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- Aviation/Transport
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LAW

■ Free Flow of Non-personal Data

The European Parliament, Council and Commission reached a political agreement on the proposal for a regulation on a framework for the free flow of non-personal data. The new rules will allow data to be stored and processed everywhere in the EU, prohibiting data localisation restrictions. Member States will have to communicate to the Commission any remaining restrictions, which will be allowed only in limited specific situations. The text will have to be formally endorsed by the co-legislators, the Council and the Parliament.

The Commission presented its proposal in September 2017; the Council and the European Parliament had only two trilogue before reaching an agreement.

The agreed text will be available soon.

[Four column document](#)

■ Copyright

The Legal Affairs Committee of the European Parliament adopted the report on the proposal for a Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market, after long-lasting negotiations. This vote will be followed by a vote in plenary in early July but the outcome is not obvious. The draft contains two controversial issues: a neighbouring right for press publishers of 5 years (article 11) and obligations for online content sharing service providers (article 13).

Consumer organisations, internet companies, media associations and other groups have expressed their concerns on the text.

The EC presented its proposal two years ago. The Council agreed on its position on 25 May, even if six Member States (Belgium, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Slovenia and The Netherlands) voted against. Inter-institutional negotiations between the Council, the Parliament and the Commission will start only after the Parliament has agreed on its stance.

The adopted text will be available soon.

[Committee draft report](#)

■ Digital Single Gateway

The Committee of Permanent Representatives of the Council endorsed the agreement reached between the Presidency of the Council and the EP to set up a single digital gateway which will provide access to online information and procedures, assistance and problem solving services to citizens and companies. The co-legislators will have to confirm the agreement formally after the Summer break. The regulation is part of the Compliance Package.

[Draft regulation on establishing a single digital gateway](#)

■ Energy Efficiency

The European Parliament, Council and Commission agreed on the proposal for a Directive on Energy Efficiency, after six rounds of negotiations. The new regulatory framework will include an energy efficiency target of 32.5% by 2030, with an upwards revision clause by 2023. Contrary to what proposed by the Parliament, this is a non-binding target. The text will have to be formally approved by the co-legislators. Once endorsed by the Council and the Parliament, the Directive will be published in the Official Journal of the EU and will enter into force 20 days after publication. Member States will have to transpose the new rules into national law 18 months after its entry into force.

The Energy Efficiency Directive is part of the Clean Energy for all Europeans Package, which was published by the Commission in November 2016.

The agreed text will be available soon.

[Four-column document on the proposal for a Directive on energy efficiency](#)

■ Governance of Energy Union

The European Parliament, Council and Commission reached a deal on the proposal for a Regulation for a Governance of the Energy Union, which is part of the Clean Energy for all Europeans Package. The proposal calls for each Member State to prepare national energy and climate plan for the period 2021-2030; it also stresses the importance of regional cooperation for the implementation of such policies. The proposal contains also the goal to achieve net-zero emissions as early as possible. The text will have to be formally approved by the EP and the Council. Then the regulation will be published in the Official Journal of the Union and will enter into force 20 days after publication.

The agreed text will be available soon.

[Four-column document on the proposal for a Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union](#)

■ Renewable Energy

The Council and the European Parliament reached last week a political agreement on the proposal for a directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources. The directive will introduce a binding renewable energy target for 2030 of 32% with an upwards revision clause by 2023. The text of the Directive will have to be formally approved by the EP and Council. Once endorsed by both co-legislators in the coming months, the updated Renewable Energy Directive will be published in the Official Journal of the EU and will enter into force 20 days after publication. Member States will have 18 months to transpose the new rules into national law.

[Final compromise text](#)

■ ECN+

The Committee of Permanent Representatives of the Council endorsed the agreement reached on 30 May between the Presidency of the Council and the EP on the proposal to enable Member States' competition authorities to be more effective enforcers of EU antitrust rules. The new rules will provide the NCAs with common instruments and adequate tools for imposing sanctions for infringements; coordinate leniency programmes and also strengthen cooperation between national competition authorities and the EC.

