

Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

PROGRAMME

Public Hearing

Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

Addressing unfair trading practices in B2B relations in the online environment

19 June 2018 from 14h30 to 16h30

European Parliament, Brussels

Venue details: József Antall 4Q1

14h30 - 14h35 Opening remarks

■ *IMCO Chairman*

14h35 - 15:30h Challenges and opportunities for lawmakers: creating the right legal framework for online in the Digital Single Market

The focus of the hearing is to address broadly the emergence of unfair practices in platform to business relationships (e.g. delisting, suspension of accounts, favourable treatment of the platform's own products and services) bearing in mind the increasingly important role of online platforms as vehicles for market access. In addition, the hearing proposes to explore any problems that may arise in terms of lack of redress and more broadly the risk of fragmentation in the internal market, as some Member States are putting forward regulatory responses in an isolated fashion. Discussion on the new proposal for a regulation from the Commission on Fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services, the current practices affecting the cross-border digital single market eco-system, on how to avoid market fragmentation and guarantee consumers choice and market access will take place among experts, stakeholders and policy makers.

Speakers:

- Representative of the European Commission
 - o **Mr. Werner Stengg**, Head of Unit for E-Commerce and Platforms, DG CONNECT
- Representative of Google
 - o Mr. David Price, Legal Director of Search, Google
- Representative of Ebay
 - o Mr. Samuel Laurinkari, Head of EU Affairs
- Representative of Booking.com
 - o Mr Peter Lochbihler. Director Public Affairs
- Representative of the HOTREC (Hospitality Europe. Hotels, Restaurants & Cafés in Europe)
 - o Mr Christian de Barrin, Chief Executive Officer
- Representative of Spanish Association of start-ups and micro SMEs
 - o Ms Carmen Bermejo, President

15h30-16.20 Q&A session with Members of the IMCO Committee

16h20 - 16h30 Closing remarks by IMCO Chairman