

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

COMPETITION LAW AND POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Written by a leading authority on the topic, *Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East* examines and critically analyses the development and role of competition law and policy in one of the most interesting regions of the world. This is the first book of its kind – to date this topic has not received sufficient attention, nor has it been adequately explored.

The importance of the Middle East within the global political and economic arenas gives this book huge international significance and interest. The book will prove useful to a variety of audiences around the world: to the competition law specialists, to the students of the subject, to policy-makers and politicians in the Middle East and to those whose work deals with law and economics and who wish to know more about competition law and policy in this special part of the world.

MAHER M. DABBAH is a reader in Competition Law and Director of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Competition Law and Policy (ICC) at Queen Mary, University of London. He is a barrister and acts as a consultant to international bodies, governments, regulatory authorities and firms in the field.

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

COMPETITION LAW AND POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

MAHER M. DABBAH

Barrister; Reader in Competition Law and Policy

*Director, Interdisciplinary Centre for Competition Law and Policy (ICC), Queen Mary,
University of London*



**CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS**

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East
Maher M. Dabbah
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521869089

© Maher Dabbah 2007

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
no reproduction of any part may take place without
the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2007

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-0-521-86908-9 hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for
the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or
third-party internet websites referred to in this book,
and does not guarantee that any content on such
websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maheer M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

To my parents for making the Middle East
have its special place in my heart

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page xvii</i>
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xx
1 Introduction	1
1.1 The Middle East in geographic terms	1
1.2 Geographical coverage of the book	2
1.3 The global significance of the Middle East	3
1.4 Sharpening the focus	3
1.5 The foundations of competition law and policy in the Middle East	4
1.6 The five issues	4
1.6.1 Foreign direct investment	5
1.6.2 Economic growth and poverty	6
1.6.3 Corporate governance	7
1.6.4 Institutional structure and design	8
1.6.5 Competition advocacy	9
1.7 Regional cooperation: past, present and future	12
1.8 Relationship with the European Community	15
1.9 Relationship with EFTA States	17
1.10 A book on competition law and policy in the Middle East	17
2 The relationship between Islam and competition law and policy	18
2.1 The relationship: a myth or reality?	18
2.2 Setting the scene: competition law and Islamic roots	19
2.3 The role of competition law and policy in an economy	20
2.4 Competition law and policy in an Islamic economy	21
2.4.1 The <i>Quran</i>	21
2.4.2 The source of <i>Ejtihad</i>	22

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

CONTENTS

2.5	The role of competition law in Islam: the components	23
2.5.1	The value of trade and competition	23
2.5.2	Pricing practices and policies	24
2.5.3	Abuse of dominance and collusion	26
2.6	Enforcement: the principle and institution of <i>Hisba</i>	27
2.6.1	The origins of <i>Hisba</i>	28
2.6.2	The institutional structure of <i>Hisba</i>	29
2.6.3	Expansion and demise of <i>Hisba</i>	30
2.6.4	<i>Hisba</i> Bill in Pakistan	31
2.7	Conclusions	33
3	Israel: the region's oldest competition law	34
3.1	The origins of competition law in Israel: the 1959 Law	35
3.2	From the 1959 Law to the 1988 Law and beyond	37
3.3	The path towards effective enforcement	39
3.4	The treatment of different business phenomena: scope and limitations	41
3.4.1	Restrictive arrangements	41
3.4.1.1	Definition	41
3.4.1.2	Cartels	45
3.4.1.3	Vertical agreements	46
3.4.1.4	Registration, authorisation and individual exemptions	47
3.4.1.5	The block exemption mechanism	50
3.4.2	Monopolies and monopolists	53
3.4.3	The regulation of mergers	55
3.5	Institutional structure	58
3.5.1	The Israel Antitrust Authority	58
3.5.2	The Restrictive Business Practices Tribunal	60
3.5.3	The Exemptions and Mergers Committee	61
3.5.4	Minister of Industry, Trade and Labour	61
3.5.5	Other bodies and individuals	62
3.6	Orders and penalties	62
3.7	Role of third parties	63
3.8	Competition advocacy	64
3.9	International outlook and activities	66
3.9.1	Consulting foreign experiences	66
3.9.2	Participation in international organisations	67
3.9.3	Links with the EC and the EFTA States	68
3.9.4	Cooperation with the USA	69