The Council and the EP are expected to formally adopt the directive after the Summer break. Then the directive will be published in the EU Official Journal. Following its entry into force, Member States will have two years to transpose the new rules into the national law.

[Compromise text of the proposal for a Directive to empower the competition authorities of the Member States](#)

■ Public Procurement

The Internal Market Committee of the European Parliament approved its own-initiative report on the Public Procurement Strategy Package. The vote in plenary is expected for September. The European Commission presented a package of two Communications and one Recommendation in the area of public procurement on 3 October 2017. With this report the members of the Parliament ask the Commission to better organise the guides and other tools developed to help Member States with the implementation of the public procurement framework in a more accessible and user-friendly way. They also call for more cooperation between contracting authorities and the market in order to develop innovative methodologies and to overcome the lowest price as the primary award criterion. The Commission should also adopt a European Code of Ethics for Public Procurement.

The adopted text will be available soon.

[Committee draft report](#)

■ Steel and Aluminium Tariffs

The EC adopted the regulation putting in place the EU's rebalancing measures in reaction to US steel and aluminium tariffs. The list of US imports that will face an extra duty includes steel, aluminium products and agricultural goods, et al. The Implementing Regulation will enter into force on 22 June.

[List of products](#) – [Commission Implementing Regulation](#)

■ VAT Fraud

The Council reached a political agreement on new tools to close loopholes in the EU's VAT system. The regulation will strengthen cooperation between Member States, amending Regulation 904/2010. The new rules will be adopted without further discussion once the EP has delivered its opinion. They will enter into force 20 days after the publication in the Official Journal of the EU. Their application will be deferred until 1 January 2020.

[Draft proposal for a Council Regulation](#)

■ Pan-European Pension Product

The Council agreed its negotiating position on the proposal for a regulation on a pan-European Pension Product (PEPP). Inter-institutional negotiations will start as soon as the European Parliament approves its stance.

[Council text on the proposal for a Regulation on a Pan-European Personal Pension Product](#)

■ 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

■ Brexit

The EC and the UK published a Joint Statement on the progress achieved so far on the terms of the draft Withdrawal Agreement.

[Joint Statement](#)

■ EU-Australia Trade Agreement

The EC and Australia launched negotiations for a comprehensive and ambitious trade agreement with the aim to remove barriers to trade in goods and services.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ EU-New Zealand Trade Agreement

The EC and New Zealand launched negotiations for a comprehensive and ambitious trade agreement with the aim to remove barriers to trade in goods and services.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Economic and Monetary Union

The EC published a paper on deepening the Economic and Monetary Union. The document will be discussed by the EU Heads of State and Prime Ministers at the European Council meeting on 28-29 June.

[Commission Note](#)

■ Banking

The European Banking Authority published its 2017 Annual Report.

[EBA Report](#)

■ Capital Requirements Regulation

The European Banking Authority launched a public consultation on draft Regulatory Technical Standards on the conditions to allow institutions to calculate capital requirements of the securitised exposures (KIRB) in accordance with the purchased receivables approach laid down in the amended Capital Requirements Regulation. Contributions can be submitted until 19 September.

[EBA consultation paper](#)

■ Solvency II

The European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority published an expanded set of statistical information on the European insurance sector based on Solvency II regulatory reporting for the fourth quarter of 2017.

[EIOPA dedicated page](#)

■ RES Tendering Procedures

The Council of European Energy Regulators published its report on tendering procedures for Renewable Support Scheme (RES) in Europe.

[CEER dedicated page](#)

DECISIONS

EC Decision of 20 June – Potential Aid to GDF Suez

■ Tax advantage or tax exemption

The EC found that the tax benefits to Engie from Luxembourg was illegal and order the country to recover around 120 million euro.

