

CARS Postal Market Laboratory

The Laboratory of Postal Market was established on 1st September, 2016 as the research subdivision of the Centre for Antitrust and Regulatory Studies (CARS). The Laboratory fulfils the CARS mission by conducting research on the postal market in Poland and the EU. The activities concentrate on sector-specific regulations as well as competition protection and pro-competitive factors in a market economy. The Laboratory was established as a response to dynamic changes in the postal market, which are important for the wider economy. At the same time, the EU postal market after the liberalization process is still in the shaping phase, which brings a need for an in-depth scientific study.

A number of activities have been undertaken by the Laboratory in recent months. Among the more significant ones is the signing of a cooperation agreement between CARS and the incumbent post operator Polish Post (Poczta Polska S.A.) in November 2016.

The agreement provides a unique possibility to both parties to collaborate and conduct joint research about the postal market. It is worth pointing out that CARS has a similar agreement with the President of the Office of Electronic Communication (UKE), which is the Polish national postal regulator. Moreover, in December 2016, the Laboratory, in cooperation with senior researchers from the Faculty of Management, University of Warsaw, completed an analysis and evaluation of the development strategy of the Polish Post.

The ongoing research includes work on the first commentary on the Polish Postal Law (expected to be published in 2018). Besides, on 28th September, 2017, the First National Postal Conference was held at the Faculty of Management. The title of the conference was “The postal market in a changing world” (pol. *Rynek pocztowy w zmieniającym się świecie*). Conference proceedings will be published in a special edition of *internetowy Kwartalnik Anrymonopolowy i Regulacyjny* (iKAR) in 2017. Moreover, at the end of 2018, we plan to organize an international postal conference. The main topic will focus on the liberalization of the postal sector from the Central and Eastern European perspective.

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