



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

■ General Block Exemption Regulation

The EC launched a consultation on certain proposed amendments to the General Block Exemption Regulation, with the aim to facilitate the green and digital transition. Contributions can be submitted until 8 December. In particular the Commission is proposing to extend the possibilities for Member States to provide support for various types of green projects (such as reduction of CO2 emissions, clean or zero-emission vehicles and recharging and refuelling infrastructure); introducing new green conditions that need to be fulfilled for large energy-intensive businesses; facilitating investments in green hydrogen; widening the scope of aid for start-ups to include aid in the form of transfer of IPR; simplifying the conditions for granting research, development and innovation aid without prior notification and approval. The adoption of the revised GBER is planned for the first half of 2022.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Environment Council

EU Ministers had an exchange of views on the proposals presented by the Commission under the Fit for 55 package: revision of Directive 2003/87/EC establishing a scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading to implement the ambition of new 2030 climate target and related proposals; revision of Regulation 2018/842 on binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions by Member States from 2021 to 2030; revision of Regulation 2018/841 on the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry in the 2030 climate and energy framework; revision of Regulation 2019/631 setting CO2 emission performance standards for new passenger cars and for new light commercial vehicles. The debate focussed on the balance and interlinkages between the different proposals.

[Presidency background paper for the exchange of views](#)

■ UN Climate Change Conference

The Council adopted the EU's position for the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), inviting all parties to the Paris Agreement to come forward with ambitious national emissions reduction targets. The conclusions also set the EU's position as regards common time frames for emission reduction commitments included in each country's Nationally Determined Contributions.

[Council conclusions](#)

■ ■ Climate Finance

The Council released its conclusions on climate finance. The priority is mobilising private finance to help implement the Paris Agreement and encouraging transparent reporting on private finance mobilised for climate action.

[Council conclusions](#)

■ Taxation

The Council decided to remove Anguilla, Dominica, Seychelles from the EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes. Nine jurisdictions remain on the list: American Samoa, Fiji, Guam, Palau, Panama, Samoa, Trinidad and Tobago, US Virgin Islands and Vanuatu.

[Council conclusions](#)

/ Politics/General

■ Banking Sector

The European Banking Authority published its annual work programme for 2022.

■ Digital Energy Sector

The EC launched a consultation on the EU Action Plan to develop a competitive market for digital energy services and digital energy infrastructure. Contributions can be submitted until 24 January.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Energy Efficiency

Commission Recommendation of 28 September 2021 on Energy Efficiency First: from principles to practice – Guidelines and examples for its implementation in decision-making in the energy sector and beyond has been published in the EU Official Journal.

[Commission Recommendation 2021/1749](#)

■ Anti-dumping

Commission Implementing Regulation of 04 October 2021 amending Implementing Regulation 2019/1382 amending certain Regulations imposing anti-dumping or anti-subsidy measures on certain steel products subject to a safeguard measure has been published in the EU Official Journal.

[Commission Implementing Regulation 2021/1754](#)

■ 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](#)

[EBA Work Programme](#)

/ Decisions

EC Decision of 07 October – Blackstone / Francisco / Dynamo

■ Computer programming, consultancy and related activities; software publishing

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Dynamo Software Group by Blackstone and Francisco Partners Management L.P.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 07 October – Bain Capital / Hitachi Metals

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

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of Hitachi Metals Ltd. by Bain Capital Investors LLC.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 06 October – Advent International / Sobi

■ Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and preparations

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of Swedish Orphan Biovitrum AB by Advent International Corporation.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 06 October – Brookfield / Telia Company / Telia Towers

■ Wireless telecommunications activities

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Telia Towers AB and its subsidiaries Telia Towers Finland Oy and Telia Towers Norway AS by Brookfield Asset Management Inc and Telia Company AB.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 05 October – H&F / Zooplus

■ Retail sale of flowers, plants, seeds, fertilisers, pet animals and pet foods

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of Zooplus by Hellman & Friedman LLC.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 05 October – KKR / Telefonica / Infraco

■ Telecommunications

The EC approved the creation of InfraCo SAS, a new joint venture based in Colombia, by KKR&Co Inc. and Telefonica SA.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 04 October – Carlyle / Schaltbau Holding

■ Manufacture of electronic components

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of Schatlbau Holding AG by the Carlyle Group.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 01 October – NPM Capital / Infinitas

■ Publishing activities; retail sale of books

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of Infinitas Learning Holding B.V. by NPM Capital N.V.

[Case information](#)

/ From the OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration GS / Charlesbank / MDVIP – Case M.10469 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 406/04 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration DFDS / HSF Logistics Group – Case M.10216 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 406/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Primonial / Societe Generale / OPG Window – Case M.10421 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 406/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration NPM Capital / Infinitas – Case M.10363 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 406/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Apollo Management / AS Graanul – Case M.10414 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 403/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Brookfield / Telia Company / Telia Towers – Case M.10419 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 403/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Tecpetrol / Oaktree / Litoral Gas / ECS – Case M.10397 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 402/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration H.I.G. Capital / Cesar / SDA / VDM – Case M.10392 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 402/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Ceravis / Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft / E-VITA JV – Case M.10209 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 400/01 – Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration Schwarz Group / Cespa – Case M.10476 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 406/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Genstar Capital / TA Associates / 20-20 / Compusoft – Case M.10385 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 406/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Christian Burrus / OTPP / JV – Case M.10390 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 405/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration VINCI / Eiffage / SMTPC – Case M.10357 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 405/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration ECI / Bonak / Fast Group – Case M.10364 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 405/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Alta Percier / Bridgepoint / Latour / Primonial – Case M.10400 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 402/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Andel / Energi Danmark – Case M.10212 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 402/08 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Silver Lake / BV / Clubessential Holdings – Case M.10481 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 402/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Swiss Life Holding / Vauban Infrastructure Partners / Aves One – Case M.10470 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 402/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Kombiverkehr / Hupac / DXI Intermodal JV – Case M.10054 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 400/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Graphic Packaging Holding Company / AR Packaging Group – Case M.10353 has been published.

/ Brussels intern

■ Gas Market

The Commission is working on a set of measures to tackle the ongoing surge in energy prices. At next EU Summit meeting on 21-22 October EU leaders will discuss topics such as storage and security of supply, also in view of a possible proposal to reform EU gas market rules, which is due in December. In the meanwhile, Spanish Prime Minister presented a joint statement signed by France, the Czech Republic, Greece and Romania on how to mitigate price increases, proposing joint gas purchases and a reform of the wholesale electricity market. Last but not least, they stressed the importance of achieving the European energy independence.

■ EU-US Cooperation on Competition

At the Fordham International Antitrust Law and Policy Conference Commissioner Vestager called for new

forms of cooperation between competition regulators of the EU and US.

[Speech Commissioner Vestager](#)

■ Transatlantic Data Flows

A new EU-US data transfer agreement is expected to be discussed in a meeting next week between EU Justice Commissioner and his counterpart.

■ Cybersecurity

The European Commission shall present in the third quarter of next year the so-called European Cyber Resilience Act, which will also introduce common cybersecurity standards for connected devices.

/ Contact

For suggestions, comments please contact:

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