



Consumer Goods, Food and Retail

DLA Piper's Consumer Goods, Food and Retail Sector team is recognized for advising many of the world's leading organizations in the consumer goods, food and beverage and retail sectors. For businesses looking to expand into new product lines or territories, protect their brand and IP, understand the consequences of changing consumer spending habits, or comply with the regulatory regimes in all the jurisdictions where they have a presence, DLA Piper can help.

Consumer Goods, Food and Retail lawyers are based in offices across the Americas, Asia Pacific, Africa, the Middle East and Europe. We leverage our vast on-the-ground experience and global platform to work seamlessly across borders, supporting you wherever you do business.

We regularly advise companies in these industries:

- Food and beverage
- Grocery
- Health, beauty and personal care
- Household care products
- Investors and funders
- Retail and fashion

As the power of the consumer continues to rise, changing shopping behaviours, never has the consumer had more to say in the battle for customer centricity. This brings with it a number of challenges of which our lawyers regularly advise on, including:

- Wellness and wellbeing
- Sustainability
- Product and supply chain integrity
- Waste and accountability
- The rise of technology
- The use and ownership of customer data
- Distress on the high street
- Direct to consumer
- New ventures and acquisitions

To find out more about our Consumer Goods, Food and Retail team, please contact either of our Global Co-Chairs.

INSIGHTS

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RELATED SERVICES

- Intellectual Property and Technology
- Real Estate

Publications

New Dutch Franchise Act poses challenges for franchisors

1 July 2020

[FRANCAST](#)

The legislation offers a number of protections to franchisees, which will be problematic for foreign franchisors who transact with well-established Dutch franchisees. The law will take effect on January 1, 2021, although it provides a two-year transition period for existing agreements.

Changes to Hong Kong anti-discrimination legislation

30 June 2020

Anti-discrimination laws in Hong Kong have undergone a series of changes over the past few years.

Federal Circuit reaffirms ITC's broad enforcement authority under Section 337 to remedy post-importation infringement

30 June 2020

Section 337 applies to articles that infringe after importation.

Are you ready for the USMCA? Customs-related takeaways on key changes from NAFTA

30 June 2020

Claiming USMCA duty advantages – practical considerations.

Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends June 2020

18 June 2020

[BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

World Economic Forum announces Presidio Principles as a foundation of blockchain ecosystem design – plus latest legal, regulatory and case law developments.

World Economic Forum announces Presidio Principles as a foundation of blockchain ecosystem design

18 June 2020

WEF's foundational values for a decentralized future.

Further relaxation of English coronavirus restrictions

16 June 2020

The UK government has enacted emergency legislation to address the effects of the coronavirus pandemic. In England, regulations were laid and came into force from 26 March 2020 onwards under the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984. On

12 June 2020, the UK government published the most recent (the fourth) set of amendment regulations.

Boardroom Brexit - 15 June 2020

15 June 2020

[BOARDROOM BREXIT](#)

Boardroom Brexit - Britain rules out extension (15 June 2020).

Loosening the lockdown: 1 June 2020 amendments to the English COVID-19 emergency regulations

1 June 2020

The UK government and the UK devolved administrations have enacted emergency legislation to address the effects of the coronavirus pandemic. On 31 May 2020, the UK government laid the most recent and, in some respects, the most significant, set of amendment regulations. The changes came into force at 11:30am BST on 1 June 2020.

Afghanistan's Food & Beverage Market and COVID-19

28 May 2020

Afghanistan is a frontier market and an importer of a variety of food products; and in the last two years has undergone a record number of business reforms meaning there are significant opportunities for international food and beverage companies in the Afghan market, even in the midst of COVID-19.

Consumer Goods, Food and Retail Top of Mind: COVID-19 sector insights

20 May 2020

In this time of growing uncertainty, we recognize that many of our clients are facing unprecedented challenges arising from the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

20 May 2020

[BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

California may limit application of securities laws to tokens, French court says bitcoins are fungible assets – plus latest legal, regulatory and case law developments.

US takes action to abate tariffs and duties in wake of COVID-19

8 May 2020

US importers may consider navigating the various tariff exemptions and deferrals in several ways.

Coronavirus: Changes to rules governing meetings and the execution of company documents (Australia)

7 May 2020

Certain requirements in the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) (**Corporations Act**) relating to shareholders meetings, and document signatures, are not compatible with public health requirements for social distancing during the coronavirus pandemic. In order to facilitate these important corporate functions during this period, on May 6, 2020 the Australian Federal Government introduced the Corporations (Coronavirus Economic Response) Determination (No. 1) 2020.

This determination modifies the legislative requirements regarding meetings and execution of company documents. These changes come into force on 6 May 2020, and will expire after six months, on 5 November 2020.

BIS announces three new rules that place significant restrictions on exports to China

7 May 2020

These rules will subject many products and technologies to new US export control licensing requirements.

Coronavirus: Cancellation of consumer contracts and consumer law enforcement in the UK during the pandemic

6 May 2020

While various COVID-19-related special measures have already been announced by the UK government to alleviate the impact on businesses, is there anything special for businesses dealing with consumers who did not receive or use what they paid for because of coronavirus-related restrictions?

