



ROMÂNIA

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EUROPEAN STATE AID LAW - Discussed in Bucharest

The implementation of the new regulations in the State aid field is the main theme of the meeting with the authorities from the EU Member States having attributions in the State aid field, held today, in Bucharest.

"Through the European Reform in State aid field, the European Commission expects that the majority of the facilities representing State aid are checked at national level, the European Commission being responsible only with the ex-post control of the compliance with the rules. The activity of the European Commission will focus more on complicated cases and on the assessment of facilities after being granted and less on the ex-ante analysis of the State aid, as it was before and, therefore, the responsibility of the Member States in granting State aid shall increase" has declared Mr. Bogdan Chirițoiu, President of the Competition Council.

European legislation in the State aid field was amended since July 1, 2014 (State Aid Modernization - SAM). Romania, through the Competition Council, along with Sweden, Germany and Hungary, is part of the working group board that aims to find solutions to streamline the cooperation both between Member States and with the EC, in order to apply these new regulations in this field. Until now, there have been two meetings of the working group, in Stockholm and in Berlin.

During the meeting in Bucharest, the discussions were focused both on problems regarding the implementation stage of SAM and on other topics such as: State aid assessment, the obligation to ensure the transparency of the State aid granting process, best practices regarding the fulfillment of the provisions in the Regulation exempting certain State aid categories from notification.

The conclusions of the debates and practical proposals to improve the working manner at national level and the cooperation with DG Competition on State aid issues will be included within a **Report**¹ and will be discussed during the high level meeting of December the 18th, which will be held in Brussels.

To the Bucharest meeting are attending representatives of 24 authorities from the EU Member States, with attributions in the State aid field, as well as representatives of the European Commission.

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¹ Report of the Member States' Working group on the Implementation of State Aid rules – Interim report to the High Level Forum;