

## Abstract (EN)

This thesis deals with the EU competition law enforcement in the transport sector towards private undertakings. Specifically, air and rail transport are focused at as they represent convenient examples on which it can be demonstrated how the EU manages to cope with the liberalization process and apply the competition rules to these sectors. The main research question of the thesis is what specific features can be observed in the decision making of the Commission and Court of Justice of the EU regarding the competition rules in the transport sector, specifically air and rail industry.

This thesis is structured as follows. In total, it includes six chapters, introduction, four main chapters and the conclusion. The first main chapter is devoted to the EU transport policy as the goals of the transport policy, the liberalization process and its main characteristics are described. Specifically, the main milestones in the creation of single European transport policy in the transport sector are presented and the main obstacles in the liberalization process in the airline and rail sector are discussed. Moreover, the chapter also deals with the relationship of ex ante regulation and ex post competition rules.

The second chapter focuses on the analysis of the competition rules enforcement in the air sector. More specifically, it focuses on the analysis of aspects that the Commission and the Court of Justice of the EU take into account when applying the competition rules to the air sector. It also reviews the case law in terms of the goals of the EU competition policy and the liberalization process. Similarly, in the fourth chapter the analysis of competition rules enforcement in the rail sector is done.

In the last chapter, specific features in the application of competition rules in the air and rail industry are summarized. The conclusion is that the Commission handles the decision-making regarding the competition threats in the airline and rail industry quite well. It seems that it uses the competition law as an efficient tool in order to complement and support the liberalization process in both industries.

**Key words:** competition law, air and rail transport, liberalization of air and rail transport