COVID-19: New York and Other Northeast Council states take phased approach to reopening economy

6 May 2020

These developments raise a number of immediate questions and considerations for businesses operating in the region.

Economic relief for hemp farmers in new round of funding in response to COVID-19

5 May 2020

The new stimulus package is a more apparent green light for hemp businesses to obtain financial aid.

CFIUS filing fees effective as of May 1, 2020: What you need to know

5 May 2020

The filing fees go into effect and must be paid for transactions filed on or after May 1, 2020.

Coronavirus: Directors' duties and making decisions in a crisis (Australia)

4 May 2020

Directors need to carefully consider the risks of the COVID-19 outbreak within their business, given its impact on the global economy. As many now face significant, and increasing, cash flow pressure, directors should carefully consider their actions in the context of the legal framework.

In this new guide we have set out the practical steps directors should be taking to protect their company and its business going forwards.

Food and beverage COVID-19 regulatory updates

1 May 2020

Ongoing commentary and guidance from US regulators.

eSignature and ePayment News and Trends

30 April 2020

[ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

Some key considerations for lenders looking to close loans electronically, either in person or remotely, plus latest regulatory, legal and case law developments around eSignatures and ePayments.

Covid-19: Advertising guidance for brands (UK)

30 April 2020

The outbreak of COVID-19 is an unprecedented and rapidly-evolving challenge to businesses in all sectors. In the context of advertising, marketing and social media communications, the overwhelming regulatory focus has been on preventing the exploitation of consumers and on limiting the spread of misinformation.

Post-COVID-19: What to expect in the "next normal"

30 April 2020

Issues that are front of mind, based on an informal survey of some of the largest companies and most influential global business leaders.

Law à la Mode

30 April 2020

[LAW À LA MODE](#)

Law à la Mode: top tips for social media campaigns, the expansion of copyright protection in the UK, compulsory labelling in Russia, an interview with Deploy's Founder and Creative Director Bernice Pan and more

COVID-19: Critical due diligence considerations for M&A, financing and strategic corporate transactions in the retail industry

29 April 2020

Parties to retail-related transactions must consider unprecedented issues.

Consumer law enforcement - Recent EU / UK legislative developments and future prospects

28 April 2020

Recent legislative developments in the EU and the UK indicate that there will be more reason for businesses to be aware when consumer law requirements apply, what steps they need to take to comply as well as be vigilant of future legal changes.

Coronavirus: reopening businesses – compliance risks

24 April 2020

Companies looking to reopen are urged to do so in compliance with varying, changing government restrictions to avoid longer term liabilities that could potentially outweigh short term gains

Strengthening franchise systems post COVID-19: Strategic acquisitions

23 April 2020

For franchise companies looking for strategic opportunities, a discussion of transaction structures.

Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

23 April 2020

[BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

The FSB report on global stablecoin frameworks and related cryptoassets reflects views inside G20 governments – plus latest legal, regulatory and case law developments.

Hong Kong government approves catering sector one-off subsidy

22 April 2020

The Hong Kong government's Finance Committee met on Friday and Saturday to discuss and approve further details surrounding its Anti-epidemic Fund.

The Committee approved the terms of a government paper published last week which clarifies certain additional details in relation to the one-off subsidy for the catering sector as set out below. This is a new development following our previous alert, which was published on 10 April.

Hong Kong government approves Hotel Sector Support Scheme

22 April 2020

The Hong Kong government has approved a Hotel Sector Support Scheme. Please find more information and how to contact us on our website if you have any queries.

Relaxation of the competition rules for the COVID-19 pandemic- not all that is solid melts into air

21 April 2020

On Friday 27 March, the UK Government passed the Competition Act 1998 (Groceries) (Coronavirus) (Public Policy Exclusion) Order 2020. This article looks at what the order means, was it needed and what aspects of competition it covers.

Proposed amendments to Hong Kong's Employment Support Scheme

21 April 2020

The Hong Kong government's Finance Committee met today, Friday 17 April, to discuss and approve further details surrounding the Employment Support Scheme in response to coronavirus COVID-19.

US antitrust enforcers on high alert for collusion in labor markets during COVID-19 pandemic

21 April 2020

[ANTITRUST AND COMPETITION: NOVEL ISSUES IN A POST-CORONAVIRUS WORLD](#)

Antitrust enforcers are closely monitoring employer coordination to disadvantage workers.

Guidance from the courts (England and Wales) on the application of the Covid-19 Job Retention Scheme (or employee furlough) in administrations.

21 April 2020

The High Court has given directions to the administrators of each of Carluccio's Limited and Debenhams Retail Limited on the application of the Covid-19 Job Retention Scheme, but can the government tread a course that protects the rights of employees and follows the scheme?

Puerto Rico's Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act is in force

16 April 2020

The Act will also apply in case of future epidemics in which the Puerto Rican government declares a state of emergency.

Adapting to a new consumer market

15 April 2020

As consumer-facing businesses consider changes in their business models, avoiding legal pitfalls in some key areas is necessary for a successful transition.

US CPSC advises consumers certain recall remedies may be unavailable due to COVID-19 – four key takeaways

15 April 2020

Guidance will evolve as the pandemic develops, and CPSC-regulated firms are encouraged to consider these actions.

