



# Competition Leniency Programs in the Andean Region

The George Washington University's Competition & Innovation Lab invites you to a timely and high-level roundtable exploring the evolution, challenges, and future of leniency programs in the Andean region. With a growing need for transparent and robust competition frameworks to foster trade and investment, this event brings together key stakeholders from international organizations, government, academia, and the private sector.

This in-depth discussion will assess how the Andean Community's competition laws and institutions can be reformed to enhance legal certainty, uphold due process, and promote investor confidence. Particular attention will be paid to the implementation of leniency programs and the ongoing debate surrounding Decision 608 – a cornerstone of the CAN competition framework.



**23 May, 2025 from 10.00 am to 12.20 pm ET**



**Hybrid: The George Washington University & Online**



**Competition &  
Innovation Lab**



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# Program

**10:00 AM - 10:05 AM**

**Welcome Message**

*Aurelien Portuese, Research Professor & Founding  
Director of the GW Competition & Innovation Lab*

**10:05 AM - 10:15 AM**

**Keynote Address**

*Frederic Jenny, Chairman of the  
OECD Competition Forum*

**10:15 AM - 10:50 AM**

**Panel 1: The Importance of a Robust Competition  
Regime and Due Process for Trade & Investment**

*This panel will discuss the importance of having a robust  
competition regime in the Andean region with clear rules that get  
applied transparently and in accordance with due process and the  
rule of law is essential to position Andean countries to be trade  
partners of choice for the United States and a place where  
American companies can invest and grow their businesses.*

*Megan Bridges (Moderator), U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
Daniel Watson, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative  
Eric Stewart, Founder U.S. Ecuador Business Coalition*



# Competition & Innovation Lab

**10:50 AM - 11:25 AM**

## **Panel 2: The Current State of Leniency Program in the Region and Existing Challenges**

*This panel will discuss the current state of the leniency programs in the Andean countries, the need to reform the CAN competition law, Decision 608, to create a supranacional leniency program with clear and defined rules on the interplay between regional and supranational authorities, who has authority to benefit from fines imposed by the Secretary-General of the CAN and who has the authority to enforce penalties in accordance with the Member Countries' national laws.*

*Aurelien Portuese (Moderator), The George Washington University*

*Alejandra Palacios, GW Competition & Innovation Lab*

*Scott Hammond, Partner at Gibson Dunn*

*Mario Zúñiga, International Center for Law & Economics*

**11.25 AM - 12:00 PM**

## **Panel 3: Need for Reform of Decision 608 and The Future of Leniency Programs in the Region**

*This panel will discuss action items that could be taken to effectively reform the CAN competition system and how to deal with the challenges created by the Kimberly-Clark case and regain investor confidence in the region going forward.*

*Marianna Camacho (Moderator), The George Washington University*

*Felipe Irarrazabal, Centro de Competencia UAIb*

*Alfonso Miranda, Partner at Esguerra JHR*

**12.00 AM - 12:20 PM**

**Q & A**

*Confirmed attendees include leading scholars, practitioners, Trade Ministers of Ecuador, as well as staff members of the Latin America's competition authorities*