



Europeanews

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

■ Temporary Crisis Framework

The EC submitted to Member States for consultation a draft proposal to prolong and amend the State aid Temporary Crisis Framework adopted last March with the aim to enable Member States to use the flexibility foreseen under State aid rules to support the economy following Russia's aggression against Ukraine. Among the proposed amendments there is an increase of maximum aid ceilings foreseen in the provisions on limited amounts of aid; a simplification in the access to liquidity support to energy companies and all the businesses affected by high energy prices and additional measures aimed at supporting electricity demand reduction. The current framework is applicable until 31 December 2022.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Competition

The EC adopted a revised Informal Guidance Notice that allows businesses to seek informal guidance on the application of the European rules to novel or unresolved questions.

[EC Informal Guidance Notice](#)

■ Alternative Fuels and Infrastructure Regulation

The Transport Committee of the European Parliament adopted its position on the proposal on alternative fuels and infrastructure regulation (AFIR). Lawmakers agreed to set minimum mandatory national targets for the deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure and Member States will have to present their plans by 2024 on how to achieve it. More precisely, European countries will be required to provide charging stations

for electric vehicles every 60 km by 2026 and fuel for hydrogen vehicles every 100 km along the EU's main transport corridors. The text needs to be adopted by the whole Parliament at plenary, after which it will form the Parliament's negotiating position during the inter-institutional negotiations with the Council and the European Commission on the final version of the regulation.

[EP draft Report on the proposal for a regulation](#)

■ Electrical and Electronic Equipment Waste

The EC launched an evaluation of the 2012 Directive on waste from electrical and electronic equipment to assess whether the objectives are met. Contributions can be submitted until 03 November.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Energy Prices

The Council formally adopted the regulation on an emergency intervention to address high energy prices. In particular, the Council agreed to a voluntary reduction target of 10% of gross electricity consumption and a mandatory reduction target of 5% of the electricity consumption in peak hours; also agreed to cap the market revenues at 180 euros/MWh for electricity generators, including intermediaries, that use so-called inframarginal technologies to produce electricity. The measures will be temporary.

[Council Regulation 2022/1854](#)

■ REPowerEU

The Council agreed its position on the so-called REPowerEU proposal, a plan to phase out the European's dependency on Russian fossil fuel imports by diversifying energy supplies. The proposal also aims at adding a new chapter to EU Member States' national recovery and resilience plans (RRPs) to finance key investments and reforms. Inter-institutional negotiations with representatives of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission in order to agree on a final version of the text can now start.

[Council general approach](#)

■ Daisy Chains

The Council formally adopted a revised bank resolution framework to strengthen the prudential regulatory framework for credit institutions operating in the Union.

[Daisy chain Regulation](#)

■ Ukraine

The EU agreed on the eight package of sanctions against Russia. This package introduces new EU import bans together with export restrictions and additional listings of individuals and entities. In particular, the new measures include the banning of the export of coal, specific electronic components, technical items used in the aviation sector and certain chemicals. The import ban will cover Russian finished and semi-finished steel products, machinery and appliances, plastics, vehicles, textiles, footwear, leather, ceramics, certain chemical products and non-good jewellery. The package widens the scope of services banned. In addition to that, the new measures prohibit EU nationals from holding posts in the governing bodies of certain state-owned enterprises.

[EU Official Journal](#)

■ Common Charger

The European Parliament formally approved the agreement reached with the Council on new rules on common charger for portable devices, which will cover also mobile phones, tablet computers, laptops and wireless headphones. The proposed directive also requires the EC to develop interoperability rules for wireless charging by the end of 2024. The Council will have to formally endorse the agreement, then the directive will be published in the EU Official Journal and it will enter into force 20 days after publication.

[EP resolution on the proposal for a directive on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of radio equipment](#)

■ 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

■ Basel III

The European Banking Authority published its first mandatory Basel III Monitoring Report which assesses the impact of the full implementation of Basel III on the European banks in 2028. The Report also includes in a separate annex the impact of the proposal for the EU implementation under the Capital Requirements Regulation (CRR3).

[EBA report – Annex](#)

■ Investments

The European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) submitted to the EC its final report with draft Regulatory Technical Standards (RTS) on the disclosure of financial products'

exposure to investments in fossil gas and nuclear energy activities under the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR).

[ESAs Final Report](#)

■ EU Financial Sector

The European Banking Authority published a report on the reliance of the EU financial sector on counterparties, operators and financing originating from outside the Single Market.

[EBA report](#)

/ Decision

EC Decision of 04 October – Danske Bank / Lansforsakringar Bank / Nordea / SBAB Bank / SEB / Handelsbanken / Swedbank / JV

■ Financial service activities; information service activities; real estate activities

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Tambur by Länsförsäkringar Bank AB, SBAB Bank AB, Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB ("SEB"), Svenska Handelsbanken AB and Swedbank AB, Danske Bank A/S, Sverige Filial and Nordea Bank Abp.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 04 October – Salzgitter Flachstahl GmbH

■ Steel production

The EC approved a German measure to support Salzgitter Flachstahl GmbH decarbonise its steel production processes by using hydrogen.

[Case information SA.104276](#)

EC Decision of 03 October – BASF SE

■ Production of energy

The EC approved a German measure to support BASF SE in the production of renewable hydrogen.

[Case information SA.103774](#)

EC Decision of 30 September – Temporary lignite power supply reserve to save gas

■ Electric power generation, transmission and distribution

The EC approved the German measure to replace electricity generation amid Russian natural gas

shortages – a temporary German measure to enable five lignite-fired power plants to be on stand-by and ready to be activated to the extent needed in the event of natural gas shortages.

[Case information](#)

/ From the OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Aramco Overseas Company / BP Europa / Lotos-Air BP Polska – Case M.10696 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 384/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Daimler Truck / Nextera / BFM / JV – Case M.10791 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 381/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Ardian / TA Associates / Odealim Group – Case M.10822 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 381/01 – Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration Genstar Capital / GTCR / JSSI – Case M.10914 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 386/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Microsoft / Activision Blizzard – Case M.10646 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 386/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Cinven / Zurich Sander Vermögensverwaltung – Case M.10857 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 385/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Aramco Overseas Company / Lotos SPV 1 – Case M.10697 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 385/08 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration CVC / MATICMIND / SIO – Case M.10904 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 385/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Sanlam / Allianz / Sanlam Allianz Africa JV – Case M.10873 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 381/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Plastic Omnium / HBPO – Case M.10923 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 381/05 – Case information](#)

/ Brussels intern

■ EU – US Trade and Technology Council

Next EU-US Trade and Technology Council meeting will be held in Washington in early December and both delegations aim to finalise a number of issues before that. In particular with regard to AI, supply chain disruptions and charging infrastructure.

■ Energy Crisis

The Czech Presidency of the Council announced that the European Commission will soon present a proposal to tackle high gas prices, including a temporary price caps on gas that is used to generate electricity. In the meanwhile the European Commission is working on the structural reform of the electricity market and shall present by the end of the year a plan.

■ Cyber-security

Some countries expressed their concerns on the upcoming proposal on cyber-defence. Austria, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Spain and Romania called on the European Commission to be ambitious in its proposal for an EU's Cyber Defence Policy, which shall be released on 9 November.

/ Contact

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