

Noerr Competition Day 2026

Europe in transition? – topics shaping the future of antitrust and competition law

Munich, 26/27 February 2026

Dear clients, colleagues, and guests,

We are delighted to invite you to our thirteenth annual **Noerr Competition Day** on **27 February 2026**.

This year's event will feature a keynote address by Andreas Mundt, President of Germany's Federal Cartel Office. There will also be talks by Thorsten Käseberg, Head of the Competition Policy Division at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs, and by representatives from the European Commission on the status of the revision of the guidelines for applying the EU Merger Regulation.

During two panel discussions, we will also look at two key topics – cartel enforcement in the age of AI and international trends in merger control.

There will also be workshops on a range of current issues, where we hope for engaging discussions with you. These will cover issues such as the antitrust and competition implications of the EU's defence and industrial policy, risks of antitrust infringements under criminal law, D&O liability for antitrust fines, agreements between competitors in the context of licensing negotiation groups, the latest developments in distribution-related antitrust law, and private cartel enforcement.

Please join us for a fascinating day centred around recent developments in German, European and international antitrust and competition law.

This year's **Noerr Competition Day** will once again be held at **The Charles Hotel** in Munich. Starting at 6.00 p.m. on the evening before the main event, 26 February 2026, we invite you to take part in a **networking reception with a flying buffet** in our conference centre.

We look forward to seeing you!

The Noerr Antitrust & Competition Group

Agenda

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Date / Time	Networking reception
26 February 2026 6.00 p.m.	Noerr Conference Centre at Brienner Str. 25

Date / Time / Room	Noerr Competition Day 2026	
27 February 2026	The Charles Hotel at Sophienstr. 28	
8.30 a.m.	Registration	
9.30 a.m. Ballroom	Welcome and overall moderation	Fabian Badtke (Partner, Noerr)
09.45 a.m. Ballroom	Keynote	Andreas Mundt (President, Federal Cartel Office)
10.15 a.m. Ballroom	Panel discussion A new age in cartel enforcement? New competition tool, online dawn raids and investigations and the increasing importance of AI tools What does this mean in practice?	Panel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dan Oakes (Partner, Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider) – Can Sarıçiçek (Counsel, ACTECON) – Additional representatives from international law firms Moderators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Kathrin Westermann (Partner, Noerr) – Alexander Birnstiel (Partner, Noerr)
11.30 a.m.	Coffee break	
12.00 noon	Topics	
	Topic 1 Licensing negotiation groups and the growing importance of cooperation agreements between competitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Peter Chrocziel (Advisor to licensing negotiation groups) – Jochen C. Hegener (Senior Associate, Noerr) – Niclas A. Gajec (Associated Partner, Noerr)

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		Topic 2 Renaissance of antitrust criminal law? – risks under criminal and criminal procedure law beyond the imposition of fines*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Christian Pelz (Partner, Noerr) – Maximilian Ohrloff (Partner, Noerr) – Till Steinvorth (Partner, Noerr)
		Topic 3 Distribution-related antitrust and competition law 2026 – perennial issues and latest trends, including HR topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Fabian Hübener (Partner, Noerr) – Bastian Müller (Senior Associate, Noerr)
		Topic 4 From trucks to tech: cartel damages and private enforcement of digital market regulations across Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Caja Griesenbach (Partner, Macfarlanes) – Rick Cornelissen (Partner, Houthoff) – Peter Stauber (Partner, Noerr) – Sebastian Wrobel (Senior Associate, Noerr)
1.00 p.m.		Lunch break	
2.15 p.m.	Ballroom	Panel discussion Trends in international merger control – evolving thresholds and dynamic effects amid geopolitical shifts	Panel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Thorsten Schiffer (Case Handler, Directorate-General for Competition European Commission) – Stephan Purps (Director Legal – Corporate, BASF) – Jonathan Klarfeld (Partner, Ropes & Gray) – Ingrid Hodgskiss (Partner, Travers Smith) Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Jens Peter Schmidt (Partner, Noerr)
3.30 p.m.		Coffee break	

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3.45 p.m.		Topics	
	Topic 5 Will the ECJ permit internal recourse for antitrust fines? How antitrust compliance and D&O insurance can protect management*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Gordon Christian (Principal Counsel Competition, Siemens Energy)– Oliver Sieg (Partner, Noerr)– Lorenz W. Jarass (Associated Partner, Noerr)	
	Topic 6 EU defence and industrial policy: current developments and legal implications for cooperation agreements and M&A transactions*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Thorsten Käseberg (Head of Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy)– Andreas Ladstätter (Head of Supervisory Board, Schiebel Industries)– Stefanie Gschoßmann (Senior Associate, Noerr)– Sven Betzendörfer (Senior Associate, Noerr)	
	Topic 7 Compliance strategies in the age of AI – minimising risks under antitrust and competition law, recognising liability traps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Clemens Hufeld (Vice President Legal Data, Noxtua)– Markus Brösamle (Associated Partner, Noerr)	
4.45 p.m.		Summary / closing remarks	
Ballroom			
5.00 p.m.		Please join us for a drink and a chat after the event	

*Presentation will be held in German.



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