



Europaneews

Regulatory & Governmental Affairs

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/ Main Topics

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

/ Law

■ Taxation

The EC adopted a new Tax Package to ensure a better support to economic recovery and growth. With these measures the Commission aims at intensifying the fight against tax abuse and unfair tax competition and increasing tax transparency. The package includes three separate initiatives:

- the Tax Action Plan with 25 actions to simplify taxation procedures;
- the Proposal on administrative cooperation to extend tax transparency rules to digital platforms;
- the Communication on tax good governance to promote fair taxation while tackling harmful tax practices within the Union.

A dedicated action plan on business taxation, with a particular focus on how to address the challenges of the digital economy, shall be adopted this Autumn

[EC Action Plan – Annex – EC Proposal for a Directive on administrative cooperation – Annex – EC Communication on Tax Good Governance](#)

■ State Aid and Tax Havens

The EC in its recommendation invites Member States to not grant financial support to companies with links to countries that are on the EU's list of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions; the aim is to prevent tax fraud, tax evasion, money-laundering schemes or terrorist financing. EU Member States should then inform the Commission on the measures they will implement in order to comply with this recommendation.

[EC Recommendation](#)

■ Internet of Things Sector Inquiry

The EC launched an antitrust competition inquiry into the Internet of Things for consumer-related products and services available via smart devices in the EU. If specific competition concerns are identified, the Commission will then open case investigations to ensure compliance with EU rules. Requests for information to interested parties active in the IoT for consumer-related products and services throughout the Union will be sent in the coming weeks. A preliminary report on the replies is expected for Spring next year, while the final report would not be published before Summer 2022.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ State Aid – Ireland v Commission

The EU General Court annulled the Commission's decision of August 2016 requiring Ireland to collect 13 billion euro in allegedly unpaid taxes from Apple.

[Dedicated page](#)

■ Banking and Finance

The EC released a list of best practices in relation to relief measures in the context of the covid-19 crisis, covering several issues including best practices for bank and non-bank lending to consumers, best

practices for bank and non-bank lending to businesses, best practices for insurers. The Commission will continue the dialogue with stakeholders to support businesses and consumers.

[Best practices](#)

■ Sustainable Finance

The EC adopted a delegated act which sets out minimum technical requirements for EU climate benchmarks and a number of Environmental, Social and Governance disclosure requirements.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Intellectual Property

The EC launched a public consultation on its Intellectual Property Action Plan, which proposes concrete initiatives to improve the IP framework. Contributions can be submitted until 14 August.

[EC consultation 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

■ Antitrust

The EC called for feedback from all interested parties on commitments offered by Aspen to address the competition concerns over excessive pricing raised by the Commission. The watchdog will take a final decision taking into account all comments received.

[EC dedicated page](#)

/ Decisions

EC Decision of 15 July – Atlas / Permasteelisa

■ **Building completion and finishing**

The EC approved the acquisition by Atlas of Permasteelisa.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 July – Ethylene

■ **Manufacture of plastics in primary forms**

The EC fined Orbia, Clariant and Celanese for taking part in a cartel concerning purchases on the ethylene merchant market.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 July – PKN Orlen / Grupa Lotos

■ **Extraction of natural gas and crude petroleum; manufacture of refined petroleum products**

The EC approved the acquisition of Grupa Lotos by PKN Orlen, subject to conditions.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 10 July – Raytheon Technologies Corporation / Saudi Arabian Oil Company / Middle East Cyber Services JV

■ **Computer programming, consultancy and related activities**

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture called Middle East Cybersecurity by Raytheon Technologies Corporation and the Saudi Arabian Oil Company.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 10 July – Avacon Natur / NEW AG / Stadtentfalter JV

■ **Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply**

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture called Stadtentfalter by Avacon Natur and NEW Smart City.

[Case information](#)

/ From the OJEU

■ **Non-opposition to concentrations**

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Advent / Cinven / Thyssenkrupp Elevator – Case M.9815 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 233/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EQT Fund Management / TowerBrook Capital Partners / ACPS Automotive – Case M.9869 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 229/01 – Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration Alliance Healthcare Deutschland / Gehe Pharma Handel – Case M.9711 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 235/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Verily Life Sciences / Santen Pharmaceutical / JV – Case M.9812 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 235/04 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Hitachi / Honda / HIAMS / Keihin / Showa / Nissin Kogyo – Case M.9771 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 234/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Discovery / Polsat / JV – Case M.9299 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 234/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration United Group / Forthnet – Case M.9866 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 234/04 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration ERGO / SDHS / Taishan Property & Casualty Insurance – Case M.9889 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 233/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Liberty Global / DPG Media / JV – Case M.9802 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 233/04 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Salling Group / Tesco Polska – Case M.9886 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 233/03 – Case information](#)

/ Brussels intern

■ ■ Car Emissions

The Environment Committee of the European Parliament adopted an amendment to Regulation 715/2007 on type approval of motor vehicles with respect to emissions from light passenger and commercial vehicles. Lawmakers set end on discrepancy between laboratory and real driving emission tests, which must end by 30 September 2022; they also asks that the Commission establishes by June 2021 more stringent requirements for the portable measuring equipment to be used for RDE tests. The report shall be voted by the plenary in September, after which negotiations can start with the Council. The adopted report will be available soon.

[Draft report](#)

■ Chemicals

The Parliament adopted a resolution calling on the Commission to work on a new chemicals framework that fully reflects the precautionary principle and the polluter-pays principle. The Commission shall present a new EU chemicals strategy for sustainability this autumn.

/ Contact

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