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

ix

3.10	Reflections	70	
3.10.1	<i>Ex ante</i> regulation v. competition	71	
3.10.2	The problematic government/business relationship	72	
3.10.3	Gaps in the Law	72	
3.10.3.1	Adaptation to a restrictive arrangement	72	
3.10.3.2	The block exemptions	73	
3.10.4	The issue of discretion	74	
3.10.5	Protecting competitors	75	
3.10.6	Non-competition considerations	75	
3.10.7	Should the 1988 Law be replaced?	76	
4	Turkey: a European dream from the other side of the border	78	
4.1	Arriving at the competition law scene: economic, political and social dynamics	78	
4.2	The Law on the Protection of Competition	81	
4.2.1	Aims, scope and nature	82	
4.2.2	Collusion	84	
4.2.2.1	The concerted practice presumption	85	
4.2.2.2	The treatment of vertical agreements	87	
4.2.2.3	Exemptions	88	
4.2.3	Abuse of dominance	90	
4.2.4	Control of concentrations	92	
4.3	The Competition Authority and Competition Board	95	
4.3.1	Enforcement and fines	96	
4.3.2	Appeal and judicial review	97	
4.3.3	Competition advocacy	98	
4.4	Private enforcement and actions for damages and compensation	101	
4.5	Regulatory and supervisory aspects of the regime	101	
4.6	The burden and standard of proof	105	
4.7	Market entry and barriers to entry	106	
4.8	International links within the Middle East and beyond	107	
4.8.1	The EC–Turkey association	109	
4.8.2	The Turkey–EFTA States Agreement	111	

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x

CONTENTS

4.8.3	Free trade agreements with MECs	111
4.8.3.1	Turkey–Israel FTA	111
4.8.3.2	Turkey–Morocco FTA	112
4.8.3.3	Turkey–Palestine FTA	112
4.9	Reflections	113
4.9.1	Social, economic and political issues	113
4.9.2	Following the EC model	113
4.9.3	The Association and Customs Union Agreements	115
4.9.4	Achievement and progress of the authority	117
4.9.5	The strict time frames	119
4.9.6	General deficiencies	120
4.9.7	The Law and free market	122
4.9.8	Future directions	123
5	The Arab Maghreb countries	125
5.1	Algeria: replacing draconian legislation with a mechanism for consultation	125
5.1.1	Competition Ordinance 2003	127
5.1.1.1	Aims, objectives and scope	127
5.1.1.2	Pricing activities and policies	127
5.1.1.3	Influence of EC competition law	128
5.1.1.4	Non-competition considerations	128
5.1.2	The role of the Competition Council	129
5.1.2.1	The council's relationship with other regulators	130
5.1.2.2	Penalties and sanctions	131
5.1.2.3	Judicial supervision	132
5.1.3	International openness and cooperation	132
5.1.4	Comments	133
5.2	Morocco: a strong desire for modernisation	134
5.2.1	Western style: linking with the EC and EFTA	135
5.2.2	The Law on the Freedom of Prices and Competition	135
5.2.2.1	The scheme of the Law	136
5.2.2.2	Free pricing and price regulation	137
5.2.2.3	Consumer protection	138
5.2.2.4	Conducting investigations	139
5.2.2.5	Transparency between professionals	139
5.2.2.6	Limitation of supply	140
5.2.3	The relevant authorities	140
5.2.3.1	The Competition Council	140
5.2.3.2	The Commission for Price Supervision	142

