

Risks and sanctions

Fines for violations of competition law are substantial and can apply to individuals as well as to companies. Good faith or ignorance will not be considered as a justification or excuse for the violation of competition law.

— **PENALTIES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR COMPANIES**

- › Fines of up to 10% of Group turnover
- › Negative impact on the company image and reputation
- › Any agreement which violates competition rules will be null and void
- › The company will no longer be able to participate in bids for public sector work
- › Victims of anticompetitive behaviour can claim damages
- › Other costs may include litigation costs, business interruption, potential obstacles to business opportunities and acquisitions

— **CRIMINAL PENALTIES APPLICABLE TO THE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED**

Individuals found guilty of anticompetitive conduct may face lengthy imprisonment or a financial penalty.