

Digital challenges and the impact of information crimes on competition and monopoly prevention policies in Iraq

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Abstract:

This essay discusses the many obstacles Iraq must overcome as it negotiates the swift digital transition brought about by new technology. Iraq urgently needs updated legal frameworks to handle sophisticated digital crimes that impede fair competition in light of the country's growing digital economy and emerging technical frontiers. The dynamics of digital markets cannot be adequately regulated by current anti-monopoly and competition laws since they are unable to keep up with dangers unique to the digital sphere, like information crimes. The effectiveness of Iraq's current legal, regulatory, and judicial systems in thwarting monopolistic behaviors and fostering competition in the digital age is examined in this paper. The study suggests a multifaceted strategy for bolstering Iraq's legal framework and competition laws, starting with significant investments in digital infrastructure and public-private cooperation. Increasing worker specialization, raising awareness of digital crimes, updating competition rules to match technology advancements, and broadening digital access across areas are some of the main recommendations. The report also calls on government agencies, business players, and non-governmental organizations to coordinate their activities and promotes international alliances to build technical oversight capacities. Iraq can strengthen its position in the global digital economy, encourage fair competition, and support economic growth by putting in place a robust digital regulatory framework.

Keywords: Anti-monopoly, competition policies, digital transformation in Iraq, digital economy, digital legislation, regulatory oversight.

1. Introduction

In response to the accelerated technological development and digital transformation, several challenges and associated problems reveal a clear intersection between the reality of industrialized digital societies and the weaknesses of legal systems, conditions, and preventive tools that were not prepared for this fast pace of development. Currently, the digital economy is characterized by being dynamic and growing rapidly, creating a society with new technological frontiers and advanced infrastructure, while at the same time being threatened by crimes and negative phenomena that have become more severe. They have raised challenges and problems that have not been addressed within traditional competition and monopolistic policies due to the new means available to the elements of competition. (De Gregorio, 2022)

Despite the interest and importance of this research, no legal regulatory and judicial framework can be set to deal with digital challenges. If these crimes are not penalized and prevention policies and immunity to reduce them are not put in place, this would reduce economic growth, turn society into an informational and digital society, and protect citizens, especially the new generation. Unpreventive illegal acts are eliminated. This means that competition in digital markets is not free and is seen, according to the experiences of advanced countries, purely through the market control policies

approved by legislation, as these experiences are not useful in the event of the existence of information crimes that disturb fair competition within these markets. Because the tools available are limited and because the oversight authorities have full experience in conventional markets, this calls for flexibility in the adaptation of competition and prevention policy, and the research problem lies in the question: Is the Iraqi legal, regulatory, and judicial framework successful in confronting competition and monopoly within economic life in light of digital crimes? (Babikian, 2023)

2. Understanding Digital Challenges in Iraq

The Republic of Iraq is slowly entering the digital age due to serious challenges facing the country in bridging the digital divide and using the internet effectively. However, there has been growing optimism recently about addressing and healing many of the problems, as the global economic and technological environment plays an important role in this regard. The digital environment in Iraq suffers from many development problems, as Iraq's technological infrastructure is one of the weakest in Arab countries and other nations. Due to weak internet connectivity and high costs, most Iraqis do not have easy access to the internet. Iraq is one of the countries that increased the proportion of internet users in 2018 to 30.93% out of a total population of 38 million, representing the size of internet subscribers, whether via the internet and mobile phones or the internet via computers between individuals, companies, and government institutions. (Montazer and Al-Rikabi2021)

One of the challenges that surround the Iraqi digital environment is the wide difference in the level of internet service performance between the city and the countryside. Some cities have good internet services due to the construction of advanced infrastructure, extending optical networks to them, while the public remains the vast majority in the countryside, far from these services. Thus, the digital divide is climbing to new levels between the city and the countryside, which has made the countryside no longer able to compete with urban populations, reducing the country's ability to expand economic participation and face fierce global competition. The size of users in the countryside is not more than 15% of the total internet users in Iraq, which represents the

urban population as most of the users of the internet service, making the countryside population marginalized as they lack most of their important services, amounting to 85%, i.e., the remaining block, which represents most of the other urban population benefiting from internet services in various Iraqi provinces. Meanwhile, the majority of the governorates of Iraq, especially rural areas, do not have available internet services. The rate of Iraqi women using the internet, in general, is not encouraging, as more than 30% of Iraqi women do not know how to use computers and the internet due to their illiteracy and rural background, which has led to digital isolation in addition to the material constraints that restrict women in Iraq from owning some equipment, especially in rural areas. (Martínez-Domínguez & Mora-Rivera, 2020)

