



ADVOCACY WORKING GROUP
MARKET STUDIES PROJECT

MARKET STUDIES INFORMATION STORE

SECTOR

RETAIL

UPDATED: MARCH 2020

Information Store

Jurisdiction:	Japan Fair Trade Commission											
Sector:	Digital Platform											
Market:	Online retail platform and Application store	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	October 2019											
Duration:	9 months	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Source of idea for study:	Government policy and issues exposed in other market studies.											
Outcome: (check all relevant boxes)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the underlying problems?):	<p>Given the "Fundamental Principles for Improvement of Rules Corresponding to the Rise of Digital Platform Businesses" formulated jointly by the METI, the JFTC and the MIC "(a)s a starting point to achieve transparency and fairness, understanding of the actual state of trade practices will be advanced through large-scale, comprehensive and thorough surveys," the JFTC conducted, first of all, a fact-finding survey regarding trade practices on online retail platforms and app stores, both of which have been pointed as thorny, in order to identify whether there are any concerns for the AMA or competition policies in Japan.</p> <p>Acts which companies opening a store and selling their products or services through digital platforms have pointed out through this survey fall into the following classifications in terms of the AMA; 1) Acts which could do sellers harm, 2) Acts which could exclude competitors, and 3) Acts which could restrict sellers' business.</p> <p>This survey shed light on acts which should be revisited to improve fairness and transparency of trade from the viewpoint of competition policy as well. One of the acts is, for example, an opaque search algorithm. Where a digital platform operator manages search algorithm arbitrarily to give themselves unjust preferential treatment, an independent and reasonable choice by a consumer could be distorted.</p>											
Link to report:	(Press release, summary and full report in English)											

<https://www.jftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2019/October/191031.html>

(Press release, summary and full report in Japanese)

https://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/2019/oct/191031_2.html

**Remarks
(if any):**

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Retail Sector

Jurisdiction:	Brazil	Range of Possible Outcomes										
Market:	Wholesale distribution market											
End Date:		Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:												
Source of idea for study:	Own initiative											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	This market analysis examines information about the retail sector, emphasizing specifically the competitive pressures on the retail market.											
Link to report:	Not available											

Jurisdiction:	Croatia	Range of Possible Outcomes										
Market:	Retail market of oil derivatives in Croatia											
End Date:	ongoing (pending)	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	Approx. 12 months (expected to be finished at the end of January 2016)											
Source of idea for study:	Own initiative.											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The market study is conducted to obtain an insight into the market. There have been certain competition problems identified. To determine legal framework, the players on the market and their market shares, their retail and wholesale price policy etc. Data and other information has been provided by seven major undertakings											
Link to report:												

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Jurisdiction:	Japan											
Market:	Retail trade	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	August 2013	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	1 year											
Source of idea for study:	Internal competition concern											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	In the previous surveys, it has been pointed out that retailers created disadvantages for suppliers in transactions involving the use of logistics center.											
Link to report:	(Press release and full report in Japanese) http://www.iftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h25/aug/130808.html (Summary report in English) http://www.iftc.go.jp/en/pressreleases/yearly-2013/august/130808.files/130808.pdf											

Jurisdiction:	Poland											
Market:	RTV AGD chain	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	April 2013	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	15 months											
Source of idea for study:												
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The main purpose of the study was to define the relevant market in conducted proceedings.											
Link to report:												

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Jurisdiction:	Colombia	Range of Possible Outcomes									
Market:	Retail Market on Colombia										
End Date:	2012	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	4 months										
Source of idea for study:	Own initiative										
Outcome (tick relevant columns):			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	Due to integrations and the entrance of international players in the retail sector, the aim of the document is to study the potential negative effects that might result from the consolidation and concentration of the industry, that could lead to possible anti-competitive practices, such as discrimination between suppliers, abuse of dominant position in the market and the decrease in the variety of products due to lack of innovation.										
Link to report:	http://www.sic.gov.co/drupal/masive/datos/estudios%20economicos/Documentos%20%20elaborados%20por%20la%20Delegatura%20de%20Protecci%C3%B3n%20de%20la%20Competencia/2012/Retail2012.pdf										

Jurisdiction:	Colombia	Range of Possible Outcomes									
Market:	Own Brands in the Retail Sector in Colombia										
End Date:	2012	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	4 months										
Source of idea for study:	Own initiative										
Outcome (tick relevant columns):			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	Study the characteristics and evolution of private brands in the retail industry worldwide, as well as the structure and operation of the retail sector in Colombia linked to the dynamics of own brands.										
Link to report:	http://www.sic.gov.co/drupal/masive/datos/estudios%20economicos/Documentos%20%20elaborados%20por%20la%20Delegatura%20de%20Protecci%C3%B3n%20de%20la%20Competencia/2012/Marca Propia Retail.pdf										

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Jurisdiction:	Turkey	Range of Possible Outcomes									
Market:	Fast Moving Consumer Goods Retailing										
End Date:	May 2012	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; justify-content: space-around; text-align: center;"> <div>Competition Enforcement</div> <div>Consumer Enforcement</div> <div>Consumer Education</div> <div>Business Education</div> <div>Voluntary Business Compliance</div> <div>Voluntary Business Action</div> <div>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</div> <div>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</div> <div>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</div> <div>Referral to Third Parties</div> <div>No Problems Found</div> </div>									
Duration:	22 Months										
Source of idea for study:	Board Decision, increased number of complaints from some FMCG and grocery producers on superior bargaining power of large retailers and some of the similar studies conducted by other agencies										
Outcome (tick relevant columns):			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The study focuses on the transformation and the structure of the FMCG Retailing Sector in turkey, the development of buyer power of organized retailers while their share within the sector increase and competition policy concerns regarding buyer power of large retailers.										
Link to report:	Full Report (In Turkish): http://www.rekabet.gov.tr/File/?path=ROOT%2f1%2fDocuments%2fSekt%25c3%25b6r%2bRaporu%2fsektorrapor7.pdf										

