

Consultation conference Day 7 - Follow up

- 1. Here is:
 - The Foodstuffs statement mentioned:
 https://suppliers.foodstuffs.co.nz/assets/documents/Exclusive-Packs-Policy-Nov-2017.pdf
 - Now FTC Chair Khan's article:
 https://columbialawreview.org/content/the-separation-of-platforms-and-commerce/
- 2. Also, on the separation discussions yesterday it was not clear if there was an awareness of US proposals, including the proposed Ending Monopolies Act. A pithy summary is here:
 - a. https://www.crowell.com/NewsEvents/AlertsNewsletters/all/House-Antitrust-Reform-Bills-Could-Restrict-How-the-Largest-Online-Platforms-Do-Business-and-Influence-Future-Enforcement-Trends
 - b. House 06/24/2021 Ordered to be Reported (Amended).

H.R.3826 - Platform Competition and Opportunity Act of 2021

H.R.3825 - Ending Platform Monopolies Act

H.R.3816 - American Choice and Innovation Online Act

H.R.3849 - ACCESS Act of 2021

H.R.3843 - Merger Filing Fee Modernization Act of 2021

H.R.3460 - State Antitrust Enforcement Venue Act of 2021

- 3. Similarly, we note:
 - a. This European Commission link: The Digital Markets Act: ensuring fair and open digital markets.
 - b. Bloomberg reported on it as follows (emphasis added):

Under the EU's new Digital Markets Act, companies deemed to be so-called "gatekeepers" won't be allowed to rank their offerings above rivals on their own platforms, or use competitors' data to compete with them, according to the proposed regulation ...

Companies like <u>Amazon.com Inc</u>, <u>Apple Inc</u>. or <u>Alphabet Inc</u>.'s Google could face fines of as much as 10% of their revenue if they don't comply, while a company that has repeatedly breached the rules **could face orders to divest businesses**, confirming a Bloomberg <u>report on Monday</u>. **Gatekeepers will also need to inform regulators about smaller acquisitions that would otherwise fall below traditional merger-review thresholds**.

- 4. The above are relevant to dominant platforms / networks / intermediaries competing with participants and structural remedies (including market perception on structural separation).
- 5. This 3 November 2021 DOJ media release <u>Justice Department Sues to Block Penguin Random House's Acquisition of Rival Publisher Simon & Schuster</u> highlights demand-side market power concerns.