



Europeanews

Regulatory & Governmental Affairs

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/ Content

Law.....	1
Politics/General	2
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

■ Vertical Block Exemption Regulation

The EC launched a public consultation on the draft revised Vertical Block Exemption Regulation (“VBER”) and Vertical Guidelines. Contributions can be submitted until 17 September. The aim of the Commission is to adapt the current framework to the developments of the market. The new rules shall enter into force on 1 June 2022.

[EC consultation page](#)

■ Broadband Networks

The EC published a Staff Working Document summarising the results of the evaluation of the State aid rules for the deployment of broadband networks, that is the Broadband Guidelines and the corresponding provisions of the General Block Exemption Regulation. The results of evaluation show that overall the existing rules are fit for purpose, but

some adjustments may be needed. In the coming weeks, the Commission will publish a roadmap and will invite stakeholders to share their views; then a public consultation on the draft revised Guidelines will be launched, most likely in Autumn.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Sustainable Finance Strategy

The EC adopted a comprehensive package of measures to improve the level of ambition on sustainable finance. In particular, it adopted a new Sustainable Finance Strategy, with six sets of actions, and the European Green Bond Standard. The Commission will report on the implementation of the strategy by the end of 2023 and will actively support Member States in their efforts on sustainable finance.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Climate Law

The Council adopted its position at first reading on the so-called European climate law, following the political agreement reached with the European Parliament last April and the Parliament's adoption of its position in June. The main objective of the regulation is achieving a climate-neutral EU by 2050, but it also sets a binding target of a reduction of net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030 compared to 1990. The Commission will engage with sectors of the economy that choose to prepare indicative voluntary roadmaps towards achieving the Union's climate neutrality objective and it will also facilitate dialogue at EU-level and sharing of best practices among relevant stakeholders. Now the law needs to be signed and published in the EU Official Journal before entering into force.

[Regulation of the EP and the Council establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulations 401/2009 and 2018/1999](#)

■ Anti-dumping

Commission Implementing Regulation of 2 July 2021 amending Commission Implementing Regulation 2019/159 imposing a definitive safeguard measure against imports of certain steel products has been published in the EU Official Journal.

[Commission Implementing Regulation 2021/1091](#)

Commission Implementing Regulation of 25 June 2021 repealing the definitive anti-dumping duties on

imports of certain seamless pipes and tubes of iron or steel originating in the People's Republic of China imposed by Implementing Regulation 2015/2272 has been published in the EU Official Journal.

[Commission Implementing Regulation 2021/1053](#)

■ Trade

Commission Implementing Regulation of 24 June 2021 amending Commission Implementing Regulation 2019/159 to prolong the safeguard measure on imports of certain steel products has been published in the EU Official Journal.

[Commission Implementing Regulation 2021/1029](#)

■ Data Protection

The EC adopted two adequacy decisions for the UK, one under the General Data Protection Regulation and the other for the Law Enforcement Directive. For the first time, the decisions include a so-called "sunset clause", which limits their duration to four years after their entry into force.

[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

■ Competition Policy

The EC published its Report on Competition Policy for 2020, with the key policy and legislative initiatives and a selection of decisions adopted last year.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ EU Environmental Policies

The special report of the European Court of Auditors on the Polluter Pays Principle has been published in the EU Official Journal.

[Special report 12/2021](#)

■ Banking

The special report no. 13/2021 on the EU efforts to fight money laundering in the banking sector has been published in the EU Official Journal.

[Special report 13/2021](#)

■ Renewable Support Schemes

The Council of European Energy Regulators published its Status Review of Renewable Support Schemes in Europe for 2018 and 2019.

[CEER Report](#)

/ Decisions

EC Decision of 08 July – Car Emissions

■ Manufacture of motor vehicles

The EC fined Daimler, BMW, Volkswagen, Audi and Porsche for restricting competition in emission cleaning for new diesel passenger cars.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 08 July – P27 NPP / Bankgirot

■ Financial service activities

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over Bankgirocentralen BGC AG, through a newly-created joint venture, the P27 Nordic Payment Platform (“P27 NPP”) by six Nordic banks.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 08 July – Macquarie / Warburg Pincus / PTSG

■ Specialised construction activities

The EC approved the acquisition of Premier Technical Services Group Limited by Warburg Pincus LLC and Macquarie Group Limited.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 08 July – Apollo Management / Verizon Media Group

■ Data processing, hosting and related activities; information service activities

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control over Verizon Media Group by Apollo Management LP.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 07 July – Transgourmet Group / General Markets Food Iberica

■ Wholesale of food, beverages and tobacco

The EC approved the acquisition of General Markets Food Iberica Group by Transgourmet Holding AG.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 07 July – Standard Industries / Grace

■ Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products

The EC approved the acquisition of W.R. Grace & Co. by Standard Industries Holding Inc.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 05 July – Astrazeneca / Alexion Pharmaceuticals

■ Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and preparation

The EC approved the acquisition of Alexion Pharmaceuticals Inc. by AstraZeneca PLC.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 02 July – ABP / Slaney / Linden

■ **Collection of non-hazardous waste; treatment and disposal of non-hazardous waste; production of meat**

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control over Slaney and Linden by ABP.

[Case information](#)

/ From the OJEU

■ **Non-opposition to concentrations**

Non-opposition to the notified concentration CDPQ / ATI / ATI European Communications Infrastructure Business – Case M.10328 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 272/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Elexent / GP JOULE Connect / Elexent DACH JV – Case M.10327 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 269/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Astorg Asset Management / Solina – Case M.10312 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 266/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration PSP / Aviva / 10 Station Road – Case M.10289 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 262/02 – Case information](#)

■ **Prior notification of concentrations**

Prior notification of the concentration Equistone Partners Europe / CVG – Case M.10345 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 274/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration ICG / Circet – Case M.10346 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 272/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Lixil / Schüco / JV – Case M.10271 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 272/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Caisse des depots / Bain Capital / Digital Aftermarket – Case M.10331 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 272/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration BNPPF / Bpost Bank – Case M.10286 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 269/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration SYNEX / Tech Data – Case M.10268 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 269/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Global Payments / Erste Group / Payone Businesses – Case M.10348 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 269/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration CVC / CDPQ / WAVS – Case M.10313 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 266/10 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Macquarie / Beuparc Utilities – Case M.10354 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 266/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Bain Capital / Valeo – Case M.10324 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 266/08 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration BDT Capital Partners / Culligan Group – Case M.10351 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 266/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration CVC / MeGa Grundbesitz – Case M.10235 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 266/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Hanse Werk / EDF / IPP / EARH / Hypion JV – Case M.10243 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 266/05 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration DSV / Agility – Case M.10321 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 262/10 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Triton / Bergman Clinics – Case M.10255 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 262/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Brose / Sitech – Case M.10232 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 262/08 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration CDPQ / DWS / Ermewa – Case M.10305 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 262/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Primonial / Samsung / Target – Case M.10373 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 262/06 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Leonard Green & Partners / Goldman Sachs Group / AEA Investors / Visual Comfort – Case M.10342 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 262/05 – Case information](#)

/ Brussels intern

■ State Aid

The Temporary Framework that enables Member States to use the full flexibility foreseen under State aid rules to support the economy in the context of the coronavirus outbreak is expected to be extended into next year.

■ Energy Charter Treaty

The fifth round of negotiations on the reform of the Energy Charter Treaty took place in June, however no substantial progress has been made to modernise the

agreement, in particular with regard the definition of economic activity in the energy sector. Another round of talks started this week.

/ Contact

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