

PRESS RELEASE

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The Belgian Competition Authority opens proceedings against IQVIA for abuse of dominant position

The Belgian Competition Authority (BCA) has opened an investigation into a possible abuse of dominance in the sector of pharmaceutical data collection and processing, following a complaint and a preliminary investigation that revealed serious indications of a possible infringement of applicable competition rules.

The case pertains to contractual practices of IQVIA, a company active worldwide, including in Belgium, in the supply of technological solutions and data analysis to support pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device companies in the development and commercialization of their products. In Belgium, this sector is characterized by a high degree of concentration.

Upon preliminary analysis of the elements provided by the complainant and the issuance of requests for information to various players in the sector, the Prosecutor general has concluded that there were serious indications of a possible infringement of competition rules prohibiting abuses of a dominant position (Article 102 TFEU and/or Article IV.2 CEL), and therefore decided to open a formal investigation pursuant to Article IV.39, 2° of the Code of Economic Law (CEL).

The practices in question take place in the pharmaceutical and healthcare sector, which has been a priority for the Authority for several years.

The opening of an investigation does not prejudice its possible outcome, which is still at a preliminary stage, and the company that is the subject thereof will be fully involved in the proceedings.

Conducts or practices that may constitute a breach of the Belgian and EU competition rules can be reported in a fast and secure way via the BCA's reporting line accessible at www.bma-abc.be (see '[Report a competition issue?](#)').

For more information you may contact:

Damien Gerard
Prosecutor General
Tel: +32 (2) 277 76 57
E-mail: damien.gerard@bma-abc.be
Website: www.abc-bma.be

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)