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

■ Telecoms Package

The European Parliament voted in favour of a new European Electronic Communications Code, which will modernise the current European telecoms framework, and of updating the regulation on the Body of European Regulators of Electronic Communications (BEREC).

After this adoption by the lawmakers, the Council will formally adopt the Directive establishing the European Electronic Communications Code and the Regulation on BEREC on 3 December. Member States will have two years to transpose the Code into national law; while the BEREC regulation will enter into force on the third day following its publication in the EU Official Journal.

The provisions on the intra-EU calls will apply from 15 May 2019.

[Directive establishing the European Electronic Communications Code](#) – [Regulation establishing the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications](#)

■ Clean Energy for All Europeans

The European Parliament adopted key legislative proposals of the 2016 Clean Energy for All Europeans Package: the proposal for a Directive on Energy Efficiency; the proposal for a Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union; and the proposal for a Directive on Renewable Sources.

With regard to energy efficiency, the directive sets a new target for the EU for 2030 of at least 32.5%, with an upwards revision clause by 2023.

The regulation on the governance of the Energy Union calls for each Member State to prepare a national energy and climate plan for the period 2021 to 2030.

On renewables, the directive sets a new binding target for the EU for 2030 of at least 32%, including a review clause by 2023 for an upward revision of the EU level target; it also improves the design and stability of support schemes for renewables.

Following this adoption by the lawmakers, the Council will finalise its formal approval in the coming weeks. Then the three texts will be published in the EU Official Journal and they will enter into force 3 days after that.

Of the Clean Energy package, negotiations are still ongoing on the proposals for a new Electricity Market Design (the Electricity Regulation, Electricity Directive and Risk-Preparedness Regulation) and on the rules for the regulator ACER.

[Energy Efficiency Directive – Governance of the Energy Union Regulation – Renewable Energy Directive](#)

■ Empowerment of National Competition Authorities

The EP voted in favour of the compromise agreement on the proposal to empower national competition authorities of Member States to be more effective enforcers, the so-called ECN+ Directive. The Council and the European Parliament reached an inter-institutional agreement on the text last May. Now the directive needs to be formally endorsed by the Council.

[EP resolution on the proposal for a Directive](#)

■ Vertical Block Exemption Regulation

The EC is currently evaluating whether the Vertical Block Exemption Regulation and its associated guidelines adopted in 2010 are still effective and relevant. Therefore it invites all interested parties to give feedback by 6 December. A formal public consultation will be launched early next year. The Commission will also launch additional studies to assess whether the scope of the regulation is still valid. The Commission shall complete the entire review by Summer 2020.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Heavy Vehicle Emissions

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the proposal to regulate CO2 emissions from heavy vehicles, going beyond what the EC originally proposed. In this first attempt to regulate heavy vehicle emissions, the lawmakers set a reduction target for 2025 of 20% and of 35% for 2030. Member States at the Council are still debating on their joint position. Once agreed, inter-institutional negotiations will start.

[EP position on the proposal for a Regulation setting CO2 emission performance standards for new heavy-duty vehicles](#)

■ BREXIT

The negotiators of the EC and the UK reached a deal on all aspects of the Withdrawal Agreement. The text now needs to be endorsed by the European Council, afterwards the European Parliament will have to give its consent. The agreement will have to be ratified also by the UK.

In the coming weeks the Commission will organise a series of intensive preparedness seminars on different topics, including financial services and air transport.

[Draft Agreement on the UK's withdrawal](#)

■ BREXIT – Energy Efficiency

The EC adopted a decision to amend the EU's energy efficiency legislation (the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union) to take account of the UK's withdrawal. This decision will enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the EU.

[EC proposal for a Decision on adapting Energy Efficiency Directive and Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union by reason of the UK's withdrawal](#)

■ BREXIT – VISA

The EC adopted a legislative proposal to amend existing EU law in the area of visas in the event of a no deal scenario with the UK. The Commission proposes to grant UK citizens visa-free travel to the EU after the UK's withdrawal, under the condition that the UK also grants reciprocal and non-discriminatory visa-free travel for all EU Member States. The proposal now needs to be adopted by the EP and the Council.

[EC Proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation 539/2001](#)

■ 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

■ Pension Benefit Statements

The European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority published its Report on the “Implication of IORP II in relation to the Pension Benefit Statement: Guidance and Principles based on Current Practices”.

[EIOPA Report](#)

■ Solvency II

The European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority published the outcome of its peer review assessing

how National Competent Authorities supervise and determine whether an insurer’s setting of key functions is in line with Solvency II.

