



Competition, Consumption & Prices

Revision of the Cartel Act: **An important compromise** for Swiss companies

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At a glance

- Last week, the Economic Affairs Committee of the Council of States resolved the key differences on the Cartel Act.
- The reform is important for Swiss companies: meaningful cooperation that drives innovation and benefits consumers must be possible.
- economiesuisse welcomes this decision - a swift conclusion to the dossier is of great importance for strengthening the country as a location for innovation and business.

The solution chosen by the majority of the Economic Affairs Committee of the Council of States (WAK-S) adopts the compromise worked out by the National Council's sister committee in the spring. This ensures that, in future, the actual impact on competition will take priority when assessing competition agreements - not formal criteria. This will correct a previously highly formalistic practice that has led to legal uncertainty in application and made economically sensible cooperation more difficult.

Individual case assessment strengthens accuracy

The proposed individual case assessment instead of general presumptions will increase the accuracy of antitrust law. This creates clarity for companies and improves the conditions for innovation, investment and efficient market structures. The business community expressly supports this approach, as it effectively protects competition without unduly interfering with legitimate market behavior.

More precise abuse control

The revision also ensures greater precision in the area of abuse control (Art. 7 Cartel Act). In future, it will not be individual behaviors that are decisive, but their specific effects on competition. This will avoid false incentives and strengthen the coherence of competition law.



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