Main Street Lending Program: Federal Reserve unveils emergency lending facilities for small and mid-size

businesses up to 10,000 employees

13 April 2020

The Fed announces new steps it is taking to provide loans to assist employers of various sizes, as well as to strengthen the ability of state and local governments to deliver critical services during the pandemic.

FDA COVID-19 updates for the food and beverage industry

13 April 2020

FOOD AND BEVERAGE NEWS AND TRENDS

FDA issues guidance to serve as a food safety resource during the COVID-19 pandemic, plus other late-breaking developments in the food and beverage sector.

COVID-19: New York State provides new guidance on essential businesses

13 April 2020

The Guidelines raise a number of immediate questions and considerations for New York businesses.

UK government to provide additional financial support measures for mid-market business impacted by COVID-19

9 April 2020

On 3 April 2020 the Chancellor announced a new scheme for larger companies, with the creation of the new Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CLBILS) to ensure that more firms are able to benefit from government-backed support during this difficult time.

Contract analysis in a crisis: flowcharts

7 April 2020

Flowcharts providing considerations for analyzing commercial contracts in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic through a logical process flow that can serve as a practical checklist.

Coronavirus - Mitigating supply chain and customer insolvency risk (Canada)

7 APR 2020

The on-going impact of the COVID-19 outbreak could have a significant impact on your global supply and customer chains.

Cost-cutting considerations in the time of COVID-19 (Part 3 – employment issues outside the US)

7 April 2020

A deeper dive into various cost-saving measures and their viability for employers outside the US.

COVID-19 and the "essential business" designation: Practical guidance for businesses that fall in the gray

area between "essential" and "non-essential"

6 April 2020

Certain frequently asked questions as well as practical guidance.

Coronavirus: The Defense Production Act's authorities and limitations in the fight against COVID-19

6 April 2020

The DPA has significant implications for companies receiving a direct order from the President and for the subcontractors and suppliers behind them; meanwhile, recent legislation has created procurement opportunities under the DPA.

A balance between the government, the private sector and the needs of the people: Invocation of rarely used provisions to ensure public safety during the COVID-19 pandemic

6 April 2020

The Defense Production Act, compulsory licensing and march-in rights are means for authorizing the government to step in and assert rights against private companies.

COVID-19: Financial relief programs for hemp and hemp-related businesses

3 April 2020

What the relief bill may mean for the cannabis industry.

eSignature and ePayment News and Trends

March/April 2020

[ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

COVID-19 special edition

Beyond social distancing: What employers need to know to keep their workplaces safe and manage privacy obligations in the face of COVID-19

2 April 2020

Guidance from OSHA, EEO and CDC to help employers seeking to protect the health, safety and privacy of their on-site employees.

Coronavirus: Directors' duties and making decisions in a crisis

1 April 2020

Directors need to carefully consider the risks of the COVID-19 outbreak within their business, given its impact on the global economy. As many now face significant, and increasing, cash flow pressure, directors should carefully consider their actions in the context of the legal framework.

Coronavirus - Mitigating supply chain and customer insolvency risk

31 March 2020

The impact of the COVID-19 outbreak could have a significant impact on your global supply and customer chains. We can assist in responding to such risks in the various jurisdictions in which you operate, source materials and/or supply products and services.

Coronavirus: Cybersecurity considerations for your newly remote workforce (United States)

31 March 2020

Cyber risk management involves balancing the productivity of a workforce with ensuring confidentiality, integrity and availability of the company's own systems and data, as well as that of their supply chain.

Hoverboard dispute: novel issues for Federal Circuit and Commission

30 March 2020

The Commission and the Federal Circuit are grappling with a novel issue in the latest phase of a long-running dispute over hoverboards.

Coronavirus: US State AGs ramp up efforts to combat price gouging

29 March 2020

[ANTITRUST AND COMPETITION: NOVEL ISSUES IN A POST-CORONAVIRUS WORLD](#)

State Attorneys General throughout the country are vigorously enforcing state unfair trade practice and price gouging statutes against those alleged to be taking advantage of consumers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Coronavirus: DHS Response to COVID-19 - What US Employers Need to Know

29 March 2020

Key questions and answers related to the new DHS guidance.

Coronavirus: Employer's guide to the California Stay at Home Order and the Bay Area Shelter in Place Orders

27 March 2020

Many Northern California employers are seeking to reconcile their obligations under these orders. This Alert will address some of the uncertainties associated with dual compliance for Northern California employers.

ESG: the rise of private ordering and the role of the NCGC committee (United States)

26 March 2020

[PROXY SEASON HOT TOPICS](#)

This inaugural ESG handbook, part of our 2020 Proxy Season Hot Topics series, aims to help public companies as they develop

and maintain a robust ESG program.

Coronavirus: Cyber hygiene practices

25 March 2020

While the world is responding to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and individuals are increasingly focused on personal hygiene and social distancing, augmenting cyber hygiene efforts at home and at work are increasing in importance too.

Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

25 March 2020

BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS

The age of viral outbreaks – key contract considerations in a post-COVID-19 world, plus latest legal, regulatory and case law developments around blockchain and digital transformation.

