INOERR

Europanews

Regulatory & Governmental Affairs

Issue 40/2023. 13 - 17 November 2023

Table of Contents

Law	1
Politics / General	2
Decision	3
From the OJEU	4
Brussels intern	6
Contact	7

Main Topics

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

Law

Critical Raw Materials Act

Negotiators of the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission reached an agreement on the proposed Critical Raw Materials Act, according to which the EU should extract 10%, recycle 15% and process 40% of its annual needs by 2030 for 16 strategic raw materials. The new law will also set time limits on granting permits for strategic mining, recycling and processing projects. The political agreement now needs to be formally adopted by both the European Parliament and Council to become law. The agreed text will be available soon.

EC proposal for a regulation establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials

Cybersecurity

The Council reached an agreement on the proposed targeted amendment of the EU's Cybersecurity Act of (CSA) 2019. The amendment aims to include European cybersecurity certification schemes for "managed security services" in the scope of the CSA Regulation. Inter-institutional negotiations with the European Parliament on the final version of the text will start soon.

Council position

Environmental Crime

Negotiators of the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission reached a provisional agreement on the proposed directive on the protection of the environment through criminal law, which will replace the 2008 directive. The new law will define environmental crime more precisely and will add new types of environmental criminal offences, also harmonizing the level of penalties both for natural and legal persons across all EU Member States. The agreement still needs to be formally adopted by the Council and the Parliament. The agreed text will be available soon.

EC proposal for a Directive on the protection of the environment through criminal law

Waste Shipments

Negotiators of the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission reached a provisional political agreement on the proposal to update the regulation on shipments of waste, which will cover intra-EU shipments of waste, both imported and exported waste from/to third countries and transit of waste shipments through the Union to/from third countries. The agreement still needs to be formally adopted by the Council and the Parliament. The agreed text will be available soon.

EC proposal for a new Regulation on waste shipments

Methane Emissions

Negotiators of the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission reached a provisional agreement on the regulation on methane emissions reduction in the energy sector. Under the new law the fossil gas, oil and coal industry will be obliged to properly measure, monitor, report and verify their methane emissions according to the highest monitoring standards and take action to reduce them. The regulation will also tackle the methane emissions related to the imports. The provisional agreement needs to be formally adopted by both the European Parliament and the Council. The text of the agreement will be available soon.

EC proposal

Trade Tool

The EU launched a new tool which will enable European exporters to reduce red tape by making better use of the EU's Mutual Recognition Agreements with third countries. The new Access2Conformity service will help exporters to find key information country by country relating to customs duties, taxes, procedures, formalities, rules of origin, export measures or barriers to trade.

EC dedicated page

Anti-dumping

Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of optical fibre cables originating in India has been published in the EU Official Journal.

Document C/2023/891

Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of certain polyvinyl chloride ("PVC"), originating in Egypt and the United States of America has been published in the EU Official Journal.

Document C/2023/1033

Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports of titanium dioxide ("TiO2"), originating in the People's Republic of China has been published in the EU Official Journal.

Document C/2023/786

Notice of initiation of an anti-dumping proceeding concerning imports mobile access equipment ("MAE"), originating in the People's Republic of China has been published in the EU Official Journal.

Document C/2023/783

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

Trade Report

The EC published its 3rd Annual Report on the Implementation and Enforcement of EU Trade Policy.

Dedicated page

Banking

The European Banking Authority launched a consultation on its draft Guidelines on complaints handling by credit servicers under the Credit Servicers Directive (CSD). Contributions can be submitted until 9 February.

EBA dedicated page

Decision

EC Decision of 16 November – Kingspan / STEICO Manufacture of non-metallic mineral products and plastic products

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of STEICO SE by Kingspan Group plc. <u>Case information</u>

EC Decision of 16 November – INEOS / Sinopec / ABS JV Manufacture of basic chemicals, fertilisers and nitrogen compounds, plastics and synthetic rubber

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture by INEOS AG and China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation ("SINOPEC").

Case information

EC Decision of 15 November – Norwegian / Strawberry / Loyaltyco JV Information service activities; computer facilities management activities

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture by Norwegian Air Shuttle ASA and Strawberry Holding AS. <u>Case information</u>

EC Decision of 13 November – TPG / KKR / A-Gas Manufacture of industrial gases; remediation activities and other waste management services

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Clean TopCo Limited ("A-Gas") by TPG Inc and KKR and Co. Inc.

