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/ Main Topics



/ Law

■ General Block Exemption Regulation

The EC adopted a targeted amendment to the General Block Exemption Regulation to grant EU Member States more flexibility with regard to measures in key sectors for the transition to climate neutrality and to a net-zero industry. Among other things, the amendment aims to facilitate the implementation of certain projects in the area of environmental protection and energy; increase the notification thresholds for environmental aid and prolong the GBER until the end of 2026. The Regulation will be formally adopted in the coming weeks and it will enter into force on the day following its publication in the EU Official Journal.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ State Aid – Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework

The EC adopted the so-called Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework which will amend and prolong in part the Temporary Crisis Framework adopted in March 2022 following the invasion of Ukraine by Russia and it will also introduce new measures to further support measures in key sectors for the net-zero economy. The new instrument is applicable until 31 December 2025.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Energy Efficiency Directive

Negotiators of the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission reached a provisional agreement on the reform of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive, with an EU energy efficiency target of 11.7% for 2030, higher than the original Commission's proposal. The agreement needs to be formally adopted

by the two co-legislators, the Council and the European Parliament. The agreed text will be available soon.

■ Aluminium Alloys

Commission Delegated Directive of 16 December 2022 amending Directive 2000/53/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the exemptions for the use of lead in aluminium alloys for machining purposes, in copper alloys and in certain batteries has been published in the EU Official Journal.

[Commission Delegated Directive \(EU\) 2023/544](#)

■ 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

■ Financial Markets

The European Securities and Markets Authority published the results of the annual transparency calculations for equity and equity-like instruments, which will apply from 1 April 2023 until 31 March 2024.

[ESMA dedicated page](#)

/ Decision

EC Decision of 09 March – Regal Rexnord / Altra

■ Manufacture of bearings, gears, gearing and driving elements

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of Altra Industrial Motion Group by Regal Rexnord Corporation.

[Case information](#)

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 08 March – Kaufland / SCP Real Assets

■ Real estate activities; retail sale in non-specialised stores with food, beverages or tobacco predominating

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of three real estate properties in Cologne, Stuttgart and Waiblingen ("SCP Real Assets") by Kaufland Immobilien GmbH & Co. KG.

EC Decision of 08 March – Westcoast / Komsa

■ Wholesale of computers, equipment and software; wholesale of electronic and telecommunications equipment

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of Komsa AG by Westcoast Holdings Limited.

[Case information](#)

The information in this newsletter does not replace advice in any particular case.

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EC Decision of 06 March – Magna International / Minth Group / Huainan Magna Minth Exteriors Systems JV

■ Manufacture of parts and accessories for motor vehicles

The EC approved the creation of a joint venture by Magna International Inc. and Minth Group Limited.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 03 March – Partners Group / GHO / Sterling Pharma

■ Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Sterling Pharma by Partners Group and GHO Capital Management.

[Case information](#)

/ From the OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Apollo / Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings – Case M.10919 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 87/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Bouygues Immobilier / CLC Holdings / CLC France Property JV – Case M.10954 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 87/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration PAI Partners / The Carlyle Group / Theramex – Case M.10749 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 87/01 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Rothschild & Co / Andera Partners / Financiere Canella – Case M.11038 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 86/04 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Vodafone Group / Altice Luxembourg / Fibreco – Case M.10973 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 86/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration PON.BIKE / VWFS / Glinicke / DML – Case M.11009 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 86/02 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration CAF / Coradia Polyvalent Business / Talent 3 Business – Case M.10616 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 86/01 – Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration KKR / April – Case M.11020 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 89/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Derichebourg / Elior – Case M.11044 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 89/07 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration PAI Partners / Savory Solutions Group – Case M.11050 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 87/15 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration ICG / Scopelec / Setelen – Case M.10996 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 86/11 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Verdane Capital 2020 / FSN Capital VI / Polytech Group – Case M.11041 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 86/10 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Itochu / Amci / Fitzroy Qld Resources – Case M.11004 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 86/09 – Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Mitsubishi Corporation / Mitsubishi HC Capital / JV – Case M.11045 has been published.

[Document 2023/C 82/04 – Case information](#)

/ Brussels intern

■ Industrial Emissions Directive

Representatives of EU Member States are still debating on the proposal to review the Industrial Emissions Directive. If everything goes well, they will adopt the Council position on 16 March.

■■ CO2 Emission Standards

The Presidency of the Council cancelled the vote originally planned for 7 March on the agreement reached last November with representatives of the European Parliament on the CO2 emission standards

for new cars and vans from 2035. The Presidency failed to propose a new date due to the absence of a qualified majority among Member States on the text agreed.

■■ Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation

Nex inter-institutional meeting on the AFIR proposal is scheduled for 27 March, it could be the last time negotiators of the Council, European Parliament and Commission meet to find a compromise on the text.

/ Contact

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