Benoît Coeuré presents the 2023 annual report

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On Monday 15 July, the *Autorité de la concurrence* presented its annual report to the press. Benoît Coeuré, President of the *Autorité*, looked back at the major cases of 2023 and set out the priorities for action for the months ahead.

Over the past year, the *Autorité* issued 302 opinions and decisions and handed down €167.6 million in fines. In merger control, a record 300 transactions were notified to the *Autorité* and 266 mergers were examined, with four cleared subject to commitments. In addition, the *Autorité* opened two in-depth reviews (Select Services Partner and Smartbox/Wonderbox).

In enforcement and its advisory role, the *Autorité* was active in many sectors of the economy – with a particular focus on the digital, retail and consumer goods sectors. For example, the *Autorité* fined three professional canning associations, the can manufacturers' trade union and 11 companies for having implemented a collective strategy intended to prevent manufacturers in the sector from competing on the presence, or absence, of Bisphenol A in food containers.

The *Autorité* published several major opinions over the past year, including on competition in the cloud sector and <u>land passenger transport</u>, as well as more recently on <u>electric vehicle charging infrastructure</u> and <u>generative artificial</u> intelligence.

In 2023, the *Autorité* also published six opinions on the establishment of new notaries, commissioners of justice and lawyers at the French Administrative

Supreme Court (*Conseil d'État*) and French Supreme Court (*Cour de cassation*) and on draft codes of professional conduct.

Beyond its own achievements, the *Autorité* looks at the major issues and challenges ahead. Fully committed to defending purchasing power, the *Autorité* is also continuing to focus on sustainability, as illustrated by the publication of its <u>informal guidance in the area of sustainability</u>.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT - INTERACTIVE VERSION (IN FRENCH)

Competition wide open

See the report (in French)

2023 annual report (in French)

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