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- Bank/Insurance/Tax
- Environment
- Media/Telecom
- Competition/SA
- Healthcare
- Aviation/Transport
- Foreign Trade
- Energy
- Compliance
- Food/Tobacco

LAW

■ European Commission Work Programme

The EC adopted its 2018 Work Programme, which sets out the key initiatives for the year ahead. In the coming months the European executive will focus on a limited number of new proposals in order to complete the work in priority policy areas: Circular Economy, Digital Single Market, Energy Union, Capital Markets Union and Banking Union. The legislative actions will be tabled by May 2018 to allow the co-legislators, the Council and the European Parliament, to complete the legislative process before the European elections of June 2019. Among the new targeted initiatives there are a legislative proposal on fairness in platform-to-business relations (first quarter of 2018) and a revision of the Commission guidelines on market analyses and assessment of significant market power in the electronic communications sector. On the Energy Union, the Commission plans to present by the end of the year a legislative proposal on common rules for gas pipelines entering the European internal gas market and to adopt by the first half of next year a communication on the future of EU en-

ergy and climate policy. Also for the first months of 2018 it is expected a legislative proposal establishing rules on taxation of profits generated by multinationals through the digital economy. By the end of the year the Commission will present a revised framework for investment firms, while next year it will focus on revising EU company law. The new circular economy action will contain a strategy on plastics use, reuse and recycling and an initiative to address legal, technical or practical bottlenecks at the interface of chemical, product and waste legislation.

Annex III of the Programme lists the pending legislative files where swift adoption by the co-legislators is needed. The Commission also suggests to withdraw some pending proposals that became obsolete or where agreement is not foreseeable (annex IV) and proposes regulatory and fitness performance reviews, so called REFIT (annex II).

[EC Work Programme](#) – [Annex I New initiatives](#) – [Annex II REFIT initiatives](#) – [Annex III Priority pending proposals](#) – [Annex IV Withdrawals](#) – [Annex V List of repeals](#)

■ Digital Contract Rules

The EC adopted an amended proposal to extend the scope of the proposed Directive on online and other distance sales of goods to cover sales of goods offline. The proposal will now be transmitted to the Council and the EP to continue the on-going legislative process.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Markets in Financial Instruments

The Council decided not to object to Commission regulation amending Regulation 2017/571 supplementing Directive 2014/65/EU on markets in financial instruments with regard to regulatory technical standards on the authorisation, organisational requirements and publication of transactions for data reporting services providers. The regulation can now enter into force, unless the EP objects.

[Commission Delegated Regulation](#)

The Council decided not to object to Commission regulation supplementing Directive 2014/92/EU on payment accounts with regard to regulatory technical standards for the standardised terminology for most representative services linked to a payment account. The regulation can now enter into force, unless the EP objects.

[Commission Delegated Regulation](#)

■ Electrical and Electronic Equipment

The Council adopted a Directive on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment. The new directive revised the scope of

RoHS 2 Directive. The legislative act will enter into force on the 20th day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the EU.

[Directive amending RoHS 2](#)

■ European Railway Area

The Council decided not to object to a Commission decision replacing Annex VII to Directive 2012/34/EU establishing a single European railway area. The objective of this delegated act is to provide for a better use of the available rail infrastructure. The act can now enter into force, unless the EP objects.

[Commission Delegated Decision](#)

■ Customs

The EC published the latest version of the Combined Nomenclature applicable as from 1 January 2018.

[Commission Implementing Regulation 2017/1925](#)

■ 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

■ Online Platform Regulation

The EC calls for comments on the policy options for a proposal to regulate online platforms. Feedback can be submitted until 22 November.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Taxing the Digital Economy

The EC launched a public consultation on the taxation of the digital economy. The outcome of this exercise will feed into the work on the Commission's proposal scheduled for next year. Contributions can be submitted until 3 January.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ EBA Pillar 2 Framework

The European Banking Authority launched a public consultation to review three guidelines aimed at further enhancing institutions' risk management and supervisory convergence in the supervisory review and examination process. Contributions can be submitted until 31 January. Specifically, the consultation concerns an update of the guidelines on common procedures and methodology for Supervisory Review and Evaluation Process (SREP Guidelines), guidelines on the management of interest rate risk arising from non-trading activities (IRRBB Guidelines) and an update of the guidelines on institutions' stress testing.

[EBA dedicated page](#)

DECISIONS

EC Decision of 31 October – Legend Holdings Corporation / Banque Internationale à Luxembourg

■ Financial services and auxiliary activities

The EC approved the acquisition of Banque Internationale à Luxembourg (BIL) by Legend Holdings Corporation of China.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 30 October – CRH / XI (RMAT)

■ Manufacture of lime and plaster; manufacture of mortars

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control by CRH over Fels-Werke.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 27 October – The Carlyle Group / CVC / China Investment Corporation / ENGIE E&P International

■ Extraction of crude petroleum and gas; manufacture of gas and of refined petroleum products; wholesale of solid, liquid and gaseous fuels

The EC approved the acquisition of ENGIE E&P International S.A. by Carlyle, CVC Capital Partners SICAV-FIS F.A and China Investment Corporation (“CIC”).

[Case information](#)

FROM THE OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Sojitz / KEPCO / Luricawne / Fixarra / Evalair / Plum – Case M.8635 has been published.

[Document 2017/C 372/04](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Bosch / HASCO / ASCN – Case M.8651 has been published.

[Document 2017/C 372/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration GETEC / Bri-va / JV – Case M.8627 has been published.

[Document 2017/C 372/02](#) – [Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration APG / Hines / JV – Case M.8637 has been published.

[Document 2017/C 370/06](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Continental Automotive / Alstom / Easy Mile – Case M.8588 has been published.

[Document 2017/C 370/05](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Mitsui / Sime Darby / JV – Case M.8656 has been published.

[Document 2017/C 370/04](#) – [Case information](#)

BRUSSELS INTERN

■ Digital Single Market Strategy

EU Ministers held a policy debate on prioritising work on the digital single market and they agreed to reach concrete progress on the Electronic Communications Code and on the proposal for free flow of non-personal data by the end of the year, with the adoption of general approach on both files. Also on cross-border parcel delivery services, agreement should be reached by the end of 2017. The European Commission shared its expectations to have a general approach on ePrivacy at the Council meeting of 4 December.

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