



TODAYS
News

Tuesday, 23 June, 2015

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EU reinforces its support to Central Africa

Today, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven **Mimica**, signed the Central Africa Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) of the 11th [European Development Fund \(EDF\)](#) for an amount of €350 million for the period 2014-2020. Commissioner Neven **Mimica** said: "*Regional integration is only viable when driven from within. It is a means to fulfil the policy objectives set out in the [Cotonou Agreement](#), and to build on the achievements which the Economic Community of Central Africa and the Commission for Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa have already made, in economic and monetary integration, in peace and security, in infrastructure and in environment and natural resources.*" Read the press release [here](#).

Commissioner Bieńkowska presents new approach to industrial competitiveness

On Tuesday 23 June, Internal Market and Industry Commissioner Elżbieta **Bieńkowska** will deliver a speech at the European Parliament on "*Empowering our businesses to adapt and grow: a new approach to European industrial competitiveness*". This approach builds on three pillars: 1) support the trend towards bundled provision of goods and services and facilitate firms' integration into global value chains, 2) foster the modernisation of EU industry through digitisation, energy efficiency and other new cutting-edge technologies; and 3) provide better access to finance and a business-friendly regulatory environment. Commissioner **Bieńkowska** will say: "*We do not wish to impose a straitjacket that in the end will constrain and harm European operators more than non-European ones. The solution is to raise OUR game. To out-compete, not out-regulate. We need to provide a supporting framework for our businesses to adapt and grow. We need an open, integrated approach to industry. So that is what our new industrial approach is all about.*" This new approach considers the challenges of European industry as a whole rather than focusing on individual sectors. It is closely linked to other Commission priorities: [Digital Single Market](#), [Energy Union](#), [Circular Economy](#), [Capital Markets Union](#), [the European Fund for Strategic Investments](#), [Better Regulation](#), and the Internal Market strategy due this autumn. The speech, which will be available [here](#), and exchange of views with the European Parliament Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) can be followed [live](#) at 15.00. It will be preceded by a [web streamed press conference](#) in the EP at 14.45.

Mergers: Commission clears acquisition of TE Connectivity's Broadband Network Solutions business by CommScope

The European Commission has approved under the EU Merger Regulation the acquisition of the Broadband Network Solutions business unit of TE Connectivity Ltd (TE BNS) of Switzerland by CommScope Inc.

(CommScope) of the United States. TE BNS designs, manufactures, sells, installs and distributes fibre, copper and wireless infrastructure components, cabling and systems for telecommunications and enterprise customers. CommScope is a global network infrastructure and connectivity provider offering broadband, enterprise and wireless solutions. The Commission concluded that the proposed acquisition would not raise competition concerns, notably because of the companies' moderate combined market positions, the presence of a number of alternative players, including potential new entrants, and the role of tenders and distributors in the procurement process. The transaction was examined under the normal merger review procedure. More information is available on the Commission's [competition](#) website, in the public [case register](#) under the case number [M.7563](#).

Mergers: Commission clears acquisition of joint control of Informatica by Permira and CPPIB

The European Commission has approved under the EU Merger Regulation the acquisition of Informatica of the United States by Permira of Guernsey and the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) of Canada. Informatica provides software and services used by businesses to access, integrate and manage their data. Permira is a private equity firm. CPPIB is the investment fund for the Canada Pension Plan. The Commission concluded that the proposed acquisition would raise no competition concerns because neither Permira nor CPPIB are active in the same markets as Informatica or in related markets. 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.7628](#).

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Find out [here](#) what will be discussed next week in the European Commission, European Council and the European Parliament.

