

Competition Law of Iran

Chapter 9: Facilitating Competition and Preventing Monopoly from the Law on the Implementation of General Policies of Principle 44 of the Constitution Law of Iran

Article 43

All natural and legal persons in public, governmental, cooperative, and private sectors are subject to the provisions of this chapter.

Article 44

Any collusion through contracts, agreements, or understandings (whether written, electronic, verbal, or implied) between persons that leads to any of the following effects, thereby disrupting competition, is prohibited:

1. Setting purchase or sale prices of goods or services and determining how they are set in the market, directly or indirectly.
2. Restricting or controlling the quantity of production, purchase, or sale of goods or services in the market.
3. Imposing discriminatory conditions on similar transactions with trading partners.
4. Requiring a counterparty to contract with third parties or imposing contractual conditions on them.
5. Making the conclusion of a contract conditional on acceptance of additional obligations by other parties that are not relevant to the contract under commercial norms.
6. Dividing or allocating markets of goods or services between two or more persons.
7. Restricting the market access of individuals not part of the contract, agreement, or understanding.

Note: Agreements between labor and employer organizations for setting wages and benefits are subject to labor law.

Article 45

The following practices, which lead to disruption of competition, are prohibited:

A - Hoarding and Refusal to Trade

1. Refusing, individually or collectively, to engage in transactions or limiting the amount of goods or services involved.
2. Pressuring others to refuse transactions or restricting their dealings with competitors.
3. Storing or destroying goods, refusing to sell them, or refusing to provide services in a way that leads to artificially inflated prices in the market, whether directly or indirectly.

B - Discriminatory Pricing

Offering or requesting similar goods or services at prices that discriminate between parties or regions, despite identical transaction conditions and shipping or other incidental costs.

C - Discriminatory Terms of Trade

Imposing discriminatory conditions in transactions with different individuals in identical situations.

D - Predatory Pricing

1. Offering goods or services at prices below cost in a way that causes serious harm to others or prevents new entrants to the market.
2. Giving gifts, prizes, discounts, or similar incentives that result in significant harm to others.

Note: Determining serious harm falls under the jurisdiction of the Competition Council.

E - Misleading Statements

Any verbal, written, or actionable statement that:

1. Falsely represents goods or services with specific quality, quantity, grade, description, model, or standard or devalues competitors' goods or services.
2. Represents rebuilt, secondhand, repaired, or old goods as new.
3. Implies post-sale services, warranty commitments, or repeated or continuous service until a specific result is achieved without such facilities being available.
4. Deceives individuals about the price of goods or services that have been or will be sold or offered.

F - Compulsory Sales or Purchases

1. Conditioning the sale of a good or service on the purchase of another good or service, or vice versa.

2. Forcing the counterparty to deal with a third party in such a way that completing the transaction depends on the supply or demand for another good or service.
3. Conducting transactions with a counterparty under the condition that they refrain from dealing with competitors.

G - Offering Substandard Goods or Services

Offering goods or services that do not meet mandatory standards as announced by competent authorities, including those related to use, composition, quality, contents, design, manufacturing, completion, or packaging.

H - Interference in the Internal Affairs or Transactions of a Competing Firm or Company

Encouraging, provoking, or coercing a shareholder, capital owner, manager, or employee of a competing firm or company to act in a way that harms the competitor, including through voting rights, share transfers, disclosure of secrets, interference in transactions, or similar methods.

I - Abuse of Dominant Economic Position

Abuse of a dominant economic position through:

1. Setting, maintaining, or changing the price of a good or service in an unusual way,
2. Imposing unfair contractual terms,
3. Restricting supply or demand to increase or decrease market prices,
4. Creating obstacles to hinder the entry of new competitors or eliminating firms or companies from a specific activity,
5. Conditioning contracts on acceptance of terms unrelated to the contract's subject matter by nature or trade practice,
6. Acquiring capital and shares of companies in a way that disrupts competition.

J - Restriction on Resale Pricing

Conditioning the supply of a good or service to a buyer on acceptance of the following terms:

1. Forcing the buyer to adhere to a set resale price or otherwise limiting them in setting the resale price.
2. Requiring the buyer to maintain a specified resale price for goods or services from the firm or company they purchased from or limiting the firm or company in setting the price in any way.

K - Unauthorized Acquisition, Misuse of Information, and Misuse of Individuals' Positions

1. Unauthorized acquisition and use of any proprietary information of competitors, including commercial, financial, technical, and similar information, for one's benefit or that of others.