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

xi

5.2.3.3	The Central Committee	143
5.2.3.4	The courts	144
5.2.3.5	Sectoral regulators	144
5.2.4	Penalties	144
5.2.5	Reflections	148
5.3	Tunisia: a pioneer in the Arab world	149
5.3.1	Extensive web of international associations	150
5.3.2	Developing a competition law framework	152
5.3.3	The Competition and Prices Act: goals, scope and underlying policies	153
5.3.3.1	Aims and objectives	153
5.3.3.2	Scope of the Act	154
5.3.4	Enforcement: relevant authorities, powers and discretion	157
5.3.4.1	The Competition Council	157
5.3.4.2	The Minister of Trade	160
5.3.5	Price transparency	160
5.3.6	Reflections	161
5.4	Libya: a new policy of unlimited competition	163
5.4.1	The change	163
5.4.2	Unique style of administration	164
5.4.3	Liberalisation, privatisation and WTO accession	164
5.4.4	A possible competition law for Libya	166
6	Jordan's 2004 Competition Law	168
6.1	International outlook and cooperation	169
6.1.1	Jordan–EC Association Agreement	170
6.1.2	Jordan–EFTA Free Trade Agreement	170
6.1.3	Jordan–Israel-US QIZ Agreement	171
6.2	The Competition Act	172
6.2.1	The failure of the 1990s and the success of 2002	172
6.2.2	The aims of the Act	173
6.2.2.1	Anti-competitive practices	174
6.2.2.2	Abuse of dominance	175
6.2.2.3	Economic concentrations	176
6.2.2.4	Exemptions	178
6.2.3	Price regulation	179
6.2.4	Fairness of commercial transactions	180

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xii

CONTENTS

6.3	Institutional structure and the different players	180
6.3.1	The Competition Directorate	181
6.3.2	The Committee for Competition	182
6.3.3	The courts	183
6.3.4	The role of the Minister of Industry and Trade	184
6.4	Powers and responsibilities	184
6.4.1	Investigations	184
6.4.2	Penalties	185
6.4.3	Competition advocacy	186
6.4.4	Assessing the performance of the directorate	187
6.5	Market control and supervision	189
6.6	Reflections	190
7	The Gulf States: a possible model for regional cooperation	193
7.1	Measuring the success of the GCC	194
7.1.1	Extrinsic factors: the GCC and other regional communities	195
7.1.2	Intrinsic factors	196
7.2	International cooperation	196
7.2.1	Cooperation with the EC	197
7.2.2	Cooperation with EFTA States	197
7.3	The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	198
7.3.1	Embracing the free-market system	198
7.3.2	Regulation of prices	199
7.3.3	The Competition Act 2004	199
7.3.3.1	Collusion	200
7.3.3.2	Abuse of dominance	201
7.3.3.3	Mergers	203
7.3.4	The Competition Council	204
7.3.5	Orders, penalties, appeal and private enforcement	205
7.3.6	Facilitating competition in the sectors	206
7.3.6.1	The telecommunications sector	206
7.3.6.2	The electricity sector	207
7.4	Qatar: the Law on Protection of Competition 2006	207
7.4.1	Building a competitive environment	207
7.4.2	The Law on the Protection of Competition	208
7.4.2.1	The context of the Law and legislative intent	209
7.4.2.2	Scope of the Law	209
7.4.3	Enforcement	211
7.4.4	Orders and penalties	212

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

xiii

7.5	The Republic of Yemen	212	
7.5.1	The Competition Law 1999	213	
7.5.1.1	Scope of the Law	214	
7.5.1.2	Collusion, abuse of dominance and harmful concentrations	214	
7.5.2	The Competition Authority	216	
7.5.3	Penalties	217	
7.5.4	An added dimension of regulation	217	
7.6	Gulf States with no specific competition law	218	
7.6.1	Bahrain	218	
7.6.1.1	Overview	218	
7.6.1.2	Mergers	219	
7.6.1.3	The telecommunications sector	219	
7.6.2	Kuwait	221	
7.6.2.1	The Investment Law	221	
7.6.2.2	The privatisation programme	222	
7.6.2.3	Competition law and policy developments	223	
7.6.3	Oman	225	
7.6.3.1	The privatisation law and programme	225	
7.6.3.2	Competition law tools	226	
7.6.3.3	The telecommunications sector	227	
7.6.4	United Arab Emirates	229	
7.6.4.1	General	229	
7.6.4.2	Price regulation	231	
7.6.4.3	Turning to competition law	232	
7.6.4.4	Car retail market	232	
7.7	Reflections	233	
8	The Arab Republic of Egypt: the chase after globalisation	237	
8.1	Creating European links	238	
8.2	Cooperation with the USA: the qualifying industrial zones	239	
8.3	The competition law dilemma	240	
8.4	The Law on the Protection of the Freedom of Competition	242	
8.4.1	The ambitious role of the Act	243	
8.4.2	The scope of the Act	243	
8.4.3	Penalties and fines	245	
8.5	Institutional structure and capacity	246	
8.6	Competition advocacy and international outlook	248	
8.7	A mechanism for price regulation	249	