Jurisdiction:	Poland	Range of Possible Outcomes									
Market:	Books, music and computer games market										
End Date:	November 2011	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; justify-content: space-around; text-align: center;"> <div>Competition Enforcement</div> <div>Consumer Enforcement</div> <div>Consumer Education</div> <div>Business Education</div> <div>Voluntary Business Compliance</div> <div>Voluntary Business Action</div> <div>Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law</div> <div>Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure</div> <div>Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy</div> <div>Referral to Third Parties</div> <div>No Problems Found</div> </div>									
Duration:	16 months										
Source of idea for study:											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The main purpose of the study was to analyse competition on books, music and computer games markets. During the study, a merger between two largest players on this market was reported to UOKiK. The market study was also used to collect information for evaluating this merger.										
Link to report:	http://www.uokik.gov.pl/download.php?plik=10245										

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Jurisdiction:	Japan											
Market:	Franchise chain	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	July 2011	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	6 months											
Source of idea for study:	Internal competition concern											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	It had been a certain period of time after conducting the survey for the convenience-store published in October 2001 and meanwhile there was a case in which a franchiser was in violation of the Antimonopoly Act as the abuse of superior bargaining position against the franchisee, and the JFTC issued a cease and desist order in June 2009.											
Link to report:	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h23/jul/110707gaiyo.html											

Jurisdiction:	Japan											
Market:	Retail trade	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	May 2010	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	1 year											
Source of idea for study:	- Internal competition concern - To verify compliance with the "designation of specific unfair trade practices by large-scale retailers relating to trade with suppliers"											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):												
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	Due to the type of trade that the large-scale retailers have a superior bargaining position against the suppliers, it is likely that the voluntary filing of complaints or reports is not expected from the suppliers.											
Link to report:	(Press release and full report in Japanese only) http://www.jftc.go.jp/houdou/pressrelease/h22/may/10052602.html											

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Jurisdiction:	Poland	Range of Possible Outcomes										
Market:	Gardening accessories											
End Date:	May 2010	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	5 months											
Source of idea for study:	Competition concern											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	Study of the gardening accessories distribution market. Issues: market structure and concentration, participants' conduct in the distribution process.											
Link to report:												

Jurisdiction:	Poland	Range of Possible Outcomes										
Market:	Shopping vouchers											
End Date:	2010	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:												
Source of idea for study:	Legislative changes in regulation of firms' business conduct.											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	UOKiK's Department of Consumer Policy (now Department of Consumer Protection) asked for a detailed analysis of a market structure and its players.											
Link to report:												

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Jurisdiction:	Poland											
Market:	Tobacco products	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	2010	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:												
Source of idea for study:												
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The study was triggered by a high level of concentration ratio on the market and a possible occurrence of anticompetitive loyalty / fidelity rebates.											
Link to report:												

Jurisdiction:	Poland											
Market:	DIY chain stores	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	October 2009	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	15 months											
Source of idea for study:												
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	The study was triggered by the increasing market concentration. The main goal was to define a scope of the relevant geographic markets and accordingly to assess concentration ratios.											
Link to report:												

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Jurisdiction:	Ireland	Range of Possible Outcomes										
Market:	Import and distribution of products for retail - mainly in groceries, pharmaceuticals and clothing											
End Date:	May 2009	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	9 weeks											
Source of idea for study:	Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment formally requested the study, using her powers under the legislation.											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	Retailers had alleged that the substantially higher retail prices in the Republic of Ireland, as compared to Northern Ireland, were due to suppliers charging them more than their Northern counterparts.											
Link to report:	http://www.cpc.ie/retail-related-import-and-distribution-study											

Jurisdiction:	Singapore	Range of Possible Outcomes										
Market:	Retail Mall - Rental Space											
End Date:	October 2008	Competition Enforcement Consumer Enforcement Consumer Education Business Education Voluntary Business Compliance Voluntary Business Action Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy Referral to Third Parties No Problems Found	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Duration:	1 year											
Source of idea for study:	Rising costs of rentals in the retail mall market in the first two quarters of 2007											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	In the first two quarters of 2007, concerns about the rising costs of rentals in the retail mall market led CCS to look into the sector to determine if there were any competition issues that needed to be addressed. CCS was also interested in studying the impact of Real Estate Investment Trusts ("REITs") on the retail mall rental market.											
Link to report:												



ADVOCACY WORKING GROUP
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Jurisdiction:	US - FTC											
Market:	Contactless Payment Systems	Range of Possible Outcomes										
End Date:	July 2008	Competition Enforcement	Consumer Enforcement	Consumer Education	Business Education	Voluntary Business Compliance	Voluntary Business Action	Recommendations to Government for Changes in the Law	Recommendations to Government to Change Market Structure	Recommendations for Changes to Government Policy	Referral to Third Parties	No Problems Found
Duration:	2 years											
Source of idea for study:	Bureau of Consumer Protection											
Outcome (tick relevant columns):		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for study (what were the problems)?	A series of workshops were held to explore the growth of contactless and mobile payment systems and their implications for consumer protection policy.											
Link to report:	https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/events-calendar/2008/07/pay-go-consumers-contactless-payment											