



**CCRED**

**CENTRE FOR COMPETITION  
REGULATION AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

## **7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COMPETITION AND ECONOMIC REGULATION (ACER) WEEK**

**12 – 16 September 2022 | Senga Bay, Malawi**

The COMESA Competition Commission, the Competition and Fair Trading Commission of Malawi, and the University of Johannesburg's Centre for Competition, Regulation and Economic Development (CCRED) are honoured to host the 7th Annual Competition and Economic Regulation (ACER) Week in person in Senga Bay, Malawi. ACER VII provides a valuable platform for competition authorities and regulators to share knowledge, keep abreast of key developments across the region, and build networks for collaboration between agencies. ACER Week will offer three courses targeted at professionals from 12 – 14 September 2022 and a conference on 15 & 16 September 2022.

The three targeted Professional Training Programmes (PTPs), which run concurrently from 12 - 14 September 2022, will cover key theoretical concepts in economic regulation, competition economics and law with illustrations on how the theories and principles are applied in practice. Facilitated by a combination of esteemed academics and practitioners, both international and from the continent, the courses aim to empower participants with relevant skills and knowledge in these fields.

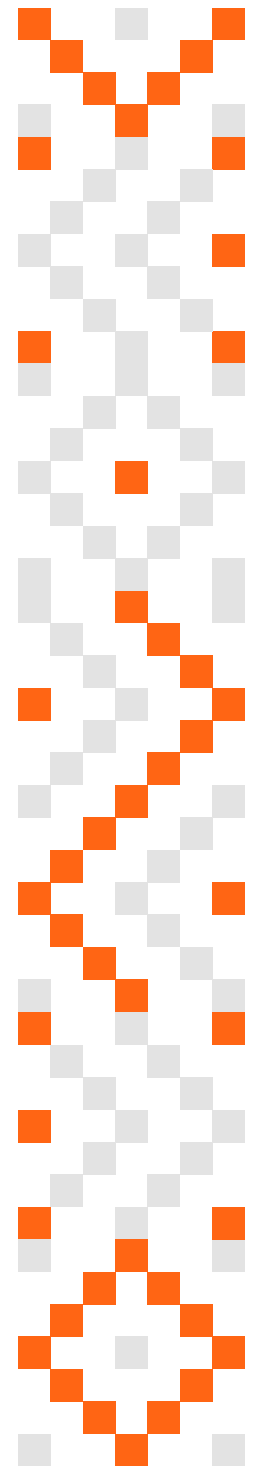
### **1. Competition and Regulatory Economics for Practitioners**

Tailored for practitioners, this course addresses the core areas of competition and regulatory economics. Each topic in the course will cover theoretical principles, case examples and hypothetical exercises. The course will cover key recent cases in Malawi, COMESA, other African countries and internationally to demonstrate the application of competition tests and economic regulation principles in practice. A strong emphasis will be placed on regional competition and economic regulation dynamics and enforcement in light of the AfCFTA. Hypothetical exercises will be undertaken to enhance learning and

apply concepts, run in facilitated breakout groups. Topics will include merger control, cartels and leniency, abuse of dominance and principles, and types of economic regulation.

### **2. Law in Competition Policy**

This course covers core legal principles in competition and consumer protection law and their application, including relevant issues of legal due process and decision-making. Practical aspects such as initiating investigations, commissioning market inquiries, running hearings, and using the law to gather evidence will be addressed, in addition to the role of economic evidence in deciding on likely harm to competition. With particular attention to the overlap between law and economics and recent African cases, the PTP will also explore reaching, justifying and defending/appealing against the economic regulatory decisions of competition authorities. Presenters include those who have participated in precedent-setting decisions, regulatory processes and regulation drafting on the continent. A strong emphasis will be placed on regional competition and economic regulation dynamics and enforcement in light of the AfCFTA.



**The Future  
Reimagined**



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### 3. Advanced Competition and Regulatory Economics

This PTP is targeted at experienced competition economists from authorities, regulators, public and private sector firms and private practice. Facilitated by leading economists and practitioners, this intensive PTP covers the latest developments in economic theory and their application to the analysis of competition and economic regulation cases. Topics covered will include key concepts in competition and economic regulation of digital platforms and high-tech markets drawing on recent international cases, market inquiries,

and developments in buyer power enforcement on the continent. The regional applicability and implications of these topics will be debated. The delivery of this PTP will be through lectures on theoretical economic principles, African and international case examples and hypothetical exercises.

\*Detailed course outlines for ACER VII PTPs will be made available shortly.

To reserve your place, kindly complete the booking form [here](#). Note that the booking form contains further information on how to reserve your place. Registration closes on **Wednesday 31 August 2022**.

Course Package Options	Early Bird (before 1 July 2021)	Standard Fee
PTP only	USD700	USD750
PTP and Conference	USD900	USD1050
PTP and Conference (for regulators/competition authorities/students)	USD850	USD1000
Conference only	USD350	USD350

**Conference** ACER VII will end with a 2-day conference on 15 & 16 September 2022. In addition to panel discussions and keynote speakers, the conference will offer sessions in which selected papers will be presented and discussed.

**Call for Papers** Proposed papers on all areas of competition policy, law and economics, and economic regulation, are invited. We particularly invite papers on the following key themes for this conference:

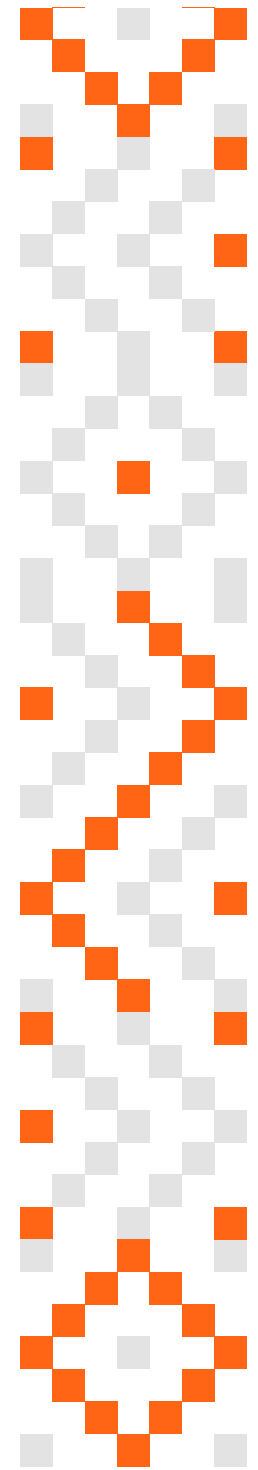
- Competition law and policy in light of regional and continental integration (including competition issues in cross-border markets, collusion and merger evaluation, competition and the AfCFTA);
- New thinking in competition and economic regulation, and the relevance for African markets (such as, digital markets, buyer power,

concentration and inequality, barriers to entry, competition and climate change);

- The development of competition authorities in Africa, alternative enforcement tools and impact assessments (such as relating to, corporate leniency, cartel screening, market inquiries and advocacy).

Abstracts should be no more than 250 words. Abstracts may be submitted to Grace Nsomba at [gnsomba@uj.ac.za](mailto:gnsomba@uj.ac.za) on or before **16 May 2022**. Acceptance of papers will be communicated by **31 May 2022**. Final papers must be submitted by **29 August 2022**. Please note that ACER will be held in person and the working language will be English.

**General ACER queries can be directed to Seli Nthite.**  
**Tel: +27 11 559 7523.**  
**E-mail: [selim@uj.ac.za](mailto:selim@uj.ac.za)**



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