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xiv

CONTENTS

8.8	Cement, steel and telecommunications: from state control to liberalisation	249	
8.8.1	The cement industry: a double-edge sword		250
8.8.2	The steel industry: abuse of dominance or freedom of competition	252	
8.8.3	The telecommunications sector: the consequences of liberalisation	254	
8.9	Deficiencies, criticisms and concerns	255	
8.9.1	The prohibition on horizontal and vertical agreements	256	
8.9.2	The issue of exemption	256	
8.9.3	The treatment of abuse of dominance	257	
8.9.4	Lack of adequate mechanism for merger control		258
8.9.5	Fines and settlements	259	
8.9.6	The Executive Regulations	259	
8.9.7	The sectoral application of the Act	259	
8.9.8	The frustrating influence of bureaucracy	260	
9	Lebanon and Syria: a tale of two states	261	
9.1	Lebanon: the walk to the region's most comprehensive competition law	261	
9.1.1	International openness and economic growth		261
9.1.2	The drive for privatisation	264	
9.1.3	The process of emerging competition in Lebanese markets	265	
	9.1.3.1 Overview	265	
	9.1.3.2 The challenges	266	
9.1.4	Existing legal framework for protecting competition	267	
9.1.5	A modern competition law for Lebanon		269
9.1.6	The scope of the LCA	270	
9.1.7	Institutional structure	272	
	9.1.7.1 The Competition Council	272	
	9.1.7.2 The rapporteur of competition affairs		273
9.1.8	Orders and penalties	274	
9.1.9	The public dimension of the LCA	274	
9.1.10	Reflections	275	
9.2	Syria: resisting international isolation with international openness	278	
9.2.1	Competition law: paradox, contradictions and conflicts	279	
9.2.2	The thesis of the SCL	281	

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

xv

9.2.3	The scope and goals of the SCL	281	
9.2.3.1	Collusion	282	
9.2.3.2	Abuse of dominance	283	
9.2.3.3	Merger control	284	
9.2.4	Exemptions	285	
9.2.5	The treatment of pricing policies and practices in special cases	286	
9.2.6	Improper exercise of intellectual property rights		286
9.2.7	Fairness of commercial transactions	287	
9.2.8	Institutional structure and enforcement	288	
9.2.8.1	The Competition Commission	288	
9.2.8.2	The Competition Council	289	
9.2.8.3	The courts	291	
9.2.9	Penalties, remedies and damages	291	
9.2.9.1	Financial sanctions and penalties	291	
9.2.9.2	Penalties imposed on natural persons	292	
9.2.9.3	Settlements	292	
9.2.9.4	Penalties designed for Commission officials		293
9.2.9.5	Injunctions	293	
9.2.9.6	Damages	293	
9.2.10	Reflections	294	
10	Conclusions	297	
10.1	Competition in Middle Eastern style	298	
10.2	Recognising the value of competition and competition law		299
10.3	Different forms of competition law but the same competition policy	301	
10.4	MECs without a specific competition law and policy		303
10.4.1	The Islamic Republic of Iran	303	
10.4.1.1	The Constitution	304	
10.4.1.2	The development plans	305	
10.4.1.3	Foreign participation and investment		305
10.4.1.4	The competition law scene	305	
10.4.1.5	Unfair competition	307	
10.4.2	Iraq	307	
10.4.2.1	The economy and foreign investment		307
10.4.2.2	WTO membership and privatisation		308
10.4.2.3	Competition law and policy	309	
10.4.3	Palestine	311	
10.4.3.1	Aspiring to free-market economy		311
10.4.3.2	Foreign investment	311	
10.4.3.3	The competition law scene	312	