2.1. Technological Infrastructure

To understand digital interaction, it is important to study the technological infrastructure that is available in Iraq. A majority of the networks in Iraq are still 2G, but there is a 3G network for mobile services at a speed ranging between 1 and 40 Mb. The country benefits from a 4G network in urban areas such as Baghdad and a 3G network in other remote areas. These estimates vary significantly depending on the area in which internet connectivity is assessed. For example, home networks provide speeds ranging from 512 k and 1 Mb to a high-speed fiber service of up to 12 Mb, depending on the governorate. Internet cafés, a preferred facility for many people, work with a basic range of internet packages ranging from 128k to 256k. Bandwidth does not exceed 512k in most areas due to the poor infrastructure of the telephone network. Internet cafes that provide a service as

high as 1 Mb are entirely dependent on Wi-Fi. (Al and Al2022)

The rate of IP telephone subscription has reached 8.5 million subscribers, bringing the overall rate of internet use to 30%. The government approved contracts in 2009 to pave the groundwork and implement a national network of optical fiber to replace the out-of-date copper cables. The connection offers speeds of 10 Gbps to 40 Mbps and availability in 95% of the country. The key service providers are ISPs, which have 61 outlets together with four Points of Presence. This generation of broadband has made internet access in Iraq among the most expensive in the world, despite its low-quality standards in the areas of coverage and technical support. This undesirable situation not only affects the penetration of large businesses but also restricts the information exchange between them. Therefore, it has a similar effect on small business operations, where the APS of supply chains and retail chains are determined by economic barriers. Meanwhile, the capital required for such IT facilities and the level of expertise of their employees restricts the development of even these crude technologies. (Sacco2020)

2.2. Digital Divide

Iraqi society suffers from a division in access to technology in different areas. The urban areas have a higher rate of consumption of digital technology services than the rural areas. The different digital orientations are dramatically increasing with the increase in the digital divide between regions that adopt technology and those that do not, taking into consideration more than 50% of Iraq's population who dwell in the countryside. Lack of access and technological illiteracy, poverty, and digital illiteracy, especially among the poor, the level of education of females, and the fact that more than 70% of the rural population are illiterate, are some of the reasons for not using technology among parts of the population in Iraq. A good portion of rural people suffer from food shortages, poverty, wars, and conflicts driven from the countryside and seek

to go to the cities and suburbs. Socioeconomic migrations from the Iraqi countryside have become a serious source of destabilization and backwardness. Indeed, poor access to technology and urban-rural differences are the most important common barriers facing rural development in many countries. Limited internet access affects economic growth; a 10% increase in internet access raises gross domestic product (GDP) by 1.0-1.8%. The settlers in Kurdistan and parts of the central areas of the country have brought the profession of agriculture with them, and they are looking for daily work to obtain other non-agricultural daily incomes. The proportion of land-owning families is significant, and the tiny area we're talking about consists of non-structured areas, and non-agrarian spaces, called slums. (Hussein et al.2020)