Coronavirus: Employee furloughs, reductions-in-force and similar temporary cost-saving measures in the US - Part 1

25 March 2020

Key employment-related issues for US-based employers in relation to cost-saving measures due to COVID-19.

Coronavirus: Employee furloughs, reductions-in-force and similar temporary cost-saving measures (Part 2 – Employment issues outside the US)

25 March 2020

A general overview of key employment issues to consider outside of the US in light of COVID-19.

Coronavirus: Several state and local governments issue “shelter in place” orders (United States)

23 March 2020

Between March 17 and 22, state and local governments have promulgated at least a dozen “Stay-at-Home” / “Shelter-at-Home”-type Orders. This alert provides details on a number of state and local government orders.

[UPDATED] New stay at home orders in California and Los Angeles: key highlights (United States)

23 March 2020

The orders all exempt various businesses from compliance, but the orders have different scopes.

90-day deferral for US federal income tax payments

20 March 2020

Those who decide to defer their federal tax payments will be able to do so on a penalty-free and interest-free basis, with penalties and interest beginning to accrue for payments submitted after July 15, 2020.

COVID-19 and food – FDA position (United States)

19 March 2020

For help considering potential impacts of FDA touchpoints.

COVID-19: The benefits of US chapter 11 relief in a time of economic crisis

19 March 2020

Highlighting some of the most significant benefits of US chapter 11 for companies facing severe challenges under the current circumstances.

Coronavirus: Federal government stimulus response – Massive stimulus package may move through US Congress at “warp speed”

19 March 2020

The economic stimulus package taking shape may be the biggest one ever.

Coronavirus: executive summary - key highlights from Washington (March 19, 2020) (United States)

19 March 2020

Key highlights for March 19, 2020.

COVID-19: As diagnostic companies and laboratories ask “how can I help?” FDA responds with unprecedented regulatory flexibility, seeking to achieve more rapid testing capacity in the US

18 March 2020

Options expand for life science, healthcare and other stakeholders.

Real Estate Gazette: Operational Real Estate

17 March 2020

[REAL ESTATE GAZETTE](#)

Operational real estate is a rising star in the real estate investment market. One element that makes this asset class so interesting is the various sub sectors it covers, each calling for specialist experience and practical know-how in both commercial and legal terms.

That diversity is reflected in this issue, we hope you enjoy it.

US employee benefits and the coronavirus

17 March 2020

Some of the many benefit plan issues that employers are facing.

Coronavirus: Congress expected to pass expanded paid leave (United States)

16 March 2020

The paid leave requirements in the current version of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

Coronavirus: federal and state tax relief (United States)

16 March 2020

Congress and state legislatures and administrative agencies are working hard to provide necessary tax relief for those affected by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

Coronavirus (COVID-19): ten practical steps for global employers, right now (Global)

13 March 2020

These steps are not based on laws of any one jurisdiction but rather are designed to provide a global employer with themes to consider, understanding that what may be suitable for each employer may vary greatly depending on the employer's unique circumstances.

Implications of the Single Use Plastics Directive

12 March 2020

New Regulations concerning Single Use Plastics (SUP) and other plastics all over Europe will be affecting the product compliance, design and manufacturing processes of the EU operating Food and Beverage industry substantially within the near future.

Defending your supply chain against coronavirus COVID-19 (United States)

9 March 2020

An action plan that companies can implement to make strategic decisions related to potential supply chain disruptions.

Court of International Trade blocks expanded Section 232 tariffs on certain US imports, prompting others to take legal action

4 March 2020

The first injunction in an appeal filed by a US importer challenges the expansion of the tariffs on constitutional and procedural grounds.

Coronavirus COVID-19 and corporate governance (Australia)

18 February 2020

The coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak and ensuing government restrictions raise corporate governance concerns and create areas

of risk across the ESG spectrum that should be considered by companies and their directors and officers.

Coronavirus COVID-19 and other supply chain disruptions (UK)

14 February 2020

In a world of increasingly long, international and interdependent supply chains, the coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak is just the most recent event to highlight the ever more complex considerations arising from a disruption to supply.

When is an outbreak an act of God? Mitigating commercial and operational risks during the COVID-19 crisis (Global)

13 February 2020

A close look at a standard but often overlooked "act of God" or force majeure clause in contracts may provide some insight into options for mitigating commercial and operational risks during the ongoing health crisis.

Coronavirus COVID-19: The legal impact on force majeure events (Australia)

12 February 2020

Key considerations for parties that may wish to declare a force majeure event or dispute the declaration of a force majeure event by a counterparty in relation to coronavirus COVID-19.

COP25's key outcome: adoption of the San Jose Principles on carbon market mechanisms – takeaways for business

12 February 2020

Ambitious countries are not waiting for full consensus on carbon markets.

An update on the impact of the coronavirus on business in Singapore

12 February 2020

Due to the evolving 2019-nCoV acute respiratory disease (the COVID-19) situation, the Ministry of Health (the MOH) and the Ministry of Manpower (the MOM) have, since January 2020, issued advisories which employers will need to be aware of. In particular, the MOH and MOM have, since our last update on February 12 2020, updated and issued new advisories due to the increased risk of importation of COVID-19 into Singapore.

