

SPANISH COMPETITION *Highlights ...*

Weekly follow-up: 05 – 09 Feb.

CNMC initiates an investigation into possible anti-competitive practices in the engineering consultancy and technical assistance services market

The National Competition Authority ("CNMC") has carried out inspections between 30 January and 2 February 2024 at the headquarters of several companies operating in the engineering consultancy and technical assistance services market, for possible anti-competitive practices.

In particular, the practices would consist of agreements and/or concerted practices for the allocation of tenders for the provision of engineering consultancy and technical assistance services, in particular for the planning, construction and operation of roads.

Other related files

This is not the first time that competition authorities have carried out investigations into practices related to the allocation of tenders for road services.

In this regard, the CNMC sanctioned, on 17 August 2021, by means of the Resolution S/0013/19, Conservación Carreteras, with a total amount of 61.28 million euros, 12 companies for an infringement constituting a cartel consisting of the manipulation of tenders for conservation and operation services of the State Road Network from 2014 to 2018.

Furthermore, the Andalusian Competition Authority, by means of the Resolution of 21 April 2023, S/07/2023, Conservación Carreteras 2, sanctioned 7 companies for the allocation of tenders issued by the Andalusian Regional Government related to road maintenance and conservation services.