



# ROMÂNIA

## CONSILIUL CONCURENȚEI



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*The new regulation on national state aid procedures:*

### **CLEARER PROCEDURES IN SPENDING PUBLIC FUNDS**

A new GEO on national procedures in the state aid area was published yesterday in the Official Journal. This GEO establishes clearer rules for spending public money for the business environment.

“The new regulation creates the necessary framework for fulfilling the obligations imposed by the European Commission in order to access the European funds for the 2014-2020 programming period. Also, this GEO clarifies the role and the way in which the national and European public funds for the undertakings are used” declared the Romanian Competition Council’s Bogdan Chiritoiu.

Also, the GEO on the national procedures in the state aid area imposes a control mechanism at national level in which there is a clear delimitation on the grantors, beneficiaries and Competition Council’s obligations in implementing state aid and de minimis measures in order to facilitate a better absorption of structural funds.

This new regulation shall facilitate the efficiency of the state aid through consultation between public institutions and a better convergence between state aid measures implemented at national and region level:

- the state aid and de minimis aid shall be implemented only after assessing the opportunity of the measure;
- all the intentions of the central body to implement a de minimis or state aid measure shall have an ex-ante approval from the Government with regard on the coherency with the economic and financial policies of Romania;
- a pre-consultation mechanism between the grantors and the Competition Council is implemented;
- the de minimis and the SGEI measures shall be sent to the Competition Council for a non-binding advice;
- in cases where the grantor do not take into consideration the advice issued by the Competition Council, a justification is necessary;
- the national state aid register (ReGAS) shall be created – this is an ex-ante conditionality imposed for Romania by the European Commission in order to benefit from European funds.

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