

NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 41/2021

Council and Parliament reach provisional agreement on Data Governance Act (DGA)

Negotiators from the Council and the European Parliament reached a provisional agreement on the proposal for a Data Governance Act (DGA), which is supposed to build a favourable environment for research and the creation of innovative new services and products. The Regulation is one of the main elements of the European strategy for data and shall facilitate data exchange between public authorities, companies and individuals on a voluntary basis: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/11/30/promoting-data-sharing-presidency-reaches-deal-with-parliament-on-data-governance-act/>

Study: The Future of the EU Automotive Sector

This study, conducted during Q3 2021 following the commissioning on behalf of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) of the European Parliament provides guidance on optimising the balance between accelerating the environmental sustainability and digitalisation agenda and increasing the innovation-driven competitiveness of the EU automotive industry within the global value chain (GVC): [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/695457/IPOL_STU\(2021\)695457_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/695457/IPOL_STU(2021)695457_EN.pdf)

Progress report on Fit for 55 package proposals

The Slovenian Council Presidency has presented a progress report on several dossiers in the framework of the Fit for 55 package. On the topic of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, the Council has introduced a working group, which has been analysing potential connections with the Emissions Trading System: <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-14574-2021-INIT/en/pdf>

EU financial instruments supported European SMEs during the coronavirus crises with €29 billion in 2020

The European Commission has published the Annual Summary Report on the implementation of financial instruments in 2020. The report shows that financial instruments have supported European small and medium sized companies (SMEs) and other recipients for a total of €29 billion in 2020. Out of these, €21.6 billion (of which €7 billion for working capital) under the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) have underpinned 478,000 SMEs, including 375,000 microenterprises: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6348

The Alliance of European Car Dealers and Repairers (AECDR) represents and promotes the interests of 57,500 franchised dealers and authorised repairers. In total these companies employ 1.175,000 people.