

*Acquire a thorough understanding of current economic and legal principles on competition policy, review policy developments and actual cases, and apply the concepts with internationally renowned competition scholars and practitioners.*

# 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COMPETITION AND ECONOMIC REGULATION (ACER) WEEK

**2 – 6 October 2023**

The Ravenala Attitude Hotel | Turtle Bay | Balaclava | Mauritius

The Competition Commission of Mauritius and the University of Johannesburg's (UJ) Centre for Competition, Regulation and Economic Development are honoured to host the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Competition and Economic Regulation (ACER) Week in person at The Ravenala Attitude Hotel in Turtle Bay, Balaclava, Mauritius. ACER Week provides a valuable platform for competition authorities and regulators to share knowledge, keep abreast of key developments across the region, and build networks for collaboration between agencies. ACER Week combines targeted professional training programmes from 2 – 4 October 2023, and a conference on 5 and 6 October 2023.

## LEARN WITH OUR EXPERT FACULTY

**Prof Frédéric Jenny**, Chair of the OECD Competition Committee and former judge of the Supreme Court of France

**Mr. John Davies**, Tribunal Member at the UK Competition Appeal Tribunal

**Ms. Nelly Sakata**, Attorney of the High Court of South Africa and Principal Legal Counsel at the Competition Commission of South Africa

**Ms. Yasmin Carrim**, Acting judge in the Gauteng Division of the High Court (Johannesburg) and former full-time member of the Competition Tribunal of South Africa

**Mr. Rory Macmillan**, Partner at Macmillan Keck Attorneys and Solicitors, Geneva

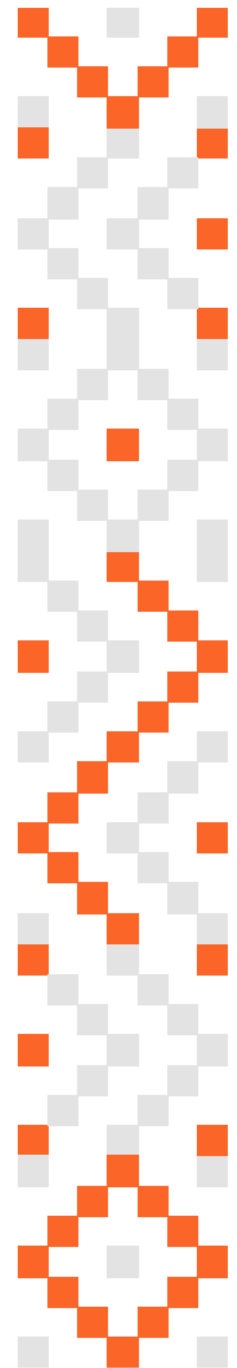
**Prof Marek Martyniszyn**, Professor at Queen's University Belfast and Non-Governmental Advisor to the International Competition Network

**Prof Jonathan Klaaren**, Professor at the School of Law at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

**Prof Simon Roberts**, Professor at the University of Johannesburg and Lead Researcher at CCRED

**Prof Thando Vilakazi**, Associate Professor at University of Johannesburg and Director at CCRED, part-time member of the Competition Tribunal in South Africa

**Prof Reena das Nair**, Associate Professor at the University of Johannesburg and Senior Researcher at CCRED



## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Two targeted Professional Training Programmes (PTPs), which run concurrently from 2 - 4 October 2023 will cover key theoretical concepts in competition economics, policy and law with illustrations on how the theories and principles are applied in practice in the context of Africa. The PTPs will be facilitated by a combination of academics and practitioners with the aim to empower participants with relevant skills and knowledge in this field. In addition, we are pleased to introduce a brand new offering this year, targeted exclusively at decision makers in African competition authorities. Delivered by judges and (current and former) tribunal members, this one-day intensive PTP on 4 October 2023 will cover topics on hearing evidence, dealing with economic evidence and writing decisions.

Some comments from previous ACER week participants:

*"The course was very informative and relevant to the targeted group ..."*

*"Excellent content, clear and understandable presentations, great interaction with participants from other jurisdictions and interesting and engaging exercises! Keep up the good work that you are doing."*

### PTP 1: Competition Economics for Practitioners in Africa

Addressing core areas in competition economics, this PTP is targeted at competition practitioners. The PTP will cover topics in mergers, cartels and abuse of dominance cases, focusing on theoretical principles and their application in practice in cases. Uniquely this year, part of the PTP will be dedicated to lessons in undertaking impact assessments, a topical issue for competition authorities in Africa. Competition enforcement from a regional perspective will be emphasised in each of these topics considering the AfCFTA. The course will be delivered through a series of lectures and case examples from the continent and internationally. As part of facilitated breakout groups, hypothetical exercises will be undertaken to enhance learning and apply concepts.

As leading competition economists with in-depth hands-on experience of cases in African jurisdictions and globally, facilitators include Mr. John Davies (Tribunal Member at the UK Competition Appeal Tribunal), Prof Thando Vilakazi (Associate Professor at the University of Johannesburg and Executive Director at CCRED, part-time member of the Competition Tribunal in South Africa), Prof Simon Roberts (Professor at the University of Johannesburg and Lead Researcher at CCRED), and Prof Reena das Nair (Associate Professor at the University of Johannesburg and Senior Researcher at CCRED).