Case information

EC Decision of 13 November – Dachser / Dachser & Fercam Italia

||**N**

Freight transport by road

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of Dachser & Fercam Italia Srl by Dachser SE. <u>Case information</u>

EC Decision of 10 November – TA Associates / Warburg Pincus / Epassi Activities auxiliary to financial services, except insurance and pension funding

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Epassi Group Oy by TA Associates Management L.P. ("TA Associates") and Warburg Pincus LLC. Case information

EC Decision of 10 November – Meta / Kustomer Computer programming; web portals; telecommunications activities; advertising

The EC approved the commitments made by Meta to obtain clearance of its acquisition of Kustomer. <u>Case information</u>

From the OJEU

Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration AXA Spain / GACM Spain – Case M.10986 has been published.

Document C/2023/1043 - Case information

Non-opposition to the notified concentration KPS Capital Partners / Real Alloy Europe – Case M.10702 has been published.

Document C/2023/1026 - Case information

Non-opposition to the notified concentration GTCR / Worldpay – Case M.11245 has been published.

Document C/2023/1024 - Case information

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Nestle / PAI Partners / JV – Case M.11147 has been published.

Document C/2023/1023 - Case information

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EFMS / SK Square / SK Shieldus – Case M.11090 has been published.

Document C/2023/1009 - Case information

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Kanton Graubünden / Swiss Energy Infrastructure / RePower – Case M.11266 has been published.

Document C/2023/1008 - Case information

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Octopus Energy / Legal & General Capital Investments / Kensa Group – Case M.11188 has been published.

Document C/2023/913 - Case information

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Yokohama Rubber Co / Trelleborg Wheel Systems Holding – Case M.10821 has been published.

Document C/2023/912 - Case information

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Lone Star / Centromotion - Case M.11176 has been published.

Document C/2023/888 - Case information

Non-opposition to the notified concentration BDT / Sofima Holdings / Sofima – Case M.11258 has been published.

Document C/2023/887 - Case information

Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration GI Group / European Staffing Business of Kelly – Case M.11307 has been published.

Document C/2023/1035 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration Totalenergies / Air Liquide / JV – Case M.11138 has been published.

Document C/2023/1027 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration SVP / Apcoa – Case M.11352 has been published.

Document C/2023/1021 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration Carlyle / GTCR / Captrust - Case M.11347 has been published.

Document C/2023/1012 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration Contemporary Amperex Technology / Aneka Tambang / Feni Haltim / HPAL Joint Venture – Case M.11348 has been published.

Document C/2023/1011 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration I Squared Capital / TDR Capital / Applus – Case M.11340 has been published.

Document C/2023/1007 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration Grain / BAM / Blackstone / PTI – Case M.11354 has been published.

Document C/2023/1006 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration Brookfield / Schoeller Allibert – Case M.11325 has been published.

Document C/2023/919 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration Vodafone UK / Three UK / Vodafone UK Holdings – Case M.11308 has been published.

Document C/2023/910 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration PSA / Duisport / Hupac / HTS / DGT – Case M.11237 has been published.

Document C/2023/904 - Case information

Prior notification of the concentration GCA / BPMA / VA / VP – Case M.11174 has been published.

Document C/2023/903 - Case information

Brussels intern

Data Act

The Council is expected to formally adopt the regulation on harmonised rules on fair access to and use of data (so-called Data Act) on 27 November. The text will then be published in the EU Official Journal and enter into force.

||**|N**

Cyber Resilience

By the end of November negotiators of the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission are expected to reach a political agreement on the final version of the Cyber Resilience Act, which will introduce security requirements for connected devices. Apparently, discussions are still ongoing on the provisions regarding the list of critical products that must undergo conformity assessment procedures with certified auditors.

Contact

For suggestions, comments please contact:

Noerr Partnerschaftsgesellschaft mbB Rechtsanwälte Steuerberater Wirtschaftsprüfer Rue Guimard 9 1040 Brussels Belgium

Co-Head of Regulatory & Governmental Affairs



Dr. Holger Schmitz Partner

T +49 30 20942160 holger.schmitz@noerr.com

Co-Head of Regulatory & Governmental Affairs



Dr. Alexander Birnstiel Partner

T +49 89 28628241 alexander.birnstiel@noerr.com

||**|N**

Associated Partner



Dr. Dr. Claus Zimmermann Associated Partner

T +32 4 91905460 claus.zimmermann@noerr.com

Regulatory Affairs Advisor



Giovanna Ventura Legal Advisor

T +32 2 2745573 giovanna.ventura@noerr.com