

RBB | Economics

Working at RBB

Global leaders
in competition
economics

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Working at RBB allows you to apply your economic knowledge to real-world problems.

We take pride in our ability to conduct cutting-edge theoretical and empirical analyses and to communicate these clearly to non-economists.

Working on leading competition cases around the world, we are regarded as being amongst the very best for what we do. We maintain that position by constantly developing the skills of our staff, both as economists and as managers of projects and people.

We are a supportive, collegial firm – and our people are great fun! Staff frequently spend time in other RBB offices to gain valuable experience of working in another country and to help us stay connected as a company.



We are experienced experts with a proven track record of success in the most high-profile, high stakes competition law cases.



Global leaders in competition economics.

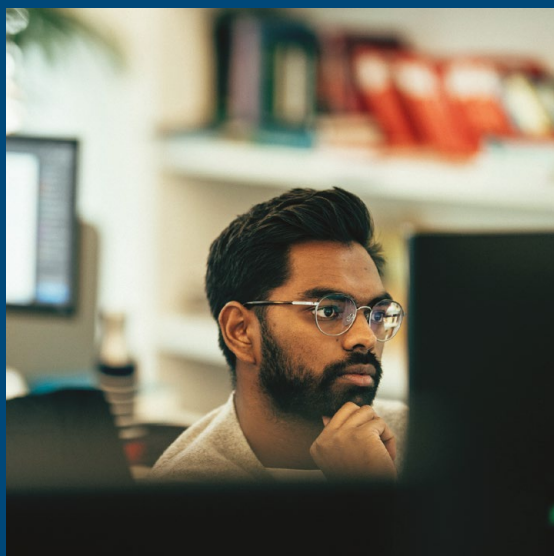
We're passionate economists, fully committed to every case we take on. From mergers and litigation through to market investigations and abuse of dominance, we deal with all manner of competition policy assignments.

Established in 2002, we've grown to 14 offices, working across 120 jurisdictions and employing 200 economists. We advise multinational companies around the world on the economics of high-profile competition law cases. In the EU we have advised on more EU Phase II mergers than any other firm. We've built relationships with companies across almost every sector, and with all the major law firms specialising in competition law.

We're always on the lookout for talented and motivated economists to join our growing global team. We pride ourselves on having a welcoming culture that empowers the people who work here.

We practice real-world economic reasoning.

We always work to uncover the complexities of markets rather than relying solely on theoretical models. Putting the evidence first is the only way to understand the complete competitive picture. We ask questions, listen to the answers, and build relationships with our clients, interacting with them regularly to understand how competition works in their industries. We take pride in our user-friendly approach: making the complex simple to understand and explain.



We are open to everyone with an interest and aptitude in taking a real-world approach to competition economics.

We are regarded as being amongst the very best in the world for what we do. We maintain that position by constantly developing the skills of our staff, consistently delivering for clients, and continually working on major competition law cases.

We are a meritocratic partnership and work as a collective. We prize collaboration; with each other and with our clients. The best idea is always forwarded and rewarded.

We are serious about our work; there are always significant issues at stake. But we don't take ourselves too seriously. We work hard to make sure the time we spend together is both intellectually stimulating and personally fulfilling.

When you're focused on understanding how things are in practice, the learning curve never runs out.



RBB economists are original thinkers and have an entrepreneurial spirit.

We provide our economists with ongoing support and the opportunity to develop ideas and take responsibility for important workstreams.

We nurture economists at all levels to take on the challenges presented by the rapidly changing modern economy. You'll engage directly with clients, legal advisors, and competition authorities. At more senior levels you will be encouraged to develop your own portfolio of new clients.

RBB is a relatively flat structure, not a rigid hierarchy. All staff have daily contact with partners. People progress rapidly when they seize the opportunities they're presented with.

You will build
relationships and
responsibilities from
the day you start.



We form multi-disciplinary teams to meet the needs of each case. They're tailored in size and sector experience. RBB economists don't specialise in a particular industry.

We will help you develop your skills as a practitioner of real-world economic reasoning, from building econometric models and drafting expert witness reports to oral advocacy and client relationship management.

Funding for specialist courses can be provided, including sponsoring employees' MSc studies to deepen their knowledge and skills. We also facilitate secondments to RBB offices around the world.

We favour candidates who demonstrate concise communication and a collaborative approach.