2. Unauthorized acquisition and use of official authorities' information or decisions prior to public disclosure or announcement, or concealing them for one's benefit or that of others.
3. Misuse of an individual's position for one's benefit or that of others.

Article 46

None of the directors, consultants, or other employees of a company or firm may hold a position simultaneously in a related or similar activity in another company or firm if the intent is to create restrictions or disrupt competition in one or more markets.

Article 47

No individual or entity may acquire the capital or shares of other companies or firms in a manner that disrupts competition in one or more markets.

Note: The following cases are exempt from this article:

1. Acquisition of shares or capital by a broker or dealer actively involved in buying and selling securities, provided the voting rights of the shares are not used to disrupt competition.
2. Holding or acquiring lien rights over the shares and capital of companies or firms active in the market for a particular good or service, provided it does not result in exercising voting rights in these companies or firms.
3. In cases where shares or capital are acquired under emergency conditions, provided the Competition Council is notified within one month of the acquisition date and that ownership does not continue beyond the period specified by the Council.

Article 48

Mergers of companies or firms are prohibited in the following cases:

1. If, during or as a result of the merger, any of the actions described in Article 45 occur.
2. If the merger results in an abnormal increase in the price of a good or service.
3. If the merger causes high market concentration.
4. If the merger results in the creation of a controlling company or firm in the market.

Note 1: When preventing the cessation of company or firm activities or accessing technical knowledge is only possible through a merger, it is permitted, even if it leads to situations described in clauses (3) and (4) of this article.

Note 2: The scope of high market concentration is defined and announced by the Competition Council.

Article 49

Companies and firms may seek guidance from the Competition Council on the applicability of Articles 47 and 48 to their actions. The Competition Council is required to review each request within one month of receipt and inform the applicant in writing or by secure message. If the Council determines that Articles 47 and 48 do not apply, or if it fails to respond within the specified time, the actions in question will be deemed permissible.

Article 50

Trade professionals subject to the Law on Trade Regulations engaged in the retail sale of goods or services are exempt from this chapter.

Article 51

Exclusive rights and privileges stemming from intellectual property ownership must not violate Articles 44 to 48 of this law. In such cases, the Competition Council is authorized to take one or more of the following actions:

A) Suspend activities or restrict the exercise of exclusive rights, including limiting the duration of such rights.

B) Prohibit the contract party or agreement related to exclusive rights from fulfilling all or part of the conditions and obligations contained therein.

C) Invalidate contracts, agreements, or understandings related to exclusive rights if the measures under sections (A) and (B) are ineffective.

Article 52

Any discriminatory provision of government assistance or privileges (monetary, foreign exchange, credit, exemptions, discounts, preferences, information, or similar benefits) to one or more firms that results in market dominance or disruption of competition is prohibited.

Article 53

To achieve the goals of this chapter, a council called the "Competition Council" will be established. The composition and selection criteria for Council members are as follows:

A - Composition of Members

1. Three members of Parliament from the Economic, Budget and Planning, and Industry and Mines Committees, one from each, selected by the Islamic Consultative Assembly as observers.
2. Two judges from the Supreme Court, chosen by the Chief of the Judiciary.
3. Two prominent economists, nominated by the Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance and appointed by the President.
4. One distinguished legal expert familiar with economic law, nominated by the Minister of Justice and appointed by the President.
5. (Amended on 29/06/2011) Two experts in commerce, nominated by the Minister of Industry, Mines, and Trade and appointed by the President.
6. (Amended on 29/06/2011) One expert in industry, nominated by the Minister of Industry, Mines, and Trade and appointed by the President.
7. One expert in infrastructure services, nominated by the head of the Planning and Budget Organization and appointed by the President.
8. One financial specialist, nominated by the Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance and appointed by the President.
9. One representative selected by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Mines of Iran.
10. One representative selected by the Central Chamber of Cooperatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Note 1: (Amended on 31/10/2007) The Council's Chair will be appointed from among the Council's economic experts in section (3), as recommended by members and with a decree from the President.

Note 2: The Vice-Chair will be appointed from among Council members, as recommended by members and with a decree from the Chair.

B - Selection Criteria for Members

1. Citizenship of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
2. Minimum age of 40 years.
3. A valid doctorate for economic experts and legal experts, and at least a bachelor's degree for commercial, industrial, infrastructure services, and financial experts.
4. No record of convictions specified in Article 62, Repeated, of the Islamic Penal Code or final convictions for fraudulent bankruptcy.
5. At least ten years of relevant and effective professional experience.
6. No record of disciplinary action from clause "D" or higher as specified in Article (9) of the Law on Administrative Violations (approved on 1993/11/28).

