



NEWSLETTER



Global Trade Update

There is a developing consensus leading up to the G7 in May in Hiroshima that there is a need for like-minded countries to face head on the threats posed by Anti-Competitive Market Distortions (ACMDs). Some call the threat economic coercion (as Japanese trade minister Nishimura just did in a speech in DC on January 5th), some call it market distortions that impact competition as USTR Katherine Tai did in a speech to the Council on Foreign Relations on Dec 21 last year. It is likely that we will see much more concerted work aimed at China market distortions over 2023. This is likely to be carried forward by the US, EU, UK and Japan in various forms. The new Republican House of Representatives under new Speaker Kevin McCarthy is also likely to prioritise the issue and there is momentum for specific Commissions to look at these issues.

The rise of protectionist legislation such as the US's Inflation Reduction Act has also triggered complaints from the US' trading partners and it is likely that similar legislation in all countries will trigger trade tensions in 2023. The EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Measures (CBAM) will also trigger concerns from a number of trading partners around the world as different countries come up with their own mechanisms to deal with the impact of carbon intensive trade.



UK Trade and Border Management Update

UK Border Management is moving forward with a commitment from the government towards a Single Trade Window, Best Border 2025 and the SPS Trusted Trader Platform being worked on by DEFRA. Competere is involved with the consortia engaged in these different platforms and government programmes.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT- BOOK LAUNCH

2023 Mar

Book launch. [Trade, Competition, Domestic Regulatory and Policy, by Shanker Singham](#)

Shanker Singham's new book on trade, competition and domestic regulation will deal with anti-competitive market distortions will be launched on March 7th, 2023. The book contains a detailed, academically robust roadmap for any government that seeks to grow its economy through more open trading arrangements, competitive markets, and property rights protection. Shanker's co-author, Alden F. Abbott said:

“Government-imposed measures that distort competition reduce global prosperity by undermining welfare-enhancing trade. These “anticompetitive market distortions” generally fall outside the scope of national trade and antitrust laws. The just-released volume *Trade, Competition, and Regulatory Policy* highlights how reforms to international trade agreements could help tackle those distortions, and advocates for a free market-oriented approach to antitrust, trade, and regulation to keep the distortions in check. This important text provides a “positive sum” framework for governments to enhance national prosperity in a manner that benefits wealth creation worldwide. “



Recent Activities

2022 Dec

Book launched: [Market Distortions in Privatisation Processes, by Shanker Singham](#)

Shanker Singham’s book on market distortion and privatisation was published in December, 2022. It deals with case studies involving UK privatisations, as well as other privatisations around the world and assesses how effective they have been in delivering competition.

2022 Nov With Competere Advisory Council member, Lord Hugh Trenchard, we advised a number of Japanese officials and ministers in the run-up to the G7 meeting in Hiroshima in May, 2023.

2022 Nov

Shanker Singham testified to the European Scrutiny Committee at UK Parliament: Regulating after Brexit – Participated on panel of trade experts questioned about the impact that trade deals signed after Brexit, particularly the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA), have on the UK’s ability to regulate freely.

Oct 2022 Presentation at Conservative Party Conference on Trade Policy with Trade Policy Minister, Conor Burns

July 2022

Helped launch Conservative Friends of America (CFOA). We are delighted to be supporting CFOA a group of parliamentarians from both sides of the Atlantic focused on sharing ideas and building support for free market and free trade principles.

June 2022

Wilton Park: Renewed Conflict in Europe and the Role of Wilton Park, Shanker Singham has spoken at another of Wilton Park conferences and is currently a member of the Advisory Council to Wilton Park to guide the FCDO’s executive agency in its work programme.

Dec 2021

Distortions Presentation to Trade Remedies Authority. Shanker Singham was chosen to be the Inaugural Speaker to the newly established Trade Remedies Authority on the subject of market distortions.

Templeton Liberty Freedom Awards Dinner, Miami. Shanker Singham was the lead author of Plan A Plus which was one of six nominees (and the only UK nominee) for the Templeton Freedom Award as making a significant contribution to economic freedom in the world.

Nov 2021

COP 26. Shanker Singham was a speaker at COP26 on trade-based approaches to the climate change challenge.

IBMATA, Brussels – Freeports. Shanker Singham is a regular speaker and has been appointed onto the Advisory Board of the International Border Management and Technology Association. He has spoken on trade, customs and freeport issues.

Margaret Thatcher Conference on Trade, London, CEO, Shanker Singham was asked to speak at the Margaret Thatcher Conference of the CPS, a prominent think tank founded by Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph in the 1980s. He spoke on a panel with UK Chief Trade negotiation advisor, Crawford Falconer, and former USTR, Susan Schwab.

Oct 2021

Consultation: Reforming the framework for better regulation. Competere fed into the consultation of the BEIS department on a framework for better UK regulation. Shanker Singham also presented his views to The Independent Task Force on Growth and Regulatory Reform, led by Iain Duncan Smith, George Freeman and Theresa Villiers.

Appointment to Associate Fellow of the Commonwealth Policy Network

Conservative Party Conference, Manchester Shanker Singham addressed the Conservative Party Conference Institute for Economic Affairs event on trade policy.

Appointment to the new TAC. Having served as a commissioner on the first Trade and Agriculture Commission, Shanker was one of only three TAC members to be reappointed to the new Trade and Agriculture Commission.

Wilton Park: State of Play: Resetting UK-German Strategic Relations and Possible Futures. Shanker Singham has spoken at a number of Wilton Park conferences and has been appointed a member of the Advisory Council to Wilton Park to guide the FCDO's executive agency in its work programme.

