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- Environment
- Media/Telecom
- Competition/SA
- Healthcare
- Aviation/Transport
- Foreign Trade
- Energy
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LAW

■ Free Flow of Non-Personal Data

The Council adopted the Regulation on the free flow of non-personal data, which aims to achieve a more competitive and integrated market for data storage and processing services. In fact, the regulation bans data localisation restrictions imposed by Member States on the geographical location, unless such restrictions are justified on grounds of public security. This is a pillar of the Digital Single Market Strategy. The regulation will be signed by both co-legislators during the Parliament's plenary session in mid-November. It will be directly applicable in all Member States six months after its publication in the EU Official Journal.

[Regulation on a framework for the free flow of non-personal data in the EU](#)

■ Audio-visual Media Services

The Council adopted the new Audio-visual Media Services Directive, which will strengthen the country of origin principle and extend the European rules to video-sharing platforms. The directive will enter into force on the 20th day after its publication in the Official Journal of the EU and Member States will have 21 months to transpose it into national law.

[Directive amending Directive 2010/13/EU](#)

■ Reporting of EU Environmental Policy

The Council agreed its position on the regulation which will align reporting requirements across a range of environmental legislation, allowing inter-institutional negotiations with the European Parliament to start. A first meeting is scheduled for 15 November. The proposed regulation will affect ten legislative acts and it aims at simplifying the existing reporting obligations, while improving the quality of available data.

[EC proposal for a Regulation on the alignment of reporting obligations in the field of environment policy](#)

■ Endocrine Disruptors

The EC adopted a Communication with its strategy for a future framework on endocrine disruptors. For the first time, the Commission will also launch a comprehensive screening of the applicable legislation, together with a public consultation on the issue.

[EC Communication “Towards a comprehensive European Union framework on endocrine disruptors”](#)

■ Electronic Publications

The Council adopted the directive on the alignment of VAT rules for electronic and physical publications, which allows Member States to apply reduced, super-reduced or zero VAT rates also to electronic publications. However, these rules will be replaced soon by a new definitive VAT system.

[Council Directive amending Directive 2006/112/EC](#)

■ Freezing and Confiscation Orders

The Council adopted a regulation on the mutual recognition of freezing and confiscation orders of criminal assets across the Union. The regulation will come into effect 2 years after its publication in the EU Official Journal and it will replace the framework decisions of 2003 and 2006.

[Regulation on the mutual recognition of freezing orders and confiscation orders](#)

■ 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

■ Car & Van CO2 Emissions

The EC published an implementing regulation on new testing procedure for measuring CO2 emissions and fuel consumption of cars and vans. Interested parties can submit their feedback until 4 December. The act will amend Implementing Regulation 293/2012.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Industrial Emissions

The EC published a staff working document on EU rules on industrial emissions and invited interested parties to give feedback by 4 December.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Trade Indonesia

The EC published a report on the latest negotiating round for the EU-Indonesia Free Trade Agreement. Negotiators of both parties will meet next March in Brussels.

[Report FTA EU-Indonesia](#)

■ Trade New Zealand

The EC published a report on the latest negotiating round for the EU-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement. Next round is scheduled to take place in Brussels in February.

[Report FTA EU-New Zealand](#)

■ Cross-border Insurance Contracts

The European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority issued an Opinion on service continuity in insurance linked with the withdrawal of the UK from the EU.

[EIOPA Opinion](#)

■ Packaged Retail and Insurance-based Investment Products

The European Supervisory Authorities launched a consultation on targeted amendments to the Delegated Regulation on the rules for the Key Information Document for Packaged Retail and Insurance-based Investment Products (PRIIPs). Contributions can be submitted until 6 December.

[Joint Consultation Paper](#)

DECISIONS

EC Decision of 07 November – Daimler / BMW / Car Sharing JV

■ Land transportation; renting and leasing of cars and light motor vehicles

The EC approved the creation of six joint ventures by Daimler and BMW, subject to conditions.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 07 November – Michael Kors / Gianni Versace

■ Wholesale and retail sale of clothing and footwear

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control by Micheal Kors of Gianni Versace.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 07 November – Hammerson / M&G / Highcross

■ Renting and operating of own or leased real estate

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over the Highcross Shopping Centre by Hammerson plc and M&G Limited, belonging to Prudential plc.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 07 November – State aid for the implementation of Gas Interconnector Greece-Bulgaria

■ Energy infrastructures

The EC approved Bulgarian and Greek plans to support the construction and operation of natural gas interconnector between Greece and Bulgaria.