Full time positions

There's no deadline for applications or fixed quota for new joiners. So, wherever you are based and regardless of the time of year, we encourage online applications.

We seek outstanding, motivated economists with strong academic credentials and an interest in industrial organisation.

If you meet our criteria, we'll invite you for a two-stage interview, where we'll test your real-world application of economics, as well as your ability to express yourself orally and in writing.

Internships

Each summer across our offices, we offer short internships to candidates who are considering a career in competition economics once their studies complete.

An RBB internship can result in permanent positions either at the conclusion of the placement or on completion of studies.

For more information and to apply online visit rbbecon.com/careers.

WORKING AT RBB

Insights



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I have had the pleasure of working on a diverse range of cases, including those beyond the borders of South Africa. Collaborating with teams spread across our global offices has allowed me to broaden my horizons and gain insights into various jurisdictions and their specific competition law challenges. This exposure has been instrumental in my professional development.



Rirhandzu joined the Johannesburg office in May 2021, after a year and a half of working at the Competition Commission of South Africa.

“I got to know about RBB through one of the merger cases I worked on at the Competition Commission. I was extremely impressed with the economic report prepared by RBB, so I decided to do some research on the firm. When I made the decision to transition into consulting, I sought an organisation that not only excelled in competition economics but also provided a welcoming and supportive environment. I found exactly that at RBB.

From the moment I joined the firm, I was warmly welcomed into the office by my colleagues, who have consistently demonstrated their commitment to teamwork and collaboration. Our inclusive and friendly atmosphere fosters a sense of belonging.

One memorable experience at RBB was the associates off-site, where all associates from different parts of the world came together to engage in teambuilding activities, learn about the history of RBB, and discuss some of the prominent cases the firm has worked on. I got to work at the London office for a week, which was very exciting because it was my first time in the UK!

I am truly grateful to be part of the RBB family. Everyone is invested in your development and is always happy to assist. Our personal and professional growth is not only encouraged but celebrated, which shows how valued each employee is.”

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I'm happy to say it is not all work and no play at RBB. At a Christmas party in London and at an off-site weekend in Bournemouth I got to meet colleagues from all the other RBB locations. It is great to really get to know the people you work with daily in other offices, it really does make RBB feel like one big firm that just happens to be split across 14 offices.



Oula joined RBB in 2022, having previously worked at the Finnish Competition and Consumer Authority.

“I started at RBB after a year and half at the Finnish Competition and Consumer Authority. For me the move to the private sector meant possibly taking a very different perspective to some familiar questions. Before starting and even for a short while after my first day, I felt a little uncertain about the move, what would working in economic consultancy mean in practice, would I have to compromise on professional integrity in favour of clients? Now I'm very happy to say that those doubts vanished very quickly, and at RBB I can stand proudly behind the work I do together with my colleagues.

While I joined RBB to be part of the new Helsinki office, I didn't actually start my RBB journey there! I first spent about six months in Brussels, where I was warmly welcomed by my new colleagues. My time in Brussels was a great induction to the firm and the industry. I am happy to have had the opportunity to spend time in a lively office with great colleagues, including other recent starters who could guide me through the new joiner experiences and partners who had a wealth of experience to share.

Now I'm back to Helsinki where we have just opened the new RBB premises. It is a very exciting time and I really feel like I can make an impact, whether it is by figuring out our new ways to work at the office, setting up the office space itself, or by participating in industry events as one of the local faces of RBB. I'm looking forward to the next steps here in Helsinki, to strengthen our presence in the Finnish competition scene as well as increase our numbers by recruiting a few more inquisitive and motivated economists. And I can't wait to organise our first local social event, ice swimming anyone?”

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After internships in asset management and economic consulting, I began to develop an interest in more niche areas – particularly competition economics and related subjects like microeconomics, industrial organisation and econometrics. Joining RBB has given me the opportunity to build on my knowledge of economic theory, giving it the real world context needed to solve challenging business problems.



Jasmine joined the London office in October 2018, after graduating from the University of Cambridge with a Masters in Economics.

“During my Masters, I attended a presentation by RBB, introducing recent cases and giving background to the day-to-day working of the firm. Afterwards, I had the chance to chat with the presenters and, along with my classmates, engage in some lively debate and discussion. This experience was typical of the friendly and collaborative environment I've come to know since starting here – where any questions can be asked and my opinion is always welcomed.

