



## Why & What?

International days are observed to secure attention of the society at large on certain specific and relevant aspects of contemporary human development.

Increased awareness and informed public opinion have been formed on a number of issues, once public attention on these issues were focussed by dedicating a certain date of the calendar year around them.

In order to ensure that consumers and producers from across the world realise the potential benefits from an effectively implemented competition regime, and also play their role in making competition regimes work worldwide, it is critical that focus on competition policy and law issues at an international level be strengthened. Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS International) has been advocating for the need to dedicate a day in the calendar as “World Competition Day.”

The International Network of Civil Society Organisations on Competition (INCSOC, [www.incsoc.net](http://www.incsoc.net)), hosted by CUTS International, proposed that the World Competition Day be observed for the first time on December 5<sup>th</sup> 2010.

## Why 5<sup>th</sup> December?

5<sup>th</sup> December is a significant day in the calendar for the international competition community. On 5<sup>th</sup> December 1980, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the United Nations Set of Multilateral Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices (UN Set on Competition Policy). Thus, it is important that the date of 5<sup>th</sup> December, 1980, be remembered and observed each year as the World Competition Day (refer: <https://incsoc.net/thematic-note-for-2020>).

## Themes

A specific theme is identified each year to celebrate World Competition Day on 5<sup>th</sup> December and pursued throughout the year, globally. Below are the themes identified and celebrated since 2010.

<b>International Air-transport Cartels and its Impact on Developing Countries</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> WCD (2010)
<b>Cartels and their Harmful Effects on Consumers</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> WCD (2011)
<b>Adverse Impact of Cartels on the poor</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> WCD (2012)
<b>Adverse Impact of Cartels on the poor</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> WCD (2013)
<b>Competition Issues in Public Procurement</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> WCD (2014)
<b>Competition Issues in Public Procurement</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> WCD (2015)
<b>Linkages between Competition and Intellectual Property</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> WCD (2016)
<b>Re-imagining Competition Policy and Law in the Era of Disruption</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> WCD (2017)
<b>Digital Economy, Innovation and Competition</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> WCD (2018)
<b>Ensuring Effective Competition in an Increasingly Online World</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> WCD (2019)
<b>Competition Policy and Access to Healthcare</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> WCD (2020)

## Actions from around the Globe...

Competition agencies, institutions, CSOs and other stakeholders, etc. organised awareness programmes and various activities to celebrate World Competition Day (Refer: <https://incsoc.net/world-competition-day>).

*Supported by UNCTAD since the year 2012.*

CUTS celebrated WCD (2010), India



Albania Competition Commission celebrating WCD (2011)



The Hungarian Competition Authority held a conference on the impact of cartels on the poor on WCD (2012)



Competition Promotion and Consumer Protection Directorate (CPCPD), Afghanistan witnessed the celebration of WCD (2013)

