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## Main Topics

- General
- Bank/Insurance/Tax
- Environment
- Media/Telecom
- Competition/SA
- Healthcare
- Aviation/Transport
- Foreign Trade
- Energy
- Compliance
- Food/Tobacco

## LAW

### ■ ■ Impact of Digitisation on Competition

The EC released the report “Competition policy for the digital era” of the three Special Advisers on the impact of digitisation on competition policy. In particular, the report identifies the main challenges posed by dominant tech players. The issue whether competition rules should be changed and refined to adapt to digital markets and data economy is central. The Commission invites regulators to discuss the findings of the report.

[EC report](#)

### ■ Open Data Directive

The European Parliament approved the Open Data and Public Sector Information Directive, which aims at improving the availability and innovative use of public and publicly-funded data, useful also for the development of data-intensive technologies such as artificial intelligence. The Council now needs to formally adopt the directive. Mem-

ber States will then have two years to implement the new rules.

[EP legislative resolution on the proposal for a Directive on the re-use of public sector information](#)

### ■ Natural Gas Market

The European Parliament voted in favour of the proposal for a directive on common rules for the internal market in natural gas. The proposal seeks to apply key provisions of the Gas Directive of 2009 to gas pipelines between the EU and third countries. The text now needs to be formally adopted by the Council. Member States will then have nine months to transpose the revised rules into national laws.

[EP legislative resolution on the proposal for a Directive concerning common rules for the internal market in natural gas](#)

### ■ WTO Cases

The EU launched two disputes in the World Trade Organisation against India, for unlawful import duties on ICT products, and Turkey for unlawful measures on pharmaceuticals.

[EU request India](#) – [EU request Turkey](#)

### ■ Environmental Implementation Review

The EC published the 2<sup>nd</sup> Environmental Implementation Review on the implementation of the European policies on environment in the EU Member States.

[Environmental Implementation Review 2019](#) – [Annex](#)

### ■ Rule of Law within the EU

The EC published a communication on the rule of law in the EU and invited the European Parliament, the Council and all the relevant stakeholders to evaluate the situation.

The Commission will present its own conclusions and proposals in June.

[EC Communication](#)

### ■ List of Dangerous Products

The EC released its 2018 report on the Safety Gate for Dangerous Products.

[EC dedicated page](#)

### ■ RAPEX Weekly Report

The EC published its weekly report for all dangerous consumer products, with the exception of food, pharmaceutical and medical devices.

[Weekly Overview Report](#)

## POLITICS/GENERAL

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### ■ Financial Technology

The EC and the European Supervisory Authorities launched a new platform, the European Forum for Innovation Facilitators (EFIF), to improve cooperation on the application of technological innovation in the financial sector.

[EC dedicated page](#)

### ■ Payment Services Directive II

The European Banking Authority published clarifications to the second set of issues raised by its Working Group on Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) under PSD2.

[EBA responses](#)

### ■ Risks for the Financial System

The Joint Committee of the European Supervisory Authorities published a report on “Risks and Vulnerabilities in the EU Financial System”.

[Risks and Vulnerabilities in the EU Financial System](#)

### ■ Gas Transmission Systems

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators published its report on the conditionalities stipulated in contracts for standard capacity products for firm capacity.

[ACER Report](#)

## DECISIONS

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### EC Statements of Objections of 04 April – Car Emissions

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#### ■ Manufacture of motor vehicles

The EC sent Statement of Objections to BMW, Daimler and VW for restricting competition on the development of technology to clean the emissions of petrol and diesel passenger cars.

[Case information](#)

### EC Decision of 04 April – GTCR / Apax Partners / Dolphin TopCo

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#### ■ Activities of insurance agents and brokers

The EC approved the acquisition of Dolphin TopCo Inc. by GTCR LLC and Apax Partners LLP.

[Case information](#)

## **EC Decision of 02 April – Potential state aid scheme regarding UK CFC Group Financing Exemption**

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### ■ Tax advantage or tax exemption

The EC found that the UK scheme with which the country exempted certain multinational groups from taxation is illegal and ordered the UK to recover the illegal aid.

