

Daily News 03 / 08 / 2018

Hongrie: une autoroute financée par les fonds de cohésion européen

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Commission authorises five Genetically Modified products for food and feed use

Today, the Commission has adopted authorisation decisions of five Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) for food and feed use. The authorisation decisions do not cover the use of these GMOs for cultivation. Today's decisions concern 2 new authorisations (**maize** MON 87427 x MON 89034 x NK603, **maize** 1507 x 59122 x MON 810 x NK603) and the renewal of 3 existing authorisations (**maize** DAS-59122-7, **maize** GA21, **sugar beet** H7-1). All of these Genetically Modified Organisms have gone through a comprehensive authorisation procedure, including a favourable scientific assessment by the European Food Safety Authority ([EFSA](#)). All Member States had a right to express a view in the Standing Committee and subsequently the Appeals Committee, and the outcome is that the European Commission has the legal backing of the Member States to proceed. The authorisations are valid for 10 years, and any products produced from these Genetically Modified Organisms will be subject to the EU's strict [labelling and traceability rules](#). For more information on GMOs in the EU see [here](#). *(For more information: Anna-Kaisa Itkonen – Tel.: +32 229 56186; Aikaterini Apostola – Tel. +32 229 87624)*

Migration: Commission increases emergency assistance for Spain to €30 million [Updated on 3/8/2018 at 13:01]

Yesterday, the Commission awarded an additional €3 million in emergency assistance under the Internal Security Fund (ISF) to support Spain in responding to the recent migratory pressure. The assistance will mainly support the costs linked to the deployment of extra staff from the Guardia Civil to the southern borders of Spain. This support brings to €30 million the emergency funding awarded to Spain since July to help the country address migratory challenges. This financial assistance comes on top of €691.7 million allocated to Spain under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

(AMIF) and the Internal Security Fund (ISF) national programme 2014-2020.
(For more information: *Natasha Bertaud – Tel.: +32 229 67456; Katarzyna Kolanko – Tel.: +32 299 63444*)

EUROSTAT: Le volume des ventes du commerce de détail en hausse de 0,3% dans la zone euro

En juin 2018 par rapport à mai 2018, le volume des ventes du commerce de détail corrigé des variations saisonnières a augmenté de 0,3% dans la zone euro (ZE19) et est resté stable dans l'UE28, selon les estimations d'Eurostat, l'office statistique de l'Union européenne. En mai 2018, le commerce de détail avait augmenté de 0,3% dans la zone euro et de 0,6% dans l'UE28. En juin 2018 par rapport à juin 2017, l'indice corrigé des effets de calendrier des ventes de détail a augmenté de 1,2% dans la zone euro et de 1,9% dans l'UE28. Un communiqué de presse est disponible [ici](#). (Pour plus d'informations: *Ricardo Cardoso – Tél.: +32 229 80100; Maud Noyon – Tél.: +32 229 80379*)

Mergers: Commission clears acquisition of Uralkali by Uralchem

The European Commission has approved under the EU Merger Regulation the acquisition of Public Joint Stock Company Uralkali ("Uralkali") by Joint Stock Company United Chemical Company Uralchem ("Uralchem"), both of the Russian Federation. Uralkali mainly produces and sells potash and related/derivative potassium salts. Uralchem produces and distributes products to the agricultural industry, particularly mineral fertilizers. The Commission concluded that the proposed acquisition would not raise competition concerns, due to the lack of horizontal overlaps and the limited vertical links between the companies' activities. The transaction was examined under the simplified merger review procedure. More information is available on the Commission's [competition](#) website, in the public [case register](#) under the case number [M.8666](#). (For more information: *Ricardo Cardoso – Tel.: +32 229 80100; Giulia Astuti – Tel: +32 229 55344*).

ANNOUNCEMENT

Commissioner Avramopoulos in Madrid to discuss migration along the Western Mediterranean sea route

Following President **Juncker**'s contact with Prime Minister Sánchez this week, where President Juncker underlined the Commission's support for Spain in dealing with increased migratory pressure, today Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship, Dimitris **Avramopoulos** is in Madrid. He will hold a series of high-level meetings in the context of the increased arrivals along the Western Mediterranean sea route. These include meetings with Ms Carmen Calvo, Vice-President of the Spanish Government, Josep Borrell, Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, Mr Fernando Grande-Marlaska, Minister of Home Affairs, and Ms Magdalena Valerio, Minister for Labour, Migration and Social Security. The joint statement will be available online after the meeting [here](#). (For more information: *Natasha Bertaud – Tel.: +32 229 67456; Katarzyna Kolanko – Tel.: +32 299 63444*)

[June 2018 compared with May 2018 – Volume of retail trade up by 0.3% in euro area – Stable in EU28](#)

In June 2018 compared with May 2018, the seasonally adjusted volume of retail trade increased by 0.3% in the **euro area** (EA19) and remained stable in the **EU28**, according to estimates from **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. In May, the retail trade volume increased by 0.3% in the **euro area** and by 0.6% in the **EU28**.

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[Upcoming events](#) of the European Commission (ex-Top News)

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MiFID II: ESMA makes new bond liquidity data available

ESMA has started, since July 30, to make available the second quarterly liquidity assessment for bonds. However, this assessment, which is dependent on the data submitted to ESMA, experienced data quality issues. ESMA will proceed to update the publication in the following days ahead of the day of application of the liquidity classification on August 16.

This issue is also affecting the [Systematic Internalisers regime publication for non-equity](#), published on 1 August. The content of the non-equity file has now been updated, by removing the affected instruments.

ESMA's liquidity assessment for bonds is based on a quarterly assessment of quantitative liquidity criteria, which include the daily average trading activity (trades and notional amount) and percentage of days traded per quarter. ESMA will update its bond market liquidity assessments quarterly. However, additional data and corrections submitted to ESMA may result in further updates within each quarter, published in FITRS.

The list of assessed bonds is available through ESMA's [Financial Instruments Transparency System \(FITRS\)](#) in the XML files with publication date from 30 July 2018. The information will also be available through the [Register system](#) in due course.

Background

MiFID II became applicable on 3 January 2018 introducing, amongst others, pre- and post-trade transparency requirements for equity and non-equity instruments, including for bonds. Post-trade, MiFID II requires real-time publication of the price and quantity of trades in liquid bonds. It is possible to defer the publication of post-trade reports if the instrument does not have a liquid market, or if the transaction size is above large-in-scale thresholds (LIS), or above a size specific to the instrument (SSTI).