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Main Topics

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- Environment
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- Competition/SA
- Healthcare
- Aviation/Transport
- Foreign Trade
- Energy
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- Food/Tobacco

LAW

■ EU Liability Rules

The EC published two evaluation reports on the European rules on machinery safety and product liability. The documents show that the Product Liability Directive (Directive 85/374/EEC) and the Machinery Directive (Directive 2006/42/EC) are still fit for purpose and do not harm innovation. The European executive will launch a study to further analyse certain aspects of emerging technologies, such as human-machine collaboration. By mid-2019, the Commission is expected to release interpretative guidance for Member States where it will explain how the current framework could apply to emerging technologies; however, the Commission does not exclude the introduction of some changes in the definitions in the Liability Directive (for example on the concepts of defect, damage, product and producer). A group of experts will also examine the legislation and if necessary will recommend further actions.

[EC report on Directive 85/374/EEC – EC report on Directive 2006/42/EC](#)

■ EU Guidance for Energy Projects

The EC issued two guidance documents on energy transmission infrastructure and hydropower. The documents are primarily designed for national authorities and stakeholders involved in the planning and approval of energy projects, in accordance with the EU Nature legislation.

[Energy transmission infrastructure and EU nature policy guide – Guidance document on the requirements for hydropower in relation to EU nature legislation](#)

■ Energy Performance Contracts

The Statistical Office of the European Commission and the European Investment Bank released a new Practitioner's Guide on the Statistical Treatment of Energy Performance Contracts (EPCs), which will assist public authorities when preparing and procuring their EPCs.

[Guide to the Statistical Treatment of Energy Performance Contracts](#)

■ 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

■ Product Life-Cycle and Circular Economy

Interested parties can submit feedback on the roadmap published by the EC on the EU product policy framework until 4 June. The European executive will analyse the completeness of existing EU policy and regulatory instruments for their contribution to the circular economy (design, use and recycling of products) and based on that it will develop options for further actions. More targeted consultations of stakeholders in the sector addressed by the initiative will take place after the Summer.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Air Quality

The EC launched a public consultation to support the Fitness Check of the Ambient Air Quality Directives. The consultation runs until 31 July and it aims to collect feedback on whether the provisions of the directives continue to be relevant, effective and efficient.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Solvency

The European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority published technical information on the relevant risk free interest rate term structures with reference to the end of April 2018.

[EIOPA dedicated page](#)

The Authority also published the technical information on the symmetric adjustment of the equity capital charge with reference to the end of April 2018.

[EIOPA dedicated page](#)

■ Banking Sector

The European Banking Authority published a Report on its 2016 CVA risk monitoring exercise, which was launched in June 2017 to monitor the impact of transactions exempted for the purpose of calculating the CVA risk charge under the Capital Requirements Regulation.

[EBA report](#)

■ European Market Infrastructure Regulation

The European Supervisory Authorities launched two joint consultations to amend Regulatory Technical Standards on the clearing obligation and risk mitigation techniques for OTC derivatives not cleared. These standards implement the European Market Infrastructure Regulation. The consultations run until 15 June.

[ESAs consultation paper](#)

DECISIONS

EC Decision of 04 May – ArcelorMittal / Ilva

■ Manufacture of basic metals, fabricated metal products

The EC approved the acquisition of Ilva by ArcelorMittal, subject to conditions.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 04 May – UTC / Rockwell Collins

■ Manufacture of air and spacecraft and related machinery

The EC approved the acquisition of Rockwell Collins by United Technologies Corporation (UTC) in the aerospace sector, subject to conditions.

[Case information](#)

FROM THE OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Panalpina / DFG / PA NL Perishables – Case M.8805 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 159/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Mitsui Rail Capital Europe / Siemens Nederland / JV – Case M.8824 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 159/02](#) – [Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration T-Mobile NL / Tele2 NL – Case M.8792 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 162/06](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration HPS / MDP / Capita – Case M.8913 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 162/05](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration AIG / Validus – Case M.8865 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 162/04](#) – [Case information](#)

BRUSSELS INTERN

■ E-Privacy Regulation

The Council experts will examine on 16 May the revised text drafted by the Presidency on the proposal for a Regulation concerning the respect for private life and the protection of personal data in electronic communications and repealing Directive 2002/58/EC.

[Presidency revised text](#)

■ Energy Union

Trilogue negotiations on the proposal for a Regulation on the Governance of Energy Union are still on-going. A fourth, and hopefully final, meeting among the negotiators of the Council, European Parliament and Commission is planned for the second half of June.

[Proposal compromise text](#)

■ European Union Agency for Energy Regulators

The Energy Working Party of the Council will discuss on 15 May the revised text prepared by the Presidency on the proposal for a Regulation establishing a European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators.

[Presidency revised text](#)

■ Company Law

On 23 May the Council Working party on Company Law will have a general exchange of views on the proposals for two directives amending Directive 2017/1132 as regards the use of digital tools and processes in company law and as regards cross-border conventions, mergers and divisions, which were presented by the Commission last April.

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