In Ireland, Competition Law has been enforced since 1996 as part of the Criminal Law regime. As such, it radically diverges from the EU model of civil/administrative enforcement. Recently, Hong Kong enacted competition law which adopted the prosecutorial/judicial model of enforcement. The speaker’s research examines the underexplored topic of whether the overtly similar Competition Law models in Hong Kong and Ireland truly seek to address similar concerns or whether there are significant differences? Answering this question entails researching from an external vantage point on why the Hong Kong legislature chose the atypical model. Furthermore, it prompts analysis of the significance of the divergence from the global trend towards civil/administrative enforcement models. Her research aims to challenge the prevailing orthodoxy in the EU that civil/administrative models are better than prosecutorial/judicial models. This research project is funded by a competitively awarded grant from the Irish Research Council.

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