



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
HELLENIC COMPETITION COMMISSION**

Athens, 17 July 2017

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Infringement decision with fines addressed to COLGATE - PALMOLIVE group of companies, as well as to companies active in the retail and wholesale trade of supermarket products concerning antitrust violations in the detergents and cosmetics market**

The case concerns an ex-officio investigation in the market for detergents and cosmetics for suspected infringement of national and EU competition law by the COLGATE - PALMOLIVE group of companies, as well as by companies active in the retail and wholesale trade of supermarket products.

The HCC issued an infringement decision addressed to Colgate Palmolive (C-P) and super market chains for anticompetitive clauses in the supply agreements, that led to the prevention of importing C-P products from other Member States, therefore violating Articles 1 and 2 of the Greek Competition Act and 101 and 102 TFEU. In addition the decision found that C-P had abused its dominant position in the market for glass cleaning products, as the compliance to the contractual terms prohibiting parallel imports is inextricably linked to the granting of rebates to its consumers, having as an effect the loss of the rebate, in case the customer failed to comply with the parallel import prohibitive clause.

The HCC by majority vote fined companies - members of the group of C-P with an amount of € 8.671.267 for infringement of Articles 1 of the Greek Competition Act and 101 TFEU and an amount of € 747.518 for violating Articles 2 and 102 TFEU. The HCC unanimously fined companies active in the retail and wholesale trade with total fines amounting to € 1.017.207 for violating Articles 1 and 101 TFEU. An additional administrative fine of an amount of € 400.000 was imposed on C-P for submission of misleading data, obstructing the Directorate- General's investigation.