Coronavirus COVID-19 and force majeure: How are your contracts being affected? (Europe)

12 February 2020

The outbreak of coronavirus COVID-19 has caused, and continues to cause, great uncertainty for businesses around the world.

Hong Kong Government introduces mandatory quarantine measures

11 February 2020

On 9 February 2020, the number of deaths due to the rapidly spreading coronavirus in Mainland China officially surpassed the figure seen during the 2002/2003 SARS epidemic.

Numerous governments have been implementing restrictions barring entry to those with recent travel history through Mainland China, including Singapore, Japan, Australia and the United States. Following pressure from public health workers, the Hong Kong Government has now followed suit and has begun a mandatory two-week quarantine for anyone arriving from Mainland China.

How to resume business amid the coronavirus outbreak (China)

11 February 2020

As reported in our previous article, China has extended its Chinese New Year holiday and work suspension period as a result of the novel coronavirus outbreak which has now infected more than 40,000 people around the world.

This is a summary of the Back to Work Day and compensation for working before Back to Work Day in key cities and provinces across China.

APAC employment issues arising out of the Coronavirus (AsiaPac)

31 January 2020

On 29 January 2020, the number of confirmed cases of the rapidly spreading coronavirus in Mainland China officially surpassed the figure seen during the 2002/2003 SARS epidemic.

Multinationals with local operations around the APAC region have been significantly affected. As staff return to the office following the Chinese New Year holiday period, businesses are now considering what they can do to minimise any risk to health and safety and support staff through this challenging period where anxiety and uncertainty is rife, whilst at the same time complying with their employment obligations and maintaining business continuity. Putting in place detailed business and contingency plans and ensuring careful communications with staff to address key topics and concerns is key, as is keeping such plans and communications under frequent review given the fluidity of the current situation.

This alert considers some of the key issues that HR and business leaders should be considering across the APAC region.

The President announces expansion of Section 232 tariffs expected to affect millions of dollars in US imports

30 January 2020

The Proclamation authorizes the Department of Commerce to establish a process for requesting exclusions for affected parties located inside the US.

Harsher penalties on discriminatory employment practices in Singapore

29 January 2020

The Fair Consideration Framework was updated in January 2020 to impose harsher penalties on employers found to be engaging in discriminatory practices such as by favouring the hiring of foreigners over Singaporeans.

China extends holidays for workers amid coronavirus outbreak (China)

28 January 2020

Learn about how the widely publicised corona virus outbreak affects business in Greater China.

Brazil's new Franchising Law allows parties to settle their disputes by arbitration

27 January 2020

The new framework aims to allow the expansion of franchising in Brazil through more legal certainty, transparency and simplification.

Iran nuclear deal: the launch of the 'Dispute Resolution Mechanism' and the 'potential snapback' of UN and EU sanctions

17 January 2020

This week, France, Germany and Britain have triggered the Dispute Resolution Mechanism against Iran under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). Will this process lead to the re-imposition of UN and EU sanctions on Iran?

The almost free US-Japan Trade Agreement is now in effect

9 January 2020

This trade agreement reduces or eliminates US customs duties on numerous goods.

Different countries, different circumstances . . . but both require attention

8 January 2020

FRANCAST

Franchisors seeking to expand into Saudi Arabia will face significant regulatory hurdles, and those eyeing Indonesia will generally find a more relaxed regulatory regime.

Commerce imposes export licensing requirement on geospatial imagery software

8 January 2020

Companies that produce, design, test, manufacture, fabricate, or develop a software described in the new controls may now be operating within the category of "critical technologies" as defined in CFIUS regulations.

It's no secret: Trade secret misappropriation investigations are on the rise

19 December 2019

Exploring the reasons for the increase in these ITC investigations

EU launches preparatory work for a global sanctions regime for human rights violations

17 December 2019

On 9 December 2019, High Representative/Vice-President of the European Union Josep Borrell announced that the Foreign Affairs Council has agreed with strong consensus to start the preparatory work for a global sanctions regime to address serious human rights violations.

Law à la Mode: Levi Strauss & Co and Google; Mystery shoppers and the GDPR; Monograms and trademarks; Counterfeit products in China and more

16 December 2019

[LAW À LA MODE](#)

The UK editorial team is delighted to bring you the 29th edition of *Law à la Mode*, the legal magazine produced by DLA Piper's Consumer Goods, Food and Retail sector group for clients and contacts of the firm worldwide.

The EU Commission trailblazing towards a sustainable future

12 December 2019

The European Green Deal is a holistic approach to delivering transformational change and leading the transition towards a new paradigm.

New European Commission Assumed Office on 1 December 2019

2 December 2019

The new leadership of the European Commission has officially assumed office yesterday, Sunday, 1 December 2019, for a five-year term. The newly assembled College of Commissioners obtained a comfortable majority in an approval vote in the European Parliament plenary session on Wednesday, 27 November 2019.

VAT - Monthly Alert - October 2019

4 November 2019

[VAT MONTHLY ALERT](#)

A summary of important VAT developments with implications for cross-border business operations.

