

**Competition policy is often considered to be one of the most arcane and complex of the European Union's policy areas. Yet it is frequently controversial - decisions in this area cut across the interests and policies of companies, interest groups and states - and widely regarded as a success story of European integration, one of only a few areas of exclusive European Union competence.**

***Competition Policy in the European Union* provides a clear and accessible introduction to European Union competition policy in a comprehensive and systematic fashion. It gives a historical overview of competition policy, introduces readers to the key institutional actors, and explores and analyses the various dimensions of policy, including restrictive practices policy, monopoly policy, merger policy and state aid policy. This second edition has been revised throughout to cover major developments, and includes a new chapter addressing theoretical perspectives on competition policy.**