



## Europaneews

### 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

### ■ Online Platforms

The Council formally adopted the regulation on promoting fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services. The new rules aim at providing a more transparent and fair online business environment and also oblige all platforms to set up an efficient internal system for handling complaints. The platforms covered by the regulation include online market places, online software application stores and online social media, online search engines that serve business users established within the EU and offer goods or services to consumers located within the EU. The regulation will now be published in the EU Official Journal and will enter into force on the 20<sup>th</sup> day after that.

[Regulation on promoting fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services](#)

### ■ Digital Policy

The Council adopted conclusions on the post-2020 digital policy, to boost digital and economic competitiveness across the Union.

[Council conclusions on the Future of a highly digitized Europe beyond 2020](#)

### ■ Cybercrime

The Council adopted the mandate authorising the European Commission to participate in the negotiations on a second additional protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime.

[Council decision – Addendum](#)

### ■ Emission Standards for Heavy-duty Vehicles

The Council adopted for the first time CO2 emission standards for trucks. The regulation sets out binding

targets in order to cut carbon dioxide emissions from new heavy-duty vehicles by 15% from 2025 and by 30% from 2030, compared with the levels of 2019. This is the final step in the legislative procedure. The regulation will now be published in the EU Official Journal and it will enter into force on the 20<sup>th</sup> day following that of its publication.

[Regulation setting CO2 emission performance standards for new heavy-duty vehicles](#)

#### ■ Emissions Testing

The EC presented a proposal to reinsert certain aspects of Real Driving Emissions testing (RDE) into legislation to be adopted by the European Parliament and Council. Once adopted by the two co-legislators, the regulation will be directly applicable in all Member States. Last December the General Court annulled some of the provisions of EU legislation on Real Driving Emissions testing. The text will be available soon.

#### ■ Clean Vehicles

The Council adopted a directive on the promotion of clean and energy-efficient vehicles, which will introduce binding targets for zero- and low-emission vehicles in public procurement. The directive will enter into force 20 days after its publication in the EU Official Journal. Member States will then have two years to adopt national provisions and will need to report to the Commission on the implementation of these rules every three years.

[Directive on the promotion of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles](#)

#### ■ Chemicals

The Council adopted a new regulation on persistent organic pollutants. The regulation will update the current rules, bringing them in line with the latest amendments to the Stockholm Convention on the elimination of the production, use, import and export of persistent organic pollutants. The regulation will enter into force on the 20<sup>th</sup> day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the EU and it will be directly applicable in all Member States.

[Regulation on persistent organic pollutants](#)

#### ■ Banking Union

EU Ministers for Finance discussed a progress report on the state of play of the Banking Union, with a special focus on the proposal to establish a European Deposit Insurance Scheme, on risk reduction measures and on initiatives to tackle non-performing loans. With regard to this last point, the European Commission presented its fourth progress report on the reduction of non-performing loans.

[Progress report – Addendum – EC Fourth Progress Report](#)

#### ■ Economic and Monetary Union

The EC published a Communication on the Economic and Monetary Union. The European executive invites Member States to take further steps to strengthen the single currency area. In particular, to reach an agreement on the main features of the Budgetary Instrument for Convergence and Competitiveness and to finalise the amendments to the Treaty establishing the European Stability Mechanism.

[EC Communication](#)

#### ■ Capital Markets Union

The Council adopted a package of measures aimed at removing existing barriers to the cross-border distribution of investment funds. The new rules will enter into force on the 20<sup>th</sup> day following that of the publication in the EU Official Journal.

[Regulation on cross-border distribution of collective investment undertakings – Directive on cross-border distribution of collective investment undertakings](#)

#### ■ European Personal Pension Product

The Council adopted the regulation on a pan European personal pension product, which creates a new type of voluntary product. The regulation will enter into force 20 days later its publication in the EU Official Journal.

[Regulation on a pan-European Personal Pension Product](#)

#### ■ Financial Transaction Tax

EU Finance Ministers had a policy debate on the new draft for a financial transaction tax. Since the original proposal of the European Commission did not have

the necessary support at the EU level, discussions on such a tax continued in the framework of enhanced cooperation. The countries involved in the works are Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Greece, Estonia, Portugal, Slovakia and Slovenia. The new draft is based on a Franco-German proposal, which will reduce the scope of the original text of the Commission. In order to reach a final agreement among the Member States participating in the enhanced cooperation, further work is needed.