Beginning October 11, 2019: opportunity to obtain temporary reduction or suspension of US import duties

7 October 2019

Miscellaneous Tariff Bill petitions can be submitted to the ITC until 5:15 pm EST on December 10, 2019.

US Trade Representative imposes additional tariffs on EU goods following WTO decision in Airbus subsidies dispute

7 October 2019

This decision marks the resolution of a 15-year WTO dispute over US claims of illegal subsidies to support Airbus production.

With great influence comes great responsibility: potential liabilities in the growing influencer marketplace

30 Sep 2019

What responsibility, if any, falls on the influencer for social media product endorsements?

The CBD problem: searching for a legal pathway for CBD in foods and supplements

20 September 2019

The current state of the laws and regulations in the US, and potential pathways to a resolution.

US Trade Representative publishes fourth list of Chinese products subject to Section 301 tariffs

19 August 2019

Yet more Chinese products will be subject to an additional 10 percent tariff.

VAT - Monthly Alert - July 2019

5 August 2019

[VAT MONTHLY ALERT](#)

A summary of important VAT developments with implications for cross-border business operations.

Dallas employees may not want to call in sick

31 July 2019

An Austin-based conservative think tank filed suit this week against the City of Dallas arguing that the paid sick leave ordinance violates the United States Constitution.

EU Impact - Issue 5/2019

2 July 2019

Despite record temperatures in some EU countries these days, political developments in Brussels and Member States' capitals have rather sped up than slowed down. Following the elections to the EU Parliament in May 2019, the leaders of the EU Member States have been engaged in intense negotiations on the upcoming major re-shuffle of EU top jobs.

Who's that bot? California requires clear disclosure starting 7/1/2019

20 June 2019

A California law attempts to tackle the problem of automated online accounts that simulate conversation – and that are used to confuse or deceive.

Diversity and Inclusion - how does the retail sector fare in the boardroom?

5 JUN 2019

With diversity and inclusion fast becoming a hot topic on the agenda for almost every business across the globe, there is no doubt that the requirement for a more diverse board is increasing.

The consumer goods and retail landscape is rapidly evolving. Now more than ever, consumers are seeking more diverse products from which to choose and a variety of different ways to shop. With the need for the overall customer experience to reflect this broadening diversity, is the sector sufficiently diverse to be equipped with the varied cultural knowledge and understanding to take on the challenge?

Law à la Mode: Beauty Trends: 5 Key Beauty M&A deals; Street art and fashion; Word from the industry's mouth; The rise in innovative retail services; and more

20 MAY 2019

[LAW À LA MODE](#)

The Moroccan editorial team is delighted to bring you the 28th edition of Law à la Mode, the quarterly legal magazine produced by DLA Piper's Consumer Goods & Retail Sector Group for clients and contacts of the firm worldwide.

Intellectual Property and Technology News (Asia Pacific) May 2019

15 MAY 2019

[INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS](#)

Intellectual Property and Technology News (Asia Pacific) is our biannual publication designed to report on worldwide development in intellectual property and technology law, offering perspectives, analysis and visionary ideas.

EU Impact - Issue 4/2019

10 MAY 2019

With only two weeks left until the European elections of 23-26 May 2019, Europeans find themselves at the beginning of a months-long period of crucial transformations that are expected to significantly impact citizens and businesses in the medium- and long term.

Dallas passes ordinance requiring paid sick leave for private sector workers – key facts to know

29 APR 2019

With the effective date rapidly approaching, companies with employees in the City of Dallas should become familiar with the ordinance and review their applicable policies.

So you want to go digital...

11 APR 2019

This article assists businesses in identifying the core issues that must be addressed to ensure the legal sufficiency of transactions conducted on eSignature platforms.

EU Impact - Issue 3/2019

29 MAR 2019

Monthly update on the latest EU policy and regulatory developments relevant for your sector

EU Policy & Regulatory Update - European Parliament Adopts EU Copyright Reform

28 MAR 2019

Following two and a half years of negotiations and unprecedented public attention, the European Parliament adopted the controversial EU copyright reform in its plenary session on 26 March 2019.

EU Policy & Regulatory Alert: EU Mechanism for Foreign Investment Screening to Enter into Force in April

21 MAR 2019

Today, on 21 March 2019, the new Regulation establishing a framework for the screening of foreign direct investments into the Union was published in the Official Journal of the European Union (EU).

Top of Mind: Litigation

20 MAR 2019

In this issue, our coverage of 10 big topics businesses have been thinking about this quarter.

PFAS: in California, regulators put cleanup levels on hold, but announce major data hunt

7 MAR 2019

This data hunt will affect thousands of facilities, drinking water systems and private drinking water well owners.

EU Impact - Issue 2/2019

4 MAR 2019

Monthly update on the latest EU policy and regulatory developments relevant for your sector

DLA Piper in Latin America: 2018 in review

28 FEB 2019

While challenges always lie ahead, we are excited by the region's continuing growth.

Data privacy law: the top global developments in 2018 and what 2019 may bring

25 FEB 2019

In 2018, the world saw numerous significant privacy law developments, a trend that is continuing in 2019.

