

**Abstract of the doctoral thesis: “Protection of competition. Theoretical aspects and economic analysis”**

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Law and Economics (L&A) which constitutes a recognized method of analysis of law can help in shaping legislation, which, on the one hand, will be cost-efficient, and on the other hand will enable social welfare maximization. Within this thesis, based on the assumptions of L&A a model of optimizing legal regulation in the sphere of competition based on three parameters (the level of losses for the social welfare, the costs and the effectiveness of the regulation) is proposed.

Chapter I presents the key assumptions of L&A. Chapter II presents analysis of competition and reveals the multi-faceted and complex nature of competition. This analysis is completed by proposing an understanding of the competition, which will be useful for the purposes of the proposed optimization model. Chapter III outlines the significance of the loss for social welfare caused by lack of any legal regulation in the field of competition. This loss reveals a range of benefits, which potentially could be achieved as a result of introducing legal regulation. Chapter IV provides analysis of two utmost methods of regulation proposed in the thesis, namely general and specific regulation, from cost and effectiveness standpoint. This analysis completes the three-parameter model and narrows down the search area of economically optimal regulation.

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