



## Highlights

### Commission clears extension of bank support measures in Portugal and Spain

The European Commission has extended until 31 December 2010 its authorisation under EU state aid rules of the Portuguese bank guarantee and bank recapitalisation schemes and of the Spanish recapitalisation measures in favour of the banking sector. The extended Portuguese guarantee scheme requires the banks to pay higher premiums for the guarantees granted by the State. This is to encourage banks to finance themselves without state support and to limit distortions of competition. The Commission has already extended under the same conditions its authorisation of bank guarantee schemes in Sweden, Germany, Austria, Latvia, Ireland, Spain, Denmark, The Netherlands, Slovenia, Greece and Poland.

[Read more](#)

### State aid: Commission prolongs temporary approval of state support for Fortis Bank Nederland and ABN Amro

The European Commission has prolonged the temporary authorisation of the state support granted by The Netherlands to Fortis Bank Nederland and ABN Amro, initially given on 5 February 2010 (see IP/10/138). The temporary approval is prolonged until the Commission will have completed its investigations and adopted a final decision on the compatibility of the notified and non-notified measures in favour of these companies with EU state aid rules.

[Midday Express 30 July 2010](#)

### Council Recommendation of 13 July 2010 on broad guidelines for the economic policies of the Member States and of the Union

OJ L191 of 23.07.2010, p. 28 [bg](#) [es](#) [cs](#) [da](#) [de](#) [et](#) [el](#) [en](#) [fr](#) [it](#) [lv](#) [lt](#) [hu](#) [mt](#) [nl](#) [pl](#) [pt](#) [ro](#) [sk](#) [sl](#) [fi](#) [sv](#)

### Commission notice on current State aid recovery interest rates and reference/discount rates for 27 Member States applicable as from 1 August 2010

(Published in accordance with Article 10 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 794/2004 of 21 April 2004 ([OJ L 140, 30.4.2004, p. 1](#))) - new base rate for Sweden

OJ C 202 of 24.07.2010, p. 3 [bg](#) [es](#) [cs](#) [da](#) [de](#) [et](#) [el](#) [en](#) [fr](#) [it](#) [lv](#) [lt](#) [hu](#) [mt](#) [nl](#) [pl](#) [pt](#) [ro](#) [sk](#) [sl](#) [fi](#) [sv](#)

#### In the issue:

- [Draft legislation and public consultations >>](#)
- [Simplified Procedure: notification summaries >>](#)
- [Decisions to open formal investigation >>](#)
- [Final Commission decisions >>](#)
- [Block exemptions >>](#)
- [European Economic Area >>](#)
- [Additional points of interest >>](#)

## Draft legislation and public consultations

Subject	Deadlines for comments	Further information
State aid rules on services of general economic interest	10.09.2010	<a href="#">bg</a> <a href="#">cs</a> <a href="#">da</a> <a href="#">de</a> <a href="#">el</a> <a href="#">en</a> <a href="#">es</a> <a href="#">et</a> <a href="#">fi</a> <a href="#">fr</a> <a href="#">hu</a> <a href="#">it</a> <a href="#">lt</a> <a href="#">lv</a> <a href="#">mt</a> <a href="#">nl</a> <a href="#">pl</a> <a href="#">pt</a> <a href="#">ro</a> <a href="#">sk</a> <a href="#">sl</a> <a href="#">sv</a>

All public consultations: [DG Competition](#)  
[DG Agriculture](#)  
[DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries](#)

## Simplified Procedure: notification summaries

### Invitation to comment on simplified procedure cases

The summaries of aid measures notified under the Notice on a Simplified Procedure for the treatment of certain types of State aid have been prepared by the Member States under their responsibility. The Commission can therefore not be held responsible for any incorrect or misleading information contained therein. Observations raising competition issues relating to the notified measure must reach the Commission no later than 10 working days following the date of the publication of a summary of notification. The submission shall include a non confidential version of the observations. [For more information, click here](#)

Country	Title	Case number	Publication date
Poland	Atos Origin IT Services Sp. z o.o. <a href="#">en pl</a>	N 307/2010	20.07.2010