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xvi

CONTENTS

10.4.4	The Republic of Sudan	313	
10.4.4.1	Foreign investment	313	
10.4.4.2	Economic and structural reform	314	
10.5	The chances for sound cooperation	315	
10.5.1	Bilateral cooperation	316	
10.5.2	Regional cooperation: myth or reality?	316	
10.5.2.1	Cooperation through the European Commission	317	
10.5.2.2	Sub-regional cooperation	318	
10.5.2.3	Emerging cooperation within the Arab League	319	
10.5.2.3.1	The prohibitions	320	
10.5.2.3.2	Enforcement and penalties	322	
10.5.2.3.3	Commentary	323	
10.5.3	Comparison with other regions	325	
10.6	Competition law: a bridge between civilisations	326	
	<i>Index</i>	329	

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE

Writing a book on competition law and policy in the Middle East was, many years ago, merely an idea, which later became a dream and eventually turned into a reality. The transition from idea to reality in this case was only possible because of my own personal background and experience. I was born and raised in a small village suffering from illiteracy and swamped with poverty, in an extremely underdeveloped society and in a region where violence, conflict and confrontation were and still are extremely widespread. That region is called the Middle East. What fed many of the thoughts in the book was my experience as a specialist in the field of competition law. Other thoughts, however, could not have materialised without my own background. An example of this is chapter 2. My decision to examine the relationship between Islam and competition law within the context of the present book was not ‘pulled out of a hat’ but was rather the result of an encounter with this (unusual) relationship which happened at the age of eight. Of course at that very young age there was no awareness on my part of this relationship or competition law at all. The timing of the encounter – which occurred during the summer holidays – was highly interesting. During the preceding academic year, I became aware of some of the fundamental values of Islam through my religious studies lessons at primary school. Among the values that had particular impact on my outlook was Islam’s prohibition of exploitation. During the summer holidays a new grocery shop opened in the village and I came to witness clear acts of dishonesty and exploitation on the part of the shop’s owner. Considering the situation from a competition law perspective, those acts were nothing short of a clear abuse of dominance directed at a largely impoverished population. Such ‘consideration’ of course was not possible at the time, though this did not prevent me from viewing the situation as being fundamentally wrong and non-Islamic.

When I began writing the book, I was fully aware that I could be seen to be aiming to produce two books in one: the first a practitioner/textbook

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

type book explaining or ‘describing’ how it is done in different parts of the Middle East and the second a volume ‘analysing’ various theoretical (and practical) issues. I decided to proceed nonetheless as my goal was to open the topic on different fronts so that hopefully current and future specialists would then take the issues covered in the book and develop them (when the time is right) in scholarly articles, monographs, practitioner work and (who knows) perhaps even a textbook. In setting out to do this, my aim has not been, however, to write a ‘perfect’ book; it has been to write an informative one. A perfect book is one which, among other things, *closes* as opposed to *opens* the door(s) to further research and thinking. This is not what I had in mind. As the first volume of its kind, I would like this book to open not just one but hopefully many doors (and windows).

My actual decision to turn to the Middle East on this occasion was not taken lightly. Considerable thinking and rethinking was done. At the end of a very long process, however, it felt it was the ‘natural’ thing to do. I vividly remember meeting by chance an old colleague several months ago in the beautiful surroundings of Russell Square gardens in central London who asked me what I was writing on at that time. I answered: a monograph on competition law and policy in the Middle East. I recall only one word my colleague said in reply: ‘tricky’. It was in fact, and this old colleague was right but for the wrong reasons. Waking up every morning to hear about ‘more’ violence and loss of innocent lives in the Middle East was not quite the food for thought I was hoping to have as someone engaged in a ‘project’ on the Middle East. Many times I questioned my decision to write on competition law in particular in this (regrettably) troubled region of the world when the incredible amount of time and energy poured into the project could have been diverted to other Middle Eastern causes. These thoughts at the end did not prove a hindrance but enhanced in fact my desire to complete the project and to do even more on other fronts for the Middle East (and other places in the world). I kept going because of a deep passion to spread competition law around and because I care about the Middle East. Looking back as I am typing these words I have no doubt in my heart that it was the right decision to take.