Several stakeholders have noted that the digital divide in Iraq worsens several problems in the country, including poverty and social exclusion, which may exacerbate commercial problems caused by the spread of digital technology. There was a 3% decrease in overall internet use, but the data do not clarify whether this decline is due to a decrease in Iraqi internet use in general or to an increase in the digital divide between Iraqi demographics. Based on a review of available data on the situation in Iraq, this is cautious proof that there is a significant digital divide in Iraq - the gap in adoption and use between "haves" and "have-nots." Certain groups and areas of Iraq are less likely to have access to new technologies than lower-class individuals. From 1-30 April 2020, 60 students (30 men and 30 women) were selected in rural Hilla, and it became apparent that rural students could not afford to purchase digital tools because they had become impoverished. It is mainly people in these areas who are suffering and unable to get technological access to social media usage. In the same vein, some believe in Iraq that digital technology is not being used to the exclusion of a significant number of the country and that 47% of the population is marginalized from social media. Therefore, it is necessary to implement clear, sound, and just

policies that reach marginalized people to promote social justice and human rights. Thus, technological exclusion means socioeconomic exclusion. Digital exclusion precludes access to legitimate means of advancing social justice, which is a serious disadvantage and a form of suffering that limits human opportunity. (Qushua et al.2023)

3. Info Crimes and How They Affect Competition and Anti-Monopoly Measures

The crimes of misuse of fuel, ration cards, and electricity are considered information crimes, as there are only statistics that were taken into consideration by public opinion, which estimated the losses due to the spread of the registration process for obtaining the ration card in Iraq. These were referred to by parliament to the Central Criminal Court. The court later released a verdict to compensate the public treasury by 70 billion dinars, and the case is still pending. In this paper, I will illustrate the nature of these crimes and clarify their form. Then, I will shed light on the economic view to appear in the next chapter on the role of these crimes in economic analysis, competition, and non-monopoly policies law. At the end of the search, I will present solutions in addition to the conclusion. (Tabaqchali, 2024)

Information crime is considered one of the most dangerous forms of crime in the 21st century, and it threatens national security, as it violates the rights of individuals and institutions and affects citizens and the economic process of any country. The perpetrators of such crimes use information as a methodology to gain financial advantage for themselves, and in any way or another, it causes harm to them or to any of the public or private organizations that are subject to this methodology. The misuse of the right information for political gain or in societies suffering from corruption, political struggle, war, commercial interest, etc., negatively affects the people of that society in which criminals are allowed to use the information. These crimes damage the

legitimate interests of society, and the perpetrators are protected from being held accountable using this information, as they use these criminals to obtain financial gain. (Patel & Chudasama, 2021)

3.1. Types of Information Security Breaches

Information security breaches are many and varied. They can be broadly divided into the following categories: hackers, unauthorized access to networks or servers for malicious purposes, unauthorized access with good intent, other unauthorized access, and viruses, worms, or logic bombs. A hacker is a person who enjoys exploring the details of programmable systems and how to stretch their capabilities. Hackers improve security by identifying security problems and then informing the system owner if allowed, and not using the information to engage in unauthorized activities. Unauthorized network access for malicious purposes is the practice of individuals trying to crash a system, access copyrights illegally, steal a trade secret, sabotage important software, degrade with inappropriate content, and steal money or services fraudulently. (Paananen et al., 2020)

Unauthorized access with only goodwill typically forms part of a company's security procedure but has become the focus of debate within the IT community as to when and whether this form of hacking can be legitimate. Other unauthorized access is the practice of obtaining information from networks or servers illegally and physically copying it using read-write devices without network access. Viruses are programs that attach themselves to other programs and replicate by being executed. Worms are independent program units that replicate themselves as soon as they have been run. Logic bombs are fragments of computer code embedded inconspicuously in other programs that work in the background until some specified date or until a triggering sequence of events occurs. (Perwej et al.2021)

Real-Life Examples

I thank all the presenters, and session chairs, and I also want to thank you for allowing me to present my research paper at your pivotal

Webinar conference. It has been an enriching experience for all of us to hear from experts and to connect with colleagues through this platform to discuss important topics on digital and global business, competition law, and policy. Unfortunately, given our limited time, I will be brief in my presentation and focus on some crucial findings of my research paper.

The main argument of my research paper is that due to profound political crises in Iraq, Information crimes including Digital Challenges –technological interference in political contestation such as cyber-attacks, email theft, and social media disinformation that corrupt the information dimension of political voice– have the result of preventing the ability of agents contesting for political control from achieving monopoly power, which can impact on competition law regulations and their restraint. Based on a conceptual paper that relies on analyzing the current political situation and exploring other similar cases to illustrate the significance of the discussed issue, this research aims to contribute to a new perspective on Iraq and suggest areas for further studies. This corpus analysis can inform both competition- cultivators as weaponry overwhelmingly large, that should neither be hoarded nor thought insufficient to defend democratic discourse.