## Decisions to open formal investigation

### 1. Decisions taken by the Commission

Country	Title	Case number	Objective	Decision date
<b>DG Competition cases</b>				
Netherlands	Restructuring aid to Fortis Bank Nederland and ABN Amro <i>Extend proceedings</i> <a href="#">Midday Express 30 July 2010</a>	<a href="#">C 11/2009</a> (ex NN 53b/2008)	Restructuring aid	30.07.2010

### 2. Decisions pending OJ publication

[Click here to see the full list](#)

### 3. Decisions published in the OJ from 29.06.2010 to 29.07.2010 – Formal comments period running

\* Where the last day of the public comments period falls on a public holiday in a Member State, the deadline for comments of parties residing in that Member State ends on the following working day.

Country	Title/link to documents	Case number	Objective	Decision date
<b>DG Competition cases</b>				

Bulgaria	Deferral and rescheduling of liabilities of Ruse Industry OJ C 187 of 10.07.2010, p. 7 <a href="#">bg es cs da de et el en fr it lv lt hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl fi sv</a> <a href="#">Press release</a> <b>Deadline for comments*:</b> 10.08.2010	<a href="#">C 12/2010</a> (ex N 389/2009)	Restructuring aid	14.04.2010
<b>DG Agriculture cases</b>				
Belgium	Aide à l'enlèvement et à la destruction des animaux trouvés morts OJ C 191 of 15.07.2010, p. 12 <a href="#">bg es cs da de et el en fr it lv lt hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl fi sv</a> <a href="#">Press release</a> <b>Deadline for comments*:</b> 16.08.2010	<a href="#">C 1/2010</a> (ex NN 56/2007)		13.01.2010

## Final Commission decisions

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### 1. Decisions taken by the Commission

#### 1.1. Decisions to close formal investigation

- none -

#### 1.2. No objection decisions

Country	Title	Case number	Objective	Decision date
<b>DG Competition cases</b>				
Netherlands	SME private investors tax facility	<a href="#">N 100/2010</a>	Risk capital aid	23.07.2010
Portugal	Second prolongation of the Portuguese guarantee scheme <a href="#">Press release</a>	<a href="#">N 315/2010</a>	Remedy for a serious disturbance in the economy	23.07.2010
Portugal	Second prolongation of the Portuguese Recapitalisation Scheme <a href="#">Press release</a>	<a href="#">N 314/2010</a>	Remedy for a serious disturbance in the economy	23.07.2010
Romania	Amendment of <a href="#">N 286/2009</a> -TF- Guarantee scheme	<a href="#">N 173/2010</a>	Remedy for a serious disturbance in the economy	29.07.2010
Spain	Extension of the Spanish recapitalization scheme (FROB) <a href="#">Press release</a>	<a href="#">N 317/2010</a>	Remedy for a serious disturbance in the economy	23.07.2010

## **2. Public versions of decisions to close formal investigation\***

\* Since the OJ publication of no objection/no aid decisions follows very shortly their publication on the website, this section of the e-News focuses only on decisions to close formal investigations. For the latest texts of no objection/no aid decisions please look section 3 "Decisions published in the OJ".

Country	Title	Case number	Objective	Decision date
<b>DG Competition cases</b>				
Spain	Pickman S.A. - La Cartuja de Sevilla <i>Positive decision</i>	<a href="#">C 20/2007</a> (ex NN 31/2007)	Restructuring aid	15.05.2009

## **3. Decisions published in the OJ**

### **3.1. Decisions to close formal investigation**

- none -

### **3.2. No objection decisions**

\* Decisions not to raise objections are frequently grouped together in one single document for publication in the Official Journal. Since the link can only be made to the top of the first page of the document, you may have to scroll down in the document to find a particular case.

