

Helder Vasconcelos

Partner, Brussels & Lisbon



Helder Vasconcelos is a Partner at RBB Economics. He is also a Full Professor of Economics at the University of Porto.

Helder served as a Member of the Board of ANACOM, the Portuguese Regulatory Authority for Telecommunications and Postal Services, from 2012 to 2017, and as a consultant to the Board of the Portuguese Competition Authority from 2007 to 2011. Recognised for his expertise, he is listed as a recommended leader in the Who's Who Legal directory of competition economists.

Helder has over two decades of experience in competition and regulation, having advised a broad range of clients in both the private and public sectors. Before joining RBB in 2025 he served as Senior Vice President at Compass Lexecon and Head of their Lisbon Office.

His practice covers a wide range of competition issues, with particular expertise in merger cases, Article 101 and Article 102 matters, and cartel damages litigation. Helder has played a pivotal role in several high-profile cases, including multiple follow-on damage claims in Portugal related to the truck cartel and the monoblocs cartel. He has given expert testimony before several competition authorities and has also substantial testifying experience (including in damages litigation) before the Competition, Regulation, and Supervision Court in Portugal.

Helder's academic contributions have had a significant impact on the field. His research primarily focuses on industrial organization, competition policy, and regulation, and his work has been published in leading international economic journals such as the *Economic Journal*, the *RAND Journal of Economics*, the *European Economic Review*, the *Journal of Economics & Management Strategy*, the *Journal of Industrial Economics*, and the *International Journal of Industrial Organization*. He has received numerous honours, including the *International Journal of Industrial Organization Best Paper Award*, both in 2015 and in 2006, as well as the *Industrial Organization Society's Best Paper/Younger Scholar Award* in 2005.

In his previous academic roles, Helder was an Associate Professor at Universidade Católica Portuguesa (2007-2011), an Assistant Professor at Università Bocconi (2003-2007), and a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the *Institut D'Economie Industrielle* (IDEI), University of Toulouse (2002-2003). He also served as Vice-Rector for Relations with Firms, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship at the University of Porto, and as the President of the Board of Directors of UPTEC, the Science and Technology Park of the University of Porto (2018-2019).

He obtained his PhD in Economics from the European University Institute, in 2002.

Selected Cases

Valmet/Neles Merger
Merger, Global

Yokohama Rubber / Trelleborg Wheel Systems
Merger, Global

PVM/ Mondelez
Merger, Europe

Vodafone/Nowo
Merger, Portugal

Meta
Litigation, Netherlands

Trucks
Litigation, Portugal

Millennium BCP and Deutsche Bank
Damages litigation, Portugal

PrimeDrinks
Follow-on damages & Alleged hub-and-spoke coordination, Portugal

SIBS
Alleged abuse of dominance, Portugal

IFood
Abuse of dominance, Brazil

Ambev
Abuse of dominance, Brazil

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