



RAPID

EDIÇÃO DA REPRESENTAÇÃO DA COMISSÃO EUROPEIA EM PORTUGAL

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- **Commission's report on trade and investment barriers shows rising protectionism**

Today, the European Commission has released the ['Report on Trade and Investment Barriers'](#) stating that 36 more trade barriers were created in 2016. This amounts to an overall increase of 10% bringing the current total number of trade obstacles to 372. This could affect EU exports that are currently worth around 27 billion Euro. G20 members figure prominently among countries having created the highest number of import obstacles. Thanks to its effective [Market Access Strategy](#), the Commission however succeeded in 2016 to remove as many as 20 different obstacles hindering European exports. The 'Trade and Investment Barriers Reports' are published annually since the beginning of the 2008 economic crisis. This year's edition is fully based on concrete complaints received by the Commission from European companies. They concern a wide range of products covering everything from agri-food to shipbuilding industries. A [press release](#) and [more information on trade barriers](#) will be online as of 12h30 CET.

- **Commission takes further steps to enhance business transparency on social and environmental matters**

The Commission has today adopted guidelines on the disclosure of environmental and social information. These guidelines will help companies to disclose relevant non-financial information in a consistent and more comparable manner. The aim is to boost corporate transparency and performance, as well as encourage companies to embrace a more sustainable approach. The new guidelines will support companies in fulfilling their reporting obligations under current non-financial disclosure requirements and will promote smart company reporting. Appropriate non-financial disclosure is also an essential element to enable sustainable finance. This builds on the Commission's goal to develop an overarching and comprehensive EU strategy on sustainable finance as part of the Capital Markets Union. The adoption of today's guidelines will supplement the already existing EU rules on non-financial reporting ([Directive 2014/95/EU](#)). Companies falling within its scope have to disclose relevant information on policies, risks and results as regards environmental matters, social and employee-related aspects, as well as respect for human rights, anti-corruption and bribery issues,

and diversity on the boards of directors. A full [press release](#) and [MEMO](#) are available online.

- **New EU rules to strengthen the fight against money laundering, tax avoidance and terrorism financing enter into force**

The **Juncker** Commission has made the fight against tax avoidance, money laundering and terrorism financing one of its priorities. Today, the Fourth Anti-Money Laundering Directive enters into force. It strengthens the existing rules and will make the fight against money laundering and terrorism financing more effective. It also improves transparency to prevent tax avoidance. This entry into force comes as discussions with the European Parliament and the Council on extra measures further reinforcing the Directive are already at an advanced stage. Today the Commission also publishes a report which will support Member State authorities in better addressing money laundering risks in practice. It identifies the areas most at risk and the most widespread techniques used by criminals to launder illicit funds. A full press release is available [here](#).

- **De nouvelles règles pour faciliter les procédures d'insolvabilité transfrontières entrent en vigueur aujourd'hui**

Aujourd'hui, les nouvelles règles proposées par la Commission en 2012, qui visent à faciliter le recouvrement des créances dans les procédures d'insolvabilité transfrontières, entrent en vigueur dans l'ensemble de l'Union européenne. En garantissant l'efficacité et l'efficience des procédures collectives de recouvrement transfrontière de créances, ces nouvelles règles permettront aux entreprises de se restructurer plus aisément et aux créanciers de récupérer plus facilement leurs fonds. Le règlement se concentre sur la résolution des conflits de compétences et de lois dans les procédures transfrontières d'insolvabilité. Il garantit aussi la reconnaissance des décisions en matière d'insolvabilité dans l'ensemble de l'UE. Les nouvelles règles garantiront une plus grande sécurité juridique et des garde-fous contre le "tourisme de la faillite". Cela améliorera aussi les chances de sauver les entreprises viables et facilitera les procédures d'insolvabilité de groupes d'entreprises. La proposition de la Commission, mettant à jour les règles de 2000, a été adoptée en 2015. Lire notre [communiqué de presse](#).

- **Road Safety Awards: Commission rewards initiatives in Greece, France, Portugal, Romania and Sweden**

At a ceremony in Bucharest, the European Commission presented today the Excellence in Road Safety Awards 2017 to five winners. This prize recognises commitments to road safety that have a significant impact on saving lives on Europe's roads. Awards went this year to the Heracles Group of Companies, a member of LafargeHolcim (Greece), to the Ville de Martigues (France), to the CTT Correios de Portugal, to the Romanian Automobile Club and to the Motorförarnas Helynykterhetsförbund (Sweden). After two years of stagnation, 2016 brought a positive turn by reducing road fatalities on EU roads by 2% compared to the previous year. Even though European roads remain the safest in the world, 25 500 people a year still lose their lives in road crashes and about 135 000 sustain serious injuries. More information on the winners is available [here](#). The latest road safety statistics are available at [this address](#).

- **European Aviation: flying high for the past 25 years**

This week the European Commission celebrates the 25th anniversary of the European Union internal market for aviation. Its creation in 1992 revolutionised air

travel in Europe by enabling European airlines to fly without restrictions anywhere in the EU. This fostered competition and allowed new players, such as low-fare airlines, to grow. As a result, Europeans benefitted from more routes and more flights, at a better price and always with the highest level of safety worldwide. The internal market for aviation did not only propel European mobility forward, contributing to bring Europeans closer together, it also had a major impact on the European economy as a whole. More flights mean more business, tourism, trade, jobs and prosperity. In 2014 for instance, aviation supported 8.8 million jobs in the EU contributing over €621 billion to the Gross Domestic Product. More information on the internal market for aviation and the benefits it brings to Europe is available [here](#).

• **International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking: Commissioner Avramopoulos highlights need to protect children and young people against drug abuse**

This year's International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is dedicated to raising awareness of the major problem illicit drugs represent to society, focusing in particular on preventing children and young people from using drugs. The Commission's new [EU Action Plan on Drugs for the period 2017-2020](#) was adopted by the Council on 20 June 2017. The Action Plan identifies new priority areas for action, including the monitoring of new psychoactive substances and the use of communication technologies for prevention of drug abuse. On 6 June 2017, Commissioner Avramopoulos launched the [European Drug Report 2017](#) produced by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction ([EMCDDA](#)) which provides a comprehensive analysis of recent trends in the drug situation in Europe as well as 30 Country Drug Reports presenting summaries of national drug phenomena in the EU28, Turkey and Norway.

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