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Elena Kuznetsova

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Practice

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Elena Kuznetsova has been specializing in competition and antimonopoly issues for over 25 years and is a recognized expert in this area. Her experience includes many years of work in the federal antimonopoly authority (FAS Russia) and the supranational antimonopoly authority (EEC), as well as managing the Antimonopoly Law practice in a leading Russian law firm. In her practice, Elena focuses on representing clients in cases of abuse of dominance, anti-competitive agreements and unfair competition, advising on the most complex issues of applying antitrust laws and competition rules in cross-border markets, as well as conducting antitrust audits and preparing antitrust compliance.

Elena was awarded the medal "For Contribution to the Creation of the Eurasian Economic Union", diplomas of the Eurasian Economic Commission, diplomas and thanks from the Federal Antimonopoly Service and the Ministry for Antimonopoly Policy and Entrepreneurship Support, and was also awarded corporate awards from the Association of Antimonopoly Experts (AAE). Elena is individually recommended by the leading legal rating Pravo-300 (Law-300) in 2023 and has been named among the best lawyers by Kommersant, Legal 500 and Best Lawyers for several years in the Antitrust, Competition and Capital Markets categories.

Projects

Some of the successful projects carried out under the leadership of Elena:

- Successfully defended a **leading Russian telecommunications company** in the Appellate Board of the Federal Antimonopoly Service of Russia in an appeal against the decision of the OFAS regional office, by which the client was found to have violated the ban on anti-competitive agreements. Based on the results of the consideration of the case, the FAS Russia canceled the decision of the regional branch of the FAS
- Representing the interests of a **trading and manufacturing company specializing in building materials, metal products, manufacturing of automatic doors and gates** in a case of violation of antimonopoly law in the Leningrad OFAS. The Leningrad OFAS recognized the client and other defendants in the case as violating the ban on concluding a cartel. This decision was successfully appealed to the Arbitration Court of St. Petersburg



and the Leningrad Region, which declared the decision of the Leningrad OFAS illegal. The appellate instance left the decision of the court of 1st instance unchanged.

- Development of antimonopoly compliance for a **Russian specialized publishing house of educational and pedagogical literature**, obtaining an opinion from the Federal Antimonopoly Service of Russia on the compliance of the submitted draft compliance with antimonopoly legislation. Subsequent implementation of the functions of a compliance officer in the Publishing House. After the introduction of antimonopoly compliance, the FAS Russia did not receive any complaints or statements about the actions (inaction) of the client. For all economic concentration transactions involving companies from the client's group, the FAS Russia issued positive decisions without prescriptions.
- Support of transactions of a **private investor from the Forbes list** on the acquisition of shares and rights in relation to Russian companies. The documents prepared and the explanations provided by the FAS Russia regarding the transactions made it possible to obtain positive decisions within the shortest possible time.

Elena graduated from the Institute of Economics and Law with a specialization in commercial law.