



## Europaneews

### Regulatory & Governmental Affairs

Issue 06/2021. 08 – 12 February 2021

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## / Main Topics

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

## / Law

### ■ ■ Privacy and Electronic Communications

The Committee of Permanent Representatives of Member States agreed on a negotiating mandate for a proposal to revise the rules on the protection of privacy in electronic communications. The regulation will cover electronic communications content transmitted using publicly available services and networks, and metadata related to the communication. Inter-institutional negotiations with the European Parliament on the final text can now start. The draft regulation will repeal the existing rules, Directive 2002/58/EC, and will complement the General Data Protection Regulation. The new regulation would enter into force 20 days after its publication in the EU Official Journal, and would start to apply two years later.

[Council position](#)

### ■ State Aid

The EC published a guiding template on support to digitalisation of news media under the Recovery and Resilience Facility.

[Guiding template](#)

### ■ Carbon Border Levy

The Environment Committee of the European Parliament adopted its own-initiative report on the creation of a so-called carbon border adjustment mechanism no later than 2023. The carbon border adjustment mechanism should cover all imports and should be linked to a reformed emissions trading scheme. The Parliament is expected to vote on the resolution during the plenary session in March. The Commission plans to present its legislative proposal on the mechanism in June.

[EP draft report “Towards a WTO-compatible EU carbon border adjustment mechanism” – Amendments](#)

#### ■ Climate Change

The EC launched a consultation on new rules to prevent methane leakage in the energy sector. Contributions can be submitted until 30 April.

[EC consultation page](#)

#### ■ Financial and Insurance Services

The EC launched a consultation on the review of current VAT rules for financial and insurance services

in light of the rise of the digital economy and the increase in the outsourcing of input services by financial and insurance operators. Contributions can be submitted until 3 May and will feed into the review of the VAT Directive and to a future legislative proposal.

[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

#### ■ Digital Markets

The European Data Protection Supervisor released its opinions on the Commission’s proposals for a Digital Services Act and a Digital Markets Act. On the DSA, the Supervisor recommends additional measures to better protect individuals regarding content moderation, online targeted advertising and recommender systems used by online platforms. On the DMA, the Supervisor calls for the introduction of explicit obligations on minimum interoperability requirements for Big Tech platforms.

[Opinion on the DSA – Opinion on the DMA](#)

#### ■ Hydrogen Networks

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators and the Council of European Energy Regulators released a white paper on how to regulate hydrogen networks.

[ACER-CEER White Paper](#)

#### ■ Energy System

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators and the Council of European Energy Regulators published a white paper on how to regulate power-to-gas facilities in the context of a European Integrated Energy System.

[ACER-CEER White Paper](#)

#### ■ Gas Markets

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators and the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG) jointly published a policy paper with recommendations to mitigate potential misconduct in EU gas balancing markets.

[ACER – ENTSOG Policy Paper](#)

#### ■ Markets in Financial Instruments Directive

The European Banking Authority launched a public consultation on its draft Implementing Technical Standards on the information concerning the new prudential requirements that competent authorities will be required to disclose for investment firms

authorised under the MiFID. Contributions can be submitted until 11 May.

[EBA consultation paper](#)

## / Decisions

### **EC Decision of 11 February – Mitsui / Belchim Crop Protection**

■ **Manufacture of pesticides and other agrochemical products; wholesale of chemical products**

The EC approved the proposed acquisition of Belchim by Mitsui, subject to conditions.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 10 February – EQT / Zentricity / Cajelo / Recipharm**

■ **Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and preparations**

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Recipharm AB by EQT Fund Management Sarl, Zentricity Holding AB and Cajelo Invest Ltd.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 10 February – Partners Group / Atlantia / Telepass**

■ **Service activities incidental to land transportation**

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over Telepass Spa by Partners Group AG and Atlantia Spa.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 05 February – A.P. Moller / APMH Invest / Faerch Group**

■ **Manufacture of plastic packing goods**

The EC approved the acquisition of Faerch Group A/S by APMH Invest A/S, a wholly owned subsidiary of A.P. Möller Holding A/S.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 05 February – Covestro / Koninklijke DSM (Resins & Functional Materials Business and Other Assets)**

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

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of the Resins & Functional Materials businesses of Koninklijke DSM N.V. by Cavestro AG.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 05 February – Volvo / Daimler / JV**

■ **Manufacture of electric motors, generators, transformers and electricity distribution and control apparatus; manufacture of parts and accessories for motor vehicles**

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture called Daimler Truck Fuel Cell by Aktienbolaget Volvo and Daimler Truck AG, part of the Daimler group.

[Case information](#)

### **EC Decision of 05 February – Stirling Square Capital Partners / TA Associates / NBS Group**

■ **Computer programming, consultancy and related activities**

The EC approved the acquisition of NBS Group by TA Associates Management L.P. and Stirling Square Capital Partners Jersey AIFM Limited.

[Case information](#)

## EC Decision of 05 February – FSN Capital / Obton Invest / Obton Group

■ Electric power generation, transmission and distribution; fund management activities

The EC approved the acquisition of Obton Group by Obton Invest and FSN Capital VI.

[Case information](#)

## / From the OJEU

### ■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Harris Corporation / L3 Technologies – Case M.9234 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 48/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Stirling Square Capital Partners / TA Associates / NBS Group – Case M.10100 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 48/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Credit Agricole Italia / Credito Valtellinese – Case M.10095 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 48/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EQT / Molslinjen – Case M.10120 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 47/05 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Partners Group / Warburg Pincus / Ecom Express Private – Case M.10131 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 47/04 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration United Group / Forthnet – Case M.9866 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 46/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Mann Mobilia / Tessner Holding / Tejo / Roller – Case M.9609 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 43/02 – Case information](#)

### ■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration Temasek / Gategroup – Case M.10152 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 49/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration PPG / Tikkurila – Case M.10123 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 47/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Sanacorp Pharmahandel / Leopold Fiebig and Gerda Nüchel – Case M.10141 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 47/08 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Nexi / Nets Group – Case M.10075 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 46/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration PAI partners / Euro Ethnic Foods – Case M.10088 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 46/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Ares / OTP / TricorBraun – Case M.10150 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 46/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration EFMS / VFMF / Focus Vision / Confermit / Dapresy – Case M.10140 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 46/04 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration OTP / SL GIO II / SGI – Case M.10155 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 46/03 – Case information](#)

## / Brussels intern

### ■ Digital Markets Act

In a recent interview Commissioner Vestager affirmed that an agreement on the Commission's proposal for a Digital Markets Act could be reached in Spring 2022.

### ■ Enforcement of EU Competition Rules

The European Commission is expected to mandate an external study to assess its methodology on fines, in order to find out whether they are both proportionate and deterrent.

## / Contact

### For suggestions, comments please contact:

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