



Europeanews

Regulatory & Governmental Affairs

Issue 17/2021. 26 – 30 April 2021

/ Content

Law.....	1
Politics/General	2
Decisions.....	3
From the OJEU.....	4
Brussels intern	4
Contact	5

/ Main Topics

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

/ Law

■ Artificial Intelligence

The EC invites interested parties to submit feedback by 22 June on its proposal for a regulation on a European approach on AI adopted last week. All feedback received will be presented to the European Parliament and Council with the aim of feeding into the legislative debate.

[EC dedicated page](#)

The same exercise has been opened with regard to the proposal for the revision of the Machinery Directive.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Intellectual Property

The EC launched two public consultations linked to its Intellectual Property Action Plan. With the first consultation on industrial design protection, the

Commission aims to obtain views of all those affected on selected issues in view of the review of the Community Design Regulation (Regulation 6/2002). The second consultation refers to EU-wide protection of geographical indications for non-agricultural products. Both consultations will remain open until 22 July.

[EC consultation on the revision of the EU legislation on design protection – EC consultation on EU-wide protection of geographical indications](#)

■ Brexit

The European Parliament in plenary voted in favour of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement, agreed last December. The Council also adopted a decision on the conclusion of the agreement. This is the last step in the ratification process. On 1 May the TCA will enter into force.

[EU-UK TCA](#)

■ Customs Legislation

The EC calls interested parties to submit feedback until 19 July on its mid-term evaluation of the Union Customs Code, with the aim to assess to what extent it achieved its objectives.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Digital Taxation

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on digital taxation. MEPs call for a minimum effective tax rate to reduce tax avoidance and prevent damaging tax competition. In the coming months the European Commission is expected to present a proposal on a digital services tax.

[EP resolution on digital taxation](#)

■ Corporate Sustainability Reporting

The EC invites interested parties to submit feedback to its proposal to amend requirements in the Non-Financial Reporting Directive. Contributions can be submitted until 22 June.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Better Regulation

The EC adopted a Communication on Better Regulation, proposing a number of improvements to the EU law-making process.

[EC Communication Better Regulation](#)

■ 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

■ Deposit Guarantee Schemes

The European Banking Authority launched a public consultation on its draft Guidelines on the delineation and reporting of available financial means of Deposit Guarantee Schemes. Contributions can be submitted until 28 July.

[EBA consultation paper](#)

■ Crypto-Assets

The Opinion of the European Central Bank on a proposal for a Regulation on Markets in Crypto-assets, amending Directive 2019/1937 has been published.

[ECB Opinion](#)

■ Energy

The Council of European Energy Regulators published its report on Monitoring Europe's national energy regulators.

[CEER Report](#)

/ Decisions

EC SoO of 30 April – App Store Practices (music streaming)

■ **Computer programming activities; software publishing**

The EC sent Statement of Objections to Apple on App Store rules for music streaming providers.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 29 April – Retail sale of hardware; wholesale of hardware; wholesale of wood, construction materials and sanitary equipment

■ **Aluminium production**

The EC approved the acquisition of Stark Group by CVC.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 29 April – Amerisourcebergen / Parts of Walgreens Boots Alliance's Pharmaceutical

■ **Wholesale of pharmaceutical goods; dispensing chemist in specialised stores**

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control over the wholesale pharmaceutical businesses of Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc. in Algeria, Croatia, Czechia, Egypt, France, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey, the UAE and the UK and the retail pharmaceutical business of Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc. in the Netherlands, Norway and Lithuania by Amerisourcebergen.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 28 April – Germany EEG 2021

■ **Production of electricity; water transport; manufacturing**

The EC approved prolongation and modification of the German scheme to support electricity production from renewable energy sources and from mine gas, as well

as reductions of charges to fund support for electricity from renewable sources.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 28 April – SSA Bonds

■ **Activities auxiliary to financial services, except insurance and pension funding**

The EC fined Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Credit Agricole and Credit Suisse for participating in SSA bonds trading cartel.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 27 April – KPS Capital Partners / Hydro Rolling

■ **Aluminium production**

The EC approved the acquisition of Norsk Hydro's Aluminium Flat Rolled Products business by KPS Capital Partners LP.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 26 April – ICG / Dr. Axel Paeger / Ameos

■ **Hospital activities**

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over AMEOS Gruppe AG by Dr. Axel Paeger and Intermediate Capital Group plc.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 25 April – Clearlake / TA Associates / Precisely

■ **Software publishing**

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over Startfish Parent L.P. active under the brand Precisely, by Clearlake Capital Group L.P. and TA Associates Management L.P.

[Case information](#)

/ From the OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Clearlake / TA Associates / Precisely – Case M.10214 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 154/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration ICG / Dr. Axel Paeger / AMEOS – Case M.10207 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 154/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Covestro / Koninklijke DSM (Resins & Functional Materials Business and Other Assets) – Case M.10006 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 147/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Francisco Partners / Marlin Equity Partners / Conan Holdco – Case M.10060 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 147/01 – Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration TA Associates / Partners Group / Unit4 – Case M.10245 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 154/12 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Clearlake / TA Associates / Infogix – Case M.10257 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 154/11 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Hisense Group / Sanden – Case M.10265 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 154/10 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Korian / VYV / Technosens Evolution – Case M.10020 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 154/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration OTPP / Nikky Investments / Logoplaste – Case M.10224 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 154/08 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration The Coca-Cola Company / Coca-Cola HBC / WABI CCH JV – Case M.10208 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 154/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Shell / NXK – Case M.10170 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 149/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Clearlake / TA Associates / Charlesbank / Ivanti – Case M.10233 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 149/04 – Case information](#)

/ Brussels intern

■ Emission Trading System

The European Commission intends to include in the revised EU Emission Trading System the sectors of transport and buildings. The proposal will be included in the June package.

■ Anti-Money Laundering

The European Commission aims to present on 12 May its legislative package on anti-money laundering.

/ Contact

For suggestions, comments please contact:

Noerr Partnerschaftsgesellschaft mbB Rechtsanwälte Steuerberater Wirtschaftsprüfer
Boulevard du Régent 47-48
1000 Brussels
Belgium

Head of Regulatory & Governmental Affairs



Dr. Holger Schmitz
T +49 30 20942160
holger.schmitz@noerr.com

Co-Head of Regulatory & Governmental Affairs



Dr. Alexander Birnstiel
T +49 89 28628241
alexander.birnstiel@noerr.com

Regulatory Affairs Advisor



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