



Europeanews

Regulatory & Governmental Affairs

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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

■ Capital Markets Union

The Council adopted a regulation improving the existing regulatory framework applying to the over-the-counter (OTC) derivative market. The regulation, which will amend the European Market Infrastructure Regulation (EMIR) in order to address disproportionate compliance costs, transparency issues and insufficient access to clearing for certain counterparties, will enter into force 20 days after its publication in the Official Journal of the EU.

[Regulation on the clearing obligation, the suspension of the clearing obligation, the reporting requirements, the risk-mitigation techniques for OTC derivative contracts](#)

■ Banking Union

The Council adopted a comprehensive legislative package which contains amendments to the Capital

Requirement legislation (Regulation 575/2013 and Directive 2013/36/EU) and the framework for the recovery and resolution of banks in difficulty (Directive 2014/59/EU and Regulation 806/2014). The package will enter into force 30 days after its publication in the Official Journal of the EU. Most of the new rules will start applying in mid-2021 with the goal to reduce risks in the sector.

[Capital Requirements Regulation – Capital Requirements Directive – Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive – Single Resolution Mechanism Regulation](#)

■ Connected Vehicles

The Council decided to extend the time-limit for raising objections to the Commission Delegated Regulation relating to the deployment and operational use of cooperative intelligent transport systems by two months, until 13 July. At the Council Working

Party on Transport some delegations expressed concerns of a legal and technological nature on the regulation; therefore the Presidency asked the Council Legal Service for an opinion.

[EC Delegated Regulation – Annex](#)

■ Energy Charter Treaty

The EC adopted a recommendation to negotiate on behalf of the EU the modernization of the investment provisions of the Energy Charter Treaty, the plurilateral trade and investment agreement applicable to the energy sector.

[EC Recommendation for a Council Decision authorizing the entering into negotiations on the modernization of the Energy Charter Treaty – Annex](#)

■ Data on New Trucks

The Council decided not to object to a Commission Regulation concerning the monitoring and reporting of data on new heavy-duty vehicles by Member States and Manufacturers.

[EC Delegated Regulation – Annex](#)

■ 5G

The EC adopted the Implementing Decision to harmonize the 26 GHz frequency band for wireless networks, which must be completed by the end of March 2020.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Generic Pharmaceuticals Producers

The Council adopted a regulation which introduces an exception to the protection granted to an original medicine by a supplementary protection certificate (SPC) for export purposes and/or for stockpiling. The regulation shall enter into force by 1 July and it will enable generics manufacturers based in the EU to compete with non-EU manufacturers on equal terms.

[Regulation amending Regulation 469/2009 concerning the supplementary protection certificate for medicinal products](#)

■ 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

■ State Aid for Environmental Protection and Energy

The EC launched a public consultation on the evaluation of the guidelines on State aid for Environmental protection and Energy (EEAG) and the provisions applicable to aid for environmental protection and energy of the General Block Exemption Regulation. Contributions can be submitted until 10 July.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Regional Aid Framework

The EC launched a targeted consultation on the ex-post evaluation of the current regional aid framework 2014-2020. Contributions can be submitted until 10 July.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Financial Services

The EC released a report on the application and review of the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (2014/59/EU) and the Single Resolution Mechanism Regulation (806/2014). In the coming weeks the

Commission will continue monitoring the application of the framework and will also engage in a comprehensive discussion of the main issues identified by the report with experts of Member States, the European Parliament and other relevant stakeholders.

[EC Report](#)

■ Economic and Monetary Union

The Presidency of the Council published a so-called Non-Paper on the Way forward on the EMU architecture.

[Presidency Non-paper](#)

■ VAT Refunds

The EC published a study on domestic and cross border intra-EU VAT refunds. In the coming weeks the Commission will present its proposals for an effective implementation of the law.

[Final Report VAT Refunds and Reimbursements: a Quantitative and Qualitative Study](#)

■ Open Internet Access

The EC published a report on the implementation of the open internet access provisions of the Telecoms Single Market Regulation (Regulation 2015/2120). According to the findings of the report, at this stage the Commission will not present any amendments to the regulation, but it will continue monitoring the market.

[EC Report](#)

■ Online Disinformation

The EC published its reports on the progress made in April by Facebook, Google and Twitter to fight disinformation. By the end of the year, the Commission will conclude a comprehensive assessment of the initial 12 months of the Code of Practice against Disinformation.

