

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS – NOW CLOSED

### Gender inclusive competition policy – Developing the evidence

The fight for gender equality is one of the defining challenges of our age. While progress has been made in many areas, the relationship between gender and competition policy remains largely unexplored. In 2017, recognising this gap, the OECD began work on the role of gender in competition policy. Over the following year a blog, and then, thanks to the support of the Canadian Competition Bureau, a paper and session at the Global Forum on Competition developed the case that competition policy has a role to play in addressing gender inequality, and that using a gender lens can improve the effectiveness of competition policy and, in turn, again, help to addressing gender inequality.

Inspired by this work, a series of papers, events, presentations and interviews by people from around the world, have begun to move beyond the narrower questions of supporting women's role as competition practitioners, regulators, enforcers and judges, and into bigger policy questions about the role of gender in markets: as entrepreneurs, board members, workers and consumers.

In order to build on this momentum and develop an understanding of how, **in practice**, competition agencies and competition policy more generally can make operational, analytical or policy changes to create a gender inclusive competition policy, the OECD, with the support of the Canadian Government and in particular of the Canadian Competition Bureau is launching this Call for Proposals. The Call is open to those in academia, private practice, competition agencies, regulators, consultancies or the wider policy world. The Call asks for proposals and ideas for original applied research on the topic of gender and competition policy. Initial proposals could be from a few paragraphs up to two pages, and need not be something that you have the time to develop further (provided you are happy for others to do so). For instance, your idea might be something that you as someone working in an agency or private practice would like to see a researcher investigate. We ask for all proposals to be submitted by the **1 October 2020**.

After having reviewed the proposals, the OECD will hold an open workshop with representatives of OECD Competition Committee authorities, those that have replied to the Call, and other interested parties (to which participants can attend or dial-in). Workshop participants will discuss and develop the most interesting and applicable proposals with a view to the OECD commissioning a number of researchers to undertake those projects that are selected in the first half of 2021 (with a deadline of June 2021). Those that are willing and able to undertake their own proposal will be commissioned in the event that their proposal is selected as a project. Those proposals that are not selected will, if the authors wish, be posted on our website in order to help clarify ownership of the proposal (as drafted) at that time. Those proposals that are selected will be published in the author(s)'s name by the OECD, and while the OECD will retain the copyright on the work, the authors will be free to submit the paper to any journal they wish (with appropriate attribution to the original version).

The focus of proposals is entirely open to you, but please do try to articulate the ways in which you envisage that a competition agency might act in response to the findings of the project. For example, what might it do, or not do, or do differently as a result of the insights created by your project? We have for example found it useful to think in terms of the role that gender can play in different aspects of our participation in markets, for instance: as consumers, as workers, as entrepreneurs, as board members (or senior management), or even as members of competition agencies or regulators. We encourage you to read the material that has been produced (a selection of which is contained below), and think about how you can take a strand of that to the next level to deepen our knowledge and help agencies act upon the insights you generate. The research might be economic or legal, and qualitative or quantitative in nature, all that we require is that it generates new evidence to inform the debate and help drive change.

Good luck to all, and please do direct any questions to [dafcomp.contact@oecd.org](mailto:dafcomp.contact@oecd.org).

# Competition Policy and Gender Literature

## How monopolies make gender inequality worse

by Sally Hubbard.  
Forbes magazine.  
December 2017.

[Read](#)

## What's gender got to do with competition policy

by Chris Pike.  
OECD on the level.  
March 2018.

[Read](#)

**The effects of market power on women and people of color** by Nell Abernathy. Presentation to the Congressional Antitrust Caucus. March 2018.

[Read](#)

## Competition Policy and Gender.

Background paper by Chris Pike & Estefania Santacreu-Vasut. September 2018.

[Read](#)

## Gender, competition policy and the GUDP (Grossly Undervalued Domestic Product).

Intervention by Sarah Long at the Chillin Competition Conference. November 2018.

[Watch the intervention](#)

## Gender and competition

Session 2, 2018 OECD Global Forum on Competition. December 2018.

[Access the materials](#)

[Watch the webcast](#)

## OECD March on Gender

2019 conference.  
March 2019.

[Access the materials](#)

[Watch the webcast](#)

## Gender inequality, market distortion and consumer welfare: A call to action for competition authorities,

Article by Sarah Long, Journal of European Competition Law & Practice, Volume 10, Issue 5, May 2019, Pages 267–268.

[Read](#)

## Competition Policy and Gender

Article by Chris Pike & Estefania Santacreu-Vasut. Concurrences. November 2019.

[Read](#)