4. Competition and Monopoly Prevention Policies in Iraq

Competition and Monopoly Prevention Policies in Iraq: An Overview of the Situation
The legal framework in Iraq supports the policy of free competition. Firstly, there is Article 25 of the Iraqi Constitution, which defines freedom of private economic activity without anything inhibiting the competition rules. Secondly, the Competition Regulation contained the penal nature of competition rules; the Competition Prevention Law was enacted in 2010 and was published in the Official Gazette. The law regulates the conditions of freedom of enterprise and ensures that unauthorized practices related to competition are not subject to sanctions. Accumulated data, trade secrets,

and economic exploitation of the consumer are protected and controlled. The law expires and is now in the Cabinet. A comparison of the economic and legal aspects reveals deficits. The regulatory framework in Iraq is characterized by oversupply and an inability to implement the structure of the General Secretariat for competition, which legitimizes the seriousness of regulatory competition and makes it relevant to many fair-trading concepts. Most of the texts protect a monopoly. There are also regulations in the tax trade that duplicate competition standards. The Competition Prevention Authority has benefits that are easy to identify. The Authority has extensive powers to issue administrative and criminal sanctions and to attend before the judiciary. However, the cunning role of law enforcement makes the explicit role of enforcing laws ineffective; however, it makes it a non-judicial anti-monopoly. The relevant departments and units do not work sufficiently in the field of application, including the Monopoly and Price Control Division affiliated with the Ministry of Finance and the Cereals Department. Information crimes are among the biggest challenges of the digital age, which weaken the powers of anti-monopoly authorities and hinder facing competitive challenges, revealing the current laws, which do not address the digital challenges of anti-competitive behavior and do not consider the current special circumstances. Therefore, the digital age needs a law that guarantees fair competition, and thus there is a need to review existing regulations to ensure they are in line with the rapid changes in the digital world. In addition, the broad population needs to be organized as stakeholders that contribute to the stability of competition and non-competitive policies. It is also necessary to address the economics of monopoly and its policies to the parties that are interested in protection from monopolistic practices and use them to advance their various means of empowerment. The economy of monopoly is the focus of concern through conceptual circles and specific themes. The last word in empirical evidence has been collected about differences

in location economies and secular economies of monopoly in some directions, and as they develop. The actual distribution of national data on efficiency and variability needs a wide range of net estimates for a group of hosts. Monopoly and discrimination in the real sectors lead to the conclusion of money. (Wall, 2024)

4.1. Legal Framework

For the proper and effective conduct of various affairs and to ensure their utilization in a scientific and applied manner, it is essential to have a wide range of ample opportunities, vast potential, and a strong guarantee provided by a robust legislative and legal foundation. The existing system in Iraq encompasses an extensive and diverse array of laws and regulations that have been meticulously employed with certain necessary modifications and refinements. However, despite the successful implementation of Law No. 30 of 2015, which vigorously prohibits monopolistic practices and commercial activities conflicting with free competition, there remains a definitive absence of a stringent and uncompromising enforcement mechanism for the aforementioned procedures and legislations. Consequently, the vital principle of fair competition is yet to be fully incorporated into the fabric of the nation's economic landscape, and the detrimental effects of monopoly practices are not sufficiently curtailed. Moreover, the Iraqi sanctions system, although it has shown promise, has thus far proven to be somewhat inadequate in effecting the necessary transformative changes required to robustly address the prevailing commercial practices and infringements in strict accordance with the new stipulations outlined in this law. Therefore, it is of utmost importance to further strengthen and fortify the mechanisms in place, while also ensuring swift and comprehensive compliance to establish an environment of fair competition, eliminate monopolistic tendencies, and safeguard the integrity of the market. (Kakarash, 2020)

