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EU CORONAVIRUS RESPONSES

HEALTH

- Minutes of the meeting of the SC on Medicinal products for Human Use of 18 December 2020
- Answer given by Ms Kyriakides to a MEP written question – Spread of COVID-19 into care homes for the elderly
- Answer given by Ms Kyriakides to a MEP written question – Vaccination strategy against COVID-19

STATE AID

- Informal consolidated version of the Temporary Framework as last amended on 28 January 2021

MOBILITY

- COVID-19: Council updates recommendation on travel restrictions from third countries into the EU – see Council Recommendation (EU) 2021/119
- COVID-19 transport measures: Coreper approves mandate to extend temporary flexibility for licences
- Answer given by Mr Hahn to a MEP written question – COVID-19 and travel costs

COMPETITION

- Agenda for: Working Party on Competition of 08 & 09 February 2021
- Prior notification of a concentration (Case M.10064 – AnaCap/Carrefour/Market Pay)
- United Group-BTC deal: EU clearance decision published (M.9679)
- UK – CMA terminates extension of Phase 1 review of Uber Technologies / GPC Software (Autocab) merger
• UK – CMA final report on viagogo / StubHub merger

STATE AID

• Commission approves €35 million Dutch restructuring aid to AEB Holding (SA.57933) – Midday Express

TRADE & CUSTOMS

• Judgment of the Court of 3 February 2021 in Case C-92/20, Rottendorf Pharma GmbH Vs. Hauptzollamt Bielefeld
• Agenda for: 23rd meeting of the Customs Expert Group – Data Integration & Harmonization section – joint with Trade Contact Group (TCG) of 08 February 2021
• Agenda for: 61st meeting of the Customs Code Committee – Data Integration & Harmonization section – joint with Trade Contact Group of 05 February 2021
• Minutes – EP INTA Committee of 11 January 2021
• Answer given by Executive VP Dombrovskis to a MEP written question – Negotiations on the removal of US tariffs on European agricultural products
• Answer given by Executive VP Dombrovskis to a MEP written question – Assessment of impact of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership on EU trade and European interests
• Answer given by Executive VP Dombrovskis to a MEP written question – Suspension of export permits for tequila to the EU
• Towards a WTO-compatible EU carbon border adjustment mechanism – see the Amendment, the Draft report / Draft recommendation, the Compromise amendments 1-22 and the Opinions adopted by the ECON, BUDG, ITRE & INTA Committee
• WTO – Online Aid for Trade event to examine the impact of COVID-19 on developing countries

INTERNAL MARKET & INDUSTRY

• Agenda for: Working Party on Competitiveness and Growth (Industry) of 05 February 2021
• Draft – Commission Regulation (EU) …/… of XXX amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards polycyclic-aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in granules or mulches used as infill material in synthetic turf pitches or in loose form on playgrounds or in sport applications
• Market surveillance authorities of Directive 2000/14/EC – Noise emissions from outdoor equipment
• Draft – standardisation request to the European Committee for Standardisation as regards
pyrotechnic articles in support of Directive 2013/29/EU
- National market surveillance programme 2021 for: Poland – Austria
  – Germany – Sweden & Estonia
- Speech by Commissioner Mariya Gabriel on the Launch of Horizon Europe by the Portuguese Presidency

FREEDOM OF ESTABLISHMENT

- A national sports federation, such as the Italian Football Federation, may be subject to the rules on the award of public contracts if it pursues activities of general interest not having an industrial or commercial character (See CPR No.14/2021: Judgment in Joined Cases C-155/19, C-156/19 – FIGC and Consorzio Ge.Se.Av.)
- The prohibition on broadcasting advertising only at regional level within the framework of German television programmes broadcast at national level could be contrary to European Union law (See CPR No.13/2021 – Judgment in Case C-555/19 – Fussl Modestaße Mayr)

