5th BRICS+ Digital Competition Forum
November 26-27, 2026
FGV Rio de Janeiro

Day 1

9:00 – 9:30 | Welcome coffee

9:30–10:00 | Opening Session

The opening session will introduce the conference's main objectives and thematic priorities. It will also address the importance of cooperation among BRICS countries in the fields of competition policy, development, and economic regulation. The session will provide a common framework for the discussions held throughout the two-day program.

Speakers:

- Nicolo Zingales, Professor of Law and Director, E-Commerce Hub, FGV Rio
- Alexey Ivanov, Director, BRICS Competition Law and Policy Centre, Professor of Law, HSE University Faculty of Law
- Camila Pires Alves, Commissioner, CADE

10:00–11:15| Keynote Session— Competition Policy, Development, and Economic Power in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

The keynote address by Professor Giuseppe Conte will set the broader intellectual context for the event's discussion, mindful of the social, political, and developmental challenges of the current technological and geopolitical era. These challenges include the risks posed by AI and growing disparities in capital distribution, the struggle to achieve greater sustainability and equality, as well as the balancing role of competition policy in the times of social and economic unrest. As second keynote speaker, Professor Thomas Cheng will focus on the more concrete mechanisms that competition authorities could use to address these challenges, drawing the contours of a development-conscious and socially beneficial competition law and policy. The third keynote speaker, Professor Dina Waked will address the role of competition policy in ensuring that benefits from AI are equally distributed, in particular in the developing world.

Moderator: Tembinkosi Bonakele, Ex Commissioner, Competition Commission of South Africa

Speakers:

- Giuseppe Conte, Professor of Private Law, University of Florence, former Prime Minister of the Italian Republic (online)
- Thomas Cheng, Professor of Law, University of Hong Kong
- Dina Waked, Professor of Law, Sciences Po

11:15–11:30 | Coffee Break

11:30 –13:00 | Roundtable 1 — Artificial Intelligence Substitution

This Roundtable will examine how AI is replacing humans in labor and content creation. It will explore the role that competition policy and complementary regulatory efforts may play in creating a level playing field, ensuring that the significant increase in productivity goes hand in hand with responsible use. It will also discuss the extent to which these instruments can be used to promote the development of local ecosystems- with notable examples in journalism, music, and education.

Moderator: Nicolo Zingales, Professor of Law and Director, E-Commerce Hub, FGV Rio de Janeiro

Speakers:

- Jason Aproskie, Principal Economist, Competition Commission of South Africa
- Igor Drozdov, Vice Chairman, VEB.RF
- Paulo Henrique de Oliveira, Chief of Staff, CADE
- Vitoria Oliveria, Consultant, Foxglove
- Natalya Myagchenkova, Russian Corporate Counsel Association
- Vitor Ido, Professor, University of São Paulo

13:00–14:30 | Lunch

14:30–16:00 | Roundtable 2 — Infrastructure Challenges in Digital Ecosystems

This roundtable will examine how digital ecosystems and artificial intelligence systems are transforming market structures, relationships of dependency, and the exercise of economic power. Topics include service integration, access to data, network effects, interoperability, control over AI infrastructure, and the growing concentration of computational resources. The discussion will also address the new enforcement and regulatory challenges faced by BRICS competition authorities.

Moderator: Thomas Cheng, Professor of Law, University of Hong Kong

Speakers:

- Victor Fernandes, Secretary for Digital Rights, Ministry of Justice
- Patrícia Sampaio, Professor of Law, FGV Rio
- João Bezerra Leite, Fintech Advisor, Former CTO, Itaú
- Mikhail Voronin, Head of Antimonopoly Practice, Yango, Lecturer, HSE University Faculty of Law

- Ekaterina Sukhanova, Head of Antitrust Practice, AVITO
- Paulo Furquim de Azevedo, Full Professor, INSPER

16:00–16:30 | Coffee Break

16:30–18:00 | Roundtable 3 — Digital Ecosystems in Food and Agricultural Supply Chains

This Roundtable will discuss the emerging digital power in global agrifood value chains and its implications for competition. From upstream to downstream segments of the value chain, digital platforms are transforming the linear structure of agrifood value chains turning them into ecosystem-like structures often governed by the AI systems. Examples include TRACT and Covantis created jointly by the largest agri-commodity traders, John Deere's vast digital ecosystem tied to its machinery, and Bayer's FieldView precision agriculture platform. These platforms increasingly coordinate relationships among value chain actors and accumulate large datasets that serve as an additional source of value they derive from the value chain. This Roundtable will focus on the potential anticompetitive effects of this massive data accumulation.

