

## Cofece investigates a possible unlawful concentration in the real estate services market

- *For its contribution to Mexico's economic growth and its impact on household welfare, the real estate services sector is a priority for Cofece.*
- *Within the real estate sector, the marketing services of classified real estate advertisements or announcements stand out.*

**Mexico City, October 10, 2023.-** The Investigative Authority of the Federal Economic Competition Commission (Cofece or Commission) initiated an ex officio investigation for carrying out a possible [unlawful concentration](#) in the market for the commercialization of classified real estate advertisements in the national territory.

According to the Accounts System of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography, in 2020, construction and real estate services represented 17.7% of the Gross Domestic Product, and between 2017 and 2020, real estate services grew by 5.5%. Because of its importance for the national economy and its impact on the welfare of the population, this sector was defined as a priority for the Commission in its 2022-2025 Strategic Plan; therefore, Cofece maintains constant surveillance of this sector in terms of the Federal Economic Competition Law (LFCE, by its initials in Spanish).

This investigation (under file IO-001-2023) should not be understood as a prejudgment on the responsibility of any economic agent since up to now no violations to the regulations on economic competition have been identified. If at the end of the investigation, elements that presume a violation of the LFCE are found, those responsible will be called to a trial-like proceeding so that they may present their defense and state what's within their rights.

The Investigative Authority urges any person or organization linked to the classified real estate advertising market in the national territory, if they know or have information that may be relevant to this investigation, to submit it to this Commission.

If anticompetitive conduct is proven, the responsible economic agent or agents could be sanctioned for up to 8% of their income and the total or partial divestment of the possible unlawful concentration could be ordered. On the other hand, those directors who had participated directly or indirectly in unlawful concentrations could be disqualified for up to 5 years and fined up to 200 thousand United of Measure and Update (UMA, per its acronym in Spanish).

With these actions, the Commission reaffirms its commitment to sanction and suppress practices that threaten the national economy and the welfare of the population, guaranteeing competition and free market access.

[Read the Notice of Initiation of Investigation \(In Spanish\)](#)

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### **MORE COMPETITION FOR A STRONGER MEXICO**

*The Federal Economic Competition Commission safeguards competition and free market access.  
Through its work, it seeks better conditions for consumers, that more services are supplied  
with higher quality and that there is a "level-playing-field" for companies.*