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## **BIOGRAPHY**

Tom is an Associate in the Antitrust and Competition team, based in BCLP's Brussels office. His practice includes all aspects of UK and EU competition law, with a focus on merger control and foreign investment regulation.

Tom advises clients across a range of sectors on multi-jurisdictional merger control and foreign investment, competition law compliance and regulatory investigations.

## **ADMISSIONS**

- England and Wales

## RELATED CAPABILITIES

- Antitrust
- Investigations
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Regulation, Compliance & Advisory

## RELATED INSIGHTS

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### **Personalities, Politics and Priorities – What’s New for M&A and EU Competition Law in 2025**

It’s all change at the European Commission. Teresa Ribera has taken over the stewardship of DG COMP from Margrethe Vestager, alongside a wider brief including environmental and social policy that could conflict with competition law orthodoxy. This is set against a backdrop of intensifying political pressure for EU regulation to support the development and productivity of the flat EU economy and possibly the promotion of European champions. In this article, we consider the key EU competition law developments that are likely to impact M&A in 2025 within the world’s largest trading bloc.

Insights

Jan 06, 2025

### **New Year, New UK merger control thresholds – key aspects of the DMCC go live**

Key competition law and digital markets aspects of the UK Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Act 2024 (“DMCC”), enforced by the UK Competition and Markets Authority (“CMA”), came into force on 1 January 2025. For more information, see our in-depth analyses of the DMCC. We take note below of the UK’s new merger review thresholds, which apply to all deals completing after 1 January 2025 (other than those anticipated deals in respect of which the CMA already had a formal Phase One investigation open in 2024).

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Dec 17, 2024

### **The New European Commission – Teresa Ribera Takes Charge of Competition**

The new European Commission, under Ursula von der Leyen for a second term, kicked off on 1 December 2024. Teresa Ribera is the new head of European Competition Policy. After Margrethe Vestager’s ten year tenure, there is a strong prospect of a change in focus at DG COMP. From a structural perspective, Ribera’s formal title - Executive Vice President for a Clean, Just and Competitive Transition - breaks from the past, highlighting that her remit extends beyond competition to encompass environmental and social policy. Von der Leyen’s instructions to Ribera emphasise this shift: “Europe needs a new approach to competition policy – one that is more supportive of companies scaling up in global markets, allows European businesses and consumers to reap all the benefits of effective competition and is better geared to our common goals, including decarbonisation and a just transition.” In this article, we outline our e...

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## **Foreign Direct Investment: key recent and future developments in Europe and the US**

At a time of significant geopolitical challenges, many jurisdictions are looking at their investment screening regimes to ensure that they can adequately safeguard national security and public order. Within this context, there have been – or will likely soon be – significant changes to FDI regimes across the world. In this article, BCLP lawyers from Brussels, Hamburg, London, Paris and Washington DC explore current or forthcoming amendments to the FDI regimes in France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union.

Insights

Jan 29, 2024

## **The Year Ahead For M&A Regulation In Brussels**

2024 is shaping up to be a year of significant change in Brussels. European Parliamentary elections in June will be followed by the appointment of a new Commission in the autumn. After two terms and 10 years at the helm of EU competition policy (which is unprecedented in recent times), Margrethe Vestager is likely to move on from her post as the bloc's top antitrust enforcer – and her replacement will likely bring a new enforcement agenda. This article explores the top current trends and developments affecting M&A regulation in Europe, focusing on the continued targeting of “below threshold” deals via Article 22 of the EU Merger Regulation (“EUMR”), the rise of the new ecosystems theory of harm, the role of the Foreign Direct Investment (“FDI”) and Foreign Subsidies Regulation (“FSR”) screening regimes and sustainability as a factor in the substantive assessment of mergers – all set against the backdrop of the incomin...

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## **The EU's Foreign Subsidies Regulation Goes Live as the European Commission Finalises the Notification Requirements for Businesses**

The EU's Foreign Subsidies Regulation (FSR) entered into force on 12 July 2023. Its M&A and public procurement notification regimes will go live on 12 October 2023. On 10 July 2023, the European Commission (Commission) adopted its final version of the FSR's Implementing Regulation alongside the template notification forms. This gives further information on how the FSR regime works in practice, and specifies the information that must be included for mandatory M&A and public procurement notifications. We have written previously about the FSR regime at the beginning of 2023. This article looks at the new FSR regime, and what this means in practice for those doing business within the EU.