Country	Title/link to documents*	Case number	Objective	Decision date
<b>DG Competition cases</b>				
Italy	Decree-law 3/10 on interruptibility OJ C 204 of 29.07.2010, p. 2 <a href="#">bg</a> <a href="#">es</a> <a href="#">cs</a> <a href="#">da</a> <a href="#">de</a> <a href="#">et</a> <a href="#">el</a> <a href="#">en</a> <a href="#">fr</a> <a href="#">it</a> <a href="#">lv</a> <a href="#">lt</a> <a href="#">hu</a> <a href="#">mt</a> <a href="#">nl</a> <a href="#">pl</a> <a href="#">pt</a> <a href="#">ro</a> <a href="#">sk</a> <a href="#">sl</a> <a href="#">fi</a> <a href="#">sv</a>	<a href="#">NN 24/2010</a>		26.05.2010
Netherlands	Third prolongation of Dutch Guarantee Scheme OJ C 204 of 29.07.2010, p. 3 <a href="#">bg</a> <a href="#">es</a> <a href="#">cs</a> <a href="#">da</a> <a href="#">de</a> <a href="#">et</a> <a href="#">el</a> <a href="#">en</a> <a href="#">fr</a> <a href="#">it</a> <a href="#">lv</a> <a href="#">lt</a> <a href="#">hu</a> <a href="#">mt</a> <a href="#">nl</a> <a href="#">pl</a> <a href="#">pt</a> <a href="#">ro</a> <a href="#">sk</a> <a href="#">sl</a> <a href="#">fi</a> <a href="#">sv</a>	<a href="#">N 238/2010</a>	Remedy for a serious disturbance in the economy	29.06.2010
Poland	Second prolongation of Polish bank guarantee scheme OJ C 204 of 29.07.2010, p. 2 <a href="#">bg</a> <a href="#">es</a> <a href="#">cs</a> <a href="#">da</a> <a href="#">de</a> <a href="#">et</a> <a href="#">el</a> <a href="#">en</a> <a href="#">fr</a> <a href="#">it</a> <a href="#">lv</a> <a href="#">lt</a> <a href="#">hu</a> <a href="#">mt</a> <a href="#">nl</a> <a href="#">pl</a> <a href="#">pt</a> <a href="#">ro</a> <a href="#">sk</a> <a href="#">sl</a> <a href="#">fi</a> <a href="#">sv</a>	<a href="#">N 236/2010</a>	Remedy for a serious disturbance in the economy	29.06.2010
Slovakia	Volkswagen Slovakia OJ C 204 of 29.07.2010, p. 1 <a href="#">bg</a> <a href="#">es</a> <a href="#">cs</a> <a href="#">da</a> <a href="#">de</a> <a href="#">et</a> <a href="#">el</a> <a href="#">en</a> <a href="#">fr</a> <a href="#">it</a> <a href="#">lv</a> <a href="#">lt</a> <a href="#">hu</a> <a href="#">mt</a> <a href="#">nl</a> <a href="#">pl</a> <a href="#">pt</a> <a href="#">ro</a> <a href="#">sk</a> <a href="#">sl</a> <a href="#">fi</a> <a href="#">sv</a>	<a href="#">N 674/2008</a>	Regional development aid	13.07.2010

## **Block exemptions**

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[Block exemption Information sheets published in the OJ and/or in the State aid register between 22.07.2010 and 29.07.2010](#)

## **European Economic Area**

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Based on the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA), the EFTA States participating in the EEA have entrusted the EFTA Surveillance Authority and the EFTA Court with similar decision making powers to that of the Commission and the European Court of Justice, respectively, in the field of state aid for the EFTA States.

