



Europaneews

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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

■ ■ Energy and Climate

The EC published a series of proposals which are part of the Fit for 55 Package to deliver on the European Green Deal and the European Climate Law.

The Commission released two legislative proposals to decarbonise the European gas market by facilitating the use of renewable and low carbon gases, including hydrogen. Competitive markets and dedicated infrastructure to connect production and consumption are key elements of the package. Another important aspect is the security of supply; on that regard, the proposal will promote a more strategic approach to gas storage, also enabling voluntary joint procurement by Member States.

[EC proposal for a Regulation on the internal markets for renewable and natural gases and for hydrogen – Annexes](#)

[EC proposal for a Directive on common rules for the internal markets in renewable and natural gases and in hydrogen – Annexes](#)

The package contains the first European proposal on methane emissions reduction in the energy sector, with provisions on measurement, reporting and verification of emissions.

[EC proposal for a Regulation on methane emissions reduction in the energy sector and amending Regulation 2019/942](#)

The proposal for a directive on energy performance of buildings introduces several measures such as renovation passports, energy performance certificates and minimum energy performance standards to apply to all buildings with an energy label G. As of 2030 all new buildings must be zero-emission while all new public buildings must be zero-emission already from 2027.

[EC proposal for a Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings \(recast\) – Annexes – EC Staff Working Document](#)

Last but not least, the Commission also published a communication on sustainable carbon cycles, which provides short and medium actions to increase removals of carbon from the atmosphere. By the end of 2022 the Commission will propose an EU regulatory framework for the certification of carbon removals; at the same time the European executive will engage with stakeholders in order to improve sustainable non-fossil sources for chemical and plastic products by 2030.

[EC Communication “Sustainable Carbon Cycles” – EC Staff Working Document](#)

■ **Trans-European Networks for Energy**

Negotiators of the European Parliament and the Council reached a provisional political agreement on the revision of the Trans-European Networks for Energy (TEN-E) Regulation. Among other things they agreed to end support for new natural gas and oil projects and to introduce mandatory sustainability criteria for all projects. The provisional agreement needs to be officially endorsed by both the Council and the European Parliament. The text will be available soon.

■ ■ **Efficient and Green Mobility Package**

The EC unveiled its Efficient and Green Mobility Package, which consists of a set of measures to modernise the European’s transport system in line with the objectives of the European Green Deal in order to increase connectivity, to support the roll-out of charging points and alternative refuelling infrastructure while focusing on sustainable mobility.

The proposal for the revision of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) aims to modernise the entire network addressing the missing links. It also requires 424 major cities on the TEN-T network to develop Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans to promote zero-emission mobility by 2025. Among the novelties of the proposal there are requirements for the deployment across the TEN-T network of the charging and refuelling infrastructure needed for alternative transport fuels in line with the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation.

[EC proposal for a Regulation on Union guidelines for the development of the TEN-T, amending Regulation 2021/1153 and Regulation 913/2010 and repealing Regulation 1315/2013](#)

[EC Communication on the extension of the TEN-T to neighbouring third countries](#)

[EC Communication Action plan to boost long distance and cross-border passenger rail](#)

With the proposal for the review of the Intelligent Transport Systems Directive the EC aims to update the Directive to the emergence of new road mobility options, mobility apps and connected and automated mobility. In particular, the Commission intends to make certain crucial data (such as speed limits, traffic circulation plans, roadworks) available in digital format and to increase the interoperability of ITS applications also by expanding the scope of the directive to automated mobility. Next year the Commission will present a new initiative on multimodal digital mobility services which aims at supporting the development of digital service intermediaries.

[EC proposal for a Directive amending Directive 2010/40/EU on the framework for the deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems in the field of road transport and for interfaces with other modes of transport](#)

The package also contains a framework to address new mobility challenges, including provisions on funding opportunities for local and regional authorities to implement the measures. In 2022 the Commission will present a recommendation for the development of national plans to assist cities in developing their mobility plans. In the first quarter of next year the EC will also release guidance on passenger transport-on-demand to become more sustainable. A detailed study to map and clarify which digital solutions would enable more effective and user-friendly low-emission zones and other types of urban vehicle access regulation will be conducted in 2022.

[EC Communication “The new EU Urban Mobility Framework”](#)

■ **EU Climate Law**

The EC issued guidance for a fair and inclusive transition towards climate neutrality, helping Member States to

implement the measures by addressing the relevant employment and social aspects linked to the transition.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Environmental Criminal Law

The EC adopted a proposal for a new Directive to repress environmental crimes. The proposal defines new crimes, sets a minimum level for sanctions and strengthens the effectiveness of law enforcement cooperation. The proposal will now be submitted to the European Parliament and the Council.

[EC proposal for a Directive on the protection of the environment through criminal law – EC Communication](#)

■ WTO and the Environment

The EC agreed on three new initiatives within the World Trade Organization, with the aim to work jointly on facilitating trade in environmental goods and services, promoting sustainable supply chains and the circular economy; enhance transparency of fossil fuel subsidies and cooperate on battling plastic pollution.

