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Main Topics

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

LAW

■ Foreign Direct Investments

The European Parliament adopted the proposal for a regulation establishing a framework for screening of foreign direct investments into the EU on grounds of security or public order. Negotiators of the Parliament and the Council reached a provisional agreement on the text last November. The regulation needs to be formally endorsed also by the Council. Member States will then have 18 months to put in place the necessary arrangements for the new mechanism to be functional.

The adopted text will be available soon.

[Provisional agreement](#)

■ Online Platforms

The European Parliament and the Council reached a political agreement on the proposal for a regulation that aims at creating more predictable and transparent business environment for traders when using online platforms. In particular, the regulation covers online platform intermediar-

ies and general online search engines that provide their services to business and offer goods/services to consumers located in the EU. The deal needs to be formally adopted by the two co-legislators. The new rules will then apply 12 months after publication.

The agreed text will be available soon.

[EC proposal for a Regulation on promoting fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services](#)

■ Copyright

The negotiators of the Council and the European Parliament reached a provisional agreement on the proposal for a directive that will reform the existing EU copyright rules. The agreement needs to be confirmed and formally endorsed by the two co-legislators. Adoption in the Council is planned for next week, while the final vote in Parliament is expected for end of March or mid-April. Member States will then have 24 months to transpose the new rules into national law. The directive will introduce a new right for

press publishers for the digital use of their press publications; and online content sharing platforms will have to obtain licensing agreements with right holders for the re-publishing of their work.

The agreed text will be available soon.

[Negotiating text on the proposal for a Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market](#)

■ Gas Market

The Council and the European Parliament reached a provisional agreement on an amendment to the Gas Directive (2009/73/EC), which will extend the application of the European gas market rules to pipelines to and from third countries. The agreement needs to be formally endorsed by the two co-legislators. The Directive will then have to be transposed into national law within 9 months.

[Final compromise text](#)

■ Clean Vehicles

Negotiators of the Council and the European Parliament reached a provisional agreement on the proposal for a directive which will set out minimum procurement targets for clean light-duty vehicles, trucks and buses for 2025 and 2030. The agreement will have to be formally approved by the two co-legislators. Following its entry into force, Member States will have 24 months to adapt their national legislation to the new rules.

The agreed text will be available soon.

[EC proposal for a Directive on the promotion of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles](#)

■ Financial Supervision

The Council confirmed its position on the proposals to review the functioning of the current European system of financial supervision. Inter-institutional negotiations with the European Parliament will start soon.

[General approach on the ESAs review – General approach on the ESRB review – General approach on the MIFID/Solvency II amendments](#)

■ Financial Information

The Council and the European Parliament reached a political agreement on the Commission's proposal to facilitate cross-border access to financial information by law enforcement authorities. The directive will now need to be formally adopted by the two co-legislators. Then Member States will have 24 months to implement the new rules into national legislation.

The agreed text will be available soon.

[EC proposal for a Directive laying down rules facilitating the use of financial and other information for the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of certain criminal offences](#)

■ Pharmaceuticals

The Council and the European Parliament agreed on a targeted amendment to the intellectual property arrangements for pharmaceutical products, which will introduce export manufacturing waivers to the patent protection of original medicines for export and stock-piling purposes, amending Regulation 469/2009. The agreement is now subject to formal approval by the two co-legislators. Once adopted, it will be directly applicable in all Member States.

The agreed text will be available soon.

[EC proposal for a Regulation](#)

■ Food Safety

The Council and the European Parliament reached a provisional agreement on the proposal for a Regulation on the transparency and sustainability of the EU risk assessment in the food chain. This deal, which will amend the General Food Law Regulation, needs to be formally adopted by the two co-legislators.

The agreed text will be available soon.

[EC proposal for a Regulation on the transparency and sustainability of the EU risk assessment in the food chain](#)

■ EU-Asia Trade

The trade and investment agreements between the EU and Singapore have been approved by the European Parliament. The deal will enter into force once Singapore concludes its own internal procedures.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Heavy Goods Vehicles

The Council and the European Parliament reached a provisional agreement on the proposal for a directive on weights and dimensions of heavy goods vehicles, which will amend Directive 96/53/EC. This deal needs to be formally adopted by the two co-legislators.

The agreed text will be available soon.

[EC proposal](#)

■ 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

■ De Minimis State Aid

The EC published its roadmap on the 2-year extension for the State aid de minimis Regulation. Feedback can be submitted until 7 March.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ General Block Exemption Regulation

The EC published its roadmap on the 2-year extension for the General Block Exemption Regulation. Feedback can be submitted until 7 March.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ State Aid Modernisation Package

The EC published its roadmap on the prolongation of state aid rules reformed under the State Aid Modernisation Package. Feedback can be submitted until 7 March.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ State Aid Modernisation Package – Railways Guidelines and Export Credit Insurance

The EC launched a fitness check on the State aid modernisation package, the railways guidelines and the short-term export credit insurance communication. Feedback can be submitted until 7 March.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Data Storage & Processing Services

The EC launched a consultation on its informative guidance on the Regulation on the free flow of non-personal data,

which will provide indications on how the rules prohibiting restrictions on the geographical location of services for storing and processing non-personal data interact with the new data protection rules. Contributions can be submitted until 13 March.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ Food Contact Materials

The EC launched a public consultation on the evaluation of the Food Contact Materials legislation: Regulation 1935/2004. Contributions can be submitted until 6 May.

[EC dedicated page](#)

■ PRIIPs

The European Supervisory Authorities published their final recommendations on targeted amendments to the Delegated Regulation covering the rules for the Key Information Document for Packaged Retail and Insurance-based Investment Products (PRIIPs).