[Case information Bulgaria](#) – [Case information Greece](#)

EC Decision of 07 November – Restructuring Aid for CE Hunedoara

■ Production of energy

The EC ordered Romania to recover around 60 million euro of incompatible aid from energy producer Complexul Energetic Hunedoara.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 06 November – The Walt Disney Company / Twenty-First Century Fox

■ Motion picture, video and television programme activities and distribution

The EC approved Disney's acquisition of parts of Fox, subject to conditions.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 31 October – Jin Jiang / Radisson

■ Hotels and similar accomodation

The EC approved the acquisition by Jin Jiang International Holdings of Radisson Holdings and Radisson Hospitality.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 31 October – OEP / CRAYON

■ Computer consultancy activities; wholesale of computers, equipment and software

The EC approved the acquisition of Crayon Group Holding ASA by One Equity Partners.

[Case information](#)

FROM THE OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration LKQ / Stahlgruber – Case M.8766 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 402/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Boeing / KLX – Case M.8985 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 401/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Rhone Capital / Maxam – Case M.9105 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 400/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration SEGRO / PSPIB / Warehouse – Case M.9119 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 398/08](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration BC Partners / VetPartners – Case M.9115 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 398/07](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Hellman & Friedman / Concardis Payment Group – Case M.9089 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 398/06](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Morgan Stanley / VTG – Case M.9116 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 398/05](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Lone Star / Imerys TC – Case M.8977 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 398/04](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Deutsche Asphalt / Bunte / JV – Case M.9006 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 398/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration IFF / Fru-tarom – Case M.8981 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 398/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Silver Lake / ZPG – Case M.8957 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 398/01](#) – [Case information](#)

■ **Prior notification of concentrations**

Prior notification of the concentration DP World Investments / Unifeeder – Case M.9093 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 402/07](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Blackstone / Tele-real Trillium / Real Estate JV – Case M.9131 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 401/11](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Centerbridge / Hospital Topco – Case M.9160 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 401/10](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Banca Generali / Saxo Bank / JV – Case M.9071 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 400/10](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration CVC / Recordati – Case M.9044 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 400/09](#) – [Case information](#)

■ **Withdrawal of notifications**

Withdrawal of notification of the concentration EQT / Widex / JV – Case M.8941 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 402/01](#) – [Case information](#)

BRUSSELS INTERN

■ **Security of Electricity Supply**

In view of the Committee of Permanent Representatives meeting scheduled for 16 November, the Presidency of the Council invited Member States to present their opinions on a series of issues regarding the proposal for a regulation on risk-preparedness in the electricity sector, which will repeal the Security of Electricity Supply Directive (2005/89/EC). Inter-institutional negotiations among Council, European Parliament and Commission are still ongoing.

[Presidency document](#)

■ **Internal Market in Electricity**

In view of the fourth trilogue on 13 November, the Presidency of the Council presented a revised four-column table with new compromise proposals on the proposal for a Directive on common rules for the internal market in electricity.

[Four-column table](#)

■ **Electricity Market Design**

In view of the fourth trilogue scheduled for 13 November, the Presidency of the Council released a revised set of compromise proposals with regard to the proposal for a Regulation on the internal market for electricity.

[Compromise proposals](#) – [Add on](#)

■ **Energy Package**

At the November plenary session (from 12 to 15), the European Parliament is expected to adopt the legislative proposals on revised Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Directives, together with a new regulation on Energy Union Governance.

■ **Telecoms Package**

During the November plenary session, the European Parliament is due to vote on the final texts of the new Electronic Communications Code and the updated regulation on the Body of European Regulators of Electronic Communications.

■ Digital Services Tax

EU Economic and Finance Ministers held a policy debate on the proposal to establish a digital services tax. Strong opposition to the proposal has been expressed in particular by representatives of Ireland, Sweden and Denmark; while other Member States agreed to consider the proposal in case an agreement at the OECD will not be reached by coming months. The discussion focused mainly on the scope of the proposal and on the question of the expiry of the directive, the so-called “sunset clause”. The Presidency still aims to reach an agreement at the Council meeting scheduled for 4 December.

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