Unfair Trading Practices & Competition Policy

Considerations on public policies by Fair Trade movement

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Oxford, 9 June 2017
Fair Trade Advocacy Office

• Born in 2004
• Based in Brussels
• Member of various EU advisory groups
• Over 2,5 million Fair Trade producers and workers from 70 countries
• 24 Fairtrade labelling initiatives
• Over 500 specialised Fair Trade importers
• 4,000 world shops
• More than 100,000 volunteers
Who’s got the power?

“Buyer Power”
Influence over suppliers

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“Retailer Power”
Influence over consumers

Suppliers

Buyers

Retailers

Consumers

The more supermarkets buy, the better terms they get
The better terms they get, the more they sell

Unfair Trading Practices (UK)

- UK Grocery Code Adjudicator: congrats!

- BUT (!) UTPs persist (for overseas suppliers too)
E. Bienkowska (GROW) “I’m self-regulation fan, but it’s getting lonely”

“Most of us are becoming favourable to legislation on UTPs”

P. Hogan (AGRI) “It’s time for UTP legislation to protect (EU) farmers”

“Favourable to legislation on UTPs” (we care for EU farmers)
Unfair Trade Practices

**Recommendation 1**
*(UK & EU)*

Extend remit / geographical scope to cover non-EU producers

*(note case of UK & Norwegian producers)*
UTP recommendation 2 (UK & EU)

Smart mix of voluntary & binding legal framework needed!
UTP recommendation 3 (UK & EU)

Network of enforcers to address cross-border cases
Is this enough to achieve fair trade & Sustainable Development Goals by 2030?
The trend for more open democratic debate & policy coherence for sustainability is unstoppable

- Public procurement rules
- Trade policy

Who's next?
Competition Law !!!
COMPETITION LAW AND SUSTAINABILITY IN THE NETHERLANDS

Sustainability exemptions to competition law in the Netherlands as role model for Europe?

By Irina Toma

June 2016

FTAO Briefing Paper
SOMEONE ALWAYS PAYS THE PRICE

Stop the stranglehold of supermarkets!

Join us and help to empower workers and farmers. Let’s Make Fruit Fair — now!

www.makefruitfair.org
M. Vestager (COMP) is busy with Google, Appel & co, but could be interested to defend small farmers: David vs Goliath (?) & interested in sustainability.

“So far, only Dutch and Brits have put sustainability exemptions on the Council table”

“We have not really discussed this yet”
We look forward to working with you on Unfair Trading Practices & Competition:

**On UK policies:**
Traidcraft & Fairtrade Foundation

**On EU & EU Member States public policies:**
Fair Trade Advocacy Office

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