Note: With the exception of judges, retirement does not prevent individuals from being selected.

Article 54

To handle expert, executive, and secretarial tasks for the Competition Council, the National Competition Center will be established as an independent governmental institution under the supervision of the President. Its structure will be determined based on recommendations from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance and the approval of the Council of Ministers. Any future changes to the structure of the National Competition Center will require proposals from the Competition Council, approval from the Organization of Management and Planning, and authorization by the Council of Ministers.

Note 1: The President of the Competition Council also serves as the President of the National Competition Center.

Note 2: When staffing the National Competition Center, priority is given to official and contract employees of ministries, agencies, and governmental institutions.

Note 3: The incentive regulations for members of the Competition Council and employees of the National Competition Center will be prepared by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance and approved by the Council of Ministers.

Article 55

The terms, employment, and procedures for addressing misconduct among members of the Competition Council are as follows:

1. The term of office for judicial members is two years, and for other members, it is six years. Judicial members may be reappointed for up to two terms, and other members for one additional term.
2. Those appointed to replace Council members will serve the remainder of the previous member's term.
3. It is mandatory for government and judiciary employees appointed to the Council and appellate board to be granted official mission status.
4. The Chair and members of the Competition Council serve full-time and may not hold other jobs or responsibilities in the public, private, or cooperative sectors.

Note: University faculty members are exempt if they teach no more than their designated teaching hours, as are members listed in sections (8), (9), and (10) of clause (A) of Article 53.

5. Misconduct by Council members and members of the appellate board, excluding the judiciary member appointed by the Chief of the Judiciary, as well as by employees of the National Competition Center, will be addressed according to the Administrative Violations Act. For the judiciary member, misconduct will be handled in judicial disciplinary courts.

Article 56

To ensure the job security and independence of Council members, the following applies:

1. No member of the Competition Council may be dismissed against their will except under the following conditions:
 - a. Inability to perform assigned duties as determined by a two-thirds majority of Council members.
 - b. Convictions outlined in sections (3) and (5) of clause (B) in Article 53.
 - c. Final conviction for misuse of provisions in Articles (75) and (76) of this law.
 - d. Loss of legal competence.
 - e. Unjustified absence from Council sessions exceeding two consecutive months or three non-consecutive months in a year, as determined by a majority of Council members.

f. Violation of duties or restrictions specified in Article (68) and infringement of regulations under Articles (75) and (76), as determined by a Council majority.

2. In cases of voluntary resignation, death, or removal as specified above, the relevant grounds and evidence must be submitted by the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Council to the appointing authority, which is responsible for selecting a replacement within one month in accordance with Article 53.
3. Council members cannot be prosecuted for decisions made or statements given in accordance with their legal duties.
4. The Competition Council has full independence in its deliberations and decisions as outlined in this chapter.

Article 57

Council sessions are valid with a quorum of two-thirds of the members, chaired by the President or, in their absence, the Vice-President. Council decisions are valid with a majority vote of members present, provided it includes at least five votes. Decisions related to Article (61) require the positive vote of at least one judicial member to be valid.

Article 58

In addition to tasks specified in other articles, the Council has the following duties and powers:

1. Identifying anti-competitive practices and exemptions under this law and making decisions regarding exemptions for specific cases as stated in this law.
2. Assessing the market situation and defining the scope of markets for goods and services related to Articles (44) to (48).
3. Developing and issuing guidelines and internal procedures for implementing this chapter.
4. Providing advisory opinions to the government for drafting necessary legislation.
5. (Amended 12/06/2018) Specifying and approving guidelines for price regulation, quantity, and market access conditions for monopolistic goods and services, as per relevant regulations.

Article 59

(Amended 12/06/2018) The Competition Council is obligated to propose the establishment and charter of independent regulatory bodies (sectoral regulators) for markets identified as

monopolistic and in need of such an institution. The Council of Ministers must take necessary legal action to establish the proposed regulator within three months of receiving the proposal. Sectoral regulators can only be established by law and must adhere to the following provisions:

Note 1 (Amended 12/06/2018): The National Competition Center will handle secretarial and support functions for these institutions.

