

**From:** paolo.mangiafico@duke.edu@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement public comment

The currently proposed settlement in this case does not remedy the gross distortions of the market that Microsoft's practices have created and continue to create. The proposed settlement allows Microsoft to put this affair behind them at a relatively low cost (for them), while not resolving any of the outstanding fundamental issues at the heart of the case.

Microsoft claims that this is about the freedom to innovate. If the currently proposed settlement goes forward and Microsoft continues its established pattern of behavior (which it shows every indication of doing), Microsoft will be the only one who will benefit from the freedom to innovate, while continuing to stifle that same freedom among its competitors. I agree that there should be a freedom to innovate, but I argue that this freedom should be available to all, and that the marketplace should decide which innovations thrive, not one company with the monopoly power to squash competitors or crush them in its embrace.

I urge the DOJ to abandon the currently proposed settlement and continue work on concluding the case in a manner that protects the interests of United States citizens and promotes a fair, competitive marketplace. The current settlement only protects established corporate interests, and will allow these interests to continue to prevent competitors from establishing their own foothold in a rapidly changing market.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on this.

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Note that these are my own opinions and do not necessarily represent those of my employer, though they are shared by many of my colleagues.