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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

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

The European Parliament voted in favor of the agreement reached with representatives of the Council and the European Commission on the proposal for a regulation to establish a carbon border adjustment mechanism, which aims to equalize the carbon price between domestic and imported products by putting a carbon price on certain imported products while phasing out free allocation of emissions allowances. The text now needs to be formally endorsed by the Council, then it will be published in the EU Official Journal and enter into force 20 days later.

Adopted text

Emissions Trading System

The European Parliament adopted the agreement reached with representatives of the Council and the European Commission on the proposal for a revision of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS). Its main elements are a reduced cap and more ambitious linear reduction factor for greenhouse gas emissions, revised rules for free allocation of allowances and the market stability reserve. The text will have to be formally endorsed by the Council before being published in the EU Official Journal.

Adopted text

Deforestation-Free Products

The European Parliament voted in favor of the agreement reached during the negotiations with representatives of the Council and the European Commission on the proposal to tackle deforestation and forest degradation. The regulation will introduce mandatory due diligence rules for companies placing forest and ecosystem-risk commodities and derived products on the EU market. Next step is the formal adoption by the Council, then it will be published in the EU Official Journal and enter into force 20 days later.

Adopted text

Merger Simplification Package

The EC adopted a package to further simplify its procedures for reviewing concentrations under the EU Merger Regulation. The package consists of a revised Merger Implementing Regulation (including also new annexes for the form CO, short form CO, form RS and form RM), a new Notice on Simplified Procedure and an updated Communication on the transmission of documents. The main aim is to simplify and expand the scope of the Commission's review process of simplified cases. The package will enter into force on 01 September 2023.

EC Commission Implementing Regulation – Notice on Simplified Procedure – Communication

Motor Vehicle Block Exemption Regulation

The EC extended the Motor Vehicle Block Exemption Regulation until 31 May 2028 and updated the Supplementary Guidelines for the sector. Among other things, the amendments to guidelines clarify that authorized and independent repairers should have access to data generated by vehicle sensors on an equal footing.

EC dedicated page - Guidelines

Antitrust – Technology Transfer Block Exemption Regulation

The EC launched a consultation on the functioning of the Technology Transfer Block Exemption Regulation ("TTBER") and the related Guidelines. The current rules will expire at the end of April 2026, therefore the Commission is collecting evidence on the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance and coherence of the rules, in order to evaluate whether to renew, revise or let expire the current TTBER. Contributions can be submitted until 24 July 2023.

EC dedicated page

State Aid

The EC launched a consultation on the draft text of a proposed revision of the rules on small amounts of aid, so-called de minimis aid, for services of general economic interest (SGEI). Contributions can be submitted until 01 June 2023. The rules are set to expire on 31 December 2023.

EC consultation page

Digital Markets Act

Commission Implementing Regulation of 14 April 2023 on detailed arrangements for the conduct of certain proceeding by the Commission pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2022/1925 of the European Parliament and of the Council has been published in the EU Official Journal.

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/814

Crypto Assets

The European Parliament approved the provisional agreements reached with the negotiators of the Council and the European Commission last June on the regulation to trace crypto-asset transfers, prevent money laundering and new common rules on the supervision, customer protection and environmental safeguards of crypto-assets, including crypto-currencies. The texts will have to be formally endorsed by the Council, before publication in the EU Official Journal. They will enter into force 20 days later.

Adopted text Regulation on Markets in Crypto-assets – Adopted text Regulation on information accompanying transfers of funds and certain crypto-assets

Banking Union

The EC adopted a proposal to adjust the existing bank crisis management and deposit insurance framework. In particular, the proposal will facilitate the use of deposit guarantee schemes in crisis situations. The package will now be discussed by the European Parliament and the Council.

EC dedicated page

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Ecodesign Rules

The EC adopted new ecodesign rules for electrical appliances (such as washing machines, TV sets and video game consoles) in standby mode, which will amend the 2008 Ecodesign Regulation on standby, off mode and networked standby. The regulation has been published in the EU Official Journal and will enter into force 20 days later.

EC regulation

Anti-dumping

Commission Implementing Regulation of 17 April 2023 extending the anti-dumping duty imposed by Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1408 on imports of certain hot rolled stainless steel sheets and coils originating in Indonesia to imports of certain hot rolled stainless steel sheets and coils consigned from Türkiye, whether declared as originating in Türkiye or not has been published in the EU Official Journal.

