

Actualités

Brexit : guide vital pour les entreprises. Le Royaume-Uni (UK) a quitté l'Union européenne le 31 janvier 2020. L'accord de retrait entre l'UE et le Royaume-Uni prévoit une période de transition qui durera jusqu'au 31 décembre 2020. Cependant, cela changera à partir du 1er janvier 2021. Après la fin de la période de transition, les entreprises qui commercent avec le Royaume-Uni seront confrontées à des changements majeurs en matière de fiscalité et de douane. Afin de préparer au mieux les entreprises à ces changements, la Commission européenne a lancé une campagne d'information et publié un Guide pour les entreprises qui en souligne les conséquences concrètes, ainsi qu'une Brexit-liste de contrôle pratique avec les étapes à suivre dans le processus de préparation. https://op.europa.eu/fr/publication-detail/-/publication/1a6d5c9a-e678-11ea-ad25-01aa75ed71a1/language-fr?WT.mc_id=Selectedpublications&WT.ria_c=51677&WT.ria_f=6203&WT.ria_ev=search
<https://op.europa.eu/fr/publication-detail/-/publication/2c464d01-408a-11e9-8d04-01aa75ed71a1/language-fr/format-PDF/source-search>

Plan d'action sur les matières premières rares. La Commission a présenté sa stratégie pour sécuriser les approvisionnements de l'Union en matières premières rares et a publié une liste de 30 matières premières considérées comme critiques. Le plan d'action sur les matières premières critiques vise à : développer des chaînes de valeur résilientes pour les écosystèmes industriels de l'UE; réduire la dépendance à l'égard des matières premières primaires critiques grâce à une utilisation circulaire des ressources, à la conception de produits durables et à l'innovation; renforcer l'approvisionnement en matières premières sur le marché intérieur de l'UE; diversifier l'approvisionnement en provenance de pays tiers et éliminer les distorsions dans le commerce international, en respectant pleinement les obligations internationales de l'UE. Elle propose un plan de 10 actions concrètes, dont la création d'une alliance européenne d'ici à la fin de l'année. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0474>

Renforcement des échanges préférentiels avec les pays paneuro—méditerranéens (PEM). Les propositions présentées moderniseront les accords préférentiels conclus entre l'Union et vingt partenaires commerciaux paneuro—méditerranéens en assouplissant les «règles d'origine» concernées de ces accords et en les rendant plus favorables aux entreprises. Ces propositions modifient les accords bilatéraux conclus entre l'Union et les pays suivants: Islande, Liechtenstein, Norvège, Suisse, Îles Féroé, Turquie, Égypte, Israël, Jordanie, Liban, Palestine Géorgie, République de Moldavie, Ukraine, Albanie, Bosnie-Herzégovine, Macédoine du Nord, Monténégro, Serbie et Kosovo. Ces dispositions permettront aux produits de bénéficier plus facilement de préférences commerciales grâce aux améliorations suivantes:

- simplification des règles par produit, par exemple suppression des exigences cumulatives, seuils pour la valeur ajoutée locale plus adaptés aux besoins de la production de l'Union et nouvelle double transformation pour les produits textiles;
- relèvement des seuils de tolérance pour les matières non originaires, de 10 % à 15 %;
- introduction du cumul «intégral», en vertu duquel les opérations de fabrication nécessaires à l'acquisition de l'origine, pour la plupart des produits, peuvent être réparties entre plusieurs pays;
- La possibilité d'une ristourne de droits (remboursement de droits sur les composants importés) pour la plupart des produits afin de renforcer la compétitivité des exportateurs de l'Union.

https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/calculation-customs-duties/rules-origin/general-aspects-preferential-origin/arrangements-list/new-pem-rules-of-origin_fr

Commission adopts proposal to make EU-U.S. agreement on tariffs effective. The European Commission published a proposal for a Council and European Parliament regulation to scrap duties on certain imports to the EU. In return, the United States will reduce its duties on certain EU exports to the U.S. market. These tariff reductions between the EU and the U.S. will increase access to both EU and U.S. markets by around €200 million per year. Once approved in line with the relevant procedures on either side of the Atlantic, the agreement will entail the reduction of U.S. tariffs on EU exports worth some \$160 million a year. This includes prepared meals, crystal glassware, surface preparations, propellant powders, lighters and lighter parts. On its side, the EU will eliminate tariffs on imports of U.S. live and frozen lobster products. U.S. exports of these products to the EU are worth some \$111 million. Both sides will eliminate those tariffs on a most-favored nation (MFN) basis, i.e. for any partner, in line with the existing multilateral commitments. The measures will apply with retroactive effect as of 1 August 2020. https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2020/september/tradoc_158923.pdf

