





In the antitrust bar, generational strength matters.

On both sides of the Atlantic and indeed elsewhere, leaders of competition groups look at their rivals and their own practices and judge how strong their group will be – not in a year, but in a decade, when perhaps they will be attempting to chip out of a bunker or navigate some snow-packed slope. That is to say: young talent is crucial to the health of any competition group, and the more first-chair work they get as young lawyers, the brighter the future becomes.

With that in mind, *GCR* is proud to present the 2015 edition of the 40 under 40, our listing of 40 young antitrust practitioners from around the world. As with our previous four editions, this year's listing profiles young antitrust minds who have taken on leading roles within their firms, whether serving as one of the primary junior partners behind big-name rainmakers or, in some cases, as a central figure in a competition group. This year's list includes lawyers and barristers practising in countries around the globe.

In many parts of the world, international competition law enforcement has existed through generations. While major cross-border mergers and investigations may have been novel in decades past, young lawyers practising today know no other reality. Globalisation has transformed the practice just as it has transformed economy and industry.

The 40 under 40 entrants truly span the globe, from the “usual suspect” jurisdictions of the United States, the United Kingdom and Brussels, to Ukraine, Japan, Turkey and China. But suffice to say that most of the young lawyers included in the survey received at least part of their antitrust education in one of the global hubs of antitrust law.

Now in his third and final 40 under 40, Gönenç Gürkaynak, of ELİG in Istanbul, studied law at Harvard University and trained under Ian Forrester, a former White & Case partner who now sits on the bench of the European General Court. Having spent three years as an enforcer at Japan's Fair Trade Commission, new entrant Kentaro Hirayama, from Morrison & Foerster, spent time as a visiting associate at Slaughter and May

in London. And Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co partner Naval Chopra trained and practised as a lawyer in London before taking on competition law matters in New Delhi.

But it's the work these lawyers have done in their home jurisdictions that has earned them a place in this year's 40 under 40. Indeed, all of the nominated lawyers have worked on major mergers, cartel investigations and dominance cases – sometimes helping to usher in their country's competition law enforcement regime. Igor Svechkar, a partner at Asters in Kiev, practises at the firm where he started his career 16 years ago, and over that time he has seen his business grow alongside Ukrainian competition law.

This year, for the first time, the 40 under 40 includes two new sections highlighting the blossoming careers of young lawyers working in-house on the competition teams inside companies and within antitrust enforcement agencies around the world. Each section includes young lawyers and economists, each of whom has taken on senior-level duties inside their companies or agencies.

Our enforcers hail from the United States, the United Kingdom, Chile, Denmark and Mexico. Each brings a different skill set to bear on a varied collection of job duties. After eight years inside the agency, Carlos Mena has done everything in Mexican enforcement, from leading the enforcer's cartels unit to directing its interactions with outside agencies as head of the institutional relation and international affairs division. He is now chief prosecutor within Cofece, and he's only 36. Meanwhile, Sheldon Mills has made a precipitous climb through the ranks of the UK's former Office of Fair Trading to now head the mergers unit at the Competition and Markets Authority. And Javier Tapia oversees it all in Chile; he's a judge on the country's competition tribunal.

Meanwhile, our eight featured in-house lawyers lead competition groups from some of the world's largest and most dynamic companies – including three from a company embroiled, seemingly constantly, in antitrust controversy: Google.



“Prioritise learning about how your local competition agencies function. Strive to broaden this education to additional jurisdictions”

Amy W Ray

Age:

36

Position:

Special counsel

Firm:

Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft

City:

Washington, DC

Tell us about your work history

Before focusing on competition law at Cadwalader eight years ago, my docket spanned antitrust, intellectual property and commercial disputes. That combination of experiences shapes my multifaceted approach to practising law in the competition sector.

Why did you choose to practise competition law?

Among legal disciplines, antitrust is somewhat unique in that its practitioners apply the underlying technical expertise to counselling, investigations and litigation alike. I also appreciate the opportunity to weave both economics and policy into advocacy.

Who in competition was your mentor/who inspires you?

Rick Rule, formerly the assistant attorney general for the US Department of Justice’s Antitrust Division, heads Cadwalader’s competition practice. I can attest that his grasp of antitrust law is immensely impressive – as is the fact that he oversaw the Antitrust Division at the age of 30.

What competition enforcement trends do you anticipate developing by the time you are 45?

The application of competition law to intellectual property rights remains at a relatively nascent stage of development. I envision increasing antitrust focus – and perhaps even consensus coalescing – on standard-essential patents, post-*Actavis* reverse-payment settlement agreements, and other forms of patent licensing commitments.

What trends are developing in your jurisdiction?

With representations in multiple Southern District New York multidistrict litigation cases, I often feel as if I have one foot in DC and another in New York. In both places, we in the antitrust bar, in conjunction with competition and financial regulators alike, continue to develop the line distinguishing permissible price discovery from collusive arrangements that alter prices and associated benchmarks.

What advice would you give to those starting out in competition law?

Prioritise learning about how your local competition agencies function. Strive to broaden this education to additional jurisdictions.

What firm do you admire from afar?

My vantage point is not too remote: I began my career with Jones Day and learned from talented practitioners there.

Aside from competition law, what do you enjoy doing?

Burgundy wine brings together generous enthusiasts and, to me, is a highly enjoyable form of networking. Somewhat farther afield, attending this year’s Super Bowl underscored that capable commissioners are desirable in all institutions concerned with competition!