

## Romania

### **Position of National Authority for Consumers Protection regarding the White Paper on Damages actions for breach of the EC antitrust rules**

National Authority for Consumers Protection (ANPC) acknowledges the fact that there is a need to tackle, at the Community level, the problem of obtaining reparations by citizens (especially consumers) that are victims of EC antitrust infringements.

At the same time, we agree with the objectives, the guiding principles and the scope of the White Paper. We consider that the White Paper tries, and succeeds, to gather all the essential issues on this matter.

Moreover, we appreciate that through the proposed measures and policy choices a substantial improvement could be brought in this field.

At the same time, the proposed measures would require efforts of Member States, especially of the judicial system, but the results are motivating.

Concerning the collective redress measures, we appreciate that the proposed suggestions contribute to the work done so far, by the Commission, regarding the development of the collective redress mechanism. The lack of this mechanism is very much felt by consumers and a unitary and easily accessible mechanism established at the Commission level helps at respecting their rights.

The suggestion of codifying in a Community legislative instrument the current *acquis communautaire* concerning the damages that victims of antitrust infringements can recover is very useful.

**Concluding, we agree to the need for an EU-wide solution that would bring a better protection for consumers and we consider that White Paper offers a solid basis for it that should be developed further by a Community legislative measure.**