

GEORGIA			
COMPETITION FRAMEWORK			
Competition Law	The Law on Free Trade and Competition ("Competition Law") was enacted in October 1996 and updated in 2005.		
Competition Authority	The State Anti-Monopoly Service started functioning in 2005.		
STATUS OF THE COMPETITION AUTHORITY			
Accountability			
Does the Competition Authority have obligations before the executive?	No	X	Obligations to report to the executive on on-going investigations upon request.
		X	The decisions of the Competition Authority may be vetoed by a ministry or by the executive branch.
		√	The Competition Authority has to report on an annual basis to the executive.
		Other obligations/comments: <i>See</i> Competition Law, article 13.	
Does the Competition Authority have obligations before the legislature?	No	√	Obligation to publish an annual report on its activities.
		X	Obligation to stand before Parliament and to respond to congressmen on an annual basis.
		X	Its activities are monitored by an independent auditor or by oversight committees.
		Other obligations/comments: <i>See</i> Competition Law, article 13.	
Does the Competition Authority have obligations before the judiciary?	No	X	Decisions of the Competition Authority are subject to judicial review.
Independence			
Are the criteria for appointment and removal of the head/board members clear and transparent?	No	Article 12 of the Competition Law is not clear here on this.	
Does the executive have powers to decide on specific cases based on public interest?	No	<i>See</i> Competition Law, article 13.	
Does the executive retain decision-making powers over the Competition Authority?	No	<i>See</i> Competition Law, article 13.	
Is the Competition Authority obliged to publish its reasoned decisions to ensure transparency?	No	Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
Is there a provision of the national budget allocated by law to the Competition Authority to ensure its proper functioning?	No	Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
Can the Competition Authority be financed by its own means (notification fees, fines, etc.)?	No	Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
GOVERNANCE OF THE COMPETITION AUTHORITY			
Is the Competition Authority governed by a single chairman or by a collegiate body?	Single chairman	<i>See</i> Competition Law, article 12.	
Are the heads appointed by a minister?	Yes	<i>See</i> Competition Law, article 12(1).	
Are the heads appointed by representatives of more than one government branch?	No	<i>See</i> Competition Law, article 12(1).	
Is there a fixed period during which removal is prohibited?	No	<i>See</i> Competition Law, article 12.	
Is the tenure of the heads renewable?	No	Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
Are the heads required to have certain minimum qualifications (degree in law or economics, age, experience)?	No	Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
ARCHITECTURE			
Is the Competition Authority a stand-alone agency with an independent physical location or is it part of a bigger entity such as a Minister?	Stand-alone agency	<i>See</i> Competition Law, article 12.	
POLICY-MAKING AGENTS -DIVERSIFICATION-			
How many agencies are responsible for competition enforcement?	One agency.		
Do sector regulators have competition policy enforcement mandate?	No		
Have the Competition Authority and other agencies signed protocols or memoranda of understanding?	No		

POLICY DUTIES			
Does the Competition Authority have exclusive mandate on competition or multiple mandates?	Exclusive competition mandate	X	Concurrent consumer protection mandate.
		X	Concurrent IP mandate.
		Other mandates: N/A	
PORTFOLIO INSTRUMENTS			
Law Enforcement			
Does the Competition Authority have powers to investigate cartels?	No	Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
Does the Competition Authority have powers to conduct dawn raids at premises?	No	Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
Can the Competition Authority investigate <i>ex officio</i> cases?	No	Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
Does the Competition Authority have powers to accept leniency applications?	No	Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
Does the Competition Authority have powers to accept seek criminal punishment?	No	Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
Advocacy			
Can the Competition Authority issue opinions on draft legislation?	Yes	<i>See</i> Competition Law article 13. The opinions are not binding.	
Is the executive and/or the legislature obliged to request the opinion of the Competition Authority when drafting legislation that may impact competition?	Yes	<i>See</i> Competition Law, article 13.	
Rulemaking			
Can the Competition Authority issue guidelines or other type of secondary legislation?	No	X	Guidelines on the calculation of fines.
		X	Guidelines on merger control.
		X	Guidelines on the economic analysis of abuse of dominance cases.
Research & Reporting			
Can the Competition Authority carry out market studies?	No	Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
Can the Competition Authority report to the legislature on the results of market studies?		Nothing is outlined in the Competition Law.	
DECISION-MAKING FUNCTIONS			
Aggregated Functions			
Does the Competition Authority make the decision to investigate and to prosecute cases?	Yes		
Does the Competition Authority make guilty findings?	Yes		
Does the Competition Authority impose punishments?	Yes		
Is there a single body that carries out the investigation and the guilty findings within the Competition Authority?	Yes		
Can the Competition Authority's decisions be appealed to a court?	Yes		
Disaggregated Functions—Prosecutorial Model			
Are there different authorities that make the decision to investigate and to prosecute cases?	No		
Are disputes presented for decision to a separate entity/tribunal?	No		