



## Europaneews

### Regulatory & Governmental Affairs

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## / Content

Law.....	1
Politics/General .....	3
Decisions.....	3
From the OJEU.....	4
Brussels intern .....	5
Contact .....	5

## / Main Topics

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

## / Law

### ■ State Aid for Energy and Environment

The EC launched a consultation on the revision of certain aspects of the Guidelines on State Aid for Environmental Protection and Energy. The guidelines have been prolonged until 31 December 2021, but they need to be revised in light of new technologies and to be aligned to the new European Green Deal policy framework. On that regard, the scope of the guidelines should be expanded in order to cover more policy objectives. Interested parties can submit their feedback until 07 January 2021. The new guidelines shall be in place by the end of next year.

[EC consultation page](#)

### ■ Zero Pollution Ambition

The EC launched a public consultation on its Action Plan for zero pollution for air, water and soil; a key pillar of the European Green Deal. Contributions can be submitted until 10 February 2021.

[EC consultation page](#)

### ■ Dual-Use Items

The Presidency of the Council and the European Parliament negotiators reached a provisional political agreement on a revised regulation setting out the EU regime for the control of exports, brokering, technical assistance, transit and transfer of dual-use items. The agreement now needs to be endorsed by Member States' ambassadors. Then, both Parliament and Council will have to formally adopt the proposed regulation. The Commission presented its original

proposal to review the export control regime in 2016 in order to follow technological developments and include new criteria to the export licenses for certain items due to growing security risks. The agreed text will be available soon.

[EC proposal](#)

### ■ EU-US Trade

The EU agreed on a series of countermeasures against US exports. In particular, the bloc adopted additional tariffs of 15% on US aircraft and 25% on US agricultural goods. Last October the World Trade Organization formally authorised the EU to take such countermeasures against illegal US subsidies to Boeing.

[EC Implementing Regulation 2020/1646 on commercial policy measures](#)

### ■ Data Transfers

The EC published two sets of draft model data protection clauses, one on standard contractual clauses between controllers and processors located in the EU and the other on the transfer of personal data to third countries, to launch the process to revise the existing Standard Contractual Clauses. Feedback can be submitted until 10 December. The final clauses will be adopted by the Commission after having obtained the positive opinion of Member States' representatives. The updated clauses will be complemented by the guidance of the European Data Protection Board.

[EC implementing decision on standard contractual clauses between controllers and processors – EC](#)

[implementing decision on standard contractual clauses for the transfer of personal data – EDPB guidance](#)

### ■ EU Intellectual Property

The Council adopted a set of conclusions on key elements of the future European framework on intellectual property. In particular, the Council underlines the importance of an efficient and transparent system of protection and invites the Commission to present proposals also for the revision of the legal framework on industrial design protection.

[Council conclusions](#)

### ■ Consumer Agenda

The EC launched a new vision for European consumer policy, focusing on green transition, digital transformation, effective enforcement of consumer rights and international cooperation. In the coming months the Commission will present the initiatives announced in the agenda, including legal proposals aiming to provide better information on products' sustainability and on the substantiation of green claims based on the Environmental Footprint methods.

[New Consumer Agenda](#)

### ■ 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 Agreements

The EC published the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Report on the Implementation of the EU's trade agreements in 2019.

[Report on the Implementation of EU Trade Agreements – Staff Working Document](#)

### ■ Green Data Centre

The EC published the results of a study addressing the issue of energy consumption by cloud services and data centres. The document provides also some recommendations on future policy options to limit the increase in the demand of electricity by 2030 and to foster green data centres and cloud computing.

[EC dedicated page](#)

### ■ Energy Markets

The Council of European Energy Regulators published its 2019 Self-Assessment Status Report that summarises the results of the self-assessments performed by national regulatory authorities for the roadmap to well-functioning retail energy markets.

[CEER Self-Assessment Status Report](#)

### ■ Solvency II

The European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority published its updated Risk Dashboard based on the second quarter of 2020 Solvency II data.

[EIOPA dedicated page](#)

## / Decisions

### EC Decision of 12 November – Bavarian gigabit scheme

#### ■ Broadband infrastructures

The EC approved the German scheme to support the deployment of very high capacity connectivity infrastructures.

[Case information](#)

### EC Decision of 12 November – BlackRock / Koninklijke Vopak / US Gulf Coast Terminals

#### ■ Service activities incidental to land and water transportation

The EC approved the acquisition of three US Gulf Coast Terminals by Koninklijke Vopak N.V. and BlackRock Alternatives Management LLC.

[Case information](#)

### EC Decision of 11 November – Bertelsmann / Schweizerische Post / Cinfoni

#### ■ Activities auxiliary to financial services and insurance activities

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over the newly created joint venture Cinfoni AG by Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA and Die Schweizerische Post AG.

[Case information](#)

### EC Decision of 10 November – Altor Fund Manager / Stena / Gunnebo

#### ■ Security systems service activities

The EC approved the acquisition of Gunnebo AB by Altor Fund Manager and Stena Adactum AB.

[Case information](#)

## EC Decision of 10 November – Amazon Marketplace and Amazon Buy Box

### ■ Data processing and related activities; web portals; retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet

The EC sent Statement of Objections to Amazon for the use of non-public independent seller data and opened second investigation into its e-commerce business practices.

[Case information](#) – [Case information](#)

## EC Decision of 09 November – Warburg Pincus / Vista Equity Partners Management / Infoblox

### ■ Computer programming, consultancy and related activities

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Infoblox Inc. by Warburg Pincus LLC and Vista Equity Partners Management.

[Case information](#)

# / From the OJEU

## ■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EDP / Viesgo – Case M.9929 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 383/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Sumitomo / AAR / JV – Case M.9954 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 381/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Natura Cosmeticos / Avon Products – Case M.9445 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 380/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Hoyer / Rhenus / JV – Case M.10002 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 380/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Unilabs / Medbase / JV – Case M.9861 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 379/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration UTC / Raytheon – Case M.9434 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 379/02](#) – [Case information](#)

## ■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration Leonardo / Thales / VSB – Case M.9892 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 383/08](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Vestas / MHI Vesta JV – Case M.10013 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 381/15](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Telefonica / Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria / Movistar Money Colombia JV – Case M.10007 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 381/14](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Exclusive Networks / Veracomp Business – Case M.9907 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 381/13](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration CIMIC / Elliott / Thiess – Case M.9984 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 380/11](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Permira / Neuraxpharm – Case M.9995 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 380/10](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Trenitalia / Netinera Deutschland – Case M.9996 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 380/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration International Flavors & Fragrances / Nutrition & Biosciences – Case M.9827 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 380/08 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration SEGRO / PSPIB / SELP / Gonesse Site – Case M.9988 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 377/13 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Hellman & Friedman / Carlyle / Vantage – Case M.10023 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 377/12 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Hg / KKR / Citation – Case M.10012 has been published.

[Document 2020/C 377/11 – Case information](#)

## / Brussels intern

### ■ European Data Spaces

Major representatives of the EU announced the intention to launch the process for a European Health Data Space next year, with the goal to have by 2025 an interoperable data access infrastructure in place.

Already with the Data Governance Act, that shall be presented next week, the Commission will set up a horizontal framework for the use and re-use of sensitive data.

## / Contact

### For suggestions, comments please contact:

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