Sept 2021

Trade Preference Scheme for Developing Countries consultation. Competere has fed into the UK government's request on how its trade preference programmes should work now that the UK has left the EU and no longer needs to be part of the EU's GSP programmes

Aug 2021

India consultation. Competere has fed into the UK government's request for consultation on a potential trade deal with India.

Mar 2021

Appointment to Technical Barriers to Trade Working Group. We are proud that our CEO, Shanker Singham was appointed onto the Technical Barriers to Trade Working group of the Department of International Trade of the UK Government.

Feb 2021

Launch of Competere Advisory Council. Building on the work of the Special Trade Commission which advised the UK government on its trade policy, the Competere Advisory Council has supplemented the trade policy experience with regulatory reform and border management capabilities which will assist all countries in growing their economies and spurring wealth creation at a crucial time in the global economy.

Dec 2020 – Present

TSS / Smart Freight / Anglesey Freeport / Competere continues to provide the customs and trade policy leadership to the Trader Support Service and to the UK's border management initiatives including freeports.



INTERVIEWS/ARTICLES

2023

2023 Jan TV: GBNews: (The Briefing with Tom Harwood) Rishi Sunak pledges to cut 4000 pieces of EU law from UK statute books | Shanker Singham discusses
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5BPU2_47rl

2022

Nov: TV: [The TWO THINGS Jeremy Hunt's Autumn Statement NEEDS to focus on | Shanker Singham](#)

Nov TV: GB News: (Nana Akua show) Does the Chancellor's Autumn Statement benefit you?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pi2Bp7618zE>

TV: GB News: Deal with India threatened by Braverman's comments about migrants.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d8HNXgOod28>

Oct: Halfon is Right, the Conservative party must return to social justice.-Reaction
<https://reaction.life/halfon-is-right-the-conservative-party-must-return-to-social-justice/>

Aug What should the next PM's core priorities be?-CapX
<https://capx.co/what-should-the-next-pms-core-priorities-be/>

August The competition debate is back-and going down the wrong path could have dire consequences.-CapX
<https://capx.co/the-competition-debate-is-back-and-going-down-the-wrong-path-could-have-dire-consequences/>

August Why its wrong to claim the Australia deal was bad for British farmers.-CapX
<https://capx.co/why-its-wrong-to-claim-the-australia-deal-was-bad-for-british-farmers/>

August Will Boris Johnson's successor follow his wise advice? Reaction
<https://reaction.life/will-boris-johnsons-successor-follow-his-wise-advice/>

July Why Can't We Treat China like France-Reaction
<https://reaction.life/why-we-cant-treat-china-like-france/>

July Tweaking taxes won't do: the next pm needs a sweeping programme of economic reform.-CapX
<https://capx.co/tweaking-taxes-wont-do-the-next-pm-needs-a-sweeping-programme-of-economic-reform/>

July What we need from UK's next prime minister.
<https://reaction.life/what-we-need-from-the-uks-next-prime-minister/>

June The WTO has given the green light to a two-tier drugs system.-CapX
<https://capx.co/the-wto-has-given-the-green-light-to-a-two-tier-drugs-system/>

June The WTO must take great care before weakening intellectual property rights.-CapX
<https://capx.co/the-wto-must-take-great-care-before-weakening-intellectual-property-rights/>

June Britain's bill of rights is not only good policy but sound philosophy.
<https://reaction.life/britains-bill-of-rights-is-not-only-good-policy-but-sound-philosophy/>

- March A Four Point Plan for Rebuilding the Global Network of Liberty-Conservative Home
<https://conservativehome.com/2022/03/14/shanker-singham-a-four-point-plan-for-rebuilding-the-global-network-of-liberty/>
- April Why India matters to the UK and the fate of the west.-CapX
<https://capx.co/why-india-matters-to-the-uk-and-the-fate-of-the-west/>
- April Britain is still a nimble power on the world stage-Ukraine has proved it.
<https://reaction.life/britain-is-still-a-nimble-power-on-the-world-stage-ukraine-has-proved-it/>
- March Imposing the ideals of the woke left on businesses is bad for Britain and the world.-CapX
<https://capx.co/imposing-the-ideals-of-the-woke-left-on-businesses-is-bad-for-britain-and-the-world/>
- 2021**
- Dec [Today's signing of the UK-Australia deal symbolises a new economic era for global Britain – Conservative Home](#)
- Nov Britain can counter China by helping the developing world trade its way to growth.-CapX
<https://capx.co/britain-can-counter-china-by-helping-the-developing-world-trade-its-way-to-growth/>
- Nov [Shanker Singham tells all about his views on farming and trade – Farmer's Guardian](#)
- Nov [Shanker Singham: Trade remedies. Beware of the capture of new regulators by producer interests - so thwarting future trade deals – Conservative Home](#)
- July [EU leaders told they are violating Good Friday agreement by treating NI as 'member state' – Express Online](#)
- July [EU contempt laid bare as border checks delays blamed on bloc's 'absurd political move' – Express Online](#)
- July [The Dimpleby food plan would wreck Britain's trade policy – Conservative Home](#)
- July [EU cracks showing after EFTA countries side with Brexit Britain on key treaty](#)
- July [EU's accession to CPTPP branded 'impossible' in huge blow to Brussels – Express Online](#)
- April [TV: The Future of UK-India Trade - Shanker Singham](#)
- March [Shanker Singham: Breaking the Gordian knot of agricultural trade negotiations. How the TAC has risen to the challenge – Conservative Home](#)

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