Sharpen your pencils: California AG's Office announces start of its important CCPA pre-rulemaking and schedule for issuing its important CCPA rules

13 FEB 2019

Because the CCPA is littered with drafting errors and confusing definitions, this AG rulemaking is extremely important.

California Consumer Privacy Act: what's new for retailers?

23 JAN 2019

Particular features of the CCPA affect the retail industry in unique ways.

Global Employment Law Quiz 2019

11 JAN 2019

The annual quiz about global developments and trends in employment law.

Singapore deposits OECD Multilateral Instrument

8 JAN 2019

TRANSFER PRICING

Multinationals that have a holding, financing, or intangible property company in Singapore are taking note.

The Music Modernization Act: stronger protections for artists and publishers

21 DEC 2018

The MMA revamps the Copyright Act in three major aspects.

Supreme Court Corner Q4 2018

20 DEC 2018

A trademark case concerning the Lanham Act's prohibition of "immoral" marks; a patent case asking whether the government is a "person" under the AIA.

Taking part in 2018 ANA/BAA Marketing Law Conference

21 DEC 2018

Ben Mulcahy and Gina Reif Ilardi actively participated in the 2018 Association of National Advertisers/Brand Activation

Association Marketing Law Conference in Chicago.

EU Impact: Monthly update on the latest EU policy and regulatory developments relevant for your sector

21 DEC 2018

Edition 12 of our monthly update on the latest EU policy and regulatory developments

eSignature and ePayment News and Trends

20 DEC 2018

[ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

In this issue, digitally transforming your business – the year's big legal and regulatory developments and breaking news.

Global Anticorruption Newsletter

5 DEC 2018

DLA Piper's *Global Anticorruption Newsletter* offers practical guidance on complying with international bribery laws.

The European Data Protection Board issues long-awaited guidelines on the territorial scope of the GDPR

30 NOV 2018

Among other provisions, the Guidelines concern GDPR's application to entities in the EU even when they process personal data of persons outside the EU.

eSignature and ePayment News and Trends

30 NOV 2018

[ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

In this issue, a fintech Q&A with the team, plus the latest developments from the legislatures, the regulators and the courts

Law à la Mode: Word of the industry's mouth; Enforcement of IP rights through Ukrainian customs register; E-commerce in Poland; The development of artificial intelligence in the fashion industry; and more

26 NOV 2018

[LAW À LA MODE](#)

The US editorial team is delighted to bring you the 27th edition of *Law à la Mode*, the quarterly legal magazine produced by DLA Piper's Retail Sector Group for clients and contacts of the firm worldwide.

EU Policy & Regulatory Alert: New Regulation on Foreign Direct Investment Screening in the EU

22 NOV 2018

The European Union is moving fast towards establishing a joint regulatory and policy framework for Europeans to seize the opportunities provided by Artificial Intelligence (AI) and to reinforce Europe's competitiveness in this field.

eSignature and ePayment News and Trends

26 OCT 2018

ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS

In this issue, obtaining remote epayment authorizations from customers – are you in compliance? Plus the latest legislative and regulatory news.

CFIUS pilot program mandates declarations for certain non-controlling investments in critical technologies

17 OCT 2018

The pilot program covers critical technologies in 27 industries.

Recent Landmark Case on Comparative Advertising in Hong Kong

12 OCT 2018

On 5 September 2018, the Hong Kong Court of First Instance handed down a significant win to Hong Kong Broadband Network Limited (HKBN) in dismissing a trade mark infringement claim brought against it by the PCCW-HKT group (PCCW). The case is the first decision the Hong Kong Court has made on section 21 of the Trade Mark Ordinance (Cap. 559) (TMO) and provided important guidance on the use of trademarks in the context of comparative advertising.

HKBN was represented by the legal team from DLA Piper Hong Kong led by May Ng, Partner, assisted by Queenie Chan, Associate.

Section 301 additional tariffs on imports of Chinese products: options for high tech and manufacturing companies

3 OCT 2018

Additional tariffs of 10 percent or 25 percent have been imposed on three different lists of thousands of imports from China. Companies can request exclusion from these tariffs.

DLA Piper hosts clients at INTA Annual Meeting in Seattle

27 SEP 2018

More than 10,000 trademark professionals and brand owners from around the world took part in the 140th International Trademark Association Annual Meeting.

How blockchain, Internet of Things and smart contracts improve the supply chain

27 SEP 2018

Incorporating three key technologies into the supply chain can significantly improve profitability while reducing risk.

Four tips for an effective eDiscovery plan in China

19 SEP 2018

A timely and well-documented eDiscovery plan, comprehensively addressing compliance with local laws, can also go a long way to address potential post-collection inquiries.

eSignature and ePayment News and Trends

14 SEP 2018

[ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

In this issue, remote notarization – US state requirements, plus blockchain, the new stablecoin, the validity of esignatures, and more.

California Cruelty-Free Cosmetics Act to ban most animal testing for beauty products: key points

12 SEP 2018

Given the dominance of the California market, cosmetic companies are considering how they will adjust their development processes ahead of the 2020 deadline.

China kicks off individual income tax law reform

6 SEP 2018

Regarded as the most influential amendment to the Individual Income Tax Law so far, the law is also a new beginning for IIT Law reform in China.