Note 2 (Amended 12/06/2018): The charter of sectoral regulatory bodies must include:

a (Amended 12/06/2018): The scope of the regulator's authority should include:

1. Clearly defining functions and powers transferred from the Competition Council to the sectoral regulator.
2. Ensuring that functions and powers assigned to the regulator are removed from the Competition Council and other agencies.
3. Ensuring sectoral regulators do not act contrary to this law or any previous or future Council resolutions on competition facilitation. The Competition Council is responsible for resolving conflicts, with enforcement mechanisms defined in each regulator's charter.

b (Amended 12/06/2018): The composition and selection criteria of the regulator's members should:

4. Include two judiciary members appointed by the Chief of the Judiciary, to whom some or all powers under Article (61) may be transferred.
5. Include representatives from relevant executive bodies, non-governmental sectors, and legal and economic experts.
6. Meet the structural independence requirements specified in Articles (55) and (56) for Council members, applied to sectoral regulatory body members.
7. Fulfill the conditions listed in clause (B) of Article 53.

c (Amended 12/06/2018): The budget and funding for sectoral regulators should:

8. Allow the government to collect fees from regulated entities and allocate these as exclusive revenues for each sectoral regulator, with annual fee amounts proposed in the budget.
9. Specify the minimum and maximum fee amounts for each sector in the regulator's charter.

Article 60

The authority of the Competition Council for inspection and investigation is as follows:

A - Inspector

The Competition Council is empowered, in the execution of its duties and missions, to inspect enterprises and companies when addressing disputes and cases. This includes the authority to enter premises, warehouses, vehicles, computers, and inspect them, as well as to authorize the examination of economic activities, assets, computers, books, and other documents. The Council's authority extends to attending public meetings and gathering necessary information, including board of directors' resolutions.

B - Investigation

The Council has the authority to conduct investigations related to this law and complaints using one or more of the following methods:

1. Summoning the respondent to the Council or center for investigation.
2. Summoning witnesses or other individuals deemed necessary for addressing complaints.
3. Requesting reports, information, documents, records (either paper-based or electronic) related to anti-competitive practices from natural and legal persons.
4. Inviting experts and specialized institutions to obtain their opinions in the course of investigation and inspection.

Note 1: The Competition Council must seek authorization for investigations and inspections, specifying the scope, from a judge on the Council or one of five judges appointed for this purpose by the head of the judiciary (with at least ten years of experience). The judge is required to make a decision within two weeks, and investigations and inspections can only proceed upon a judge's order.

Note 2: The Council may delegate the investigation and inspection tasks to qualified specialized institutions and experts who have been certified according to specific regulations.

Article 61

If the Council determines, after receiving complaints or conducting necessary investigations, that one or more anti-competitive practices outlined in Articles (44) to (48) of this law have been conducted by an entity, it may, as appropriate, decide on one or more of the following actions:

1. Order the annulment of any contract, agreement, or understanding containing anti-competitive practices under Articles (44) to (48) of this law.
2. Order the cessation of anti-competitive practices between parties to an agreement.
3. Order the cessation or prevention of recurrence of any anti-competitive practices.

4. Issue public announcements to increase market transparency.
5. Order the dismissal of directors appointed in violation of Article (46) of this law.
6. Order the transfer of shares or capital acquired in violation of Article (47) of this law.
7. Mandate the suspension or annulment of any merger violating the prohibition in Article (48) or require the division of merged companies.
8. Order the return of excess income or confiscation of assets obtained through anti-competitive practices under Articles (44) to (48) via competent judicial authorities.
9. Order a business or company to refrain from specific activities or operations in designated areas.
10. Mandate the revision of articles of association, partnership agreements, or board minutes, or recommend necessary amendments to public-sector company charters to the government.
11. Require businesses and companies to maintain minimum supply and price range standards in monopolistic conditions.
12. (Amended 29/06/2011) Impose fines ranging from 10,000,000 to 1,000,000,000 rials for violating the prohibitions under Article (45) of this law.

Article 62

The Competition Council is the sole authority for addressing anti-competitive practices and must initiate investigations either independently or based on complaints from individuals, including the Attorney General or local prosecutors, the Court of Auditors, the General Inspection Organization, sector regulators, governmental organizations, trade unions, consumer rights organizations, and other non-governmental organizations. The Council must set a hearing date for complaints and notify the parties involved. The parties may attend the hearing in person, appoint a representative, or submit a written defense to the Council.