## PTP 2: Law in Competition Policy

This course covers core legal principles in competition law and policy and the application of those principles, including issues of legal due process and decision-making relevant to competition authorities. The focus is on practical aspects of competition enforcement such as initiating investigations, commissioning market inquiries, running hearings, negotiation/settlement, and using the law to gather evidence, in addition to the role of economic evidence in deciding on likely harm to competition. With particular attention to the overlap between law and economics and recent African cases, the PTP will also explore reaching, justifying and defending/appealing against the economic regulatory decisions of competition authorities. Presenters include those who have participated in precedent-setting decisions, regulatory processes and regulation drafting on the continent. Attention will also be placed on regional competition and economic regulation dynamics and enforcement considering the AfCFTA.

The facilitators will include Prof Jonathan Klaaren (Professor at the School of Law at the University of the Witwatersrand), Ms. Nelly Sakata (Attorney of the High Court of South Africa and Principal Legal Counsel at the Competition Commission of South Africa), Mr. Rory Macmillan (Partner at Macmillan Keck Attorneys and Solicitors), and Prof Marek Martyniszyn (Professor at Queen's University Belfast and Non-Governmental Advisor to the International Competition Network).

## PTP 3: Key Principles for Assessing Evidence in Competition Tribunals and Courts

Targeted at decision makers, this brand new one-day intensive PTP will cover three main issues: 1) key principles in competition matters and the differences between legal form-based and economic approaches to competition cases; 2) hearing economic evidence in competition matters and making decisions on it by tribunal members and judges; and 3) lessons from experience on writing up decisions, and emerging issues in competition law. The emphasis in the course will be on practical insights from highly experienced facilitators who have adjudicated cases in specialist tribunals and in courts.

The course facilitators will include Prof Frédéric Jenny (Chair of the OECD Competition Committee and former judge of the Supreme Court of France), Ms. Yasmin Carrim, Acting judge in the Gauteng Division of the High Court (Johannesburg) and former full-time member of the Competition Tribunal of South Africa, Prof Thando Vilakazi (Associate Professor at the University of Johannesburg, Executive Director at CCRED, and part-time member of the Competition Tribunal in South Africa), and Mr. John Davies (Tribunal Member at the UK Competition Appeal Tribunal).

### More from previous ACER week participants:

*"The lecturer was great and explained concepts well. The exercises were relevant."*

*"Very relevant and informative course. Presenters were fluent and had knowledge of the subject matter."*

*"I was impressed by the facilitators. Kudos."*

*"I think the approach of taking real life cases and discussing them is a great idea. In addition, having facilitators who are or have done the actual work before is a great idea."*

Course Package Options (Note that ACER fees are VAT exempt)	Early Bird (Before 15 August 2023)	Standard Fee (Registration closes 15 September 2023)
PTP 1 (Economics) or PTP 2 (Law) only	USD800	USD850
PTP 1 (Economics) or PTP 2 (Law) and Conference	USD1000	USD1200
PTP 1 or 2 (Economics or Law) and Conference (for regulators/competition authorities/students)	USD950	USD1100
PTP 3 (Decision Makers) only	USD350	USD400
PTP 3 (Decision Makers) and Conference	USD600	USD700
Conference only	USD350	USD400



Detailed course outlines for ACER VIII PTPs will be available in July. Facilitators and topics are subject to change. To reserve your place, kindly complete the [registration form](#) at the link below or on the CCRED website. Note that the booking form contains further information on how to reserve your place.

**The Conference:** ACER Week will end with a 2-day conference on 5 & 6 October 2023. In addition to panel discussions and keynote speakers, the conference will offer sessions in which selected papers will be presented and discussed.

**An early-bird discount** applies to payments made on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2023 at 23:59 (SAST).

**Request a 10% discount** for groups of three or more from the same organisation.

**General ACER queries** can be directed to Cheryl-Lyn Selman at [cheryl-lyns@uj.ac.za](mailto:cheryl-lyns@uj.ac.za) Please note that ACER will be held in person and the working language will be English.

**Registration closes  
on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2023**

[Click here to register for Register for ACER VIII](#)

## ACER WEEK AT A GLANCE:

### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023

PTP 1: Competition Economics for Practitioners in Africa (Day 1)

PTP 2: Law in Competition Policy (Day 1)

### Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023

PTP 1: Competition Economics for Practitioners in Africa (Day 2)

PTP 2: Law in Competition Policy (Day 2)

### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023

PTP 1: Competition Economics for Practitioners in Africa (Day 3)

PTP 2: Law in Competition Policy (Day 3)

### BRAND NEW INTENSIVE

PTP 3: Key Principles for Assessing Evidence in Competition Tribunals and Courts (*one day only*)

### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023

ACER Conference (Day 1)

### Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023

ACER Conference (Day 2)

ACER Week closes



*The Beach at The Ravenala Attitude Hotel, Turtle Bay, Balaclava, Mauritius*