

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, SRI LANKA
FACULTY OF LAW
BACHELOR OF LAWS (HONOURS) DEGREE, YEAR III – 2025
FIRST SEMESTER END EXAMINATION

COMPETITION LAW – LAW31209

(2 Hours and 15 Minutes)

Total Number of Questions: 04

Answer any **TWO (02)** questions only.

(Candidates will be penalised for illegible handwriting.)

1. Critically examine the salient features of the United States and European Union models of antitrust/competition law. In your answer, highlight the historical development, key similarities and differences in their respective approaches to anti-competitive agreements and abuse of dominance, influence on market competition, and impact on shaping antitrust / competition law landscape in other countries.

(30 Marks)

2. “While dominant market position in itself is not unlawful, its abuse can significantly distort competition and harm market integrity.”

In light of the above statement, critically discuss the legal treatment of abuse of dominant position in any two jurisdictions of your choice. Substantiate your answer with the relevant legal provisions and case law jurisprudence.

(30 Marks)

3. Three leading suppliers of bottled water in Sri Lanka, Aqua Pure, Blue Spring, and Cool Fresh have simultaneously reduced their supply volumes to major supermarkets, citing ‘logistical constraints.’ However, an internal memo leaked to the media suggests that the companies had met informally and agreed to reduce supply in order to create artificial scarcity and justify a planned price increase. Smaller competitors allege that

this move have excluded them from key retail outlets through exclusive supply arrangements between the three companies and the country-wide supermarket chains.

A consumer rights organisation subsequently lodges a complaint with the Consumer Affairs Authority, alleging that the conduct constitutes an anti-competitive practice aimed at distorting the bottled water market.

Assuming that you are the in-house legal counsel of the Consumer Affairs Authority, advise it on whether this course of conduct falls within the scope of an anti-competitive practice under the Consumer Affairs Authority Act, No. 9 of 2003. In your answer, provide comparative insights from European Union competition law to support your analysis and enhance clarity.

(30 Marks)

4. Write short notes on **any TWO (02)** of the following:

- (a) Harmful acquisitions and mergers;
- (b) Intersection of intellectual property rights and competition law;
- (c) State aid control;
- (d) Anticompetitive practices in digital markets; and
- (e) Economic underpinning of Competition Law.

(30 Marks)
