. The papers will be evaluated by an Evaluation Committee, and each paper will be evaluated by two independent evaluators who will be asked to evaluate seven different parameters. To ensure as fair process as possible, the only ones who see the scores are the conference organizers. Non-members can submit papers, and take advantage of that opportunity to apply for membership. Details on how to submit will be sent closer to the deadline.

Those submitting also to the Best Junior Paper award should indicate this fact at the time of submission.

Authors of selected papers will then have until **May 20, 2019** to submit their papers for the conference. The organisers retain the right to exclude a paper that does not meet the quality requirements set for the conference.

## Venue for publication of the conference papers

Provided their authors agree, the papers will be published on the conference website.

In addition, the authors of the selected papers relating to the topic of the conference will have a choice to submit their papers to an issue of the **Journal of Antitrust Enforcement** potentially dedicated to ASCOLA's papers or potentially to a **book collection**. The editors might need to make a selection based on quality, should either publication be more popular than the number of papers that can be published therein. Papers submitted to the journal will undergo a double-blind review, and will be published in an issue dedicated to the conference (one out of the three issues published by the JAE per year).

## Costs

Speakers are expected to cover their costs for travel and hotel expenses but ASCOLA will provide scholarships, depending on available funds, to those who cannot finance their participation otherwise, in line with the Guidelines for Financial Aid set by its Scholarship Committee. Decisions on scholarships will be taken by a Scholarship Committee. Scholarships will mainly be granted to those presenting in the general sessions, on the topic of the conference.

## Awards

Two awards will potentially be given during the conference.

- A **Best Junior Paper Award** will be given for the best contribution among those submitted by authors not older than 35 years. In order to be eligible for this award, scholars should specifically state their date of birth at the time of submission.

- An **Award for Distinguished Services to ASCOLA** will be given to one or several ASCOLA members who have made a substantial contribution to the development of the association.

ASCOLA- THE place to showcase competition law scholarship!