



Tuesday, 13 September, 2016

European Commission launches EU Prize for Women Innovators 2017

Today, the European Commission opens the EU Prize for Women Innovators 2017 competition, which awards four female entrepreneurs who have successfully brought an innovation to market. Carlos **Moedas**, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, said: *"The EU Prize for Women Innovators highlights just some of the many remarkable women contributing to the European knowledge economy. Previous winners have had significant achievements in areas as diverse as immunology, telecommunications and software development. We hope these prizes help winners to continue on the path of innovation and encourage others to follow in the footsteps of these outstanding entrepreneurs."* This year's edition is open to women of any nationality living in an EU Member State including countries associated to Horizon 2020 that have founded or co-founded a company with a turnover of at least €100,000. To spotlight a new generation, the 2017 edition will also feature a Rising Innovator award worth €20,000 for a female entrepreneur under 35 years old. The winners of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize will receive €100,000, €50,000 and €30,000 respectively. More [information](#) on the Prize as well as a [video by the Commissioner](#) is available online. Applicants can apply via the [competition website](#) before the closing date of 3 November 2016.

Eurostat: Second quarter of 2016 compared with the first quarter of 2016 - Employment up by 0.4% in euro area and by 0.3% in EU28 - +1.4% and +1.5% respectively compared with the second quarter of 2015

The number of persons employed increased by 0.4% in the **euro area** (EA19) and by 0.3% in the **EU28** in the second quarter of 2016 compared with the previous quarter, according to national accounts estimates published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. In the first quarter of 2016, employment increased by 0.4% in both zones. These figures are seasonally adjusted. [Full text available on EUROSTAT website](#)

Concentrations: la Commission approuve l'acquisition conjointe du gestionnaire de réseau de transport de gaz Thyssengas par Electricité de France et Dutch Infrastructure Fund

La Commission européenne a approuvé, en application du Règlement européen sur les concentrations, l'acquisition en contrôle conjoint du réseau de transport de gaz de Thyssengas en Allemagne par Electricité de France ("EDF") et Dutch Infrastructure Fund B.V. des Pays-Bas ("DIF"). Thyssengas gère un réseau de transport de gaz dans le Nord-Ouest de l'Allemagne. EDF est le principal fournisseur

d'électricité en France et est aussi présent sur d'autres marchés en Europe. Dans une moindre mesure, EDF est également actif dans la distribution de gros et au détail de gaz naturel. DIF est un fond d'investissement. La Commission a conclu que l'opération envisagée ne poserait pas de problèmes de concurrence étant donné l'absence de chevauchements horizontaux et de liens verticaux résultant de la transaction. L'opération a été examinée selon la procédure simplifiée du contrôle des concentrations. Plus d'informations sur cette affaire sont disponibles sur le site internet [concurrence](#) de la Commission sous le numéro [M.8119](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Navracsics to host launch of OECD's Education at a Glance 2016 report

Tomorrow, Tibor **Navracsics**, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, will be joined by [OECD](#) Secretary-General Angel Gurría at the [Press Club Brussels Europe](#) for the launch of the OECD's *Education at a Glance 2016*, the leading international compendium of comparable national statistics measuring the state of education worldwide. The report measures the efforts of European Union and other OECD countries to improve the quality and equity of their education systems as part of their commitments to meet the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for education by 2030. It also addresses: public and private spending on education; its social and economic benefits for people and economies; tuition fees; the outcomes of education based on an analysis of tertiary completion rates; and class sizes, teacher salaries and instruction times. The European Commission and the OECD cooperate closely in the field of education, with the objective of increasing and deepening knowledge of education systems and outcomes. In the context of this partnership, Commissioner Tibor **Navracsics** is pleased to host the launch of *Education at a Glance* and offer the EU perspective on the state of education in the European Union.

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COMING UP

[Wednesday 14 September: President Juncker delivers his State of the Union address at the European Parliament](#) Jean-Claude Juncker, will deliver his State of the Union address at the European Parliament. The speech will be followed by a plenary debate.

[Wednesday 21 September: A transatlantic Citizens' Dialogue on tax avoidance and privacy in the digital age](#)

Columbia University in New York will host the EU Commissioner for Competition, Margrethe Vestager, who will discuss tax avoidance and privacy issues in the digital economy with the 2001 Nobel Laureate in Economics and University Professor Joseph E.



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