This book would never have seen the light of day if it was not for the help and support I have received from many friends and colleagues. Many of my colleagues at Queen Mary deserve special thanks for continuous encouragement and support. Many of my friends were also extremely kind and supportive. In particular, I would like to mention

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

PREFACE

xix

C. Brown, M. Das, T. Gidron, M. Heth, the Lockes, S. Miah, J. Nshf, J. Richardson, G. Rotkopf and D. Tadmor. I would also like to acknowledge the excellent research assistance and huge help received from Z. Awaiz who deserves a big 'thank you'. Valuable assistance was also received from C. Fadous and S. Hanafi in locating some 'hard-to-find' material; they were effective and efficient and I am grateful to them. Special thanks are also due to the professional and always extremely helpful staff at Cambridge University Press. In particular I am grateful to Mrs K. Hughes who is a huge asset at the Press.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to my brothers and sisters for caring and more importantly for remaining strong through difficult days and nights. In particular warm thanks go to my brothers Hassan, Hussein and Hatim who have made their marks in their particular fields of expertise in the Middle East: two truly world-class lawyers and a doctor.

The greatest thanks of all are owed to my parents. I have never known stronger, wiser, more intelligent and more loving people than them. These are quite modest attributes in fact for a lady who can neither read nor write and a gentleman who was fortunate to attend only three years of school in his life. They sacrificed their education to care for their siblings and later sacrificed everything for the happiness and future of their children. Without them it would not have been possible to write this book. I needed an effective ability to communicate in three crucial languages, Arabic, English and Hebrew, to research and write its chapters. They gave me that ability. I also needed an understanding of competition law as both an academic and practitioner. That too, many years ago, they made possible for me to acquire.

I am honoured to be able to dedicate this book to my brothers and sisters who live in the Middle East and to my great and wonderful parents who live in my heart.

Maher M. Dabbah
December 2006

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Agadir	Free Trade Zone between the Arabic Mediterranean Nations
AMU	Arab Maghreb Union
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
CAFTA-DR	Central America–Dominican Republic–United States Free Trade Agreement
CARICOM	Caribbean Community and Common Market
CBI	Central Bank of Iraq
CEMAC	Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa
CFI	European Court of First Instance
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CPA	Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq
CPCM	Conseil Permanent Consultatif du Maghreb
CUA	Customs Union Agreement between Turkey and the EC
DGCEE	Department of Competition and Economic Investigations within the Tunisian Ministry of Trade
EAC	East African Community
EC	European Community
ECJ	European Court of Justice
ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
ECR	European Court Reports
EEA	European Economic Area
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
ENP	European Neighbourhood Policy
EU	European Union
FTA	Free Trade Agreement

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

xxi

GAFTA	Greater Arab Free Trade Agreement or Area
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
IAA	Israel Antitrust Authority
ICN	International Competition Network
IMF	International Monetary Fund
MEC	Middle Eastern Country
MECs	Middle Eastern Countries
MERCUSOR	Southern Common Market
MIGA	Arab Investment Guarantee Agency and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
MPO	Iranian Management and Planning Organisation
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NIS	New Israeli Shekel
NTC	National Telecommunications Corporation of Sudan
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OFT	UK Office of Fair Trading
OJ	Official Journal of the European Community
OPEC	Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PIEFZA	Palestinian Industrial Estates and Free Zones Authority
PFI	Palestinian Federation of Industries
QIZ	Qualified Industrial Zones
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SACU	Southern African Customs Union
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SSAP	Sudan's Structural Adjustment Programme
STPC	Sudan Telecommunications Public Corporation
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument of the Institution Building unit of Directorate-General Enlargement of the European Commission

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-86908-9 - Competition Law and Policy in the Middle East

Maher M. Dabbah

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xxii

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

TRA	Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Bahrain
TRL	Turkish Lira
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UEMOA-WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
WTO	World Trade Organisation