

ISRAEL			
COMPETITION FRAMEWORK			
Competition Law	The Restrictive Trade Practices Law no. 5748-1998 ("Law") was enacted in 1998.		
Competition Authority	The Israel Antitrust Authority ("IAA") started functioning in 1994. Website: http://www.antitrust.gov.il/eng/		
STATUS OF THE COMPETITION AUTHORITY			
Accountability			
Does the Competition Authority have obligations before the executive?	Yes	X	Obligations to report to the executive on on-going investigations upon request.
		√	The decisions of the Competition Authority may be vetoed by a ministry or by the executive branch.
		X	The Competition Authority has to report on an annual basis to the executive.
Does the Competition Authority have obligations before the legislature?	Yes	√	Obligation to publish an annual report on its activities.
		X	Obligation to stand before parliament and to respond to congressmen on an annual basis.
		√	Its activities are monitored by an independent auditor or by oversight committees.
		Other obligations/comments: IAA officials are regularly summoned to report to The Knesset's Economics Committee, as well as other Knesset committees. The State Comptroller also monitors the IAA.	
Does the Competition Authority have obligations before the judiciary?	Yes	√	Decisions of the Competition Authority are subject to judicial review.
		Other obligations/comments: The IAA is subject to review by the Antitrust Tribunal or other competent courts, according to the matter at hand.	
Independence			
Are the criteria for appointment and removal of the head/board members clear and transparent?	Yes	The government appoints the General Manager. The competition law does not set criteria for the appointment of the General Manager, but does set criteria for the appointment of members to the Mergers and Exemptions Committee, which is an internal advisory body.	
Does the executive have powers to decide on specific cases based on public interest?	Yes	See section 52 of the Law.	
Does the executive retain decision-making powers over the Competition Authority?	Yes	The Minister of Industry, Trade and Labor has various powers, such as the power to veto block exemptions issued by the General Director, the power to appoint the members of the Mergers and Exemptions Committee, the power to prescribe regulations pertaining to merger notification thresholds.	
Is the Competition Authority obliged to publish its reasoned decisions to ensure transparency?	Yes		
Is there a provision of the national budget allocated by law to the Competition Authority to ensure its proper functioning?	Yes	Current fiscal year budget for 2012: Approximately of 25.5 million Shekels. Section 41A(c) of the Law provides, <i>inter alia</i> , that the IAA's budget will be set by a separate budget article.	
Can the Competition Authority be financed by its own means (notification fees, fines, etc.)?	No		
GOVERNANCE OF THE COMPETITION AUTHORITY			
Is the Competition Authority governed by a single chairman or by a collegiate body?	Chairman		
Are the heads appointed by a minister?	No		
Are the heads appointed by representatives of more than one government branch?	Yes	The Government upon recommendation of the Industry, Trade and Labor Minister appoints the General Director.	
Is there a fixed period during which removal is prohibited?	No		
Is the tenure of the heads renewable?	Yes		
Are the heads required to have certain minimum qualifications (degree in law or economics, age, experience)?	No		
ARCHITECTURE			
Is the Competition Authority a stand-alone agency with an independent physical location or is it part of a bigger entity such as a minister?	Stand-alone agency.		
POLICY-MAKING AGENTS			

-DIVERSIFICATION-			
How many agencies are responsible for competition enforcement?	One agency.		
Do sector regulators have competition policy enforcement mandate?	No		
Have the Competition Authority and other agencies signed protocols or memoranda of understanding?	No		
POLICY DUTIES			
Does the Competition Authority have exclusive mandate on competition or multiple mandates?	Exclusive competition mandate	X	Concurrent consumer protection mandate.
		X	Concurrent IP mandate.
		Other mandates: Non.	
PORTFOLIO INSTRUMENTS			
Law Enforcement			
Does the Competition Authority have powers to investigate cartels?	Yes		
Does the Competition Authority have powers to conduct dawn raids at premises?	Yes	For certain premises, a court order is required.	
Can the Competition Authority investigate <i>ex officio</i> cases?	Yes		
Does the Competition Authority have powers to accept leniency applications?	Yes		
Does the Competition Authority have powers to accept seek criminal punishment?	Yes		
Advocacy			
Can the Competition Authority issue opinions on draft legislation?	Yes	The opinions are not binding.	
Is the executive and/or the legislature obliged to request the opinion of the Competition Authority when drafting legislation that may impact competition?	No		
Rulemaking			
Can the Competition Authority issue guidelines or other type of secondary legislation?	Yes	X	Guidelines on the calculation of fines.
		√	Guidelines on merger control.
		X	Guidelines on the economic analysis of abuse of dominance cases.
Research & Reporting			
Can the Competition Authority carry out market studies?	No	The IAA is, however, in the process of setting up a research division.	
Can the Competition Authority report to the legislature on the results of market studies?	No		
DECISION-MAKING FUNCTIONS			
Aggregated Functions			
Does the Competition Authority make the decision to investigate and to prosecute cases?	Yes		
Does the Competition Authority make guilty findings?	Yes		
Does the Competition Authority impose punishments?	Yes		
Is there a single body that carries out the investigation and the guilty findings within the Competition Authority?	Yes		
Can the Competition Authority's decisions be appealed to a court?	Yes		
Disaggregated Functions—Prosecutorial Model			
Are there different authorities that make the decision to investigate and to prosecute cases?	No		
Are disputes presented for decision to a separate entity/tribunal?	No		