



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

■ Brexit

The Presidents of the Council and the European Commission signed the Agreement on the Withdrawal of the UK. The European Parliament in plenary will have a vote on the agreement next week. Once the plenary has approved it, the Council will adopt the agreement on behalf of the Union on January 30th. As of February 1st the UK will no longer be a member of the EU and of the European Atomic Energy Community. The EU and the UK will then start negotiations on future relations during the transitional period, which shall end on December 31st.

[Agreement on the withdrawal – Q&A](#)

■ Future of Europe

The EC released a communication with its ideas for the upcoming Conference on the Future of Europe, which

is expected to be launched next May and should run for two years. The other European institutions are also working on their contributions for the Conference, and they will prepare a joint declaration which will define the scope, objectives and timing of the conference.

[EC Communication](#)

■ Climate Diplomacy

The Council adopted conclusions on climate diplomacy, one of the priorities of the new Commission. Both the Commission and the Member States will work together for a strategic approach to climate diplomacy by next June.

[Council conclusions](#)

■ Trade

The EU together with 16 Members of the WTO agreed to develop a multi-party interim appeal arrangement to preserve a two-step dispute settlement system.

[Joint statement](#)

■ 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

■ Payment Services Directive

The European Banking Authority published its update on the guidelines on fraud reporting under the revised Payment Services Directive II.

[EBA dedicated page](#)

■ Banking

The European Banking Authority launched a public consultation on possible future changes to the EU-wide stress test. Contributions can be submitted until April 30th.

[EBA dedicated page](#)

■ European Blockchain Service Infrastructure

The EC invited all interested parties to submit by March 2nd feedback on the scope of the future European Blockchain Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP).

[EC dedicated page](#)

/ Decisions

EC Decision of 23 January – Volvo Cars / AB Volvo / World of Volvo JV

■ Recreation activities

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over World of Volvo by Volvo Cars Corporation and AB Volvo.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 23 January – ZF / WABCO

■ Manufacture of equipment and accessories for motor vehicles

The EC approved the acquisition of WABCO by ZF.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 22 January – Daiwa Securities Group / Aquila Holding / Aquila Capital Holding

■ Financial service activities

The EC approved the acquisition of Aquila Capital Holding GmbH by Daiwa Securities Group Inc. and Aquila Holding GmbH.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 22 January – Associated British Foods / Wilmar International / AB Mauri Yihai Kerry China Investment Holding Company

■ Manufacture of food products

The EC approved the acquisition of a newly created joint venture, AB Mauri Yihai Kerry China Investment Holding Company Limited by Associated British Foods and Wilmar International Limited.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 21 January – Sanierungsklausel – Scheme on fiscal carry-forward of losses for companies in difficulty

■ Taxation

The EC found that the German reorganization tax measure does not constitute State aid.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 20 January – Novelis / Aleris

■ Aluminium production

The EC approved the acquisition of the Aleris Divestment Business by Liberty House Group Pte Ltd.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 20 January – Colony Capital / PSP / Etix

■ Data processing, hosting and related activities

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over Etix Group SA by Colony Capital Inc. and the Public Sector Pension Investment Board (“PSP”) of Canada.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 17 January – APMC Group / GSEZ Cargo Ports / GSEZ Mineral Port / TIPSP / ARISE

■ Sea and coastal freight water transport

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over four project companies to build or operate port terminals in West Africa by A.P. Moller Capital P/S (“APMC”).

[Case information](#)

/ From the OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Assicurazioni Generali / Seguradoras Unidas / AdvanceCare – Case M.9531 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 23/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration APMC Group / GSEZ Cargo Ports / GSEZ Mineral Port / TIPSP / Arise – Case M.9670 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 23/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Energizer / Spectrum Brands – Case M.8988 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 23/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Keppel Infrastructure / MET Capital / MET – Case M.9678 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 21/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Daimler / Geely / JV – Case M.9360 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 21/01 – Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration Cobepa / Gerflor – Case M.9718 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 24/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Telefonica / Prosegur / Prosegur Alarmas Espana – Case M.9559 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 23/13 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Mitsubishi Corporation / Eneco Groep – Case M.9699 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 23/12 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Mahindra & Mahindra / Ford Motor Company / Ardour – Case M.9691 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 23/11 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration SNAM / FSI / OLT – Case M.9641 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 20/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Columbia Threadneedle Investments / Brittany Ferries / Condor – Case M.9673 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 18/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration PSA / Saft / ACC – Case M.9479 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 18/06 – Case information](#)

/ Brussels intern

■ ■ Digital Taxation

EU Finance Ministers had an exchange of views on digital taxation. The debate confirmed that the international approach to the issue is still the best way forward; however, some Member States including France and Italy, stated their intentions to implement national measures if the OECD does not agree on that by the end of the year.

■ Artificial Intelligence

The new European Commission is working on measures to impose a temporary ban on the use of facial recognition technologies by public and private actors. A working document by the Commission is expected by the end of February.

/ Contact

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