Moderator: Dina Waked, Professor, Sciences Po, School of Law

Speakers:

- Lilian Marques, Chief Economist, CADE
- Mahmoud Dodangeh, Vice Chairman, Iranian Competition Council
- Alexey Ivanov, Director, BRICS Competition Law and Policy Centre, Professor of Law, HSE University Faculty of Law
- Ebru Gökçe-Dessemond, Economic Affairs Officer, Competition and Consumer Policies Branch, UN Conference Trade and Development
- Omar Wahban, Head, Market Intelligence Unit, Egyptian Competition Authority
- Tembinkosi Bonakele, Ex-Commissioner, Competition Commission of South Africa

18.00 | Closing remarks

19.00 | Rooftop reception, Yoo2 Hotel

Day 2: DPI Roundtable

9.00 – 9.20 | Welcome coffee

9.20 – 9.30 | Introductory remarks

- Luca Belli, Professor of Law and Director of CTS-FGV, FGV Rio
- Carina Quirino, Undersecretary for Regulation and Business Environment, Municipality of Rio de Janeiro

9.30 – 10.00 | Keynote Session– Towards Greater Sustainability: The Role of Competition Law and Public Infrastructure in Reaching the SDGs

Keynote speaker: Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, Director, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University (online)

This keynote talk will address the much-problematized relationship between competition law and sustainability focusing on the role of competition in ensuring resilience of the global economy. While sustainability has been recently used as a common defense against robust enforcement of competition law, the resulting rise in concentration can lead to unsustainable outcomes. In his keynote speech, Prof. Sachs will reflect on the ways for competition authorities to properly include sustainability considerations into their analysis as well as on the broader role of competition law and public infrastructure development in the sustainability movement.

10:00 -11:30 | Roundtable 4 — Competition in Payment Systems

This Roundtable will address the transformation of payment markets, with particular attention to the roles played by banks, fintech companies, payment platforms, and financial infrastructure providers. Additionally, it will compare the regulatory and competition policy experiences of different BRICS jurisdictions to leverage state-issued digital money alongside commercial bank deposits, stablecoins, and private payment rails. Attendees will gain insights into optimizing interoperability, fostering payment innovation, and navigating monetary sovereignty in an increasingly digital, competitive cross-border environment.

Moderator: Camila Pires Alves, Commissioner, CADE

Speakers:

- Andrés Calderón, President, Competition Law Chamber, Instituto Nacional de Defensa de la Competencia y de la Protección de la Propredad Intelectual
- Bruno Renzetti, Chief of Staff, CADE
- Anna Alekseeva, Professor and Department Chair, Private Law Research Centre under the President of the Russian Federation
- Marina Haddad Tovolli, Manager, LCA Consultores
- Bruna Cataldo, Manager, RGZ Consultancy
- Caio Mario Pereira Neto da Silva, Professor of Law and Director of Hub on Competition and Public Interest, FGV São Paulo

11:30 – 13:30 | Roundtable 5 —Digital Public Infrastructure & Digital Currencies

This Roundtable will examine how payment DPI can promote financial inclusion, competition and innovation while addressing risks of market concentration and exclusion. Discussion will cover the roles of banks, fintechs, payment platforms and public infrastructure providers; vertical integration; barriers to entry; and access to financial data and infrastructure. The Roundtable will also analyze how Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) reshape global financial architecture and private-sector dynamics. Attendees will gain insights into optimizing cross border interoperability, fostering payment innovation, and navigating monetary sovereignty in an increasingly digital, competitive cross-border environment

Moderator: Hannah Draper, DPI for Payments Lead, of Center of Technology and Society (CTS-FGV), FGV Rio

Speakers:

- Luca Belli, Professor of Law and Director of CTS-FGV, FGV Rio
- Ayden Férdeline, Lead, Public Policy and Governmental Affairs, Interledger Foundation
- Mila Sandub, CyberBRICS fellow, CTS-FGV, FGV Rio
- Sizwe Snail, Professor at Nelson Mandel University and former Board member of Inforeg SA
- Getenet Metaferiya, Head, Ethiopian Competition Authority (online)

13:30 – 14:30 | Lunch

14:30 – 16:30 | Roundtable 6 - Commodity and Data Trade: Public or Private Digital Infrastructure?

This Roundtable will analyze the tensions and synergies between state-led digital public infrastructure and proprietary private networks in physical and data supply chains. It will examine data governance, trade facilitation, and technological dependencies to evaluate whether open-access public framework models or customized private platforms offer greater security, scalability, and resilience. Attendees will gain critical perspectives on balancing national digital sovereignty, interoperability, and commercial innovation in global data and commodity markets.

Moderator: Alexey Ivanov, BRICS Competition Law and Policy Centre, Professor of Law HSE Law School

Speakers:

- André Vellozo, CEO, Drumwave
- Nicolo Zingales, Professor of Law and Director, E-Commerce Hub, FGV Rio
- Mohammed El-Beltagy, CEO, Optomatica
- Alexey Koshel, Vice Rector & Professor of Law, HSE University
- Vitor Jardim, Chief of Staff, CADE
- Ettore Maria Lombardi, Professor of Law, University of Florence
- Silvia Fagá, Founding Director, ECOA
- Yasodara Cordova, Researcher, CTS-FGV
- Arthur Sadami, Researcher, CTS-FGV

16:30 | Closing remarks, followed by reception at FGV