

## Postal Services

### Expertise

Bird & Bird has extensive specialist experience of advising on competition regulatory matters in the postal services sector in various European jurisdictions. The firm advises incumbent universal service operators in their home jurisdictions and advises new entrant operators in some other countries. Individual partners in the firm have acknowledged reputations in the field. They have been involved in advising on postal services matters from the first stages of the EU Postal Services Directive, or even earlier.

We have represented or supported our clients in investigations by national regulators and before national courts. We provide in-depth competition law and regulatory advice regarding the EU Directive and the applicable statutory and regulatory regimes for postal services. This includes advice on pricing and rebates from a competition law and regulatory perspective, including related cost accounting obligations, and detailed advice on the regulatory and competition law issues concerning the content and scope of the universal service obligations and the use of universal service facilities.

In France, we acted successfully in litigation before the Paris commercial court on a challenge to the validity of La Poste's pricing structure. In the Netherlands we have represented the incumbent operator in court and before the regulator on a range of regulatory, competition, procurement and customs matters. In the UK, we have assisted in the representation of Royal Mail on a number of competition regulatory cases.

In addition, members of our team have published papers and made conference presentations on EU law and competition regulation of postal services.

### Case study:

We provided in-depth competition law and regulatory advice to the Royal Mail Group regarding the EU Postal Services Directive and the statutory and licence regime that applies to Royal Mail's postal operations.

### Case study:

We advised and represented La Poste in a case before the Tribunal de Commerce Paris in connection with alleged excessive pricing practices.

### Case study:

A member of our group advised Deutsche Post in several national and EU merger proceedings concerning acquisitions and establishment of joint ventures in the field of logistics, distribution and transport.



## Contact details

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