



**Publication of the collective work “Challenges in the agri-food sector: Regulation, competition and industrial property”  
Valencia, May 9, 2022**



*Cover of the work: Palau F. and Martí, J. (Dirs.), Challenges in the agri-food sector: regulation, competition and industrial property, Tirant lo Blanch, Valencia, 2022, pp. 1-556. (ISBN: 9788411138376 (paper) / 9788411138383 (Ebook))*

The collective book “Challenges in the agri-food sector: Regulation, competition and industrial property” has already been published. This work derives from the contributions made by authors at the I International Congress that, with the same title, was held on May 6 and 7, 2021 in the Hall of Degrees of the Higher Technical School of Agricultural Engineering and of the Natural Environment “ETSIAMN”, of the Polytechnic University of Valencia “UPV”.

As expressed in its Prologue by the co-directors of the work including UPV professor and member of HARNESSTOM, Felipe Palau, “this collective work is a consequence of the





joint work carried out within the framework of the research projects and this includes "HARNESSTOM: «Harnessing the value of genetic resources for now and the future», Horizon 2020 Research Program of the European Union, grant agreement n°101000716". This work is a clear reflection of the complementarity and transversality in research, which had its first milestone in the afore mentioned I International Congress "Challenges in the agri-food sector: competition and industrial property", which had a large cast of speakers and an excellent acceptance by the public and the academic and public institutions.

The purpose of the collective work is to offer a cross-sectional study of the main issues the agri-food sector faces in relation to various legal areas with great involvement in this sector, such as Competition Law, Regulatory Law and Industrial Property. In addition, the study of some organizational and economic issues is also presented. Consistent with this purpose, the collective work is divided into three large thematic blocks.

The first block analyzes some of the main competition and regulatory issues of the food chain. The second block delves into the relations between the sector and industrial property. This block contemplates, among other contributions, those that affect the new challenges in the protection of innovation in agriculture. This included the use of new plant breeding techniques CRISPR/CAS9 genetic editing applied to the development of new plant varieties and the future perspectives for its regulation, analysis of the main arguments for the possible use, in the agricultural system of the Union, of plant varieties obtained by these new techniques. In this sense, it is expressed that the European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies (known by its acronym in English "EGEST"), is not the only group that supports the need for a substantive regulatory update, as it is derived from the various studies and analyzes promoted by the European Parliament and the Directorate of Health of the European Commission aimed at addressing the legislative reform of this regulation.

Finally, the third block brings together a miscellany of works in which various approaches to the specific challenges of the agri-food sector from an economic perspective are integrated.

As the co-directors of the collective work affirm: "The aim of all those who have participated in this book is to offer technical remedies to a sector that is eager for solutions". The work has been published by the Spanish publishing house with an international presence Tirant lo Blanch offers its information at the following link: <https://editorial.tirant.com/es/ebook/retos-en-el-sector-agroalimentario-regulacion-competencia-y-propiedad-industrial-felipe-palau-ramirez-9788411138376>

