Regulatory News

Financial Regulation: Weekly Update

14 December 2018

Regulation Unit

Highlights

BIS completes the revision of the Pillar 3 framework and consults on leverage ratio window-dressing. EP asks Commission and Member States to intensify their plans for a no-deal *brexit* scenario. ECB updates list of entities. EBA publishes final guidelines on STS securitisations. HM Treasury continues to release Statutory Instruments in the context of *brexit*.

GLOBAL

BIS publishes updated Basel III disclosure requirements

<u>Updates</u> disclosure requirements and completes Pillar 3 framework by incorporating Dec. 2017 Basel III post-crisis regulatory reforms and includes new requirements on asset encumbrance and capital distribution constraints.

BIS consults on disclosure requirements to address leverage ratio window-dressing

In <u>response</u> to current regulatory arbitrage, banks will need to report the leverage ratio using daily averages. Includes disclosure requirements for SFTs, derivatives and central bank reserves. Deadline: 13 Mar. 2019.

• ISDA publishes 2018 benchmarks supplement protocol

It aims to help market participants incorporate the ISDA Benchmarks Supplement of Sept. 2018, which specifies events and fallbacks for certain IBORs, into their interest rate, FX, equity and commodity derivatives transactions.

EUROPE

• EP announcement on brexit agreement

<u>Reiterates</u> that without a backstop there would be no consent to the agreement. Concerned about UK Parliament's ratification, calls on the Commission and Member States to intensify their work on planning for a no-deal *brexit*.

ECB updates the list of supervised entities

<u>The list</u> includes: significant Institutions and less significant institutions. The total number of significant supervised entities is 119 as of 1 January 2019. Includes changes related to *brexit*.

• EBA publishes final guidelines on the STS criteria in securitisation

Applicable from 15 May 2019, the <u>guidelines</u> provide a harmonised interpretation of the criteria for the securitisation to be eligible as simple, transparent and standardised (STS) on a cross-sectoral basis throughout the EU.

• EP releases political agreement on Cybersecurity

Introduces a new <u>cybersecurity</u> certification scheme, enhances consumer protection and includes procedures for companies. ENISA's powers will be reinforced to prepare the EU for a crisis response to cyberattacks.

EIOPA publishes an evaluation report on the Structure of European Insurance Intermediaries Markets

<u>Confirms</u> the disparities among local distribution channels and definitions adopted at national level. Registration and reporting frameworks vary amongst Member States, contributing to its diversity in terms of size.

• EBA issues consultation on guidelines on Information Communication Technology (ICT) and security risks

<u>Focuses</u> on mitigating all ICT risks, for all financial institutions. Especially on governance, risk assessment process, information security requirements, ICT operational management. Deadline to respond: 13 Mar 2019.

SPAIN

BdE publishes Semiannual Financial Stability Review

<u>Articles</u> on: The relationship between volume of NPLs and credit allocation. New credit standards in Portugal. An overview of PSD2. Risks of para-currencies. Impact of interest rates in banks' profitability and household defaults.

UNITED KINGDOM

FCA proposes changes to boost retail investment in patient capital

Consults on <u>changes</u> to address barriers to retail investment in long-term capital, maintaining an appropriate protection. Also explores the potential use of already authorised funds for these purposes. Deadline: 28 Feb 2019.

• HM Treasury issues draft Statutory Instruments in the context of brexit

Draft amendments to retained EU law and UK legislation related to <u>investment funds</u>, <u>financial services</u>, <u>mortgage</u> <u>credit</u> and <u>securities</u>, <u>prospectus and transparency</u>, to be laid under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

• PRA publishes approach to the implementation of the systemic risk buffer (SRB)

<u>The Statement of Policy</u> updates the PRA's framework for the SRB and is relevant to ring-fenced bodies as well as large building societies with more than £25bn in deposits and shares. Effective from 13 Dec. 2018.

• FCA and PRA issues consultation on mortgage reporting requirements

<u>Focused</u> on data gaps which limit understanding of conduct and competition harms in the mortgage market. Applies to mortgage lenders, home finance administrators and other entities. Deadline: 22 Mar. 2019

• PRA issues Policy Statement on equity release mortgages (ERM) under Solvency II

<u>Publishes</u> two documents in relation to Solvency II: i) Policy Statement with feedback to consultation on ERMs and ii) final Supervisory Statement on Matching adjustment – illiquid unrated assets and ERMs.

UNITED STATES

• Treasury issues bilateral agreement with UK on prudential measures regarding insurance and reinsurance

The <u>arrangement</u> would provide regulatory certainty and market continuity consistent with the 2017 US-EU covered agreement following *brexit*.

CFTC consults on Crypto-assets

It <u>seeks to understand</u> the similarities and distinctions between Ether and Bitcoin. It also analyses how virtual currencies work; their mechanics, risks and opportunities. Deadline: 11 Feb 2019.

Recent publications of interest (in English and Spanish):

- Press Article. SMEs and market financing: Myth or reality? November 2018
- Press Article. European banks and the challenge of MREL. October 2018
- Regulation Watch. Global | 2018 G-SIBs list: the three key changes. November 2018
- <u>Working Paper</u>. Policy priorities to promote financial development in the context of Middle Income Trap. December 2018

Previous editions of our Weekly Regulatory Update in Spanish and English.

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