Once I'd decided to apply for a role at RBB, the interview process was smooth and swift, and I also got a lot of help with my visa application. Before starting, I was invited to an informal lunch. Getting to know some of my colleagues in a more relaxed setting really helped my first day seem less daunting. The office is very sociable. Coming from China and settling into life in a new city, I really value the close connections with my colleagues.

I have had the opportunity to work on varied cases across a range of industries and senior team members are both trusting of my contribution and supportive when I need it. Working on a Chinese case, with a smaller team, has been a particularly rewarding challenge for me. I have been fully involved in all aspects of the project from data analysis, drafting, external communications, to the overall strategy – it's exciting to see all the pieces coming together.”

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At RBB, there's scope to work in different offices around the world. I'd always wanted to gain experience of working abroad and am grateful to RBB for the opportunity to work in its Madrid office.

DEAN CURRY, PRINCIPAL, MADRID OFFICE



Dean joined RBB in January 2013, straight out of university following an undergraduate degree in economics.

“From the moment I joined RBB, I was very keen on the idea of doing a sponsored Masters. The firm had been clear that this was an option, and within a month of me sending a formal enquiry by email, it was confirmed: I would be completing a one-year Masters in Economics on an English-taught course in Barcelona.

The year abroad was amazing. The course itself involved a lot of group work with people of different nationalities and backgrounds, which meant everyone had to become very adept at explaining economic theories and arguments. It built on and enhanced my undergraduate learning, and enabled me to acquire new cultural and professional insights. I also learned a new language. It was a deeply enriching experience on a number of levels.

Returning to RBB, I immediately felt more confident in my day-to-day dealings with colleagues and clients. And six months after I got back, I was promoted – it wasn't all down to the Masters, but I think the confidence it gave me definitely helped.

Without doubt, studying and working abroad broadens your horizons. I have now gone back to Spain to work in RBB's Madrid office. I'm very grateful to RBB not only for sponsoring my studies but also their flexibility and support when I moved to Spain.”

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Following my international transfer from London to Melbourne, I've been helping RBB explore emerging markets in the Asia-Pacific region. In China, it's all about developing the market for competition economists and establishing RBB's reputation and prospects in the market. To be given the responsibility and trust to break new ground overseas, has been really challenging and exciting.



Yan worked in the London office for several years before moving to Australia in 2008.

“Once I'd expressed a desire to move abroad, the firm was quick to approve my transfer, which is something that might not happen in a larger organisation. In fact, the move was seen as a great opportunity for RBB to tap into China and other Asian markets, and I was given the green light to help set up a new office in Melbourne.

The firm was hugely supportive during the transition, and we quickly recruited a local partner and began to establish ourselves in the region. Of course, I continue to work closely with my colleagues in other offices around the world, following RBB's integrated model whereby we all collaborate across projects and time zones.

Such a major relocation definitely has its challenges, but overall it has been a really valuable experience. The chance to gain exposure to new overseas clients, authorities and jurisdictions has been beneficial in terms of my professional development. I particularly like the scope and complexity of the work out here, and the idea that we're expanding into new markets with long-term future potential is very satisfying indeed.”

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For someone interested in competition economics, RBB is the place to be. Since joining, I've worked across many different sectors and advised before the European Commission and other competition authorities. Here you have the opportunity to get involved in interesting, high-profile cases from the beginning – the only limitations you'll encounter are those you set yourself.



Joan joined RBB in 2011, having previously worked for the economics-focused think tank Bruegel.

“At RBB, career development can be very swift. From the start, you're directly involved in discussions with partners, clients and lawyers. Gaining such valuable early exposure certainly accelerates your learning. The firm's flat structure also means you work with colleagues at all levels.

When I started, I focused more on data analysis and commentary. I then turned to managing the day-to-day development of cases, writing reports and maintaining regular contact with clients and lawyers. Now I direct the economic analysis on high-profile cases before the European Commission. All through this process I was allowed to find my own path, while receiving guidance and encouragement from senior colleagues.

I particularly enjoy that there's no such thing as a typical day here. The sectors we work in change constantly, so no matter how senior you are you'll always be challenged intellectually. In my experience, working with motivated people in an ambitious, flexible and friendly environment is what makes RBB such a rewarding place to work.”



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