

## **The CNMC investigates potential anti-competitive practices in the management of rights of visual artists**

- The CNMC is examining whether VEGAP (Visual Entidad de Gestión de Artistas Plásticos) set prices for the individual exploitation of works protected by intellectual property rights in an anti-competitive manner.
- Potentially unfair commercial conditions towards rights holders and users are also being investigated.

**Madrid, 7 January 2025.** The CNMC has initiated a sanctioning procedure against the intellectual property rights management entity VEGAP (Visual Entidad de Gestión de Artistas Plásticos) for potentially restrictive practices of competition in the management of intellectual property rights of visual creators in Spain (S/0002/20).

Specifically, the CNMC is investigating whether VEGAP has established prices for exploitation licences for works requiring the individual authorisation of their owner, thus restricting competition.

In addition, potentially unfair conditions towards rights holders who entrust their management to VEGAP and towards users who contract licences to use these works are being investigated.

After gathering information during the confidential information phase, the CNMC considers that there are reasonable indications that VEGAP may have committed an infringement of Articles 1 and 2 of [Law 15/2007 of 3 July on the Defence of Competition \(LDC\)](#) and of Articles 101 and 102 of [Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union \(TFEU\)](#).

The initiation of these proceedings in no way prejudices the final outcome of the investigation. The CNMC now has a maximum period of 24 months to investigate and hand down a decision on the case.

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