



## 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

### ■ State Aid Temporary Crisis Framework

The EC adopted a Temporary Crisis Framework to support Member States in the context of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. The framework will enable Member States to use the flexibility foreseen under State aid rules to mitigate the economic impact of the war and the sanctions through limited amounts of aid, liquidity support in the form of State guarantees and subsidised loans and a special aid to compensate companies for the additional costs linked to the high gas and electricity prices, subject to sustainability requirements. The framework will be in place until the end of the year.

[Temporary Crisis Framework for State Aid](#)

### ■ Competition Law and Russia/Ukraine

The European Competition Network (ECN) released a joint statement on the application of competition law in the context of the Russian’s invasion of Ukraine. In particular, the ECN underlined that it will not actively intervene against “strictly necessary and temporary initiatives specifically targeted at avoiding the severe disruptions caused by the impact of the war and or of sanctions in the single market”.

[ECN Joint Statement](#)

### ■ Digital Markets Act

The Council and the European Parliament reached a provisional political agreement on the Digital Markets Act, which provides a series of obligations and prohibitions for online platforms. Platforms with annual turnover of at least 7.5 billion euros within the EU in the past three years or with a market valuation of

at least 75 billion euros with at least 45 million monthly end users and 10.000 business users established in the EU qualify as gatekeepers. Platforms must also control one or more core platform services (such as marketplaces and app stores, search engines, social networking, cloud services, advertising services, voice assistants and web browsers) in at least three Member States. The EC will be the sole enforcer of the regulation and it can impose fines of up to 10% of the total worldwide turnover for violations and 20% in case of repeated offence. If a gatekeeper systematically fails to comply with the rules, the Commission can open a market investigation and impose behavioural or structural remedies. Final technical works will continue in the coming days in order to finalise the text. This agreement is subject to formal approval by the Council and the European Parliament. The regulation will apply six months after its entry into force.

The agreed text will be available soon.

[EC proposal – Council general approach – European Parliament position](#)

### ■ Energy

The EC released its legislative proposal to introduce a minimum 80% gas storage level obligation by 1 November 2022, this percentage will rise to 90% the following years. The Commission also presented a communication with the different options for market

intervention at European and national level. Among the alternatives, there is the creation of a Task Force on common gas purchases at EU level. The Commission will lead a joint negotiation team with gas suppliers for future energy partnerships.

[EC proposal for a Regulation on gas storage – Annex – EC Communication on security of supply and affordable energy prices – Annex](#)

### ■ ■ Cybersecurity

The EC published two proposals to establish common cybersecurity and information security measures. With the Cybersecurity Regulation the Commission intends to put in place a framework for governance, risk management and control in the cybersecurity area; the Information Security Regulation will create a minimum set of information security rules and standards for all EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies.

[EC proposal for Cybersecurity Regulation – EC proposal for Information Security Regulation](#)

### ■ 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

### ■ Money Laundering

The European Banking Authority published the findings of its assessment of competent authorities' approaches to the anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism supervision of banks.

[EBA Report](#)

### ■ Energy Security

The European Commission and the United States confirmed their energy cooperation in order also to reduce Europe's dependency on Russian energy. They will establish a joint Task Force on Energy Security which will be in charge among other things of ensuring additional LNG volumes to the EU. In the meantime, the European institutions are working on a new regulatory framework for energy security of supply and storage.

[EU-US Joint Statement](#)

## / Decision

### **EC Decision of 23 March – KKR / Accell Group**

■ **Manufacture of bicycles and invalid carriages; retail sale of sporting equipment in specialised stores**

The EC approved the acquisition of Accell Group N.V. by KKR & Co. Inc.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 21 March – Archer Daniels Midland Singapore / Clyde Investments**

■ **Manufacture of other food products n.e.c.; other professional, scientific and technical activities n.e.c.**

The EC approved the creation of a new joint venture by Archer Daniels Midland Singapore Pte Ltd. (“ADM Singapore”) and Clyde Investments.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 21 March – Porsche Austria / Wolfgang Denzel Auto / Saubermacher Dienstleistung / JV**

■ **Treatment and disposal of hazardous waste**

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture by Porsche Austria GmbH & CO OG, Wolfgang Denzel Auto AG and Saubermacher Dienstleistungs AG.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 18 March – SMS / Altor Fund Manager / Kaefer Holding / Kaefer Isoliertechnik**

■ **Building completion and finishing; other specialised construction activities**

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Kaefer Isoliertechnik by Altor Fund Manager AB, SMS GmbH and Kaefer Holding SE & Co. KG.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 18 March – Max Mara / Mitsui / MCJ**

■ **Manufacture of wearing apparel; retail and wholesale of clothing**

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control by Mitsui & Co. Ltd. And Max Mara Group over Max & Co. Japan Co. Ltd. (“MCJ”)

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 18 March – Carlyle / Altadia**

■ **Manufacture of paints, varnishes and similar coatings, printing ink and mastics**

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of LSFV Flavum Topco S.L. by The Carlyle Group Inc.

[Case information](#)

## / From the OJEU

### **■ Non-opposition to concentrations**

Non-opposition to the notified concentration State Street / BBH (Investor) – Case M.10499 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 130/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Lear Corporation / Interior Comfort Systems Business of Kongsberg Automotive Group – Case M.10512 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 129/04 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Assicurazioni Generali / Società Cattolica di Assicurazione – Case M.10360 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 129/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration CVC / Stock Spirits Group – Case M.10459 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 129/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Orange / Telekom Romania Communications – Case M.10153 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 126/04 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration SKY / VIACOMCBS / JV – Case M.10456 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 126/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration PAI PARTNERS / UVESCO – Case M.10614 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 126/02 – Case information](#)

#### ■ **Prior notification of concentrations**

Prior notification of the concentration CPP Investments / Votorantim / JV – Case M.10583 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 134/13 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration AIP / Macquarie / Aberdeen / Onivia – Case M.10678 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 134/12 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Lufthansa / VW / JV – Case M.10584 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 134/11 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Securitas / Stanley Security – Case M.10594 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 134/10 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Santander / Mapfre / JV – Case M.10531 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 134/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration VUB / Slovenska Sporitelna / Tatra Banka / 365.Bank / CSOB / JV – Case M.10378 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 134/08 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration SEGRO / PSPIB / Target Asset South Paris – Case M.10692 has been published.

[Document 2022/C 130/16 – Case information](#)

## / Brussels intern

### ■ **Sustainable Products Initiative**

The European Commission is planning to present on 30 March its initiative on sustainable products, including a revision of the Ecodesign Directive. The new sustainability rules aim to make all products more durable, reusable, repairable, recyclable. The Commission shall also introduce the EU Digital Product Passport, a mandatory tool which contains information about the composition of the goods. This initiative shall

cover a wide range of products, such as chemicals, electronics, textiles, furniture, steel and cement.

A second “circular economy” package is planned for the end of July and it will contain proposals to review the packaging and packaging waste directive together with a proposal for a regulation on substantiating environmental claims using the Product/Organisation Environmental Footprint methods (green claims).

## / Contact

### For suggestions, comments please contact:

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