

Europeanews

Regulatory & Governmental Affairs

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Main Topics

Law	Bank/Insurance/Tax	Environment	Media/Telecom	Competition/SA
Healthcare	Aviation/Transport	Foreign Trade	Energy Compliance	Food/Tobacco

Law

Net-Zero Industry Act

The EC published the so-called Net-Zero Industry Act, the initiative which aims to strengthen the resilience and competitiveness of net-zero technologies manufacturing in the EU. The proposed regulation will cover a series of technologies (among them solar photovoltaic and solar thermal, onshore wind and offshore renewable energy, batteries and storage, heat pumps, electrolyzers and fuel cells, carbon capture, grid technologies, sustainable alternative fuels technologies) which will receive particular support, such as improved conditions for investments, reduced administrative burden, simplified permit-granting processes. Together with the act, the Commission published a communication on the design and functions of the European Hydrogen Bank. The proposal will now be discussed and agreed by the European Parliament and the Council before entering into force.

[Net-Zero Industry Act – EC Communication on the European Hydrogen Bank](#)

Critical Raw Materials

The EC presented its proposal to ensure the EU's access to critical raw materials. In addition to identifying a list of strategic raw materials, the Commission sets clear benchmarks for domestic capacities along the supply chain. The act also aims to reduce the administrative burden and simplify permitting procedures for critical raw materials projects in the Union, while diversifying the European supply and protecting the environment. The proposal now needs to be discussed and agreed by the two co-legislators, the European Parliament and the Council before entering into force.

[EC dedicated page](#)

Electricity Market Design

The EC presented its proposal to reform the EU's electricity market design, which aims to mitigate volatile energy prices both for consumers and businesses and to ensure European energy sovereignty while achieving climate neutrality. Together with the Commission's proposals to review the Electricity Regulation and the REMIT Regulation, there is a Commission recommendation on the advancement of storage innovation. The reform is part of the Green Deal Industrial Plan to enhance European industry competitiveness and accelerate the transition to climate neutrality. The proposals will have to be discussed and agreed by the two co-legislators, the European Parliament and the Council before entering into force. Feedback on the two proposals can be submitted until 12 May.

[EC proposal on the revision of the Electricity Market design – EC proposal on the revision of EU's protection against market manipulation in the wholesale energy market rules – Recommendation for energy storage – EC consultation page – EC consultation page](#)

Energy Efficiency Directive

The European Parliament adopted the proposed revision of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption in the EU building sector by 2030 and make it climate neutral by 2050. Inter-institutional negotiations with the Council and the European Commission to agree on a final shape of the law can now start.

[European Parliament position](#)

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The European Parliament adopted the agreed text on the revision of the Effort Sharing Regulation, with increased binding annual reduction targets for greenhouse gas emission for sectors not covered in the EU Emissions Trading Scheme, such as road transport, heating of buildings, agriculture and waste management. The text needs to be formally endorsed by the Council. It will then be published in the EU Official Journal and enter into force 20 days later.

[Effort Sharing Regulation](#)

Emissions Trading System

The European Parliament approved the inter-institutional agreement reached with the Council on the revision of the Market Stability Reserve for the EU Emissions Trading System. The text will have to be formally endorsed by the Council and then it will be published in the EU Official Journal.

[Revision of the Market Stability Reserve](#)

Industrial Emissions

The Council reached a general approach on the proposal to revise the Industrial Emissions Directive. Inter-institutional negotiations with the European Parliament will start once the latter has agreed on its position.

[Council general approach](#)

Climate

The European Parliament adopted the agreed text on the revision of the regulation on the land use, land use change and forestry sector (LULUCF), which aims to improve natural carbon sinks and improve biodiversity in line with the European Green Deal. The text now needs to be formally endorsed by the Council. It will then be published in the EU Official Journal and enter into force 20 days later.

[LULUCF Regulation](#)

Ship Recycling Regulation

The EC launched a public consultation to collect inputs on the Ship Recycling Regulation. Contributions can be submitted until 7 June. Based on the results of this evaluation, the EC will consider to launch a revision process.

[EC consultation page](#)

Data Act

The European Parliament adopted its position on the Data Act. Among the changes to the original proposal of the EC, there are strengthened provisions to protect trade secrets. Once the Council has agreed on its position, inter-institutional negotiations on the final version of the law will start.

[European Parliament position](#)

Public Procurement Data

The EC presented its plan to create a European data space for public procurement data, which should be in place by mid-2023.