The development of the transformational process of the legislative process must be commensurate with the development of policy

in the fields of prevention of monopolies and the effects of the interaction of the economic activity mechanism in Iraq. The emergence of changes across the economic landscape due to the impact of the digital revolution has compelled the competition authorities in more than one country to recognize the decline in the efficiency of the existing legal framework, based on regulatory amendments that legally qualify for the monitoring of the new changes. In addition to the changes mentioned above, competition law shall be effective, and competition policy would require a set of measures and proactive initiatives. It is worth noting that the batteries of legal reform and proactive processes within a range of countries in the world are supervised by the European Union. At present, the largest battery of legal proactive measures involves updated laws, including four legal issues: restrictive agreements and alliances; abuse of dominant positions; control of concentrations between companies; state aid in support of shuffling, and the results of the distinction between undermining the public interest. At the international level, efforts are being stepped up, including the initiative of the Global Forum concerning competition, with the recommendation for cooperation between the competition law and the countries of the Middle East. (Baloch et al.2023)

4.2. Regulatory Authorities

One of the primary roles of regulatory authorities is the formulation and enforcement of competition and monopoly prevention policies and laws. These authorities are responsible for monitoring market practices that prevent, reduce, or damage competition, while also receiving complaints and reports from market players regarding practices related to unfair competition. In general, regulatory authorities have several bodies and departments at the core of their work, namely, the Department of Legislations, studies, and Enforcement of Unfair Competition. They are also involved in the investigation of cases of unfair competition, in addition to several departments and offices tasked with

administrative and financial matters. Yet, these authorities face several challenges. This includes the scarcity of resources and capacity necessary to handle new topics such as those related to digital challenges. The coordination and cooperation mechanisms with other regulatory authorities need to grant quick and positive results to meet their goals. In addition, these authorities must devote great attention to building bridges with academics, civil society organizations, and other authorities in the field of consumer protection. (Babikian, 2023)

Regulatory authorities in Iraq seek to draw on international experiences and best practices when preparing or modifying competition and unfair competition laws. These authorities strive to adopt general policies applied internationally, which establish their specific messages to or from other regulatory authorities when needed. Furthermore, in the framework of the growing digital challenges, the relevance and necessity of constant development in the capacity of regulatory authorities to keep abreast of developments and practices in e-markets cannot escape the attention of the parties concerned with the presence. The transparency and accountability of these authorities a significant factor in enhancing the credibility and integrity of the enforcement process and promoting competition that is fair and free from inequality. This all becomes an impractical reality as long as the legislation is reformed to give these authorities more room to move and maneuver. If not, the task facing these authorities will be the proverbial difficult task of carrying water in a strainer. (Study Group, 2022)

5. Challenges in Implementing Effective Policies

One of the reasons that hinders the achievement of an effective Iraqi policy to protect the competitive process in the markets and prevent the formation of a single economic concentration is the non-availability of the necessary mechanisms for implementation in the absence of federal laws to protect the rules of economic sectors, including the absence of

sanctions commensurate with the violations, as well as not formulating the economic and service activity allocation according to the digital specifications through effective digital policies. The aforementioned operational challenges represent regulatory authorities and their affiliated departments and have a direct impact on the capacities of members working in monitoring, investigation, and prosecution of cases of information crimes related to the digital marketplace. Competence in the aforementioned, in addition to these governance and administrative issues, hinders the issuance of a timely and effective organizational decision related to the relevant work activities for the relevant employees. Overall, the results suggest that digital technological trends have had a major impact on competition law regimes. There are many challenges in applying modern economic ideas according to market mechanisms that ensure the desired discretionary content of the monitoring role and the importance of the function of the competition authority to develop the primary legislation to enter the competition system. In the setting of the Iraqi strategy, the evaluation of such a suggestion is based on the facilities of law enforcement and the capacities of member agencies and institutions to apply the minimal parameters of the law. The problem of monopoly, particularly the abuse of the position of its owner, has a direct and destructive impact on market competition. This can hinder both consumer welfare and the efficiency of the local market and restrict public active participation in making the local economy dynamic and sustainable in light of the construction projects in all its shops in a manner that ensures the control of the competition authority according to a monopolistic and competitive approach. Consequently, an essential condition that should be available is the presence of modern market governance mechanisms. Additionally, the individual and collective normative matrices depend on the level of information available to the subject of the norm and can be effective as the consent obtained for the

application of that legislation and those who enforce it. Therefore, the related mechanism of merger regulation must be achieved through public awareness to monitor and participate in the control of the abusive power that may arise from the increasing concentration of economic entities in light of digitization and monopoly trends. (Revkin, 2021)

