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**gLAWcal
Comment #276**

**COMPETITION LAW AND SUSTAIN-
ABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Based on

Paolo Davide Farah and Tivadar Ötvös “Competition Law and Trade in Energy vs. Sustainable Development: A Clash of Individualism and Cooperative Partnerships?” Arizona State Law Journal



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Global Law Initiatives for Sustainable Development

A gLAWcal comment on Paolo Davide Farah and Tivadar Ötvös “Competition Law and Trade in Energy vs. Sustainable Development: A Clash of Individualism and Cooperative Partnerships?” Arizona State Law Journal, Vol. 50, No. 2, 2018, pp. 49.

As the authors note the spirit of competition law is for every actor in a market to stand alone and act in their own interest compared to the other actors and the many variables that exist within the marketplace. However, sustainability as a societal goal mean that actions are contrary to the spirit of competition law, in that individual actors stand alone. Here, we have state actors, regulators, and international organizations who wish to influence the actions of the individual within the energy markets. Recognizing that often, these secondary actors in what could be a “free-market” are not a bad thing. Often times, the secondary actors demand of participants certain actions that are deemed good for society, but run contrary to efforts to obtain additional profits; the main concern of corporations in the modern context. This box that the energy markets are put in is a consequence of the totally liberalizing force that international organizations have been asked to do. While they have generally been

successful, more often than not, they still have additional work to do to ensure that the innovation in the markets continue. Understandably, the consequences of not regulating the energy markets mean that the international regulators have failed on their goals of ensuring the slow of global climate change. Yet, there are often circumstances where globalization leave behind entire groups of individuals and their means of livelihood because they do not have the ability to compete in the regulated markets. Even if they are not completely successful in doing so, they need to balance the ideals of a freer-market when it can be feasible to do so. Competition law ideals can help to frame the policies to do so.



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To collaborate with Government, Civil society and business community to balance the excess of globalization with Non Trade Concerns.

OUR GOALS

To influence policymakers, to raise awareness over Non Trade Concerns, to encourage stakeholder participation, and to disseminate gLAWcal's publication results.



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