[Progress report](#)

#### ■ **Company Law**

The Council adopted a directive that amends the Directive 2017/1132. In particular, the new rules aims at promoting the use of online tools in the contacts between companies and public authorities. The directive will soon be published in the EU Official Journal and it will enter into force on the 20<sup>th</sup> day following that of its publication. The new rules will apply two to four years from the date of its entry into force.

[Directive on the use of digital tools and processes in company law](#)

#### ■ **Brexit**

The EC released its fifth Brexit Preparedness Communication, which contains an update of the preparations of the contingency measures for the

withdrawal of the UK from the Union. Of the nineteen legislative proposals tabled by the Commission, there is only one that still has to be formally adopted. In light of the continued uncertainty in the country, a no-deal scenario on 1 November remains very likely.

[EC Communication – EC dedicated page](#)

#### ■ **Market Surveillance and Compliance of Products**

The Council adopted a regulation to strengthen market surveillance in order to ensure that products placed on the market comply with the European legislation. The regulation will amend Directive 2004/42/EC and Regulations 765/2008 and 305/2011. The new rules will enter into force on the 20<sup>th</sup> day following publication in the EU Official Journal and will become applicable two years after the date of entry into force.

[Regulation on market surveillance and compliance of 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**

#### ■ **Digital Economy and Society Index**

The EC released the results of the 2019 Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI), which measures the progress of EU Member States towards a digital economy and society.

[EC dedicated page](#)

#### ■ **Transmission and Distribution System Operators**

The Council of European Energy Regulators published its Status Review on Implementation of TSO and DSO Unbundling Provisions of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Energy Package.

[CEER Status Review](#)

## / Decisions

### **EC Decision of 13 June – RheinEnergie / SPIE / Tanke**

#### **■ Electrical installation; combined facilities support activities; service activities incidental to land transportation**

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture, Tanke, by RheinEnergie AG and SPIE Deutschland & Zentraleuropa GmbH (“SPIE”).

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 13 June – Danske Bank / DNB / Nordea Bank / SEB / Svenska Handelsbanken / Swedbank / KYC Utility**

#### **■ Activities auxiliary to financial services and insurance activities**

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over a newly created joint venture, KYC Utility, by six banking groups: Danske Bank A/S, DNB Bank ASA, Nordea Bank Abp, Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB, Svenska Handelsbanken AB and Swedbank AB.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 12 June – ALSO / ABC Data Group**

#### **■ Wholesale of electronic and telecommunications equipment and parts**

The EC approved the acquisition by ALSO Holding AG of ABC Data Group.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 12 June – Santander Group / Mapfre Group / JV**

#### **■ Non-life insurance**

The EC approved the proposed creation of a joint venture by Mapfre S.A. and subsidiaries and Banco Santander S.A. and subsidiaries.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 12 June – APAX Partners / GNB**

#### **■ Life insurance**

The EC approved the proposed acquisition of GNB – Companhia de Seguros de Vida SA. by APAX Partners LLP.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 11 June – Platinum Equity Group / Multi-Color Corporation**

#### **■ Manufacture of articles of paper and paperboard; manufacture of other plastic products**

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control over Multi-Color Corporation (“MCC”) by Platinum Equity Group.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 07 June – Tata Steel / ThyssenKrupp / JV**

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

The EC prohibited the creation of a joint venture by Tata Steel and ThyssenKrupp.

[Case information](#)

## / From the OJEU

### ■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Baloise / Fidea – Case M.9380 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 196/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EPH / AES Ballylumford / AES Kilroot Power – Case M.9372 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 196/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration VW Group / Intel / Allied Holdings / JV – Case M.9355 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 196/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Swiss Life / Montagu / Pondus – Case M.9344 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 195/01 – Case information](#)

### ■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration PGGM / Macquarie / MAGL – Case M.9391 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 199/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration YZJ Group / Mitsui E&S Group / Mitsui & Co Group / JV – Case M.9327 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 196/10 – Case information](#)

## / Brussels intern

### ■ Energy Relations

On 25 June EU Energy Ministers will discuss the external energy relations of the Union with its major partners: US, China, Africa and the East Mediterranean area (Egypt, Israel, Cyprus and Lebanon), with the aim to agree on long-term planning and development of new strategies.

[Discussion paper](#)

### ■ Climate Deal

By the end of the year, the European Council is expected to finalise its guidance on the EU strategy for the 2050 Climate Plan.

### ■ Common Corporate Tax Base

The Presidency of the Council released its latest compromise text on the proposal for a Council Directive on a Common Corporate Tax Base (CCTB).

[Compromise text](#)

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