

January-April 2015

Developments in EU Transport Law

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Air

Consultation on the Aviation package for improving the competitiveness of the EU Aviation sector – In the context of the European Commission's envisioned Aviation Package aimed at identifying the challenges facing the EU's aviation sector and measures that can bolster its competitiveness, the European Commission launched on 19 March, 2015 a consultation of all interested parties on possible measures that can reinforce the competitiveness of the EU aviation sector. The Aviation Package is expected to be adopted by the Commission by the end of 2015 and this public consultation is an important element of the stakeholder consultation. It will last for 12 weeks and questionnaires should be returned by 10 June 2015 at the very latest.

[For more information](#)

Mid-term review of the 2011 White Paper on transport – On 10 March 2015, the European Commission launched a consultation aiming at collecting stakeholders' views on the 2011 White Paper on Transport: "Roadmap to a Single European Transport Area – Towards a competitive and resource efficient transport system". The general objective of the 2011 White Paper was to define a long-term strategy that would help the EU transport system achieve the overall goal of the Common Transport Policy. In line with impact assessment accompanying the White Paper, the Commission would like to take stock of the progress and to assess the validity of the analysis of the situation in transport sector as well as trends, priorities and targets that were identified in 2011. This consultation will last for 12 weeks and questionnaires should be returned by 2 June 2015 at the very latest. [For more information](#)

Aviation: Commission updates the EU air safety list – On 11 December 2014, the European Commission has updated the European list of airlines subject to an operating ban or operational restrictions within the European Union (EU air safety list). All airlines from Libya have now been added to the EU Air Safety List and are banned from operating in European airspace. No decisions were taken to remove countries whose carriers are on the EU Air Safety List. The new list can be found on the Commission's website. [For more information](#)

Aviation: EU makes €3 Billion available to deliver the Single European Sky – On 5 December 2014, the European Commission signed a new partnership agreement, involving major Air Traffic Management (ATM) stakeholders. Airlines, airport operators and Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSP) will receive up to €3 Billion in EU funding, in order to implement common projects and modernize Europe's Air Traffic Management (ATM) System. Today's agreement with the SESAR Deployment Alliance consortium aims to enhance the performance of Europe's ATM systems, in order to manage more flights in a safer and less-costly manner, while reducing the environmental impact of each flight. [For more information](#)

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Road

New EU rules for safer and more eco-friendly lorries – On 10 March 2015, the European Parliament gave its final approval to new EU rules for safer and more eco-friendly lorries (Directive 2013/0195), put forward by the European Commission. These rules will allow manufacturers to develop more aerodynamic lorries which will reduce fuel consumption by 7-10%, cut emissions of greenhouse gases, and also enhance road safety. The final step is the adoption by the Council of the European Union in the coming weeks. In parallel, the so-called EU vehicle type approval legislation needs to be updated, before new vehicles can be put on the market. [For more information](#)

Rail

The European Commission adopts an improved set of specifications for ERTMS, the results of two years of cooperation among railway experts – On 5 January 2015, the European Commission adopted a Decision amending Commission Decision 2012/88/EU. These new technical requirements (Technical Specifications for Interoperability - TSI) will take effect upon notification to Member States and will be applicable as of July 2015 across the whole European railway network. This Decision contains an improved set of detailed system specifications, recommended by the European Railway Agency, the "ERTMS system authority", which are the results of work that stakeholders committed themselves to do with the European Railway Agency in the Memorandum of Understanding signed between them and the Commission in Copenhagen in 2012 to complete what has been adopted in Decision 2012/696/EU. This Decision also clarifies technical requirements and extends them to the whole railway system in the EU, as this has been the case for the other TSIs. [For more information](#)

Shipping

Public consultation on a Mid Term Review of the EU Maritime Transport Strategy – On 28 January 2015, the European Commission launched a consultation aimed at collecting stakeholders' views on the EU Maritime Transport Strategy thus contributing to the European Commission's review of the said Strategy. The European Commission is asking stakeholders to identify the key developments and challenges for the maritime sector as well as any suggestion for actions and initiatives aimed at enhancing the competitiveness and growth of the EU shipping industry. This consultation ended on 22 April 2015. [For more information](#)

EU-wide digital maritime services: facilitating safe, secure and competitive shipping – The European Commission recently revised The Union Maritime Information and Exchange System within the Vessel Traffic Monitoring Directive, to take into account technical enhancements, which enable tailor-made solutions for authorities and EU agencies involved in maritime surveillance, cross-sector and cross-border. Its linking with the National Single Window for reporting requiring information only once, these solutions will contribute to the competitiveness of European maritime transport through a more efficient use of existing resources and digital maritime services.

[For more information](#)

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Other Transport News

European Commission identifies the infrastructure priorities and investment needs for the Trans-European Transport Network until 2030 – On 15 January 2015, the European Commission published nine studies on the state of play and the development needs of the TEN-T core network corridors. The studies have identified infrastructure development needs which represent approximately €700 billion of financial investment until 2030. The results of these studies will be taken into account when deciding on the allocation of EU funds for the period 2014 – 2020, under the Connecting Europe Facility. [For more information](#)

Investment Plan for Europe: what are the investment needs for transport? – In a speech to the members of the European Parliament's Committee on Transport and Tourism on 2 December 2014, Mrs. Violeta Bulc, EU Commissioner for Transport, stated that, in the context of the European Commission's plan of 315 billion euros aimed at boosting jobs and growth, investments in transport should focus notably on cleaner modes of transport, urban mobility and the adaptation the European transport system. [For more information](#)

Events

Past: Workshop on the innovative financing of ERTMS – On 20 January 2015, the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport organized in Brussels a Workshop on the innovative financing of European Railway Traffic Management System (ERTMS). The Workshop was part of the study dedicated to ERTMS financing launched in view of the implementation of the CEF and TEN-T and was open to all representatives of the Member States, rail transport sector representative bodies and financial institutions. [For more information](#)

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