[EIOPA paper](#)

DECISIONS

EC Decision of 15 November – Mobile communication infrastructure in Bavaria

■ Mobile communication infrastructure

The EC approved German public support for the construction of the physical infrastructure required for the deployment of mobile networks based on Long-Term Evolution technology in Bavaria.

[Case information SA.48324](#)

EC Decision of 15 November – Klio / Bertelsmann / Holtzbrinck / Skoobe

■ Computer programming and related activities; publishing of books; retail sale of books; renting and leasing of personal and household goods

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control of Skoobe GmbH by Klio GmbH, Georg von Holtzbrinck GmbH & Co. KG, Verlagsgruppe Random House GmbH and Arvato CRM Solutions GmbH.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 November – DS Smith / Europac

■ Manufacture of corrugated paper and paperboard and of containers of paper and paperboard

The EC approved the acquisition of Europac by DS Smith, subject to conditions.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 November – Scheme for retrofitting diesel buses in local public transport

■ Urban and suburban passenger land transport

The EC approved German plans to support the retrofitting of diesel buses used for public transport, in order to reduce nitrogen oxides emissions.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 12 November – E.ON / CLEVER / UFC SCANDINAVIA JV

■ Production and distribution of electricity; service activities incidental to land transportation

The EC approved the proposed creation of a joint venture between E.ON SE and Clever A/S.

[Case information](#)

FROM THE OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Michael Kors / Gianni Versace – Case M.9144 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 414/04](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Hammerson / M&G / Highcross – Case M.9050 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 414/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration The Carlyle Group / NEP Group – Case M.9107 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 414/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration KKR / BMC Software – Case M.8998 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 414/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Lone Star / Stark – Case M.8733 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 412/04](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Brookfield / Schoeller Industries / Schoeller Allibert – Case M.8795 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 412/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration PAI Partners / Asmodee – Case M.9073 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 412/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Broadcom / CA – Case M.9054 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 412/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Lone Star / CaixaBank Assets – Case M.9055 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 410/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Comcast / Sky – Case M.8861 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 410/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Continental / CITC / JHTD / JV – Case M.9075 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 407/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Delta Electronics / Delta Electronics Thailand – Case M.9048 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 407/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Total Produce / Dole Food Company – Case M.8829 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 407/01](#) – [Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration Equinor Refining Norway / Danske Commodities – Case M.9067 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 417/13](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Covanta Holding Corporation / Green Investment Group / Brockwell Energy / Earls Gate Energy Centre – Case M.9171 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 417/12](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration CDC / Meridiam / FICA-HPCI – Case M.9153 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 417/11](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration BASF DOM Business / Solenis / JV – Case M.8950 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 414/17](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration CMI / Hachette Filipacchi / Lagardere Publicite / Lagardere Digital France – Case M.9156 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 414/16](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Pizza Hut / Telepizza – Case M.9025 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 414/15](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration CPPIB / OTPP / IDEAL / CAGT – Case M.9165 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 412/10](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Rehau / MB Barter & Trading – Case M.9137 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 412/09](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Michelin / Camso – Case M.9121 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 410/07](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Mondi Steti / Holzindustrie Maresch / Eco-Investment / Labe Wood – Case M.9087 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 410/06](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Generali CEE / AS – Case M.9056 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 410/05](#) – [Case information](#)

■ Withdrawal of notifications

Withdrawal of notification of the concentration Berge / GEFCO / JV – Case M.8881 has been published.

[Document 2018/C 414/05](#) – [Case information](#)

BRUSSELS INTERN

■ European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators

In view of the third trilogue scheduled for 21 November, the Presidency released a revised version of the four column document concerning the proposal establishing a European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators.

[Presidency document](#)

■ Electricity Market Design

In view of the third trilogue on 22 November, the Presidency of the Council presented a revised four-column table with new compromise proposals for the Regulation on risk-preparedness in the electricity sector, which will repeal Directive 2005/89/EC.

[Four-column table](#)

For suggestions, comments please contact:

Noerr LLP
Boulevard du Régent 47-48
1000 Brussels
Belgium

Head of Regulatory & Governmental Affairs



Dr. Holger Schmitz
T +49 30 2094 2160
holger.schmitz@noerr.com

Head of Antitrust & Competition Law



Dr. Alexander Birnstiel
T +49 89 28628 241
alexander.birnstiel@noerr.com

Regulatory Affairs Advisor



Giovanna Ventura
T +32 2 2745573
giovanna.ventura@noerr.com

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