Highlights

Statement by President Barroso at the press conference following the meeting of the Heads of State or Government of the euro area Press Point Brussels
Brussels, 27 October 2011
To read the full speech, click here

Fuelling growth in Romania: The role of competition policy Conference on competition in sensitive sectors of the Romanian economy
Joaquin Almunia Vice President of the European Commission responsible for Competition, Policy Fuelling growth in Romania
Bucharest, 21 October 2011
To read the full speech, click here

Commission opens in-depth review of restructuring of Banco Português de Negócios
Brussels, 24 October 2011 - The European Commission has opened an in-depth investigation to assess whether the proposed restructuring of Banco Português de Negócios (BPN) is in line with EU state aid rules. BPN was nationalised in 2008 and benefitted from several state measures. The opening of an in-depth investigation will enable the Commission to gather all the information it needs to assess the compatibility of the aid and allow third parties the possibility to submit their views on the matter. It does not prejudge the outcome of the investigation.
Read more

La Commission rejette le plan de restructuration de SeaFrance
Bruxelles, le 24 octobre 2011 – Malgré des discussions régulières et intenses depuis un an avec les autorités françaises et la prolongation concédée à la France le 19 octobre de trouver une solution jusqu’à aujourd’hui, la Commission européenne a dû conclure aujourd’hui que l’opérateur de transport SeaFrance, actif sur la ligne Calais-Douvres, n’a pas apporté de contribution suffisante au financement de son plan de restructuration. L’aide envisagée par la France est donc incompatible avec les règles européennes en matière de contrôle des aides d’État. SeaFrance a des difficultés financières récurrentes depuis 1996 et est actuellement en redressement judiciaire. Malgré des demandes réitérées de la Commission, la France n’a pu démontrer que la contribution financière de la compagnie était exempte d’aide d’État et reflétait la confiance des marchés quant à sa viabilité future.
Read more

In the issue:

- Draft legislation and public consultations >>
- Simplified Procedure: notification summaries >>
- Decisions to open formal investigation >>
- Final Commission decisions >>
- Block exemptions >>
- European Parliament >>
- Court of Justice of the European Union >>
- European Economic Area >>
- Additional points of interest >>

Draft legislation and public consultations
Closed Consultations:
Assessing State aid for films and other audiovisual works
Consultations received

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title/link to documents</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Decision date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>McKinsey EMEA Shared Services Sp. z o.o. <a href="#">en pl</a></td>
<td>SA.33643</td>
<td>Remedy for a serious disturbance in the economy</td>
<td>24.10.2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Decisions to open formal investigation

1. Decisions taken by the Commission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Decision date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

2. Decisions pending OJ publication

Click here to see the full list

3. Decisions published in the OJ from 27.09.2011 to 27.10.2011 – 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.
Ireland  | Unlawful State aid by Ireland to Aer Lingus, Aer Arann and Dublin Airport Authority  
| Part no aid decision/Part decision to initiate formal investigation procedure  
| OJ C 306 of 18.10.2011, p. 10 bg es cs da de et en fr it lv hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl si sv  
| Deadline for comments*: 18.11.2011  
| Press release  
|  

Germany  | Leipzig-Halle Airport - further infrastructure measures  
| OJ C 284 of 28.09.2011, p. 6 bg es cs da de et en fr it lv hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl si sv  
| Deadline for comments*: 28.10.2011  
| Press release  

Final Commission decisions

1. Decisions taken by the Commission

1.1. Decisions to close formal investigation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Decision date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| France  | Aide à la restructuration en faveur de SeaFrance  
Negative decision with recovery  
Press release | SA.32600 | Restructuring firms in difficulty | 24.10.2011 |

1.2. No objection decisions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Decision date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Support for Danish public service radio programmes.</td>
<td>SA.33201</td>
<td>Culture aid</td>
<td>27.10.2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>UK Film Tax Incentive extension</td>
<td>SA.33234</td>
<td>Culture aid</td>
<td>27.10.2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Devon and Somersset Rural Broadband Project</td>
<td>SA.32829</td>
<td>Sectoral aid</td>
<td>27.10.2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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".