[ESA paper](#)

■ Role of the Euro in Energy

The EC launched a consultation on how to implement the Commission Recommendation on the international role of the euro in the field of energy. Contributions can be submitted until 31 March.

[EC dedicated page](#)

DECISIONS

EC Decision of 14 February – KKR / China Resources / Genesis Care

■ Hospital activities

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control by KKR & Co. Inc. and China Resources Company Limited over Genesis Care Pty Limited.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 14 February – Daikin Industries / Cool International Holding

■ Manufacture of non-domestic cooling and ventilation equipment

The EC approved the acquisition of Cool International Holding GmbH by Daikin Europe N.V, which is controlled by Daikin Industries Ltd.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 14 February – ADM / Gleadell Agriculture

■ Manufacture of oils, fats; wholesale of grain, tobacco, seeds

The EC approved the acquisition of sole control of Gleadell Agriculture Limited by ADM Arkady Limited.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 14 February – Brookfield Asset Management / Johnson Controls Power Solutions Business

■ Manufacture of batteries and accumulators

The EC approved the acquisition of the Power Solutions business of Johnson Controls International plc by Brookfield Asset Management Inc.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 February – EQT / Widex / JV

■ Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products

The EC approved the proposed creation of a joint venture by Equity VI Limited and EQT Fund Management S.a.r.l and T&W Medical A/S.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 13 February – IIF / Kuwait Investment Authority / North Sea Midstream Partners

■ Support activities for petroleum and natural gas extraction

The EC approved the proposed acquisition of joint control by Kuwait Investment Authority (“KIA”) and IIF Int’l Holding

L.P. (“IIF”) over North Sea Midstream Partners Limited (“NSMP”).

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 12 February – Swiss / Montagu / Real Estate Property

■ Real estate activities

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over an office building in Munich by Swiss Life and Montagu Private Equity.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 12 February – Delta / Air France-KLM / Virgin Group / Virgin Atlantic

■ Passenger and freight air transport; service activities incidental to air transportation

The EC approved the proposed acquisition of joint control over Virgin Atlantic by Air France-KLM, Delta and Virgin Group.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 11 February – Societe Generale / Commerzbank EMC Business

■ Financial service activities

The EC approved the acquisition by Societe Generale of Equity Markets & Commodities of Commerzbank.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 08 February – MHI / Danfoss / AIP

■ Engineering activities and related technical consultancy

The EC approved the acquisition of joint control over Artemis Intelligent Power Limited (“AIP”) by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. (“MHI”) of Japan and Danfoss A/S.

[Case information](#)

EC Decision of 08 February – Amcor / Bemis

■ Manufacture of plastic packing goods

The EC approved the merger between Amcor and Bemis, subject to conditions.

[Case information](#)

FROM THE OJEU

■ Non-opposition to concentrations

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Pierburg / Xingfu / Xingfu Assets – Case M.9203 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 60/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration MHI / Danfoss / AIP – Case M.9126 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 60/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Hanon Systems / Magna International (Rotor Business) – Case M.9197 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 58/05](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration DTC / IRCP / Diamond Transmission Partners – Case M.9141 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 58/04](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Equistone Partners Europe / Courir – Case M.9206 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 58/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Michelin / Camso – Case M.9121 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 58/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration GETEC Wärme & Effizienz / Pionierwerk – Case M.9061 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 58/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration NEC / KMD – Case M.9257 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 57/06](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Triton / Sunweb – Case M.9249 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 57/05](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Cattolica / IMA France / IMA Italia Group – Case M.9241 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 57/04](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Macquarie / JERA Power International / Orsted InvestCo / Swancor / Formosa 1 Wind Power – Case M.9268 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 57/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EPIC SNCF Mobilites / Ceetrus / JV – Case M.9170 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 57/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Viohalco Group / ACEK Group / Etem JVs – Case M.9231 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 57/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration EDF / Ares / Real estate asset – Case M.9242 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 55/03](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Allianz / DIF / InfraRed Capital Partners / Daiwater – Case M.9230 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 55/02](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Equinor Refining Norway / Danske Commodities – Case M.9067 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 55/01](#) – [Case information](#)

Non-opposition to the notified concentration Stena Rederi / Hyundai Glovis / JV – Case M.9223 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 53/01](#) – [Case information](#)

■ Prior notification of concentrations

Prior notification of the concentration Saba Portugal / Egis Portugal / Viseu Car Park Assets – Case M.9083 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 60/09](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Investindustrial / Natra – Case M.9259 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 60/08](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Nalka Invest / OneMed – Case M.9277 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 58/12](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Kongsberg Gruppen / Rolls-Royce Commercial Marine – Case M.9145 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 57/16](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration MC / Franz Haniel / ELG – Case M.9247 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 57/15](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Transdigm Group / Esterline Technologies – Case M.9211 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 57/14](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration DA Agravis Machinery Holding / Konekesko Eesti / Sia Konekesko Latvija / UAB Konekesko Lietuva – Case M.9163 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 55/10](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Intermediate Capital Group / Grupo Konectanet / Konecta Activos Inmobiliarios – Case M.9275 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 55/09](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Marsh & McLennan Companies / Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group – Case M.9196 has been published.

[Document 2019/C 53/05](#) – [Case information](#)

Prior notification of the concentration Total / Chevron Denmark – Case M.9175 has been published.
[Document 2019/C 53/04](#) – [Case information](#)

BRUSSELS INTERN

■ Competition Rules

Germany and France will soon present concrete proposals to review EU competition rules, in order to support EU strategic sectors. In particular, it seems that the two countries will propose to diminish the exclusive powers of the European Commission.

■ Taxation

A large majority of EU Member States opposed the European Commission proposal for a gradual transition towards the introduction of the qualified majority requirement on tax matters.

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