[Case information](#)

## **EC Decision of 29 March – HCL Technologies / Certain IBM Assets**

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### ■ Other real sale of new goods in specialised stores

The EC approved the acquisition of certain assets and liabilities of the International Business Machines Corporation (“IBM”) by HCL Technologies Limited (“HCL”).

[Case information](#)

## **EC Decision of 29 March – LG Electronics / Lufthansa Technik / JV**

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### ■ Manufacture of air and spacecraft and related machinery; manufacture of electronic components and boards

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture between Lufthansa Technik and LG Electronics.

[Case information](#)

## **EC Decision of 29 March – Mercuria / Aegean**

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### ■ Wholesale of solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products

The EC approved the acquisition of Aegean Marine Petroleum Network Inc. by Mercuria Energy Group Limited.

[Case information](#)

## **EC Decision of 29 March – Lifeco / Hammerson / Swords Pavilions**

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### ■ Real estate activities

The EC approved the acquisition of Swords Pavilions by Great-West Lifeco and Hammerson.

[Case information](#)

## **FROM THE OJEU**

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### ■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Mercuria / Aegean – Case M.9253 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 126/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Total / Chevron Denmark – Case M.9175 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 126/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Societe Generale / Commerzbank EMC Business – Case M.9130 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 125/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration MML Capital Partners / Macquarie Group / Peggy Holdco – Case M.9225 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 124/04](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Apollo Management / Aspen Insurance Holdings – Case M.9149 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 124/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration BASF DOM Business / Solenis / JV – Case M.8950 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 124/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Quaker / Global Houghton – Case M.8492 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 124/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Carlyle / Apollo – Case M.9120 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 123/09](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration E.ON / Clever / UFC Scandinavia JV – Case M.9049 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 123/08](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration SNAM / SGI / Sardinia Newco – Case M.9091 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 123/07](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Sony / EMI Music Publishing – Case M.8989 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 123/06](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration 3i / Arbejdsmarkedets Tillaegspension / Tampnet – Case M.9086 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 123/05](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Tele2 / Com Hem Holding – Case M.8842 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 123/04](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration PPF Group / Telenor Target Companies – Case M.8883 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 123/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Blackstone / Thomson Reuters F&R Business – Case M.8837 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 123/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration T-Mobile Austria / UPC Austria – Case M.8808 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 123/01](#) – [Case information](#)

#### ■ **Prior notification of concentrations**

Prior notification of the concentration PFR / IFM / PSA / DCT – Case M.9310 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 126/08](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration 3i Group / TIIC Management / Meridiam Infrastructure Finance / DirectRoute (Limerick) – Case M.9272 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 126/07](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration 3i Group / TIIC Management / Aberdeen Infrastructure / DirectRoute (Fermoy) – Case M.9271 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 126/06](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration CACF / BBPM / Agos Ducato / ProFamily – Case M.9288 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 125/06](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Berry / RPC – Case M.9311 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 125/05](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration OEP / WP Group – Case M.9347 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 124/07](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Seven Energy / Huaneng-Yudean / InterGen – Case M.9305 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 123/15](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Daimler / Geely / Ride-hailing JV – Case M.9295 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 123/14](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Vista Equity Partners / TA Associates / Aptean – Case M.9322 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 121/10](#) – [Case information](#)

## BRUSSELS INTERN

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### ■ ■ **Competition Policy and Data Economy**

The Council Working Group on Competitiveness and Growth of the Council will hold a debate on 11 April on the challenges posed by the platform economy to competition policy.

[Discussion note](#)

[Discussion note](#)

### ■ **Consumer Protection**

The European Parliament is expected to adopt the proposal for a directive on better enforcement and modernisation of EU consumer protection rules on 16 April. The proposal will amend the unfair commercial practices directive, the consumer rights directive, the unfair contract terms directive and the price indication directive.

### ■ **Single Market**

The High Level Working Group on Competitiveness and Growth of the Council will discuss next week a note prepared by the European Commission on the relationships between competition, competitiveness and the Single Market.

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