

Ratib M. Ali Economist

PhD Economics Boston College

MA Economics Boston College

BSS Economics BRAC University

Ratib Ali specializes in the advanced empirical analysis of antitrust and competition disputes. Dr. Ali was the former economic analyst for the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, Antitrust Division, before moving to the private sector. Dr. Ali's expert support work spans various industries, including aviation, financial instruments, healthcare, technology conglomerates, medical devices, and fine arts.

In an antitrust dispute, a medical device platform-and-consumable manufacturer (with a "razor and blades" model) was accused of tying, foreclosure, and attempted monopolization by third-party consumables manufacturer. Supporting the defendant's expert, Dr. Ali used data and deposition testimonies to define the market and show that the third-party product was inferior; he used econometric analyses to show that the alleged tying did not foreclose any rivals, and that the defendant does not exercise monopoly power.

In a *contract dispute*, beneficiaries of a trust alleged that the trust failed to sufficiently grow the value of the artworks it held. Dr. Ali provided expert support to the defendants; he used data and academic literature to establish that the trust adequately commercialized the intellectual property, and reasonably invested all proceeds from the sale of artworks.

In *United States et. al. v. American Airlines & JetBlue Airways*, Dr. Ali provided expert support for plaintiffs in the investigation phase. Dr. Ali defined the market using data, computed measures of market concentration, and used econometric analyses to predict the upward pricing pressure and consumer harm due to the defendants' conduct. Dr. Ali presented his findings to the Executive Team at Massachusetts Attorney General's Office and other states' attorneys general offices before the plaintiffs filed the lawsuit.



In Colorado et. al. v. Google, Dr. Ali supported plaintiffs' experts by assisting in developing theories of harm consistent with both the economic literature and the many similar investigations against technology conglomerates. Dr. Ali helped draft the complaint and civil investigative demands for data, in addition to developing economic analyses to establish market definition.

In a *criminal price-fixing allegation* against generic drugs manufacturers, Dr. Ali computed the alleged overcharge and harms to consumers, apportioned by state at the NDC level. Dr. Ali helped establish overarching conspiracy by analyzing price data and cellphone records using regression analyses. He also assisted the plaintiffs in drafting proffer agreements.

In an *antitrust dispute*, a nascent competitor in the municipal bonds market alleged that the incumbent orchestrated a group boycott by their common suppliers. Dr. Ali used regression analyses to establish market definition, that the incumbent had monopoly power, that the nascent competitor's innovative product posed a competitive threat to the incumbent, and that the plaintiff's volume of sale declined after the alleged conduct.

Dr. Ali has extensive experience teaching microeconomics for over six years. Dr. Ali currently serves as a Lecturer at Tufts University, teaching intermediate microeconomic theory. In the past, he has taught the first- and second-year undergraduate microeconomics sequence at Boston College and Emerson College, as well as an elective titled Cultural Economics. Dr. Ali won the Donald J. White Teaching Excellence Award while at Boston College.

Dr. Ali completed his PhD in economics with a focus on industrial organization at Boston College. His research revolves around how government regulation informs and impacts firm incentives. Dr. Ali's PhD thesis studied how buyers and sellers of air travel respond to changes in market structure (affected by mergers or government policy reforms). Dr. Ali's PhD thesis was supported by a doctoral grant from the Washington Center for Equitable Growth.



## Project experience (client)

Case	Туре	Market	Venue	Docket
<u>United States et. al.</u> v. American Airlines & JetBlue Airways <sup>§</sup>	Antitrust	Airline	D. Massachusetts	1:21-cv-11558
Colorado et. al. v. Google§	Antitrust	Technology conglomerate	D. DC	1:20-cv-03715
Plaintiff v. <u>Defendant</u> *	Antitrust	Financial instrument	S.D. New York	
Plaintiff v. <u>Defendant</u> *	Antitrust	Medical device	N.D. California	
<u>Plaintiff</u> v. Defendant <sup>§</sup>	Antitrust	Airline	D. Massachusetts	
Plaintiff v. <u>Defendant</u> *	Contract dispute	Fine arts	16 <sup>th</sup> Judicial Ct Missouri	
Plaintiff v. Defendant§	Antitrust	Technology conglomerate	N.D. California	
Plaintiff v. Defendant*	Antitrust	Technology conglomerate	UK Competition Appeal Tribunal	
Plaintiff v. Defendant*	Class action	Transportation	Supreme Ct Victoria, Trial Division	
<u>Plaintiff</u> v. Defendant <sup>§</sup>	Antitrust	Pharmaceuticals	D. Connecticut	

 $<sup>\</sup>S{\mbox{Consulted}}$  on economic models

#### **Publications**

#### **Articles**

"Exploring Professional Development for New Investigators Underrepresented in the Federally Funded Biomedical Research Workforce," (with J. Hemming, K. Eide, E. Harwood, Z. Zhu, J. Cutler, and NRMNCGD), *Ethnicity & Disease* (29), February 2019.

## Working papers

"Effect of Airport Slots in Competition and Antitrust Policy: Evidence from a Recent Merger," 2022.

"'Use It or Lose It' or 'Cheat and Keep'? Empirical Investigation of Compliance with Airport Slot Control," (with V. Sharunova) 2022.

"Effectiveness of Measures of Upward Pricing Pressure in Predicting Price Changes," 2022.

<sup>\*</sup>Managed expert report, consulted on economic models



### **Selected presentations**

"Effectiveness of Measures of Upward Pricing Pressure in Predicting Price Changes," Equitable Growth Grantee Conference, September 2022 (discussant: Ying Fan).

"Effect of Airport Slots in Competition and Antitrust Policy: Evidence from a Recent Merger," Equitable Growth Grantee Conference, December 2020 (discussant: Nathan Miller).

"Competitive Effects of Mergers with Regulatory Divestiture of Assets: Evidence from the Airline Industry," University of Rhode Island, Graduate Student Conference, April 2017.

#### Grants, honors, and awards

Doctoral Grant Recipient, Washington Center for Equitable Growth, 2019 Donald J. White Teaching Excellence Award, Boston College, 2018

## **Past positions**

Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts. 2023 – Lecturer. Intermediate Microeconomic Theory

The Brattle Group, Boston, Massachusetts. 2022 – 2023

Associate. Antitrust & Competition

Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, Boston, Massachusetts. 2020 – 2022 Economic Analyst. Antitrust Division

Emerson College, Boston, Massachusetts. 2019 – 2020
Affiliated Faculty. Principles of Economics, Cultural Economics

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. 2016 – 2020
Research Assistant. 2018 – 2020. Research Services
Lecturer. 2016 – 2019. Microeconomic Theory, Micro Principles, Macro Principles

# Other professional activities

Referee, Journal of Economics & Management Strategy

Last updated: April 3, 2024