



HERBERT
SMITH
FREEHILLS



VERONICA ROBERTS

PARTNER

[London](#)

Veronica is an EU/UK competition law expert (qualified in the UK and Belgium) and leads our global Foreign Direct Investment group.

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BACKGROUND

Based in our London office now, Veronica has 8 years of experience in our Brussels office.

KEY SERVICES

Competition, Regulation and Trade
Foreign Direct Investment

KEY SECTORS

Technology, Media and Telecommunications
Consumer

EXPERIENCE

Veronica has over two decades of experience working proactively with clients to help them secure merger clearances for acquisitions and joint ventures in the UK, EU and worldwide. She also helps clients to deal effectively with competition and regulatory investigations. Veronica also leads our global Foreign Direct Investment group and has significant experience advising on the applicability of FDI regimes.

Veronica advises clients in a wide range of sectors, with a focus currently on telecoms, media, leisure and consumer products. She has extensive experience of working with the CMA, Ofcom, Ofgem, BEIS and the European Commission.

Veronica has been commended for her pragmatic and commercial advice in the major legal directories, including most recently in Legal 500 UK 2022 where she is lauded as “accessible, knowledgeable, pragmatic and very client friendly. One of the more user-friendly partners in the City and great to partner with on large complex deals”.

Veronica's experience includes advising:

- Bharti Group on its acquisition of the satellite company OneWeb jointly with the UK government, including obtaining merger and FDI clearances, and subsequent investments by SoftBank and Eutelsat
- Telefónica SA on the European Commission's Phase II investigation into the £10.25 billion sale of its UK mobile business (O2) to Hutchison Whampoa (the owner of Three in the UK)
- Telefónica UK on the CMA's merger review of the acquisition of Everything Everywhere by BT and also on competition aspects of its network sharing arrangement with Vodafone
- MoneySupermarket.com on the CMA's review and clearance of its acquisition of Decision Tech, its joint venture with Icelolly and general competition compliance advice
- Royal Mail plc on competition and regulatory issues in respect of its privatisation