

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN WEALTH MANAGEMENT
MAÎTRISE UNIVERSITAIRE EN GESTION DE PATRIMOINE

EUROPEAN COMPETITION LAW (5461)

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6 ECTS

Semester: Fall

Teaching language: English

Description

Switzerland's geographical position makes knowledge of EU competition law essential for Swiss companies as well as the headquarters of several international corporate groups. Their economic activities are typically oriented towards European markets. EU competition law belongs to the risk management process of many firms: it affects all types of agreements they enter into, a broad range of commercial practices that may be considered as abuses of dominant positions, as well as mergers and acquisitions (merger control). Various economic sectors are concerned, from retail and consumer merchandise to luxury goods and technology-intensive products and services. Today, no company can afford to ignore high fines resulting from breach of competition laws and the associated risk of unenforceability of their commercial transactions. Last but not least, companies and their counsel should be familiar with the extensive investigation powers of the European Commission; in particular, they should be aware of their rights and duties during dawn raids, their obligation to testify, as well as other specific procedures, including leniency opportunities or negotiated outcomes (commitments).