EU-Vietnam trade agreement enters into force. EU exports to Vietnam will be taxed less as of tomorrow, 1 August. This is the immediate effect of the entry into force of the EU-Vietnam trade agreement that will ultimately scrap duties on 99% of all goods traded between the two sides. Doing business in Vietnam will also become easier for European companies: they will now be able to invest and pitch for government contracts with equal chances to their local competitors. Under the new agreement, the economic benefits go hand in hand with guarantees of respect for labour rights, environment protection and the Paris Agreement on climate. https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2020/july/tradoc_158909.pdf

Industry cooperation has led to progress in tackling online counterfeiting and piracy. The Commission published a report on the functioning of the MoU, which confirms continuous cooperation on the removal of counterfeit goods from online marketplaces between June 2017 and October 2019. Online platforms and most IP rights owners consider the MoU a valuable instrument to exchange information and ensure effective cooperation between signatories. It serves as a laboratory to identify practices in key areas such as proactive and preventive measures, notice-and-takedown procedures and tackling repeat infringers. The report gives an overview of the reported practices to combat counterfeiting online. In addition to the data collection, signatories consider the MoU useful to foster qualitative dialogues with a focus on new trends, such as design infringements, new fraud patterns and changes in consumer behaviour. <https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/42701>

Pacte vert - nouvelles initiatives pour stimuler le secteur de l'agriculture biologique. Le prochain plan d'action vise à accompagner le secteur dans sa croissance, dans le but d'atteindre l'objectif fixé par les stratégies «De la ferme à la table» et «Biodiversité», à savoir l'exploitation d'au moins 25 % de terres agricoles européennes en agriculture biologique d'ici à 2030. Le plan d'action vise à aider les États membres à stimuler l'offre et la demande de produits biologiques, à consolider la confiance des consommateurs par des campagnes de promotion et par des marchés publics écologiques, et à relever les défis liés à la réalisation de l'objectif. Il s'articulera autour de trois axes principaux: stimuler la demande de produits biologiques tout en préservant la confiance des consommateurs; encourager l'augmentation de la surface de production de l'agriculture biologique dans l'UE et renforcer le rôle de la production biologique dans la lutte contre le changement climatique, y compris la gestion durable des ressources et la protection de la biodiversité. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_20_1539

EU Green Deal – Revision of the Energy Taxation Directive. The aim of the European Green Deal is to make the EU climate-neutral by 2050. Revising the Energy Taxation Directive forms part of a group of policy reforms to deliver on this increased ambition. The main objectives of revising the Directive are: aligning taxation of energy products and electricity with EU energy and climate policies, to contribute to the EU 2030 energy targets and climate neutrality by 2050; preserving the EU single market by updating the scope and the structure of tax rates, and rationalising the use of optional tax exemptions and reductions. <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12227-Revision-of-the-Energy-Tax-Directive-/public-consultation>.

EU Green Deal - carbon border adjustment mechanism. Europe's efforts to go climate-neutral by 2050 could be undermined by lack of ambition by our international partners. This would mean a risk of carbon leakage. This occurs when companies transfer production to countries that are less strict about emissions. In such case global emissions would not be reduced. This new mechanism would counteract this risk by putting a carbon price on imports of certain goods from outside the EU. <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12228-Carbon-Border-Adjustment-Mechanism/public-consultation>

White Paper on Foreign Subsidies. Subsidies granted by non-EU governments to companies in the EU appear to have an increasing impact on the Single Market. To address such distortions, the Commission has published a White Paper on levelling the playing field as regards foreign subsidies. The White Paper presents several approaches, which aim at addressing the distortions caused by foreign subsidies in: general market operation; acquisitions of EU companies; public procurement procedures; access to EU funding. <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12452-White-Paper-on-Foreign-Subsidies/public-consultation>

Opportunités

Guide on crowdfunding. The guide for small businesses explains what crowdfunding is and how to use it. It offers information for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) on different types of crowdfunding and gives practical tips on how to access it. Crowdfunding is most often used by startup companies or growing businesses as a way of accessing alternative funds. It is an innovative way of sourcing funding for new projects, businesses or ideas. It can also be a way of cultivating a community around your offering. By using the power of the online community, it can also gain useful market insights and access to new customers. Crowdfunding platforms are websites that enable interaction between fundraisers and the crowd. Financial pledges can be made and collected through the crowdfunding platform. https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/crowdfunding-guide/what-is/explained_en

Liste complète des appels d'offres liés au COVID, disponible sur la plate-forme d'appel d'offres officielle de la Commission européenne, TED ou Tenders Electronic Daily. TED donne accès aux appels d'offres des gouvernements nationaux et régionaux tous liés à la pandémie COVID-19. Dans ce contexte, une liste classée par titre, pays, date de publication et date limite est fournie, y compris des liens vers les spécifications respectives des offres. Accessible au public, la recherche TED peut être utilisée pour filtrer le vocabulaire commun des marchés publics ou le pays, et modifier la requête pour ajouter d'autres critères, enregistrer les recherches ou recevoir des notifications sur les nouveaux appels d'offres. Le résultat des appels d'offres passés relatifs au COVID-19 peut également être consulté <https://simap.ted.europa.eu/web/simap/covid-related-tenders> <https://ted.europa.eu/TED/search/searchResult.do>

