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Seminar on Competition Law and Policy

Competition Law and Policy in the Arab Region

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What is Competition?

Significance of Competition Policy





Competition Law & Policy Situation in the Arab Region



The Arab Business Legislative Frameworks 2023 Report

A regulatory assessment for the Arab Region



2023

2021



Arab Business Legislative Frameworks

Business Legislative Frameworks



Significance of Competition Legislation



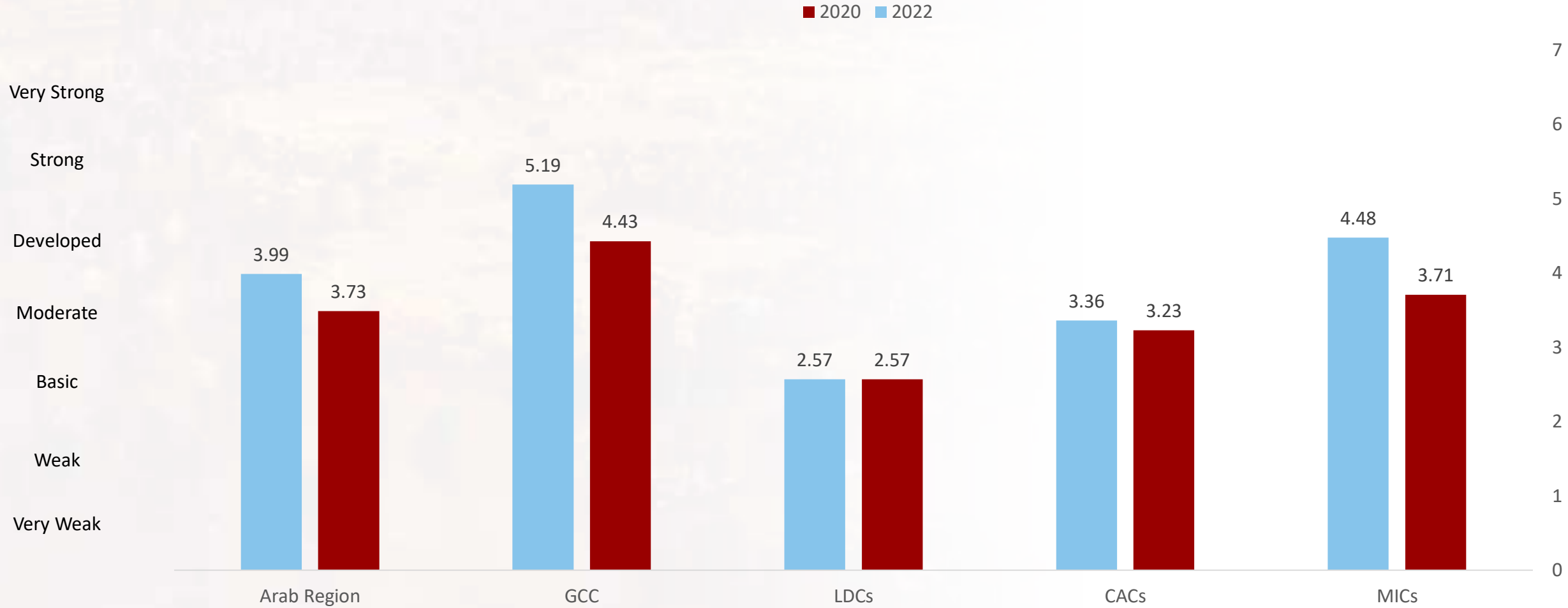
Competition Components:

- Anti-Dominance and Monopolisation Laws
- Anti-Trust and Competition Laws
- Cartels and Anti-Competitive Agreements
- Competition Enforcement Practices
- International Trade Agreements
- Labor Protection
- Liberalisation and Competition Intervention in Regulated Sectors
- Merger Regulatory Regime





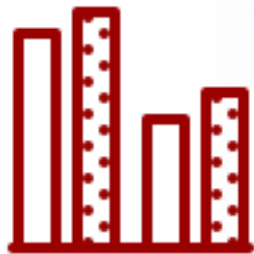
Progress of Competition Regimes in the Arab Region: A Comparative Study (2020 - 2023)



