

The Belgian Competition Authority confirms that it is conducting inspections in the personal care and retail sectors

The Belgian Competition Authority (“BCA”) confirms that the Investigations and Prosecution Service is currently conducting inspections at the premises of companies active in the personal care and retail sectors.

The BCA has received information pertaining to possible infringements of Article IV.1 of the Code of Economic Law and/or Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, which prohibit anticompetitive agreements.

In connection with these inspections, the Authority has updated its guidelines on the conduct of inspections to bring them into line with current practice; these can be consulted on its [website](#).

An inspection is a preliminary step in the investigation of restrictive practices and does not prejudice the outcome of the investigation in question.

The duration of an investigation depends on several factors, including the degree of complexity of the case, the cooperation of the undertakings concerned, and the exercise of the rights of defence.

For more information you may contact:

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The Belgian Competition Authority (BCA) is an independent administrative authority that contributes to the definition and implementation of competition policy in Belgium. Concretely, the BCA pursues anti-competitive practices, such as cartels and abuses of a dominant position, and reviews the main merger operations. The BCA cooperates with the other competition authorities of the member states of the European Union and the European Commission within the European Competition Network (ECN)