The Second Circuit rules against DOJ's aggressive assertion of extraterritorial FCPA jurisdiction over foreign accessories

29 AUG 2018

The ruling stands to limit DOJ's ability to bring FCPA charges against foreign nationals who do not travel to the US.

HMRC releases data on transfer pricing, diverted profit tax: key takeaways

14 AUG 2018

HMRC's publication of transfer pricing and diverted profits tax data for 2017/8 shows increasing activity and revenue collected from multinationals.

First Round of US Sanctions Reintroduced and EU Blocking Statute Updated

7 AUG 2018

US President Donald Trump announced on 8 May 2018 his decision to withdraw from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), commonly known as the "Iran Nuclear Deal", reached in Vienna on 14 July 2015. The US provided 90- and 180-day wind-down periods before the US nuclear-related secondary sanctions would be reintroduced.

Congress finalizes CFIUS reform bill to broaden national security reviews of foreign investments

25 JUL 2018

A summary of the major changes FIRRMA presents to the CFIUS review process.

EU Policy and Regulatory update: EU extends sectoral sanctions against Russia

20 JUL 2018

On 5 July 2018, the Council of the European Union (EU) adopted Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/964 extending the economic sanctions that target the financial, energy and defence sectors, as well as the area of dual-use goods of the Russian economy (the so-called "sectoral sanctions"). The sectoral sanctions, which were due to end on 31 July 2018, will therefore remain in place until at least 31 January 2019.

Slavery in the supply chain: new corporate reporting obligations for companies

9 DEC 2015

[HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS SERIES](#)

The UK's Modern Slavery Act 2015 is in force, imposing on companies new reporting requirements and new enforcement powers, including the creation of an Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner.

Supply chain planning in the post-BEPS era: five questions for MNEs

22 JUL 2015

After BEPS actions are incorporated into OECD documents and local legislation, tax planning opportunities will still exist, but realizing the benefits of tax planning will require a greater emphasis on economic substance. One often-overlooked area of opportunity is tax-efficient supply chain planning.

EVENTS

Upcoming

Evolution of the global grocery market during and after COVID-19

21 July 2020

[Previous](#)

TopCo liability panel

25 JUN 2019
London

NEWS

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2020

30 April 2020

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 67 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2020 in the United States and May 1, 2020 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions have been made across many of the firm's practice areas in 35 different offices throughout 13 countries.

Across the firm's practices globally, Corporate saw the largest intake of new partners with 19 promotions, followed by Litigation and Regulatory with 15. Intellectual Property and Technology and Finance and Projects had ten and eight promotions respectively, while there were six in Real Estate. Tax and Employment both had four, and there was one in Restructuring.

DLA Piper lawyers named Acritas Stars

10 March 2020

Acritas has named over 200 DLA Piper lawyers as 2020 Acritas Stars. Now in its fourth year, Acritas Stars highlights the stand-out lawyers in private practice as nominated by clients around the world. More than 3,000 senior in-house counsel feed into the nomination process to give a comprehensive view of highly recommended lawyers across the globe.

DLA Piper Ukraine advises food chain Billa on lease extension flagship store in the Bessarabskyi Market in Kyiv

21 February 2020

DLA Piper Ukraine real estate team has advised food chain Billa on securing a record 8-year lease extension agreement with Kyiv City Council for its flagship store in the Bessarabskyi Market in Kyiv.

New report finds retail sector leadership diversity deficit will affect future competitiveness

5 JUN 2019

DLA Piper and executive recruitment and diversity consultancy Green Park today launch *The Retail Leadership 700* report, which reveals for the first time the extent of the lack of diversity within the leadership teams of the top US, UK and European retailers.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2019

1 APR 2019

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 77 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2019 in the United States and May 1, 2019 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 43 different offices throughout 20 countries.

DLA Piper successfully defends Samsung Electronics against Dyson

29 MAR 2019

DLA Piper acted on behalf of Samsung Electronics GmbH to lift a temporary injunction obtained by Dyson AG in January 2018 from the District Court of Düsseldorf. The injunction prohibited Samsung from making certain advertising statements for battery-powered vacuum cleaners. As some of the prohibited statements were also on the packaging this led to a de facto ban on the sale for the battery-powered vacuum cleaner.

DLA Piper advises Mothercare on the sale of Early Learning Centre business to the Entertainer

26 MAR 2019

DLA Piper has advised UK retailer Mothercare plc on the £13.5 million sale of Early Learning Centre Limited to TEAL Brands Limited, a subsidiary of TEAL Group Holdings, the holding company of the Entertainer group of companies. Mothercare will use the proceeds from the sale to reduce its bank debt.

DLA Piper team advises Mothercare on £32.5 million equity raise to save the company

3 AUG 2018

A London capital markets team of DLA Piper advised baby and maternity retailer Mothercare plc on its placing and open offer in July, raising £32.5 million through an issue of new shares listed on the main market of the London Stock Exchange. The fundraising is part of Mothercare's restructuring programme, which also calls for Mothercare to close 60 of its UK stores and which should ensure financial stability for the retailer after challenging times.
