



Vito Auricchio

PARTNER

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☒ EU, Antitrust and Regulation

☐ Compliance

Vito Auricchio is partner and coordinates the EU, Antitrust and Regulation practice of Legance. He advises Italian and foreign companies on different antitrust and regulatory matters, in cases of mergers, abuses and cartels before the EU Commission and the Italian Competition Authority (ICA), as well as civil litigation. Vito's activity also focuses on advising clients in compliance, distribution matters as well as consumer protection law.

Recent merger experience includes his assistance to Italgas in a Phase 2 merger before the Italian Competition Authority ("ICA") related to the concentration with 2i Rete Gas and assistance to ExxonMobil in a Phase 2 merger before the Italian Competition Authority ("ICA") related to the concentration with one of the largest Italian oil companies IP. Vito also assisted the leading Italian player Nexi in a number of EU and domestic merger filings, including the merger with the closest competitor SIA, that was approved by the ICA in Phase 2 and the acquisition of Nets, which was cleared in Phase 1 by the European Commission.

Vito also regularly advises clients in FDI filings. Recent behavioural work includes assisting ExxonMobil in a cartel investigation before the ICA related to the pricing of biofuels and Zignago Vetro in a cartel investigation before the ICA.

Vito also assists clients in consumer protection investigations before the ICA.

Vito Auricchio is named in Chambers and Partners (Band 2) where clients have recognized him for being *"an excellent antitrust lawyer"*, *"Vito Auricchio has the ability to combine knowledge of the business and technical knowledge of the subject matter with a commercial eye on the larger picture"*, *"Vito Auricchio has very good business acumen and is always able to understand business dynamics"* (2025), *"he is able to combine a profound knowledge of competition law with a strong economic background, which makes his support particularly valuable when dealing with complex mergers"*, *"he is very responsive and willing to provide guidance even in difficult or unclear circumstances"*, *"we don't have to think twice about recommending him; it is a really good service"*, *"he is very business-oriented, very available to talk and tries to understand our needs and point of view"*, *"he is very involved himself in the transaction and this is appreciated by the client"* (2024), *"very smart, very responsive and very commercial"* (2023), *"very clear, precise, quick and pleasant to cooperate with"*, *"very good at merger control work"* (2022), *"a remarkable expert, very pragmatic in his approach of the business and highly appreciated by clients"* (2021). Global Competition Review (Competition Future Leaders 2017) refers to Vito Auricchio as a *"reliable and well prepared antitrust expert"* who has *"a good economic understanding"* combined with *"excellent client service"*.

Vito Auricchio is also mentioned as Most Highly Regarded by Who's Who Legal. In addition, The Legal 500 mentions Vito in the Hall of Fame for EU and Competition Law as follows: "*Vito Auricchio stands out due to a unique combination of experience, strategic vision, industry expertise, negotiation skills, thought leadership, and client-centric focus*", "*Vito Auricchio is a very good partner, always available and sharp*" (2025), "*Vito Auricchio is the partner in charge of the practice and offers a really top level standard of services*", "*Vito Auricchio is an outstanding professional. He is able to combine a profound knowledge of competition law with a strong economic background, which makes his support particularly valuable when dealing for example with complex mergers*" (2024), "*Vito Auricchio is to be applauded for his remarkable skills – he is very talented*" (2023).

Vito Auricchio is graduated in Economics, *maxima cum laude*, from Università "Federico II", Naples. He obtained a LL.M. from the College of Europe (Bruges) in 1997. He also graduated in Law, *maxima cum laude*, from Seconda Università di Napoli in 2000 and obtained a LL.M. from the University of Chicago in 2005. He was an intern at the European Commission, DG Internal Market (Directorate B), Brussels.

Professional Experience

PARTNER | FROM 2013

Legance – Avvocati Associati, Rome, Italy

SENIOR COUNSEL | 2011 – 2012

Legance – Avvocati Associati, Rome, Italy

COUNSEL | 2007 – 2010

Legance – Avvocati Associati, Rome, Italy

MANAGING ASSOCIATE | 2001 – 2007

Gianni, Origoni, Grippo & Partners, Rome, Italy

ASSOCIATE | 1997 – 2000

Berwin Leighton, Bruxelles, Belgium

INTERN | 1997 – 1998

European Commission, DG Internal Market (Directorate B), Bruxelles, Belgium

Education

2005

LL.M., University of Chicago, Chicago, U.S.A.

2004

Admitted to the Bar. Member of the Rome Bar, Italy

2000

Law Degree, *maxima cum laude*, Seconda Università di Napoli, Naples, Italy

1997

LL.M., College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium

1995

Economics Degree, *maxima cum laude*, Università degli Studi di Napoli "Federico II", Naples, Italy

Publications

He has authored and co-authored several commentaries and books in leading publications on EU, Antitrust and Regulation law. Among the others:

- "*The new consumer rights*", G. Giappichelli Editore, 2014, (co-author);
- "*The Essentials of Merger Review*", (chapter on Italy), American Bar Association, May 2013;
- "*Commercial distribution agreements in competition law*", Cedam 2013, co-author;

- *"Contacts between competitors: developments under Italian competition law"*, European Competition Law Review, 2010 n. 4, p. 167-173;
- *"Discount policies in US and EU antitrust enforcement models: protecting competition, competitors or consumer welfare?"*, European Competition Journal, December 2007, p. 373;
- *"Consumer welfare, standard of proof and the objectives of competition policy"*, European Competition Journal, March 2005, p. 153 (co-author);
- *"Services of general economic interest and the application of EC competition law"*, World Competition, March 2001;
- *"International data protection"*, European Counsel, March 1999, p. 25 (co-author);
- *"Some problems of the execution of public procurements"*, Contratto e Impresa/Europa, 1/1999, p. 182;
- *"The problem of discrimination and anti-competitive behaviour in the execution phase of public contracts"*, Public Procurement Law Review 1998, n.5, p. 113.