Note: Violations outlined in Chapter 8 of the Trade Law, if disrupting competition, will be addressed under this law. In case of disputes, they will be resolved by a committee composed of one Council member chosen by the Council chair, one representative from the Supreme Supervisory Board per Article (53) of the Trade Law, and one representative chosen by the Minister of Justice. The majority decision of this committee is final. This committee is located within the Ministry of Justice.

Article 63

(Amended 13/03/2018) All decisions by the Competition Council and sector regulators per Article (59) are subject to appeal within 20 days of notification for domestic entities and two months for

foreign entities. In the absence of an appeal within this timeframe or upon confirmation by the Appeals Board, these decisions are final.

Note: If a Council decision is deemed of general public importance, it must be published in a widely circulated newspaper at the expense of the party found guilty.

Article 64

The location, composition, eligibility criteria, and decision-making process of the Board of Appeals are as follows:

1. The Board of Appeals, headquartered in Tehran, is composed of the following members:
 - a. Three Supreme Court judges appointed by the head of the judiciary.
 - b. Two economic experts, nominated by the Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance and appointed by the President.
 - c. (Amended 29/06/2011) Two experts in commercial, industrial, and infrastructure activities, nominated by the Minister of Industry, Mining, and Trade and appointed by the President.
2. Members of the Board of Appeals must have at least fifteen years of relevant and productive experience. Other criteria for the selection of members, their term of office, employment regulations, removal, and procedures for addressing misconduct, as well as job status, hiring standards, and compensation, will be as outlined in clause “b” of Article 53 and Articles 55 and 56 of this law.
3. Decision-making procedures for the Board of Appeals are as follows:
 - a. Decisions by the Board require the approval of the majority of its members. However, for appeals under Article 61 of this law, the decision must also have the consent of at least two judicial members.
 - b. The Board may delegate investigation and inspection tasks to qualified specialized institutions and legal or natural persons accredited under specific laws.
 - c. The Board can annul, confirm, adjust, or amend the decisions of the Council as necessary or make an independent decision.
 - d. Decisions made by the Board of Appeals, as specified above, are final and enforceable.

4. The Board of Appeals may invite the parties involved in the dispute to provide explanations. The parties or their attorneys, at their discretion, may appear in person or submit a written defense to clarify matters during the hearing. Otherwise, the Board will make a decision based on the documents and evidence in the case file.

Article 65

Decisions of the Competition Council, except for those under clause “12” of Article 61, are enforceable upon notification to the concerned party, and an appeal under Article 63 does not prevent enforcement. However, the concerned party may request a suspension of enforcement from the Board of Appeals simultaneously with or after filing an appeal, pending the Board’s decision. The Board of Appeals will promptly consider this request and may, with appropriate security or guarantee, order the suspension of the Council’s decision.

Article 66

Individuals or entities harmed by anti-competitive practices mentioned in this law may file a petition in a competent court for damages within one year from the finalization of the Competition Council or Board of Appeals’ decision on such practices. The court, adhering to the provisions of this law, will only proceed if the plaintiff attaches a copy of the final decision of the Competition Council or Board of Appeals to the petition.

Note: When the decisions of the Competition Council or the Board of Appeals are general and published in widely circulated newspapers after finalization, affected third parties may file a petition with the competent court by obtaining a certificate from the Competition Council affirming that the decision applies to them. Compensation orders are contingent upon providing this certificate. Upon the plaintiff’s request for this certificate, the court may suspend proceedings until the Council responds. The Council shall process such requests out of turn.

Article 67

The Competition Council may act as a complainant in all violations specified in this law and request from a competent court the resolution of any harm caused to public interests.

Article 68

Duties and restrictions for members of the Competition Council, the Board of Appeals, and staff of the National Competition Center are as follows:

1. Prohibition from Participating in Decisions in Certain Cases

Members are prohibited from participating in sessions and decision-making on cases specified in Article 91 of the Civil Procedure Code for Public and Revolutionary Courts in Civil Matters. Any decision made in violation of this clause, leading to direct or indirect personal benefit or exemption from duties for the member, is null and void.

Note: If any Council or Board members are barred from participation due to the above restrictions, the Council or Board of Appeals will request a replacement from the nominating body.

2. Duty of Confidentiality

Members of the Competition Council, the Board of Appeals, and the staff of the National Competition Center, or any person who previously held such positions, are prohibited from disclosing or using confidential information about businesses or individuals obtained in the course of their duties for personal or third-party gain.

