



Europaneews

Regulatory & Governmental Affairs

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/ Main Topics

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

/ Law

■ State Aid - Energy and Climate

The EC endorsed new Guidelines on State aid for climate, environmental protection and energy (CEEAG), aligning the rules with the European Green Deal and the other objectives in the energy and environmental sectors. In particular, the new guidelines intend to support the decarbonisation of the economy through different technologies and tools including renewables, energy efficiency measures, aid for clean mobility, circular economy. The CEEAG will be formally adopted in January, then they will be applicable.

[Guidelines on State aid for climate, environmental protection and energy 2022](#)

■ State Aid for Railway Companies

The EC launched a consultation on the revision of Guidelines on State aid for railway companies. Contributions can be submitted until 16 March. The

proposed revision considers extending the scope of the guidelines, removing barriers to market entry or expansion of new market players. The adoption of the new guidelines is foreseen for the end of 2023.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ International Procurement Instrument

The European Parliament adopted its negotiating position on the International Procurement Instrument proposal, which aims at ensuring access of European companies to public procurement markets outside the Union. Inter-institutional negotiations with the Council and the Commission can now start. The EC presented its proposal in 2012, but it got stuck in legislative negotiations, therefore a revised text was presented in 2016.

[Text adopted](#) – [Council general approach](#) – [EC initial proposal](#) – [EC amended proposal 2016](#)

■ Fair Taxation – Shell Entities

The EC presented a proposal to tackle the misuse of shell entities for improper tax purposes. The proposal should ensure that entities in the EU that have no or minimal economic activity are unable to benefit from any tax advantages and to not place any financial burden on taxpayers. Once adopted by Member States, the proposal should come into force as of 1 January 2024.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Fair Taxation – Minimum Corporate Taxation

The EC published its proposal for a directive ensuring a minimum effective tax rate for the global activities of large multinational groups. The proposal follows the international agreement recently agreed by 137 countries, setting out how the principles of the 15% effective tax rate will be applied in practice within the Union. The proposed rules will apply to any large group, both domestic and international, with a parent company or a subsidiary situated in an EU Member State. By the end of 2023, the EC will publish a new framework for business taxation in the EU.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Carbon Emissions Heavy-Duty Vehicles

The EC launched a consultation on the revision of the legislation with the aim to set more ambitious emission-reduction targets for heavy-duty vehicles. Contributions can be submitted until 14 March.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Resilience of Critical Entities

The Council adopted the general approach on the proposal for a directive on the resilience of critical entities, paving the way for inter-institutional negotiations with the European Parliament to start. The directive aims to help strengthen the level of protection and resilience of infrastructure that provide fundamental services for social and economic activities, updating the rules in place in light of the new challenges. The proposal covers critical entities in different sectors such as energy, transport, banking, digital infrastructure, health, waste and space.

[General approach](#)

■ Single Market Scoreboard

The EC published the Single Market Scoreboard 2021, which provides a detailed overview of the application of the EU single market rules in the European Economic Area in 2020. Three new policy areas and indicators have been included in the report: circular economy/greening of industry, market surveillance and SME's business environment.

[Scoreboard – Performance per Member State](#)

■ 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

The EC appointed Mr Martin Lukas as Director for the trade defence directorate in the Directorate-General for Trade of the European Commission.

■ REMIT

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators published the Recommendation on the reasoned amendments to the Capacity Allocation and Congestion Management Regulation (CACM Regulation).

[ACER dedicated page](#)

■ ACER Work Programme

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators published its 2022 Work Programme. Among the priorities monitoring the implementation and effects of Electricity and Gas Network Codes and Guidelines and promoting the integrity of wholesale energy markets under REMIT.

[ACER Work Programme](#)

■ Electricity

The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators published the first Implementation Monitoring Report on progress in Member States in implementing the EU-wide Network Code on Electricity Emergency and Restoration.

[ACER report](#)

/ Decisions

EC Decision of 21 December – Deutsche Bahn DB Cargo

■ Damage compensation

The EC approved German support to compensate Deutsche Bahn for damages suffered by its subsidiary DB Cargo due to the coronavirus outbreak.

[Case information SA.63847](#)

EC Decision of 21 December – SHV Energy / UGI International Holding / JV

■ Manufacture of gas; wholesale of solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of a newly created joint venture by SHV Energy N.V. and UGI International Holdings B.V.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 20 December – Microsoft / Nuance

■ Computer programming, consultancy and related activities

The EC approved the proposed acquisition of Nuance Communications Inc. by Microsoft Corporation.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 20 December – Bellis / KKR / Jaja

■ Other financial service activities

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Jaja Finance Holding Limited by Bellis Phantom Holdco Limited and KKR & Co. Inc.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 20 December – German Scheme

■ Production of hydrogen

The EC approved the German scheme to support investments in production of renewable hydrogen in non-EU countries.

[Case information SA.62619](#)

EC Decision of 17 December – Meridiam / Allianz / NeuConnect

■ Transmission of electricity

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of NeuConnect Holdings BV by Meridiam SAS and Allianz Group.

[Case information](#)

/ From the OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Ardian France / RG Safety – Case M.10549 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 519/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Adecco / AKKA – Case M.10465 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 514 I/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration CPP Investments / Votorantim / Votener – Case M.10557 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 514/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Totalenergies / Three Gorges Corporation / JV – Case M.10536 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 512 I/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Acciaieria Arvedi / Finarvedi / Acciai Speciali Terni / Thyssenkrupp Stainless / Thyssenkrupp Stainless Turkey Metal Sanayi Ve T – Case M.10513 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 512/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Advent International / Eurazeo / Planet Payment Group – Case M.10358 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 512/01 – Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration Mitsubishi / Chubu Electric Power Miraiz / MCRE – Case M.10542 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 518/03 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration BGTF Renewable Holdings / ACEK / Benjumea Family / Powen – Case M.10552 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 518/02 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration ABM / YKA / Hebei Mauri – Case M.10411 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 514 I/04 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Faurecia / Hella – Case M.10488 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 514/03 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration WMG / BlackRock Group / Influence Media / The Initial Fund – Case M.10422 has been published.

[Document 2021/C 512/05 – Case information](#)

/ Brussels intern

■ ■ ETS Road Transport

EU Ministers at the Council meeting of 20 December discussed the proposal to extend the current EU ETS to road transport. Divergences remain between countries, with Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Romania expressing some concerns about the possible negative effects for the most vulnerable citizens.

■ ■ Sustainable Finance Taxonomy

The European Commission is expected to start the consultation process on new rules on sustainable finance taxonomy by the end of the year. Key point is whether to label nuclear energy and gas as climate-friendly investments.

/ Contact

For suggestions, comments please contact:

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