# Significant market power 2.0

Alena Filipová, Ph.D. Veronika Mokrejšová, Ph.D. Jiří Zeman, Ph.D. University Economics Prague Prague, Czech Republic Act No. 395/2009 Coll. on significant market power in the sale of agricultural and food products and the abuse thereof

- Entered into force February 2010
- It tackles the issue of:
  - defining market power
  - prohibition of unfair practices

## Effect

- Up till now:
  - 1 fine (final judgement)
  - 1 fine (judgement not entered into force yet)
- Costs
  - of the state
  - of the sellers
  - of the buyers

#### **Research 2012/13**

#### Change in quality of relationship in % (n = 99)







#### **Unfair practices**

- Compliance with provisions about
  - returns of unsold goods to the supplier
  - 30day payment period

BUT.....

- Various means of compensation
  - shorter payment period = lower price
  - no returns = lower price
  - changes in names of prohibited payments
  - etc.

## **Objections to the Act**

- Bad juristic quality
- Unclear definitions
- Presumption of quilt
- Unilateral definition of market power
- The Act does not resolve the merits of the case

#### Amendments to the Act...?

- Cancelling the Act without any amendment
- Cancelling the Act and amend some other acts with some provisions from the Act
- Leave it as it is
- Toughen the regulation of unfair practices

#### Is there any solution?

The more concrete the Act, the easier to avoid it.

The more general contents of the Act, the more negotiations done unofficially.