



*Maintaining a level playing field in the financial markets crisis
– applying the EU State aid rules to measures to stabilize
financial markets*

Seminar

Frankfurt am Main · Alte Oper

4 March 2009



Initiators:

**Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie e.V. · Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
Clifford Chance · Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer · Gleiss Lutz · Hengeler Mueller
Howrey · Jones Day · Linklaters · Müller-Wrede & Partner**

The Berlin Roundtable for EU State Aid Law is an experts forum founded by the Association of German Industries (BDI) and leading law firms. The Roundtable promotes the discussion of State aid law issues throughout Europe and Germany. Participants include EU Commission officials, national regulators, judges, trade associations, interested members of the business community and private practitioners. The Roundtable has met 14 times so far. Participants have included the European Commissioner for Competition and the Director General for Competition of the European Commission as well as several government members. For further information, please visit our website at www.berliner-gespraechskreis.eu.

The worldwide financial market crisis and the responses by governments in Europe to address its consequences have created a huge challenge for the application of the State aid rules that are designed to create a reliable framework for State intervention. Both the amounts of several billion Euros that are made available and the speed at which decisions must be taken in the financial markets crisis are without precedent in EU State aid practice. In October 2008, the European Commission took the first steps for a flexible application of the rules.

It is now time to discuss first results, issues that have come up, as well as the outlook for the next few months. This is why the Roundtable organizes a Seminar in the city in which the European Central Bank has its seat.

Programme

9.15 am Welcome by Gabriele Quardt, Müller-Wrede & Partner, Berlin

Chairman: Michael Schütte, Howrey, Brussels

9.30 am *The role of the Commission in maintaining a level playing field*

Philip Lowe, Director General, Directorate General Competition of the European Commission

10.30 am Coffee break

11.00 am *The economic background of the crisis, measures adopted by the central banks to reduce the risk, and State aid as a means to address it: Responding to a market failure by measures to remedy a serious disturbance of the economy*

Henri Piffaut, Director LECG Law and Economics Consulting Group, Brussels

Petra Senkovic, Assistant General Counsel and Head of the National Law Section Legal Services, European Central Bank, Frankfurt

Adinda Sinnaeve, Deputy Head of Unit, Directorate General Competition, European Commission

Holger Wissel, Clifford Chance, Düsseldorf

12.45 pm Lunch

Chairman: Thomas Schmidt-Kötters, Hengeler Mueller, Düsseldorf

2.00 pm *Details and differences of bank rescue packages in the UK, Germany, and France*

Kristina Haverkamp, German Federal Ministry of Economics

Rod Carlton, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, London

Antoine Winckler, Cleary Gottlieb, Paris

3.00 pm Coffee break

Chairman: Thomas Jestaedt, Jones Day, Brussels and Frankfurt

3.20 pm ***The distinction between banks with endogenous problems and fundamentally sound banks; contents of a restructuring plan and other issues***

Karl Soukup, Head of Unit, Directorate General Competition, European Commission

Hans Friederiszick, ESMT European School of Management and Technology, Berlin

Wolfgang Deselaers, Linklaters, Brussels

Chairwoman: Ulrike Suchsland-Maser, Federation of German Industries (BDI)

4.40 pm ***Application of rescue packages to other sectors: From semiconductors to automobiles***

Kay Lindemann, German Association of the Automotive Industry (VDA), Berlin

Andreas Möhlenkamp, WSM Confederation of Steel and Metal processing industries, Düsseldorf

Ulrich Soltész, Gleiss Lutz, Brussels

5.45 pm End of seminar

6.00 pm Cocktails

Languages: German and English

Please register by 2 March 2009.

Registration

by E-mail to mail@berliner-gespraechskreis.eu

or

by fax to +49-30-39 92 50-39

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

will attend the Frankfurt Seminar. The participation fee of EUR 150 (for members) respectively the participation fee of EUR 250 (for non-members) will be transferred to the following account:

*Dresdner Bank, bank code 100 800 00, Account: 0024 800 900,
IBAN: DE46 100 800 00 0024 800 900, BIC: DRESDEFF100*

Date _____

Signature _____