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DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR INTERNAL POLICIES
POLICY DEPARTMENT A: ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC POLICIES

WORKSHOP Competition in the Food Retail Sector

- Programme -

2 May 2016, 16.00 to 18.00hrs, European Parliament, Brussels
Room ASP 5G2; interpretation: EN, FR, DE, ES; public event with webstreaming
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/ep-live/en/committees/video?event=20160502-1600-COMMITTEE-ECON>

16.00 - 16.05hrs	Welcome and Introduction: Markus FERBER, ECON Vice-Chair and Chair of the ECON Working Group on Competition Policy
16.05 - 17.55hrs	Introductory statements by expert speakers followed by a discussion with ECON Members
Paul DOBSON	Professor of Business Strategy and Public Policy, Head of Norwich Business School, University of East Anglia, UK
Elena ARGENTESI	Assistant Professor of Economics at the Department of Economics, University of Bologna and Senior Advisor at Lear, Laboratorio di economia, antitrust regolamentazione, Rome, Italy
Jacques STEENBERGEN	Professor em. and President of the Belgian Competition Authority, Brussels, Belgium
Philippe CHAUVE	Head of the Task Force Food, DG Competition, European Commission, Brussels

Possible issues to be discussed:

- What is the current state of competition in the field of food retail? Are there any specific trends or developments? What are the most imminent challenges?
 - What are buying alliances and what is their effect in practice?
 - Are food markets local? Is there any preference for national products?
- What kind of results does research deliver about market structure? (Studies, official sector enquiries, etc.)
- Is competition working effectively? Does the consumer benefit sufficiently?
- How do prices develop? Is there any fragmentation within the internal market or along national borders?
 - How do prices develop from the producer to prices in the shop?
- What are the consequences of mergers in the sector? On cost and prices? On the variety of choice?
- Is there any need for political intervention?

17.55 – 18.00hrs	Closing remarks by Markus FERBER, ECON Vice-Chair and Chair of the ECON Working Group on Competition Policy
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