

# Vito Auricchio

## PARTNER

Vito Auricchio is partner and heads 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 Nexi, the leading payment system provider in Italy, in the filing before the EU Commission of the acquisition of Intesa SanPaolo's merchant book and in the filing of the acquisition of Nets, both cleared in phase 1 with no remedies. Vito also assisted Fratelli Arena in a Phase 2 investigation before the ICA concerning the acquisition of a number of supermarket outlets in the South of Italy and BPER Banca in a Phase 2 investigation before the ICA concerning the acquisition of Unipol Banca.

Recent behavioural and contentious work includes assisting Interactive Advertising Bureau as a complainant in an abuse of dominance case initiated by the ICA against Google in the digital advertising sector. Vito also assisted 2i Rete Gas, the second largest player in Italy in gas distribution, in an abuse of dominance investigation before the ICA. Vito also successfully assisted Auchan in an investigation before the ICA concerning unfair commercial practices in the supply of bread to retail chains. His cartel work includes assisting Iliad as intervener in a cartel investigation before the ICA against the major mobile player and Cementir Italia, a leading Italian cement manufacturer, in a cartel investigation before the ICA.

Vito Auricchio is named in Chambers and Partners (Band 2) where clients have recognized him for being "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, Vito is ranked as Leading Individual by The Legal 500 and mentioned as follows: "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. Since 2017 he is a member of the Board of Associazione Antitrust Italiana (Italian Antitrust Association).

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Partner** | 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
- Stage** | 1997 - 1998  
European Commission, DG Internal Market (Directorate B), Bruxelles, Belgium



## INFO

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Rome, Italy
- Languages**  
Italian  
English  
French  
Spanish

## PRACTICE AREAS

-  EU, Antitrust and Regulation
-  Compliance

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## 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 is the author and co-author of several commentaries and books in leading publications on EU, Antitrust and Regulation law. Among 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. 167173;
- > *"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.



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