3. Prohibition on Commenting Before Decision-Making

Members of the Competition Council, the Board of Appeals, and staff of the National Competition Center may not express opinions in writing or verbally on violations of businesses, companies, or individuals under this law before a decision is made.

Article 69

The Competition Council is obligated to make rules, regulations, and instructions related to this chapter accessible to the public and to compile and publish an annual performance report on the implementation of this chapter.

Article 70

Final decisions by the Competition Council or the Board of Appeals shall be enforced by the civil enforcement unit of the judiciary, as applicable.

Article 71

The Executive Regulations related to this chapter, including the methods for inspections, investigations, record-keeping of inquiries, and handling complaints, shall be drafted by the Competition Council and approved by the Cabinet within a maximum of six months.

Article 72

(Amended 2019/11/03) – Any person who makes false statements for the purpose of obtaining certificates or permits under this chapter or during proceedings concerning anti-competitive practices, whether in the inspection and investigation stages or in withholding information, documents, or records that could influence the decisions of the Competition Council or Board of Appeals, as well as anyone who submits false or forged documents to these entities, destroys, alters, or distorts any information or documentation related to anti-competitive practices, shall face imprisonment from three months to one year or a fine ranging from 40 million rials to 402 million rials, or both.

If false statements or documents result in obtaining a certificate or permit under this chapter, the court may also annul said certificate or permit upon the request of the affected party, in addition to imposing the penalties specified in this article.

Article 73

(Amended 06/04/2016) – Any expert whose testimony or opinion is requested under this chapter and who gives false testimony affecting the decisions of the Competition Council or the Board of Appeals will be sentenced to imprisonment from one to three years or a fine from 119 million rials to 1.192 billion rials, or both.

Note: In addition to the above penalties, false testimony is subject to punishment under the Islamic Penal Code.

Article 74

Anyone who submits a false complaint to the Competition Council or Board of Appeals with the intent to damage the commercial or professional reputation of businesses, companies, managers, or owners, if found groundless after review, will be sentenced to compensate damages and face imprisonment from six months to two years or a fine equal to the damages caused, or both.

Article 75

(Amended 06/04/2016) – Anyone obligated under this chapter to maintain the confidentiality of company or business information who discloses or uses such information for personal or third-party benefit shall face imprisonment from six months to two years or a fine ranging from 159 million rials to 1.59 billion rials, or both, and will also be liable for any damages resulting from the disclosure.

Article 76

(Amended 06/04/2016) – Any member of the Competition Council, Board of Appeals, heads, or employees of the National Competition Center, or any of their affiliates who misuses the provisions of this law to harm the financial interests or commercial reputation of individuals or entities, will face imprisonment from three to five years or a fine ranging from 198 million rials to 1.985 billion rials, or both, in addition to compensating for damages.

Article 77

Violations of clauses “1,” “2,” and “3” of Article 68 of this law are considered disciplinary offenses, and offenders, in addition to the penalties specified in this law, will be prosecuted in one of the designated bodies mentioned in clause “5” of Article 55.

Article 78

(Amended 06/04/.2016) – Anyone obstructing the investigations and inspections by officers and inspectors of the National Competition Center will face a fine from 19 million rials to 79 million

rials. Continued obstruction will incur an additional fine of 3 million rials for each day of obstruction.

Article 79

Penalties for legal entities are as follows:

1. If any crimes outlined in this chapter are committed by legal entities, their managers at the time will face the same penalties specified for individuals.
2. If the crime committed by the legal entity results from intentional misconduct or negligence by any of its employees, the employee will also bear criminal liability under this law.
3. If any managers or employees of the legal entity can prove the crime occurred without their knowledge or that they made every effort to prevent it, or that they immediately reported the crime to the Competition Council or other authorities upon discovery, they will be exempt from punishment.

Note: If damages require compensation and the articles of association or individuals involved dictate so, the legal entity will be jointly liable with the individuals specified in this article.

Article 80

Claims for damages under this law require filing a petition with the competent court.

Article 81

If other laws prescribe heavier penalties for the offenses specified in this chapter, those heavier penalties will be applied.

Article 82

The crimes mentioned in Articles 72 to 78 of this chapter shall be processed out of turn in public prosecution offices and courts according to current laws and this law.

Article 83

Law enforcement officers are required to cooperate with the Competition Council, Board of Appeals, and the National Competition Center in enforcing this law.

Article 84

Monetary penalties outlined in this chapter will be adjusted every three years based on the Consumer Price Index announced by the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with adjustments proposed by the Competition Council and approved by the Cabinet.