[EC dedicated page](#)

European Standardisation

Commission Notice “The 2023 annual Union work programme for European standardisation” has been published in the EU Official Journal.

[Document 2023/C 93/02](#)

Safety Gate

The EC published its annual report on the European Rapid Alert System for dangerous non-food products, which covers all alerts notified in 2022.

[EC dedicated page](#)

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

EU Competitiveness

The EC published a communication on how to secure long-term competitiveness of the EU through nine drivers, such as a functioning single market, access to private capital and investment, infrastructure, energy, digitalisation, trade and open strategic autonomy. The communication also includes a monitoring framework of 17 key performance indicators (KPI).

[EC dedicated page](#)

General Report

The EC published the EU General Report with the Union key activities in 2022.

[EC dedicated page](#)

Decision

EC Decision of 16 March – Orlen / SGE / OSGE Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture by Polski Koncern Naftowy S.A. (“Orlen”) and Synthos Green Energy S.A. (“SGE”).

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 15 March – DTC / IRCP / Diamond Transmission Partners / OFTO Business Transmission of electricity

The EC approved the acquisition of OFTO Business by Diamond Transmission UK Limited (“DTUK”) and Infrared Partners Limited (“IRCP”).

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 14 March – Stena / Midsona Wholesale of food, beverages and tobacco

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of Midsona AB by Stena Adactum AB.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 March – Abu Dhabi Ports Company / Noatum Holdings Sea and coastal freight water transport

The EC approved the acquisition of Noatum Holdings S.L.U. by Abu Dhabi Ports Company PJSC (“ADP”).

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 March – Agrofert / Borealis Nitro Manufacture of fertilisers and nitrogen compounds

The EC approved the acquisition of the nitrogen business of Borealis AG (“Borealis NITRO”) by AGROFERT Group.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 10 March – Macquarie / BCI / Eku Energy Electric power generation, transmission and distribution; manufacture of batteries and accumulators

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Eku Energy Group Limited by Macquarie Group Limited (“MGL”) and British Columbia Investment Management Corporation.

[Case information](#)

From the OJEU

Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Regal Rexnord / Altra – Case M.11007 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 101/04 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Firmenich International / Koninklijke DSM – Case M.10841 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 98/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Westcoast / Komsa – Case M.10990 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 98/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Macquarie / BCI / Eku Energy – Case M.11048 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 96/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Ermenegildo Zegna / The Estee Lauder Companies / Tom Ford International – Case M.11039 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 96/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration BDT Capital Partners / M+W Group / Exyte – Case M.11002 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 96/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EQT / Trescal – Case M.11011 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 95/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Magna International / Minth Group / Huainan Magna Minth Exteriors Systems JV – Case M.10998 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 95/01 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration The Hanwha Group / Daewoo Shipbuilding Marine Engineering – Case M.11028 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 98/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Orange / Masmovil / JV – Case M.10896 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 96/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration ADP / JCDECAUX / Media Aeroports de Paris JV – Case M.11023 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 96/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration XXXLUTZ / Home24 – Case M.10969 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 96/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Hitachi Construction Machinery / Kiesel / EAC – Case M.11031 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 93/07 – Case information](#)

Brussels intern

Product Liability Directive

The Presidency of the Council circulated a new draft of the revised Product Liability Directive, which will update the EU's liability framework. Discussions among Member States are still on-going.

EU-Thailand Trade

The EU and Thailand will relaunch negotiations for an ambitious free trade agreement, which will cover market access for goods and services, investment and government procurement, sanitary and phytosanitary procedures, intellectual property rights, raw materials and energy.

Contact

For suggestions, comments please contact:

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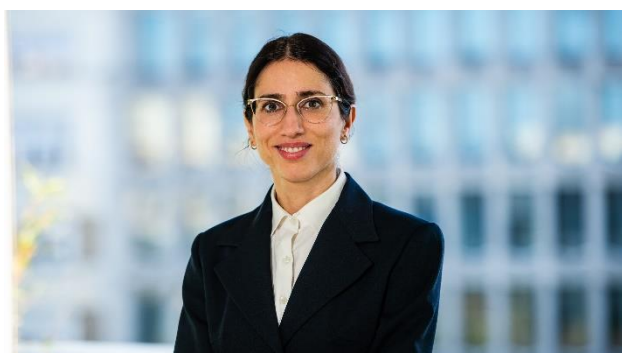
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