[Statement on Trade and Environmental Sustainability – Statement on Fossil Fuel Subsidy – Statement on Plastic Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade](#)

■ Digital Markets Act

The European Parliament endorsed its position on the proposal for a Digital Markets Act. Inter-institutional negotiations with the Council and representatives of the EC will start at the beginning of next year. EU lawmakers broadened the scope of the proposal including web browsers, virtual assistants and connected TV. Among other things, they adopted changes to the definition of gatekeepers based on certain thresholds and to the list of obligations and prohibitions, they added restrictions to killer acquisitions and clarified the role of national competition authorities while maintaining the EC in charge of enforcement.

[Text adopted](#)

■ Digital Services Act

The Internal Market and Consumer Protection of the European Parliament reached an agreement on the compromised text on the Digital Services Act, paving the way for a plenary vote in January. The DSA introduces clear responsibility and accountability rules for providers of intermediary services, in particular online platforms. Once adopted by the plenary, inter-institutional negotiations with the Council will start.

[Draft report](#)

■ Digital Finance

The EC presented a new strategy to modernise financial supervisory reporting in the EU, while ensuring consistent and standardized data and facilitating the sharing and re-use of reported data amongst supervisory authorities.

[EC Communication “Strategy on supervisory data in EU financial services”](#)

■ Industrial Products

The EC launched an evaluation of the New Legislative Framework, with the aim to improve the internal market for goods by enhancing market surveillance and boosting the quality of conformity assessments. Contributions on the Commission’s roadmap can be submitted until 07 March.

[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

■ REMIT

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators published the 26th edition of the Q&A on REMIT.

[ACER Questions & Answers](#)

/ Decisions

EC Decision of 16 December – Derichebourg Environnement / Groupe Ecore Holding

■ Materials recovery

The EC approved the proposed acquisition of Groupe Ecore by Derichebourg, subject to conditions.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 14 December – Regional aid map for Germany (2022-2027)

■ Regional development

The EC approved Germany's map for granting regional aid from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2027 within the framework of the revised Regional aid Guidelines (RAG).

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 14 December – Acciaieria Arvedi / Finarvedi / Acciai Speciali Terni / Thyssenkrupp Stainless / Thyssenkrupp Stainless Turkey Metal Sanayi ve t

■ Manufacture of basic iron and steel and of ferro-alloys

The EC approved the acquisition of Acciai Speciali Terni Spa, Thyssenkrupp Stainless GmbH and Thyssenkrupp

Stainless Turkey Metal Sanayi ve Ticaret A.S. by Acciaieria Arvedi Spa.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 14 December – Veolia / Suez

■ Waste treatment and disposal; water collection, treatment and supply

The EC approved the proposed acquisition of Suez by Veolia, subject to conditions.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 December – Adecco / Akka

■ Computer programming, consultancy and related activities; temporary employment agency activities

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of AKKA Technologies SE by Adecco Group AG.

[Case information](#)

/ From the OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Nordic Capital / Rothschild / TA Associates / Rldatix – Case M.10523 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 509/06 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration CVC / Panzani – Case M.10455 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 509/05 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EQT / H&F / Zooplus – Case M.10504 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 509/04 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Bain Capital / Cinven / Lonza Specialty Ingredients – Case M.10234 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 509/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Permira / Thoma Bravo / Motus – Case M.10517 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 509/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Advent / Eurazeo / Protel – Case M.10528 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 509/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EFMS / Goldman Sachs / Parexel – Case M.10418 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 507/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Phillips 66 / Fortress Investment Group / Western Oil – Case M.10550 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 507/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EDF / GEIH / SCI OPG Avenue de France – Case M.10437 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 505/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration CDPE / Macquarie / Blackstone / ASPI – Case M.10382 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 504/08 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration GIP / IFM / Sydney Airport – Case M.10532 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 504/07 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration DP World / Syncreon – Case M.10439 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 504/06 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Baxter / Hill-Rom – Case M.10489 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 504/05 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Societe Generale / Hyundai Motor Company / JV – Case M.10463 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 504/04 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Cogenio / Avio / Termica Colleferro – Case M.10558 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 501/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration CDPQ / Investcorp / ICR – Case M.10487 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 501/02 – Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration Refresco Group / Hansa-Heemann – Case M.10435 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 509/13 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Blackstone / Francisco Partners / Renaissance – Case M.10554 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 509/12 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Vinci / Lineas / Lusuponte – Case M.10538 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 509/11 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration PAI Partners / New Tiger – Case M.10484 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 505/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Amalfi Invest Opportunities / La Doria – Case M.10551 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 505/04 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Suez / Schneider Electric / JV – Case M.10471 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 505/03 – Case information](#)

/ Brussels intern

■ EU Priorities 2022

The leaders of the European Commission, European Parliament and the Council agreed on a list of core legislative priorities for next year, confirming their commitments to give them utmost priority in the coming twelve months. The document contains proposals on digital markets, emissions standards, artificial intelligence, data and trade.

[List of priorities](#)

■ EU-India Competition

Representatives from the EU and India met on 13 and 14 December to discuss competition enforcement challenges and respective regulatory developments, in particular in digital markets and the pharmaceutical sector. In 2013 the two parties signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of competition law.

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