FINANCIAL SERVICES

- Amendment allowing for a 1-year postponement of the 1-year the obligation for listed companies to publish their financial reports in accordance with EPSF
- Request to EBA, EIOPA and ESMA for technical advice on digital finance and related issues
- The Role of the Euro in the Eastern Partnership Countries
- A new Deputy Director-General at the department for financial stability, financial services and capital markets union – Midday Express
- An equivalence ‘deal’ for the City and EU is doomed to fail – A binding treaty on financial services is needed instead if Europe and the UK are to prosper post-Brexit – Financial Times

TAXATION

- Agenda for: 15th Recovery Expert Group Meeting (for mutual tax recovery assistance) of 12 February 2021

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

- Agenda for the joint ENVI-AGRI committee procedure (Rule 58) of 4 February 2021
- Hungary has infringed the rules of EU law on ambient air quality (See CPR No.12/2021 – Judgment in Case C-637/18 – Commission Vs. Hungary (Valeurs limites – PM10))

HEALTH, FOOD & PRODUCT SAFETY

- Agenda for Medical Device Coordination Group of 05 February 2021
- Minutes of the Group of experts on tobacco policy of 24 November 2021
- Speech by President von der Leyen to the European Society for Paediatric Oncology
- QaA: Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan
- EFSA – A review of ranking systems for new plant threats in EU Member States and Third Countries: concepts and applications
DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET

- Draft opinion Shaping the digital future of Europe: removing barriers to the functioning of the digital single market and improving the use of AI for European consumers – Amendments 1-59
- Digital sovereignty is central to European strategic autonomy – Speech by President Charles Michel at “Masters of digital 2021” online event

DATA PRIVACY & CYBERSECURITY

- Cybersecurity of 5G networks: Commission requests the EU cybersecurity agency to develop a certification scheme – Midday Express
- Polish DPA fines Smart Cities: Another fine for lack of cooperation with the Personal Data Protection Office

BREXIT

- UK starts process to form post-Brexit state-aid watchdog – Business secretary insists UK not seeking return to bailouts of 1970s as consultation on body’s powers launched – Financial Times
- Open consultation – Tariffs: Developing the UK’s duty suspension application process – closed on 12 March 2021
- Guidance – Duty suspensions and tariff quotas – Temporary duty suspensions and tariff quotas for importing goods into the UK
- Guidance – Suspensions or reductions from Customs Duty for UK Trade Tariff – Find out about UK Trade Tariff temporary suspension or reduction of Customs Duty

FUTURE OF EUROPE

- 2nd Revision of the List of meetings taking place between 1 and 28 February 2021

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

- Judgment of the Court of 03 February 2021 in Case T-258/20, Oleksandr Viktorovych Klymenko Vs. Council of the European Union
  Re: CFSP – Restrictive measures taken in view of the situation in Ukraine – Freezing of funds – List of persons, entities and bodies to whom the freezing of funds and economic resources applies – Maintenance of the applicant’s name on the list – Obligation of the Council to verify that the decision of an authority of a third State has been taken in compliance with the rights of defence and the right to effective judicial protection
- Judgment of the General Court of 03 February 2021 in Case T-110/19, Jean-Claude Kazembe Musonda Vs. Council of the European Union
  Re: CFSP – Restrictive measures taken in the light of the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo – Freezing of funds – Retention of the applicant’s name on the lists of persons concerned – Obligation to state reasons – Right to be heard – Proof of the justification for inclusion and retention on the lists – Manifest error of assessment – Continuation of the factual and legal circumstances which led to the adoption of the restrictive measures – Right to respect for private and family life – Presumption of innocence – Proportionality – Plea of illegality – (See also Case T-111/19, T-113/19, T-116/19, T-118/19, T-119/19, T-120/19, T-121/19, T-122/19, T-123/19
• Protocol to the Agreement establishing an Association between the EU and its Member States, on the one hand, and Central America, on the other, to take account of the accession of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union

• Arctic: Speech by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell at the Arctic Frontiers conference

• Multilateral cooperation for global recovery

• EU-Russia relations under strain: what are the causes? – see the EP Statement