Progress in Competition Law Reforms across Arab Countries

Country	Competition Legislation
Egypt	Amended Competition Law 175/2022
Kuwait	Competition Law 72/2020; Implementing Regulations 14/2021; Resolution 25/2022
Lebanon	Competition Law 281/2022
Oman	Ministerial Decision 18/2021
Sudan	Ministerial Decree 513/2020 Executive Regulation for Prevention of Monopoly and Unfair Commercial Practices (unavailable)
Saudi Arabia	Implementing Regulation for Competition Law (2020); Mergers and Collusion Guidelines (2021-2022); Arabic Dictionary of Competition (2022).
Jordan	Introduced amendments the competition law in 2023
Libya	Decision No. 632/2021 established the Competition Council. Decision No. 539/2021, the Ministry of Economy and Trade adopted the internal regulations of the Competition Council.
Mauritania	New Competition law in 2023

Role of Competition Authorities:




Competition Authorities in the Arab Region



 Independent authority

 Authority within a ministry

 No authority

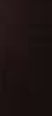
Competition Enforcement Case

Acquisition of Careem by Uber

Uber






Careem

- The acquisition of Careem by Uber was conditional.
- Concerns were raised about potential harm to competition.
- Commitments were imposed to mitigate potential negative impacts.



Best Practices and Strategies

to enhance Competition in the Arab Region

-  Comprehensive Competition Laws
-  Independent Competition Authorities
-  Market Liberalization
-  Coordination and MOUs
-  Evidence-based knowledge



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ESCWA's Role in Enhancing Competition in the Arab Region





Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



PRESIDENT

CESAO

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SECRETARIAT

Update on ESCWA's activities related to competition policy

Advancing Arab Competition Framework: Milestones and Insights from the Arab Competition Forums



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First Arab Competition Forum



Third Arab Competition Forum



Second Arab Competition Forum



Forth Arab Competition Forum

Capacity Building

Understanding Competitive Neutrality (Webinar)

National Conference in Kuwait: Promoting competition: challenges and ambition

Knowledge Sharing and Networking

- Knowledge Sharing and training to competition authorities, policymakers, and relevant stakeholders.
 - Regional Dialogue on The Role of Competition Policy in Supporting MSMEs Economic Recovery in the Post-COVID-19 Crisis
 - Agreement with OECD and GVH competition authority on [short competition videos in Arabic language](#)
 - Online self-paced course on [Fighting bid rigging in Public Procurement](#)
- Networks and Platforms for Knowledge Exchange and Peer learning to promote cooperation and mutual support
 - Launch of WhatsApp and LinkedIn groups for networking among competition experts.



- Advocacy through academic collaboration and networking.





ESCWA's Role in Enhancing Competition among the Youth

Promoting a Competitive culture among the Youth

RIYADH, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA 23-24 May 2023



الرياض، المملكة العربية السعودية 23-24 أيار/مايو 2023



Forums

- Introduction of youth competition challenges during the 3rd and 4th Arab Competition Forums.
- Plan to continue the Youth Challenge during upcoming forums.



Advocacy

- Coordination /collaboration and networking with academia
- Plan to integrate competition policy in some economics and policy courses, e.g. Integrating competition within the industrial organization course at AUB
- Discussions to prepare a competition policy special topics course to be delivered within AUB.
- Outreach to other universities as well for similar activities.



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University students and Competition

- Research papers/ projects/ case studies
- Seek internships
- Attend workshops
- Enter collaborative Projects with students from different disciplines on interdisciplinary projects.

ESCWA's upcoming Initiatives to Boost Competition Policy in the Arab Region

- Regulatory Assessment and Research on competition-related topics.
 - [Arab Business Legislative Framework report](#): To highlight weaknesses in Arab competition legislation.
 - [Arab Legislative portal](#): A repository of 500+ laws related to the business environment in the Arab countries.
 - Paper and reports: [Competition in Lebanon](#), [Trade and competition in the Arab region](#)
- Regional and National Workshops: Promoting a culture of competition and building capacities of Arab competition authorities.
- Fifth Arab Competition Forum: To be held in Tunisia in 2024.



Thank You



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