New practical guidelines to support entrepreneurialism in the EU. The Commission launches new guidelines to help educators, employers and recruiters ensure Europeans are equipped with the entrepreneurial skills needed to tackle today's big challenges – from the digital and green transitions to the post-coronavirus world of work. It sets 9 principles to guide anyone in designing, implementing and monitoring that development: Experience: plan the entrepreneurial learning experience; Novelty: focus on new value creation; Triggers: embed triggers for emotional learning; Reflection: use reflection to make learning visible; Ecosystem: connect with the wider community; Collaboration: promote collaboration – entrepreneurship is a collective competence; Others: engage others and be empathetic to their needs; Mentoring: be a mentor for the learner, rather than just an instructor. https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/bitstream/JRC120487/jrc120487_entrecomp_playbook.pdf

A lire

Tax Policy Reforms 2020. Le rapport de l'OCDE décrit les dernières réformes fiscales engagées par les pays de l'OCDE, ainsi qu'en Afrique du Sud, en Argentine, en Chine et en Indonésie. Il met en lumière les grandes orientations des politiques fiscales adoptées avant la crise du COVID-19, et recense les mesures fiscales et budgétaires mises en place par les pays pour faire face à la pandémie, depuis son déclenchement jusqu'en juin 2020. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/tax-policy/highlights-tax-policy-reforms.pdf>

Teleworkability and the COVID-19 crisis: a new digital divide? The paper discusses the extent of teleworking in the EU before and during the COVID-19 outbreak, develops a conceptual analysis to identify the jobs that can be done from home and those that cannot, and on this basis quantifies the fraction of employees that are in teleworkable occupations across EU countries, sectors and socio-economic profiles. <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/sites/jrcsh/files/jrc121193.pdf>

Economic impact of COVID-19 is uneven among EU regions. A territorial analysis carried out by JRC scientists shows that the economic consequences of the crisis do not necessarily mirror the epidemiological damage caused by the pandemic, but largely depend on the economic characteristics of the region. <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/sites/jrcsh/files/jrc121261.pdf>

Evénements

European Research and Innovation Days, 22-24 September 2020, virtual event. This is the European Commission's annual flagship event, bringing together policymakers, researchers, entrepreneurs and citizens to debate and shape the future of research and innovation in Europe and beyond. To join the event virtually: https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/events/upcoming-events/european-research-and-innovation-days_en

Future Tech Week, 21 to 25 September 2020, virtual event. will propose range of online sessions focused on high-risk research and innovation, following namely the sustainability and digital policies of the European Commission. Same as for the previous edition, the chosen projects and their accomplishments will cover various topics: e.g. artificial intelligence and IT, health and biotechnology, energy and environment, nanotechnology and nanomaterials, or culture and society. <http://futuretechweek.fetfx.eu/>

Asia-Europe Sustainable Connectivity Scientific Conference, 23-25 September 2020, virtual event. AESCON (Asia-Europe Sustainable CONnectivity) is the first scientific conference on Asia-Europe sustainable connectivity. It will bring together researchers and policy analysts working in the fields of international connectivity and globalisation, and their impacts on sustainable development, with a particular focus on Asia-Europe connections. <http://www.aecon.org/>

The 1st digital edition of SEMIC, 15 October 2020, virtual event. The annual semantic interoperability conference. The event, organised by the ISA² Programme of the European Commission in collaboration with the German Presidency of the Council of the EU, will digitally bring together policy makers, IT practitioners and researchers interested in topics related to semantic interoperability for public administrations. The theme of SEMIC 2020 is 'Sustainable Data Services'. <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/semantic-interoperability-community-semic/semic-conference-2020>

SMARTER 2020 Conference Webinar series: Connecting grand societal challenges with local goals in place-based innovation policy. Co-organised by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre and RSA Europe, the third "Conference on Smart Specialisation and Territorial Development: Connecting grand societal challenges with local goals in place-based innovation policy" will be a webinar series: **17 September:** Place-based responses to the COVID-19 economic crisis. **6 October:** Smart Specialisation Strategies for Sustainability: opportunities for economic recovery and competitiveness. **10 November:** Smart Specialisation for Sustainable Development Goals. **24 November:** Smart Specialisation: evidence, lessons, challenges and opportunities. **November, TBC:** Quality of life in European cities: are cities in Europe inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable? **3 December:** Urban strategies and Smart Specialisation. <https://rsa-europe.org/event/2020-smarter-webinar1/>

*« Le scandale, ce n'est pas l'exploitation, c'est notre connerie.
Ces contraintes qu'on s'impose pour avoir le superflu et l'inutile. »
Jean-Michel Guenassia*