[Case information](#)

EC Investigation of 20 June – LNG Supply to Europe

■ Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply

The EC opened a formal investigation to assess whether supply agreements between Qatar Petroleum companies exporting liquefied natural gas and European importers caused restrictions to the free flow of gas.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 19 June – Mitsubishi Corporation / Arjun Infrastructure Partners / South Staffordshire

■ Water collection, treatment and supply

The EC approved the acquisition of South Staffordshire plc (“SSF”) by Arjun Infrastructure Partners Limited (“AIP”) and Mitsubishi Corporation.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 19 June – HSBC / Global Payments

■ Activities auxiliary to financial services

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over JVCO by HSBC Holdings plc. and Global Payments Inc.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 19 June – Permira / Cisco (Target Businesses)

■ Television programming and broadcasting activities; information technology

The EC approved the acquisition of the Service Provider Video Software and Solutions (“SPVSS”) business of Cisco Systems, Inc. by Permira Holdings Limited (“Permira”).

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 18 June – Sumitomo Corporation / Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group / Sumitomo Mitsui Finance and Leasing Company

■ Renting and leasing of water transport equipment

The EC approved the joint acquisition of Sumitomo Mitsui Finance and Leasing Company (“FL”) and its wholly-owned subsidiary SMFL Capital Co. Limited (“FLC”), by Sumitomo Corporation and Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (“FG”).

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 15 June – TUI / Hotelbeds Group Destinations Services Business

■ Travel agency activities; tour operator activities

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control over the destination management services business of the Hotelbeds Group by TUI.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 15 June – Comcast / Sky

■ Television programming and broadcasting activities

The EC approved the proposed acquisition of Sky by Comcast.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 15 June – Fortum / Uniper

■ Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply

The EC approved the acquisition of Uniper by Fortum.

[Case information](#)

FROM THE OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration HSBC / Global Payments – Case M.8901 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 218/03 – Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Strabag / Max Bögl International / SMB – Case M.8496 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 218/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Stadtwerke Olching / BAG Netz / NG Olching / Olching Verwaltungs GmbH – Case M.8835 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 218/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Nufarm / Century – Case M.8725 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 214/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Apollo Management / Cyprus Cooperative Bank / Altamira Cyprus – Case M.8888 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 210/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration BHAP / Gestamp China / Manufacturing JV / Sales JV – Case M.8903 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 210/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Goldman Sachs / Antin Infrastructure Partners / City Fibre Infrastructure Holdings – Case M.8935 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 210/01](#) – [Case information](#)

■ **Prior notification of concentrations**

Prior notification of the concentration Neste / Demeter Animal Fats and Proteins – Case M.8823 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 218/12](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Mitsui / Kansai / JV – Case M.8973 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 217/10](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration PIMCO / Echo / JV – Case M.8904 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 216/06](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Wieland / Aurubis rolled products / Schwermetall – Case M.8900 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 216/05](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Kaiser+Kraft / Hoffmann / Simple System – Case M.8850 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 214/11](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Advent International / Zentiva – Case M.8937 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 214/10](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Apollo Management / Generali Belgium – Case M.8929 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 214/09](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration MEC / Mitsui / SDPSK / JV – Case M.8866 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 214/08](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Total Produce / Dole Food Company – Case M.8829 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 214/07](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration HPS / MDP / HAPS – Case M.8987 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 210/07](#) – [Case information](#)

BRUSSELS INTERN

■ **Internal Market in Natural Gas**

The Presidency of the Council asked Member States for further guidance on some aspects of the proposal for a Directive on common rules for the internal market in natural gas, which will amend Directive 2009/73/EC. Technical discussions are still on-going at the Council Working Group.

[Presidency note](#)

■ **Circular Economy**

At the Council meeting of next 25 June, EU Environment Ministers are expected to adopt Council conclusions on delivering the EU action plan for the circular economy, providing the Commission with guidance for the implementation of this action plan.

■ **Type-approval of Vehicles**

The Presidency of the Council presented a revised compromise version of the proposal for a regulation which will amend Regulation 168/2013 as regards the application of the Euro 5 step to the type-approval of two or three wheel vehicles and quadricycles. Discussions at the Council Working Party on Technical Harmonisation (Motor Vehicles) are still on-going.

[Revised proposal](#)

■ **European Deposit Insurance Scheme**

The Presidency of the Council prepared a progress report on the Commission proposal for the establishment of a European Deposit Insurance Scheme.

[Presidency report](#)

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