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/825

Chips Act

Negotiators of the European Parliament, the Council and the EC reached a political agreement on the European Chips Act, proposed in February 2022. The deal is now subject to formal approval by the two co-legislators, the Council and the European Parliament. The agreed text will be available soon.

EC dedicated page

Cybersecurity

The EC adopted its proposal on the EU Cyber Solidarity Act which aims to strengthen cybersecurity capacities in the EU to better detect and prepare for significant or large-scale cybersecurity incidents. The Commission has also proposed a targeted amendment to the Cybersecurity Act to enable the future adoption of European certification schemes for "managed security services". The European Parliament and the Council will now examine the proposed regulation on the EU Cyber Solidarity Act and the targeted amendment to the Cybersecurity Act.

EC proposal on the Cyber Solidarity Act - EC amendment to the Cybersecurity Act

Machinery and Equipment Regulation

The European Parliament approved the provisional agreement on the machinery and equipment regulation reached last December with representatives of the Council and the European Commission. The text now needs to be formally endorsed by the Council before being published in the EU Official Journal.

Adopted text

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Marketing Standards Agri-Food Products

The EC presented its proposals to revise the existing marketing standards applicable to a number of agrifood products, such as fruit and vegetables, juices, jams, honey, poultry and eggs. The proposals will amend rules on origin labelling, food waste and packaging waste. The texts are available for public feedback until 19 May. Afterwards, the delegated acts will be adopted and sent to the European Parliament and the Council for a scrutiny period of two months, while the proposed directives will follow the ordinary co-legislative procedure.

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

Data Protection

The European Data Protection Board released its guidelines on the right of access of data subjects.

EDPB Guidelines

Decision

EC Decision of 20 April – Cinven / MBCC Divestment Business Manufacture of chemicals, plaster products, cement, concrete products

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of part of the MBCC Group ("MBCC Divestment Business") by Cinven Partnership LLP ("Cinven").

Case information

EC Decision of 17 April – Macquarie / Ivanhoe / RHP Partners Manager GP / JV Buying and selling of own real estate

Buying and selling of own real estate

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture by Macquarie Real Estate Investments Holdings Inc. ("Macquarie"), RHP Partners-Manager GP LLC ("RHP") and IC USA LP ("Ivanhoe").

Case information

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EC Decision of 14 April – XXXLutz / home24 Retail sale of furniture, lighting equipment and other household articles in specialized stores

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of home24 by XXXLutz, jointly controlled by LSW GmbH and SGW-Immo GmbH.

Case information

From the OJEU

Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration Rocky / Centerbridge / Indus Reit – Case M.11097 has been published.

Document 2023/C 138/06 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration PAI Partners / Gegenbauer Group – Case M.11087 has been published.

Document 2023/C 138/05 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration One / Macquarie / Trapac – Case M.11056 has been published.

Document 2023/C 137/08 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration Axpo Iberia / Acsa Obras e Infraestructuras / Noguera Renovables – Case M.11089 has been published.

Document 2023/C 137/07 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration BNP Paribas Fortis / Matexi / R20 JV – Case M.11079 has been published.

Document 2023/C 137/06 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration Ebert Hera Esser Holding / ServiceCo – Case M.11075 has been published.

Document 2023/C 136/04 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration HG / EFMS / Trustquay / Viewpoint – Case M.11067 has been published.

Document 2023/C 136/03 – Case information

Prior notification of the concentration Blackstone / CDPQ / Invenergy / AEP Renewables / AEP Wind Holdings / Trent Wind Farm / Desert Sky Wind Farm – Case M.11092 has been published.

Document 2023/C 133/04 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration Equitix / Cube / River Ridge - Case M.11055 has been published.

Document 2023/C 133/03 - Case information

Brussels intern

Corporate Due Diligence

The responsible Committee of the European Parliament is expected to vote on its position (report) on the proposal for a Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive by the end of the month. The report will then be voted by the Parliament in plenary, most likely during the session of the end of May. Once the Parliament has adopted its position, inter-institutional negotiations with representatives of the other two institutions, the Council and the European Commission, on the final shape of the directive will start.

Contact

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