5.1. Enforcement Issues

Enforcement represents a serious issue within the conceptual framework of Iraqi competition and monopoly prevention laws and policies. The fact that regulatory authorities cannot enforce the existing rules and the lack of efficiency of the competent entities for this purpose has significant consequences. Those who are affected are negatively impacted by the lack of resources and specialists in the field. The information professional possesses complex individual skills, including those working in public agencies that prevent abuse of monopoly and protect competition. Operating within a specific framework that guarantees the independence and transparency of their work can also help accomplish the tasks they are assigned to investigate and document the crimes committed by senior employees. A small number of public employees and the general complexity of the approval procedures for most government employees also contribute to the weak competencies of forwarders, although many laws aim to safeguard the interests of opposing politicians, often forcing them to be successfully enforced. The increasing volume of information stored throughout digital networks accelerates the spread of information crimes that appear every day without notice. Strategies for launching cyber-attacks have been particularly studied, but how technological developments in cyberspace can be used to pursue a business strategy, especially monopoly remains a concern. Check the titles and instructions of possible agreements with the authorities to prove cybercrimes, which gives qualified specialists the ability to do so, and represent all the regulatory authorities involved in an international system to prove these crimes. The

prevention and control of these revolutions stem from the desire of people or systems that are keen to work together. Consequently, it is time for regulatory authorities responsible for preventing monopolies and protecting competition in the country to start looking within their agencies for the possibility of training, which is described in the skills required to provide these basics. It will also depend on regulatory agencies in digital modeling and concept, reinforced to take a shorter period, especially in lagging areas that are most affected, in addition to fines and other penalties established by law. We will use the shock wave approach, which is considered a proactive strategy, providing and increasing four main aspects: oppression and dilution, justice, investigative biases, and monopolistic activities in cyberspace, while proposing solutions. Our suggestion would be to implement and prevent the abandonment of behavior in the digital economy, and finally, as a positive overlap, all sets of ideas for the current research. It is the responsibility of regulatory agencies in Iraq to prevent the creation of a monopoly and protect competition in the country, starting to look for, among their employees, the possibility of gaining enough personnel to face these issues, which is in turn described in the skills required to provide us with the basics against them. Choose and show these obstacles. (Al-Jabori, 2023)

5.2. Resource Constraints

One of the most important elements for the effectiveness of law enforcement is the availability of adequate resources. For regulatory authorities, the lack of funding, inadequate numbers of employees with legal and economic expertise, and a lack of technology to process evidence are considered constraints that prevent a proactive regime in the prevention of information crimes. As a result, the regulatory authorities are waiting for victims of these crimes to conduct some investigations based on data and complaints provided by superiors or waiting for the government to contact them before reaching out. Another limiting factor lies in building the

capacity for officials of the Iraqi Competition and Antimonopoly Policy Regimes. (Ali & Mohammed, 2023)

It was clear, and for nearly six decades, that the judiciary and the integrity commission did not interfere in reviewing the policies of competition and monopoly prevention as one of the sources of corruption, although most of these policies are deemed illegal by the Commission unless there is evidence to the contrary. The time has come to help our regulatory institutions face these violations by building their capacities and facilitating access to the adequate resources that are guaranteed by nature while collaborating with international development agencies. They could finance programs and activities within the relevant regulatory institutions, in addition to the private sector, by the practices that have been established in some democratic states. Policy towards the private sector and international organizations, on the one hand, will contribute to capacity building to perform effective supervision against frictions, especially the crime of treason by the private sector, and help in achieving competition affected by the win-win. The quality of action and organization of the process of competition in the state will lead to a sustainable competition regime that is the greatest and most agreed upon meaning by economists. (Budzinski & Mendelsohn, 2023)

