



Merve Bakırcı

Managing Associate

Department: Competition and Compliance

Languages: Turkish, English

Contact: mervebakirci@erdem-erdem.av.tr

Tel: +90 212 291 73 83

Biography

Merve Bakırcı is a Managing Associate in Competition and Compliance Department of Erdem & Erdem. Her practice especially focuses on competition law matters, joint ventures, preliminary investigations and investigations within the scope of competition law, M&A transactions, general corporate matters, and anti-corruption law. She has represented a wide range of leading national and international private corporations in preliminary investigations and investigations before the Turkish Competition Authority. Ms. Bakırcı provides consultancy to the clients with respect to Turkish and European Commission competition law legislations and assists them to fully comply with competition law compliance programs. She further represents clients in all phases of the competition law investigations before the Turkish Competition Authority.

She also specializes in ethical compliance, anti-corruption and international economic sanctions regimes. She advises on preparation and implementation of relevant policies and procedures, determination of international sanction risks and compliance with anti-corruption regulations.

In addition, Ms. Bakırcı also advises clients in relation to anti-corruption laws and provides intra company trainings in this regard.

She completed her LLB degree in University of Southampton, her Legal Practice Course (Accelerated Corporate- M&A) at the College of Law, London, UK and her equivalence at Dokuz Eylül University.

Practice Areas

- Anti-Corruption
- Competition and Antitrust
- Compliance
- Mergers and Acquisitions

Industries

- Automotive
- Retail
- Transportation and Logistics

Representative Matters

Competition and Antitrust

- Advised a company active in fabric industry in relation to its merger control filing and provided legal consultancy in this regard.
- Advised a company active in payment services and financial technologies industry in relation to its individual exemption applications before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in banking industry in preliminary investigations before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in glass industry in preliminary investigations and investigations before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in flakeboard industry in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented companies active in hot air balloon rides industry in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in retail industry in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in automotive industry in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in insurance industry in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in banking industry in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in meal card industry in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.

- Represented a company active in online retail platform services in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a search engine company in two investigations before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Advised many international companies including private equity funds in their merger control filings in several sectors.
- Represented a company active in beverages industry in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in e-commerce logistics company in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in transportation sector in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in fertilizers sector in a preliminary investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Represented a company active in online food ordering sector in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.
- Representing a company active in container liner shipping in an investigation before the Turkish Competition Authority.

Compliance

- Prepared and implemented competition law compliance programs to companies active in various sectors such as banking, automotive, insurance, FMCG.
- Provided legal consultancy to companies in relation to their regular competition matters in various sectors such as beverages, securities, banking.
- Conducted internal reviews within the scope of competition law compliance for companies active in various sectors such as banking, insurance, automotive, glass, metallurgy and FMCG.
- Provided legal consultancy for a publicly held bank within the scope of banking law.
- Prepared legal memorandum on treasury receivables for a leading foreign bank.
- Updated the code of ethics of a company active in steel industry and provided legal consultancy regarding ethics compliance
- Provided legal consultancy regarding economic sanctions to companies active in glass, automotive, electricity and port operations
- Provided economic sanctions training to a company active in energy

Mergers and Acquisitions

- Prepared due diligence report in acquisition of majority shares in a company producing spare parts.
- Advised on the share sale of a company active in fabric sector.
- Advised a company active in payment services and financial technologies industry in relation to its spin-off transaction.
- Advised on the due diligence report and SPA in contemplated acquisition of shares in a renewable energy company;
- Advised on the due diligence report in contemplated acquisition of a company active in health care industry.
- Advised on the due diligence report in contemplated acquisition of a hospital.
- Advised on the due diligence report and the merger control filing in contemplated acquisition of a company active in mining industry.
- Advised on the due diligence report in contemplated acquisition of majority shares in a company active in production of military spare parts.
- Advised on the due diligence report in contemplated acquisition of majority shares in a company active in transportation sector.

Education

- LLB Accreditation, Dokuz Eylul University
- The College of Law, Legal Practice Course (LPC)
- University of Southampton, LLB

Memberships

- Istanbul Bar Association
- University of Southampton Alumni Community
- The College of Law Alumni Community

Publications

- Federal Trade Commission's Final Rule on Non-Compete Agreements, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, May 2024
- Competition Board's Investigations in Cosmetics Industry, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, October 2023
- Selective Distribution Systems, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, May 2023

- Amendments Introduced to the Communiqué Concerning the Mergers and Acquisitions Requiring Competition Board’s Approval, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, March 2023
- Interim Injunctions Under Competition Law: The Turkish Competition Board’s Retailers, WhatsApp and Trendyol Decisions, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, October 2021
- Competition Law Concerns Regarding Human Resources Practices, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, June 2021
- Parent-Subsidiary Liability Within the Scope of Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, February, 2021
- Setting Legal Grounds for On-site Inspections Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, July 2020
- Standard of Proof in Cartel Allegations in Light of Turkish Competition Board’s Egg Producers Decision, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, January 2020
- Obtaining and Examining WhatsApp Correspondences as Evidence within the Scope of Competition Law, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, October 2019
- Transfer of Employee Rights and Claims in Company Spin-offs, Erdem & Erdem Newsletter, August 2019
- Gönenç Gürkaynak, Merve Bakırcı, Sevgi Mutafoğlu “Excessive Pricing Enforcement in Dynamic Sectors: Should You Stop Reading Now?” The Academic Gift Book of ELIG, Attorneys-at-Law in Honor of the 20th Anniversary of Competition Law Practice in Turkey, 143-75 (2018), May 2018
- Gönenç Gürkaynak, Ceren Özkanlı, Ceren Göktürk, Merve Bakırcı “Excessive Pricing: A Rare Concept In Competition Law”, Mondaq, October 2017