



ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ



ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ ΠΡΟΣΤΑΣΙΑΣ
ΤΟΥ ΑΝΤΑΓΩΝΙΣΜΟΥ

Decision no: 29/2014

File no: 11.17.013.27

**THE PROTECTION OF COMPETITION LAW 2008
(Law no. 13(I)/2008)**

Complaint filed by Micro Stores Ltd against G. Charalambous Ltd

Commission for the Protection of Competition:

Mrs. Loukia Christodoulou	Chairperson
Mrs. Eleni Karaoli	Member
Mr. Andreas Karides	Member
Mr. Charis Pastellis	Member
Mr. Christos Tsingis	Member

Date of decision: 20 June 2014

SUMMARY DECISION

The case concerned the complaint filed by MICRO STORES LTD (“MICRO STORES”) against G. CHARALAMBOUS LTD (“CHARALAMBOUS”), for an alleged infringement of the Protection of Competition Law 13(I)/2008 (“Law”). In particular, the complaint referred to the refusal of CHARALAMBOUS to supply of its Greek/Cypriot brand coffee to MICRO STORES, in violation of section 6(1) (b) and (c) of the Law.

MICRO STORES is active in the retail industry with the operation of discount stores under the name «Micro Discount». Micro Discount stores offer the consumer branded products and private label products at cheaper prices.

CHARALAMBOUS is primarily involved in the manufacturing, distribution and sale of its own brand products, but also with the importation and distribution of exclusive

products in the Cypriot market of other foreign companies with an international presence, like Lavazza and Ahmad Tea of London.

In its decision, the Commission for the Protection of Competition (“Commission”) having taking into account all the evidence before it, defined as the relevant product market in this case, the wholesale supply of Greek/Cypriot coffee. Regarding the relevant geographic market, the Commission decided that this extends throughout the territory of the Republic of Cyprus.

The Commission on the basis of the evidence before it, concluded that CHARALAMBOUS did not hold a high market share that enables it to act independently of its competitors and customers, especially considering the high market share of LAIKO KAFECOPTIO, which is CHARALAMBOUS biggest competitor.

In its decision, the Commission unanimously concluded that CHARALAMBOUS does not hold a dominant position in the relevant market of the wholesale supply of Greek/Cypriot coffee, and therefore it was unnecessary to examine MICRO STORES allegations concerning the behavior of CHARALAMBOUS.

Thus, the Commission, at its meeting convened on 20 June 2014, after having assessed all the evidence of the administrative file, unanimously concluded that CHARALAMBOUS did not infringe Section 6(1) (b) and (c) of the Law and rejected MICRO STORES complaint.

Loukia Christodoulou
Chairperson
Commission for the Protection of Competition