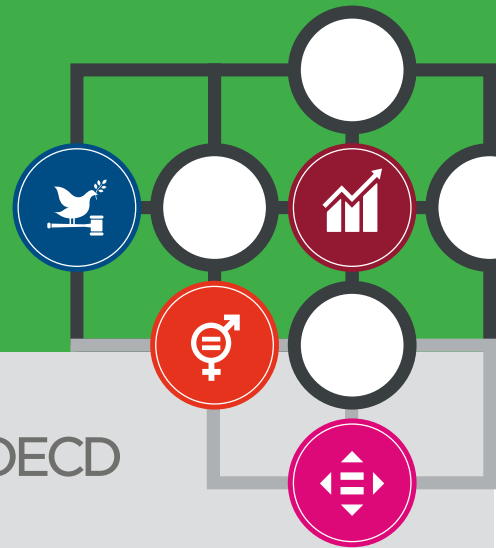


Fourth ARAB COMPETITION FORUM (ACF)

23-24 May 2023
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



الهيئة العامة للمنافسة
General Authority for Competition



E/ESCWA/ACF/2023/Flyer.1

Special session: Arab youth in competition

Arab youth are a vital component in shaping and constructing the future socioeconomic structure of the Arab region. However, they face numerous challenges, including limited access to education and employment opportunities, and social exclusion. Encouraging the participation of youth in the analysis of competition challenges and competition policy can have a positive impact on society by promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, enhancing consumer welfare, among others, and therefore bringing a positive contribution to the economy. Youth engagement can enhance personal and professional growth, foster a sense of social accountability, facilitate the development of critical thinking skills, and empower young individuals to make meaningful contributions to their communities. Given the importance of promoting a competition culture for the Arab region and as part of their mandates, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the General Authority for Competition (GAC) in Saudi Arabia are organizing a special session at the Fourth Arab Competition Forum with the aim of engaging youth in a dialogue on competition policy, particularly on mergers and acquisitions. This session is considered as the second version of the Student Competition Challenge, after launching the first version at the Third Arab Competition Forum in Oman.

The Fourth Arab Competition Forum provides an opportunity for Saudi university students majoring in economics, business, and law to participate in the Challenge by submitting a research paper that presents a case study on mergers and acquisitions from the Arab region or beyond, highlighting their impact on competition. During the special session, ESCWA will give a brief overview of the Student Competition Challenge and highlight its significance for introducing competition concepts to university students. The winners will have the opportunity to attend the Forum and briefly present their case studies to the Forum participants.



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Objectives

- Upgrade students' competency in analytical thinking, research methodology, and presentation skills, while raising their awareness and understanding of competition policy through active participation in the Challenge.
- Recognize and reward outstanding research papers presented by students.
- Provide students with the opportunity to actively contribute to the formulation of evidence-based policy discussions and recommendations related to mergers and acquisitions and their economic impact, thus fostering their engagement in informed and constructive policy debates.