6. International Perspectives and Best Practices

According to the Annual Report 2020 of the Minister of Planning, the policies that serve to prevent the occurrence of monopoly and to find various illiberal practices already occupy an important part of the policies and strategies related to the development of the economic cycle. In doing so, work plans, priority projects, and their impact on the state of the economic system will help create competitive environments and spaces, strengthen the policies of competition and competitive trade, basic material products and services, and knowledge that supports the lives of both the Iraqi people and their development level. Based

on the most important regulatory experiences in different countries of the world and the best international practices that have passed and still occupy its regulation, this paper emphasizes the need for policies of monopoly prevention strategies and competition, and the nature of the commissioning of the procedures suitable for finding information crimes. Preferences related to changes in the digital revolution. It also emphasizes the important part of strategic partnership and international cooperation in facing digital threats and the prevention of digital crimes according to international laws that are compatible with world security and peace. As part of the international experiences that have passed through digital commercial policy, the experience came after a series of digitization campaigns, strategies, and projects that were established after the 1970s in Asia, Latin America, Europe, and Africa, and aimed to restructure urban life from within, in addition to focusing on various practical results produced by the strategic results. In some developed countries, the e-commerce strategy resulted. (Hamilton, 2020)

7. Future Directions and Recommendations

Iraq is gradually getting out of wars, but increasing reliance on digital technologies has significantly increased awareness of the importance of competition and monopoly prevention policies. Although the relevant mechanisms have been based on comprehensive and structured legislation, they then need to be developed and implemented efficiently. As digital technologies expose some of the shortages observed in Iraq's systems, policy review should be comprehensive. Collaboration between regulators from several sectors and those responsible for technical supervision and protection would be beneficial in leading to policies that take into account the realities of the situation. Based on the discussions above, we see that competition and monopoly prevention policies in Iraq should be further developed in the future and increase attention to the growing capacity of government

agencies in the digital technology sector. The following are our recommendations: 1) Invest in the infrastructure necessary for the effective implementation of the laws and policies that are developed, and reduce the gap in localities' access to digital technologies. Attract specialized cadres and increase their number to cope with the digital challenges in economic fields. 2) Pay more attention to the private sector and reach more agreements and partnership frameworks that benefit society. Coordinate and raise awareness of public-private partnerships and their free services. 3) Raise more awareness and interest in the field of information crimes and their types. Research on technology policy required for professional gangs to carry out their activities and move against laws and work created shall be conducted. 4) Regularly review the law on competition and monopoly discipline to be equal to technological progress. 5) Invest in digital technologies because transitional problems prevent it. A clear work plan and direction towards reusing the technology in this premise. 6) Embrace international cooperation and partnership for the development of technical controls and the effectiveness of the special work of specialized departments. 7) It is essential to gather initiatives from governmental, non-governmental, and private owners to urge us to act quickly at two levels: 1) Develop policies to prevent competition and monopolies and adapt them to the new structure chosen by the country after the adoption of democracy. 2) Create investment in the fittest sector in Iraq and the world of digital self-defense in any technological field that increases or decreases in importing and exporting this domain. The stakeholders that we argue must work together with our demands or recommendations above. 1) The government must urge the comparative ministries, departments, and regulatory bodies concerned to review their policies and laws and work on regulating these issues. 2) The state bodies must show concern and reflect it in their events and meetings, as well as the issuance of reports encouraging investment in the private sector. 3)

Bodies can send a copy of these collaboration signs to all employees, analysts, and interested bodies. 4) Stakeholders that we can work with in particular must show interest in the reports we issue and must follow the path of our trend and endeavor to establish stakeholders that elaborate the establishment and blooming of a technically resistant environment, as well as a political stance to promote the future of Iraq as an authority. Area: designing services and products of a private economy based on their governments.

Data Availability:

The data used to support the results of this study has been included in the article.

Conflict of Interest:

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

Funding Sources:

No financial support was received.

Acknowledgments:

None.

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