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La Commission adopte ses procédures d'infraction du mois d'avril

Afin d'aider les citoyens et les entreprises à profiter pleinement des avantages qu'offre l'Union européenne, la Commission dialogue de façon permanente avec les États membres afin de s'assurer du respect du droit de l'Union et d'ouvrir des procédures d'infraction à l'égard des pays membres en cas de non-respect de ses règles.

Les décisions prises aujourd'hui, dans le cadre de ce cycle d'infraction, incluent **32 lettres de mise en demeure et 53 avis motivés**. Aujourd'hui, la Commission décide également de soumettre **12 affaires à la Cour de justice de l'Union européenne**. Enfin, elle décide de **clôturer 135 dossiers** dans lesquels les États membres concernés, en coopération avec la Commission, ont mis fin à une infraction et assuré le respect du droit de l'Union.

Le résumé des principales décisions et les références des communiqués de presse correspondants sont disponibles [ici](#). Les principaux aspects des procédures d'infraction sont décrits [ici](#).

(Pour plus d'informations: Dana Spinant – Tél.: +32 2 299 01 50; Kristyna Eeckels – Tél. : +32 2 295 10 65)

Public procurement: A new community platform to connect public buyers in the EU

Today, the European Commission is launching the [Public Buyers Community Platform](#), an innovative platform designed to **facilitate cooperation and knowledge-sharing between public buyers across Europe**. The Public Buyers Community Platform is a unique **digital space** where public procurement stakeholders including public authorities, industry, SMEs and academia can come together to exchange best practices, share experiences and discuss challenges.

The Platform aims to encourage collaboration and build a community of public buyers who are committed to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of public procurement processes. **Efficient, modern and well-managed public procurement can help create a more innovative, sustainable and socially inclusive EU economy**. It stimulates the job sector, growth and investment, and improves the quality of public services.

The launch of the Public Buyers Community Platform is a significant step towards achieving the European Commission's goals of promoting transparency, fairness and competition in public procurement. It follows the launch of the [Public Procurement Data Space](#), which pools data on the preparation for tenders, calls for tenders and outcome of tenders. Today's Platform is expected to bring about positive changes in the way public procurement is carried out across Europe. It is accessible to all public procurement professionals across Europe. To join the platform and start benefitting from the Community's knowledge and experience, visit the [Platform's website](#).

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Antitrust: Commission confirms unannounced inspections in the fashion sector

On 18 April 2023, the European Commission started unannounced inspections at the premises of companies active in the fashion industry in several Member States. In parallel, the Commission has sent out formal requests for information to companies active in the same sector.

The Commission has concerns that the companies concerned may have violated EU antitrust rules that prohibit cartels and restrictive business practices including certain horizontal and vertical restrictions ([Article 101](#) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and [Article 53](#) of the European Economic Area Agreement).

The subject matter of these inspections is unrelated to that of the inspections carried out in [May 2022](#) and in [June 2021](#).

The fact that the Commission carries out such inspections and sends out formal requests for information does not mean that the companies are guilty of anti-competitive behaviour nor does it prejudice the outcome of the investigation itself.

A press release is available [online](#).

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State aid: Commission seeks feedback on proposed revision of State aid rules on small aid amounts for services of general economic interest

The European Commission is consulting on the [draft text](#) of a proposed revision of the rules on small amounts of aid (so-called *de minimis* aid) for [services of general economic interest \('SGEI'\)](#).

Under the current [SGEI *de minimis* Regulation](#), Member States can grant public service compensation of up to €500,000 per SGEI provider over a three-year period ('**SGEI *de minimis* threshold**') without prior notification to the Commission for approval. Such amount is deemed to have no impact on competition and trade in the EU Single Market and therefore is not considered to be State aid. These rules are set to expire on **31 December 2023**.

The recent [evaluation](#) of the SGEI rules applicable to health and social services showed that overall the SGEI *de minimis* Regulation has been **fit for purpose**. In [December 2022](#), the Commission published a '[call for evidence](#)' on this proposed revision on the Better Regulation Portal: **28 contributions** were received between the date of publication and 9 January 2023.

In this context, the Commission proposes to revise the SGEI *de minimis* threshold to adapt it to the current economic context, to align certain concepts with those of the [general *de minimis* Regulation](#) and to improve transparency requirements by introducing a mandatory register of beneficiaries, which will reduce the administrative burden for companies who currently use a self-declaration system.

All parties, in particular national authorities granting SGEI *de minimis* aid, can submit their views on the proposed revision in any official EU language on the Commission's webpage **from 19 April until 1 June 2023**.

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Concentrations : la Commission autorise l'acquisition de Total Eren par TotalEnergies

La Commission européenne a autorisé, en vertu du règlement de l'UE sur les concentrations, l'acquisition du contrôle exclusif de Total Eren Holding (« Total Eren ») par TotalEnergies SE, toutes deux basées en France.

Total Eren développe, finance, construit et exploite des installations d'énergie renouvelable dans le monde entier. Total Eren est actuellement contrôlée conjointement par TotalEnergies. **TotalEnergies** est une entreprise énergétique internationale verticalement intégrée présente dans tous les secteurs de l'industrie pétrolière et gazière.

La Commission a conclu que l'acquisition envisagée ne poserait pas de problèmes de concurrence, compte tenu de son incidence très limitée sur la structure du marché. L'opération a été examinée dans le cadre de la procédure simplifiée de contrôle des concentrations.

De plus amples informations sont disponibles sur le [site web de la Commission consacré à la concurrence](#), dans le [registre public des affaires](#) de concurrence, sous le [numéro M.11076](#).

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Commissioner Gabriel visits Serbia to discuss cooperation in education, research, culture and youth

Today, Mariya **Gabriel**, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, is visiting Serbia. The visit takes place in the context of the strong cooperation between the European Union and Serbia in the fields of culture, education, youth, research and innovation.

Commissioner **Gabriel** will visit the primary and secondary school 'Milan Petrovic' in Novi Sad and deliver €20,000 of Assistive Technology equipment to the school, supporting the educational needs of pupils in Serbia. The EU supports the objective to ensure access to high-quality education and inclusive education in Serbia, in particular through Erasmus+.

She will also visit the [OPENS Youth Centre](#) in Novi Sad to learn more about the results of Novi Sad's work as 2019 European Youth Capital, its youth policy priorities and the goals of the Serbian government's new 2023-2030 Youth Strategy. The Centre's collaborative projects are an example of how to empower young people to become engaged members of the European society in the spirit of the [European Year of Youth](#). In addition, the Commissioner will visit the [Gallery of Matica Srpska](#) in Novi Sad to learn more about the successful implementation of Novi Sad [European Capital of Culture 2022](#).

Commissioner **Gabriel** will also inaugurate a new building of the [BioSense Institute](#) together with Serbian Prime Minister, Ana Brnabic, which has been constructed in the context of the Horizon Europe 2020 [Teaming project ANTARES](#). The Institute, a new Centre of Excellence, will lead Serbia's innovation ecosystem forward and provide disruptive digital solutions in agriculture. Finally, the Commissioner will hold a press point together with the Serbian Prime Minister. The Commission remains committed to further integrate Serbia and the whole Western Balkan region, in line with the ambitions set out in the Western Balkan Agenda on innovation, research, education, culture, youth and sports. Commissioner **Gabriel**'s visit can be followed on [EbS](#).

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[Liste des points prévus](#) à l'ordre du jour des prochaines réunions de la Commission

Veillez noter que ces informations sont données sous réserve de modifications.

[Prochains événements](#) de la Commission européenne

[Eurostat](#): communiqués de presse

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