## **1. Decisions of the EFTA Surveillance Authority**

Country	Title/link to documents*	Case number	Objective	Decision date
<b>Decision to open formal investigation – formal comments period running</b>				
* Where the last day of the public comments period falls on a public holiday in a Member State, the deadline for comments of parties residing in that Member State ends on the following working day.				
Norway	Sale of land in the municipality of Asker Dec. No 538/09/COL OJ C 184 of 08.07.2010, p. 20 <a href="#">bg</a> <a href="#">es</a> <a href="#">cs</a> <a href="#">da</a> <a href="#">de</a> <a href="#">et</a> <a href="#">el</a> <a href="#">en</a> <a href="#">fr</a> <a href="#">it</a> <a href="#">lv</a> <a href="#">lt</a> <a href="#">hu</a> <a href="#">mt</a> <a href="#">nl</a> <a href="#">pl</a> <a href="#">pt</a> <a href="#">ro</a> <a href="#">sk</a> <a href="#">sl</a> <a href="#">fi</a> <a href="#">sv</a> <b>Deadline for comments*:</b> 09.08.2010	67392	Sale of land	16.12.2009
Norway	Financing of the fitness centre at the Kippermoen Leisure Centre Dec. No 537/09/COL OJ C 184 of 08.07.2010, p. 5 <a href="#">bg</a> <a href="#">es</a> <a href="#">cs</a> <a href="#">da</a> <a href="#">de</a> <a href="#">et</a> <a href="#">el</a> <a href="#">en</a> <a href="#">fr</a> <a href="#">it</a> <a href="#">lv</a> <a href="#">lt</a> <a href="#">hu</a> <a href="#">mt</a> <a href="#">nl</a> <a href="#">pl</a> <a href="#">pt</a> <a href="#">ro</a> <a href="#">sk</a> <a href="#">sl</a> <a href="#">fi</a> <a href="#">sv</a> <b>Deadline for comments*:</b> 09.08.2010	67385		16.12.2009
Norway	Norsk Film group Dec. No 491/09/COL OJ C 174 of 01.07.2010, p. 3 <a href="#">bg</a> <a href="#">es</a> <a href="#">cs</a> <a href="#">da</a> <a href="#">de</a> <a href="#">et</a> <a href="#">el</a> <a href="#">en</a> <a href="#">fr</a> <a href="#">it</a> <a href="#">lv</a> <a href="#">lt</a> <a href="#">hu</a> <a href="#">mt</a> <a href="#">nl</a> <a href="#">pl</a> <a href="#">pt</a> <a href="#">ro</a> <a href="#">sk</a> <a href="#">sl</a> <a href="#">fi</a> <a href="#">sv</a> <a href="#">Press release</a> <b>Deadline for comments*:</b> 02.08.2010	67377	Film industry	02.12.2009

## **2. EFTA Court**

- none -

## **3. State Aid New Legislation**

- none -

## **4. Other EEA points of interest**

- none -

## **Additional points of interest**

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### **Events**

**Services of General Economic Interest and State Aid: The Application of the Rules and National Experiences**

This seminar is intended for officials of public authorities and of European Institutions, as well as for professionals from the private sector dealing with state aid granted to providers of services of general economic interest. Particularly, it would be of major interest to officials involved in the formulation of public service obligations, the award of contracts, the calculation of compensation and the notification of possible state aid to the European Commission.

Maastricht, 27-28.09.2010

[For further information, click here](#)

## **Studies and reports**

### **July 2010: Economic Sentiment Indicator edges up**

In July, the Economic Sentiment Indicator (ESI) edged up to 102.2 (by 1.9 points) in the EU and to 101.3 (by 2.3 points) in the euro area. These results are strongly influenced by markedly positive readings in Germany.

[Read more](#)

### **July 2010: Business Climate Indicator for the euro area picks up**

In July, the Business Climate Indicator (BCI) for the euro area picked up after the pause observed in June. The improvement in the indicator suggests that economic activity in industry will continue to recover in the coming months, although it has still some way to go to reach its pre-crisis level. Managers in industry were upbeat about their order books and production trend observed in recent months. They were also more optimistic about their export order books. Meanwhile, managers' assessment of their stocks of finished products remained unchanged, and their production expectations were cautious.

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## **Previous issues**

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This e-News is issued every week to present the latest developments in the area of State aid. It features information on new legislative texts and proposals, decisions of the European Commission and the Courts of the European Union and other state aid-related documents and events. A great deal of additional information on State aid matters is available on the Internet. It can be accessed through the Europa server: [http://ec.europa.eu/competition/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/competition/index_en.html)

Other documents related to the cases, can be found under the link to the State aid Register: [http://ec.europa.eu/competition/state\\_aid/register/](http://ec.europa.eu/competition/state_aid/register/)

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