[EC dedicated page](#)

/ Decisions

EC Decision of 15 May – FOREX

■ Activities auxiliary to financial services

The EC fined five banks, Barclays, the Royal Bank of Scotland, Citigroup, JPMorgan and MUFG Bank (formerly Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi), for participating in foreign exchange spot trading cartel for eleven currencies, including.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 15 May – H&F / Blackstone / Scout24

■ Web portals

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Scout24 AG by Hellman & Friedman LLC (“H&F”) and the Blackstone Group L.P.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 15 May – TDR Capital / NKD Group

■ Retail sale of other goods in specialised stores; retail sale of other household equipment in specialised stores; retail trade

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of NKD Group by TDR Capital.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 14 May – First State Investment International / Iren Mercato / OLT Offshore Long Toscana

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

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over OLT Offshore LNG Toscana S.p.a. by First State Investments International Limited (“FSI”), controlled by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and Iren Mercato S.p.a., belonging to the Iren group.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 May – ICONEX / Hansol Denmark / R+S Group

■ Manufacture of articles of paper and paperboard

The EC approved the acquisition by Iconex LLC of Hansol Denmark ApS and R+S Group GmbH.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 May – Bregal Unternehmerkaptal / MEDIA Central

■ Media representation

The EC approved the acquisition of MEDIA Central Gesellschaft für Handelskommunikation und Marketing mbH (“MEDIA Central”) by Bregal Unternehmerkaptal II LP, Bregal Unternehmerkaptal II Feeder LP and Bregal Unternehmerkaptal II-A SCSp.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 May – Equistone / CH&CO

■ Food and beverage service activities

The EC approved the acquisition of CH & CO Catering Group (Holdings) Limited (“CH&CO”) by Equistone Partners Europe Limited.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 May – OMERS Infrastructure / Morgan Stanley / VTG

■ Rental and leasing activities; service activities incidental to land transportation

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over VTG Aktiengesellschaft by OMERS Infrastructure European Holdings B.V. and Morgan Stanley.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 May – AB InBev Beer Trade Restrictions

■ Wholesale of food, beverages and tobacco

The EC fined AB InBev for restricting cross-border sales of beer.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 10 May – Macquarie / China Investment Corporation / Allianz / Dalmore / INPP / Gas Distribution Business of National Grid

■ Distribution of gaseous fuels; trade of gas; transport via pipeline

The EC approved the proposed acquisition of joint control over the gas distribution business of National Grid (“Cadent”) by Macquarie Group, China Investment Corporation (“CIC”), Allianz SE, Dalmore Capital Limited and International Public Partnerships Limited (“INPP”).

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 10 May – Tenaris / Severstal / JV

■ Manufacture of tubes, pipes, hollow profiles and related fittings of steel

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture by Tenaris S.A. and PAO Severstal.

[Case information](#)

EC Investigation – Telia Company / Bonnier Broadcasting Holding

■ Advertising; wired and wireless telecommunications activities; motion picture, video and television programme distribution

The EC opened an in-depth investigation into the proposed acquisition by Telia Company of Bonnier Broadcasting.

[Case information](#)

/ From the OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Tenaris / Severstal / JV – Case M.9304 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 169/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration VINCI Airports / Gatwick Airport – Case M.9270 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 167/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration DIF / Green Investment Group / Covanta / Dublin Waste-to-energy facility – Case M.9351 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 166/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EPH / Uniper France – Case M.9279 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 165/01 – Case information](#)

■ **Prior notification of concentrations**

Prior notification of the concentration EPH / AES Ballylumford / AES Kilroot Power – Case M.9372 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 166/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration VW Group / Intel / Allied Holdings / JV – Case M.9355 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 165/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Baloise / Fidea – Case M.9380 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 165/08 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration ALSO / ABC Data – Case M.9324 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 163/03 – Case information](#)

/ Brussels intern

■ **EU Summit**

An emergency summit will be held on 28 May in Brussels, to allow EU Heads of State and Government to comment on the results of the European elections and to start discussions on the high-level appointments for the next mandate.

■ **Future of Energy**

The Presidency of the Council released a revised draft of the conclusions on the “Future of Energy Systems”; representatives of Member States will discuss the text on 21 May.

[Draft conclusions](#)

/ Contact

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