- none -

### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title/link to documents*</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Decision date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DG Competition cases</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Steunmaatregelen Vlaams Audiovisueel Fonds, verlenging van bestaande, goedgekeurde, steunregeling in afwachting van aanmelding van een geactualiseerde steunregeling in de loop van 2011</td>
<td>SA.32087</td>
<td>Culture aid</td>
<td>24.01.2011</td>
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<td>OJ C313 of 26.10.2011, p. 4 bg es cs da de et el en fr it lv lt hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl fi sv</td>
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<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Aid to Mercedes-Benz Manufacturing Hungary</td>
<td>SA.27308</td>
<td>Regional development aid</td>
<td>29.06.2011</td>
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<td></td>
<td>OJ C313 of 26.10.2011, p. 3 bg es cs da de et el en fr it lv lt hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl fi sv</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Press release</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DG Agriculture cases</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Compensation for damages caused by wolves</td>
<td>SA.33040</td>
<td></td>
<td>20.09.2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OJ C313 of 26.10.2011, p. 2 bg es cs da de et el en fr it lv lt hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl fi sv</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Cessation d'activité d'entreprises agricoles liées à la terre</td>
<td>N 409/2010</td>
<td>Closing capacity</td>
<td>22.09.2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OJ C313 of 26.10.2011, p. 1 bg es cs da de et el en fr it lv lt hu mt nl pl pt ro sk sl fi sv</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Block exemptions**
Global finance and its institutions need a facelift
Economic and monetary affairs, 25 October 2011
Read more

Court of Justice of the European Union

* In order to consult the available languages of documents uploaded in the Curia website, please click on the earth symbol on the left side toolbar.

1. Court of Justice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Court case*</th>
<th>Parties</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Type of act</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Related case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C-451/10P</td>
<td>Télévision française 1 SA (TF1) v European Commission, Métropole télévision (M6), Canal +, French Republic, France Télévisions</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>09.06.2011</td>
<td>Joined cases T-568/08 and T-573/08 M6 and TF1 v Commission N 279/2008 France Télévisions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. General Court

- none -

European Economic Area

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title/link to documents*</th>
<th>Case number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
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</thead>
</table>

Public versions of decisions made available
Iceland Investments of Reykjavik Energy in Lina.Net
Decision 300/11/COL

Norway Merger of the Scheme for alternative, renewable heating and electricity savings in households into the Energy Fund scheme
Decision 299/11/COL

Decisions published in the OJ

Norway Decision on the aid to Sway Turbine AS
Decision 249/11/COL
OJ C 314 of 27.10.2011, p. 3

Norway Aid to Midtfjellet Vindkraft AS for the Midtfjellet wind park
Decision 110/11/COL
OJ C 314 of 27.10.2011, p. 2

Norway Decision on the Norwegian Energy Fund scheme
Decision 248/11/COL
OJ C 314 of 27.10.2011, p. 4

2. EFTA Court
- none -

3. State Aid New Legislation
- none -

4. Other EEA points of interest
- none -

Additional points of interest

Events

Conference: (Fiscal) State Aid and Its Quantification and Recovery
Leiden, 24-25 November 2011
For further information, click here

State Aid Procedures and Enforcement & the SANI System & Introductory Workshop on State Aid Principles
The seminar, organised by the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA), aims to address the needs of middle managers and senior officials from all levels of government and local authorities, officials from public enterprises, representatives of business and trade associations, as well as lawyers and economists. The purpose

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of the seminar is to examine in depth the interpretation and application of these procedural and implementing rules. Recovery of aid found to be incompatible with the internal market, constituting a weak spot in the enforcement, third parties’ rights and the application of state aid rules by national courts are some of the topics that are analysed in detail.

Maastricht, 23-25 November 2011
For further information, click here

Autumn Conference on European State Aid Law
The European State Aid Law Institute
Amsterdam/Leiden, 1-2 December 2011
For further information, click here

Miscellanea

Remarks by President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy following the meeting of the Euro Summit, 27 October 2011
To read the full speech, click here
Main results of EU summit

Extraordinary Council meeting, Economic and Financial Affairs
Brussels, 22 October 2011
The Council reviewed preparations for the European Council meeting on 23 October, focusing on measures to restore confidence in the banking sector as part of a comprehensive strategy to tackle the sovereign debt crisis.
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Converging views on key elements of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 as a result of a high-level conference in Brussels
Read more

Next publication date: Friday 11.11.2011

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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
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/

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