

COFECE-045-2017

COFECE Announces Research and Essays Awards

- *The winning essays address themes that are both current and of importance to competition in Mexico, such as the energy and financial sectors, as well as the digital economy.*
- *The award-winning research works stand out for their methodological rigor in the analysis of the tools set out in the competition regulatory framework.*
- *64 research works from 13 institutions in 8 countries, and 232 essays by students from 83 universities participated in the calls for papers.*

Mexico City, October 19, 2017.- The Federal Economic Competition Commission (COFECE or Commission) announced the winners and honorable mentions of the Research and Essay contest. The essays presented by university students address current issues of great relevance for competition in Mexico – such as energy, financial markets and digital economy. The award-winning analyses are noteworthy for the scope of their research of the competition regulatory framework, which include abuse of dominance analysis, barriers to market entry, individual sanctions and setting fines.

COFECE's Essay Awards aim at arousing interest in competition policy among university students, as well as encouraging professional's commitment to competition culture. 232 essays written by students from 83 Mexican universities were submitted to the second edition of this Award. Members of the jury awarded:

First place: *"Hydrocarbons Tenders in Mexico: A Comparative Experiment"*, by Cristian Yair Cortés Juárez, from the Center of Research and Teaching in Economics (CIDE).

Second place: *"Profitability Determinants in the Mexican Banking Sector: Market Power or Efficiency?"*, by Juan Pablo Hernández Reyes, from University of Guadalajara.

Honorable mentions: *"What Constitutes a Side in a Platform Market?"* by Juan Wences Rivera, CIDE; and *"The Benefits of Competition in Education in Mexico"* by Camilo Arias Martelo, from Ibero-American University.

COFECE's Research Award aims at promoting the specialized analysis of the functioning of markets among the academic community. 64 research works from 13 institutions in 8

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countries participated in this call. The jury, made up of representatives of prestigious public and private academic institutions, awarded:

First place: *"Discounts as a Barrier of Entry"*, written in co-authorship by Juan Pablo Montero, Enrique Ide and Nicolás Figueroa, from the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile.

Second place: *"Optimum Individual Sanctions for Collusive Agreements"*, written by Francisco Castillo Cerdas, from the Center of Research and Teaching in Economics (CIDE).

Honorable mentions: *"The Regime of Barriers to Competition in Mexico: A Tool of Complementary Competition to Achieve Economic Benefit"*, by Sara Gutiérrez Ruíz de Chávez, King's College London, and *"Fine Setting in Mexico and the European Union: Are Guidelines Desirable?"*, by Linda Miranda Ramírez, from the University of Leiden.

Prizes and recognitions will be awarded on October 31st, during *Mexico's Competition Day 2017: economic competition and challenges in the digital economy*.

COFECE will continue promoting both the interest in the field of economic competition of future professionals as well as the development of innovative research and knowledge generation useful for the work of this Commission. We hope the academic community participates in future activities.

[See essay award report here](#)

[See research award report here](#)

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A BETTER MEXICO IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

The Federal Economic Competition Commission is entrusted with safeguarding competition and free market access. Through this, it contributes to consumer welfare and the efficient functioning of markets. Through its work, COFECE seeks better conditions for consumers, greater output, better services and a "level playing field" for businesses.