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Prosecutions for federal offences have historically been conducted in state and territory courts. In 2009, the Federal Court was invested with jurisdiction to hear prosecutions for cartel offences under the <i>Competition and Consumer Act 2010</i> (Cth). This article provides an overview of the Court's criminal jurisdiction. It includes a summary of cartel prosecutions heard to date and discusses the provisions which govern the Court's criminal practice and procedure. One issue which emerges concerns the appropriateness and utility of retaining state-based committal proceedings in prosecutions conducted in the Court. Committal proceedings are far from uniform throughout the states and territories and are in many respects outdated and productive of little more than cost and delay. The author's view is that, given the Court's extensive powers and case management regime, committal proceedings can and should be dispensed with in matters prosecuted in the Court.	11
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There is no doubt that the Federal Court of Australia has wide discretionary powers to make declarations. The purpose of this article is to provide a brief discussion on the meaning of a declaration, the requisite elements of a declaration and the scope of the power to make a declaration under s 21 of the <i>Federal Court of Australia Act 1976</i> (Cth). The focus of the discussion is in reference to cases under the Australian Consumer Law, with the final section of the article providing a summary on the reasons for making and not making declarations.	31
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