

## Competition Associate - Brussels NQ-5 years' PQE

### Overview

Slaughter and May is one of the world's leading international law firms. It has a leading competition practice as well as an extensive corporate, financial institutions, commercial and financing practice. It also has strong practices in dispute resolution, intellectual property, financial regulation, tax, real estate and pensions and employment.

The firm is organised into groups that undertake a general spread of work, encouraging lawyers to work on an extensive range of matters. Much of the work spans the globe, with transactions involving our offices in London, Brussels, Hong Kong and Beijing as well as leading independent law firms in many other jurisdictions.

The matters we work on are generally challenging and sophisticated. We do, however, aim to give associates as much responsibility and client contact as they are ready for. Junior associates may take the lead either on the matter as a whole or a part of it. We recognise that individuals all need to develop at their own pace so your progress and workload will be continually monitored and reviewed with your mentor partner.

### The Competition Team

We have a reputation as one of the world's leading 'go to' competition law practices and our associates have regular involvement in cutting edge work. These include ongoing Article 101 cartel investigations and high profile cases include Article 102 investigations by the European Commission; acting in relation to the EU and international merger control aspects of major deals; and advising in relation to multijurisdictional follow-on litigation.

### Would you like to join one of the world's most prestigious law firms?

We are offering a competitive salary and benefits package for an ambitious individual to join our Competition team in Brussels.

The group handles a variety of types of work across the competition and regulatory field. We encourage associates to maintain a broader caseload (across both contentious and non-contentious matters) and not overspecialise. As a general guide we would expect about 50% of the workload to be merger work with the remaining 50% being a mixture of cartel, abuse of dominance, state aid, public procurement, regulatory and other contentious matters. We find this leads to greater involvement in clients' broader business interests.

As an associate with us, you can expect to be working with a number of partners in the group at any one time, giving you the opportunity to build relationships across the broader team. Depending on the scale and complexity of the project, you may operate as the single associate on a matter or work as part of a larger team. You will also have the opportunity to develop contacts across the firm: for example, our competition associates regularly work alongside corporate, dispute resolution and intellectual property lawyers, providing clients with integrated legal advice.

There are opportunities to be seconded to our other offices as the group operates out of London, Brussels and Hong Kong. All our associates are encouraged to spend time in one of our other offices at an appropriate time.

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## Key Responsibilities

- Advising on a range of competition law and commercial issues
- Drafting, reviewing and amending the legal and commercial aspects of documentation
- Developing professional relationships with clients
- Supporting the wider team in developing business and raising the profile of the firm
- Managing/supervising the work of others including trainees

## Requirements

- Appropriate level qualification (we anticipate between 0-5 PQE, preferably in a leading international firm, but we will consider all applicants)
- Ability to draft, advise and negotiate in relation to complex transactions
- First rate legal/commercial knowledge
- Strong academic background and a demonstrable high level of intellectual analysis
- Excellent client relationship skills
- Excellent efficiency and transaction management skills
- Ability to develop and work in a fast paced, intellectually challenging environment
- Resilience under pressure with the ability to manage multiple deadlines
- High level of professionalism and integrity
- Exposure across a range of high value commercial and corporate transactions or similar (e.g. advising companies in regulated sectors such as telecoms, energy, broadcasting etc.)

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## International opportunities

The vast majority of the work undertaken by Slaughter and May is international.

English law is often at the heart of a matter so we frequently find ourselves playing a key role project managing the international advisers and bringing all the strands of the matter together.

Our Best Friends network ensures that we and our clients have access to the very best international legal advice which in turn enables us to see more than our fair share of the most interesting global transactions.

Our Brussels office is co-located with five of our European Best Friend Firms - BonelliErede, Bredin Prat, De Brauw, Hengeler Mueller and Uría Menéndez.

## Culture

One of the distinguishing features of the firm is that we do not operate an “hours” culture; we have no targets set by reference to time recording or billing. This enables associates to focus on providing the best possible service for the client. It also helps foster a collegiate and non-competitive culture in which you will feel comfortable both asking for advice and offering support to your colleagues.

We expect a high level of professional commitment during busy periods. However, during the quieter periods, we expect our associates to make the most of your downtime - to get away on time in the evenings, take the opportunity to use the gym a bit more and engage in other social and networking opportunities.

## Your professional development

We run extensive legal and skills training programmes to support all our associates at every stage of their career. This includes training focused on competition law and practice as well as more general legal training and business skills training.

## Our recruitment process

We anticipate this being a three-stage process:

1 <sup>st</sup> Interview	With one partner and a senior lawyer, based on your CV
Assessment	A written assessment will be conducted in parallel to the first interview
2 <sup>nd</sup> Interview	With one partner and a senior lawyer

Slaughter and May is committed to ensuring that our recruitment processes are barrier-free and as inclusive as possible to everyone. This includes making adjustments for people who have a disability or long-term condition. If you have any questions, or require any adjustments to be made to the application process or interview process, please let us know.

Any offer is subject to the firm's receiving a satisfactory report from its third party screening and vetting agency in respect of the successful candidate.