# **Revised State Aid Toolkit**



# Fit to Address the Energy Dilemma?

21 April 2023 Giorgio Motta





1 Setting the Scene

# How did we get here?



# 11 December 2019

European Green Deal

# July 2020

EC prolonged validity of certain State aid rules. amended GBER and State aid auidelines

#### 14 December 2020

Next Generation EU plan (NGEU)

#### 17 December 2020

**EU Multiannual Financial** Framework 2021-2027 (MFF)

# 26 January 2021

€2.9 bn aid by 12 Member States for R&D&I in battery value chain

# 12 February 2021

**EU Recovery and** Resilience Facility (RRF)

# 23 July 2021 Amended GBER

#### December 2021

FC Communication aid to promote IPCEIs

# February 2022

State aid guidelines for climate, environmental protection and energy 2022

#### 23 March 2022

**Temporary Crisis** Framework

# 18 May 2022

FC REPowerEU Plan

#### 15 July 2022

€5.4 bn aid for IPCEI in hydrogen technology

# 20 July 2022

Amended EC Temporary Crisis Framework

# 4 August 2022 France €20bn subsidy package



#### 18 October 2022

Draft new EU emergency measures

# 21 October 2022

Germany proposed €200bn rescue package.

#### 1 February 2023

Green Deal Industrial Plan

#### 14 February 2023

11 Member States urged caution in loosening State aid rule

## 9 March 2023

**New Temporary State Aid** Crisis and Transition Framework: revised GBER

**Green Deal Industrial Plan** 

# 14 March 2023

EC proposal for EU electricity market design reform

# 12 July 2023 FSR enters into

force

# **Green Deal**

2020

February 2020

19 pandemic in

Europe

Outbreak of Covid-

2021 **Pandemic** 

# **Summer 2021**

Unprecedented energy prices spikes and volatility

#### November 2020

India's Production Linked Incentive Scheme (for photovoltaics and batteries)

# Russia's invasion of Ukraine

February 2022 Russia's invasion of

Ukraine

July 2022 **UK Energy Security Bill** 

# $\nearrow$

# March 2022

China green subsidies to renewables firms



#### March 2022

Canada Green Investment plans

### 16 August 2022 US Inflation Reduction

Act (IRA)

# February 2023 Japan Green

transformation Plan



**EU-U.S. Clean Energy Incentives** Dialoque



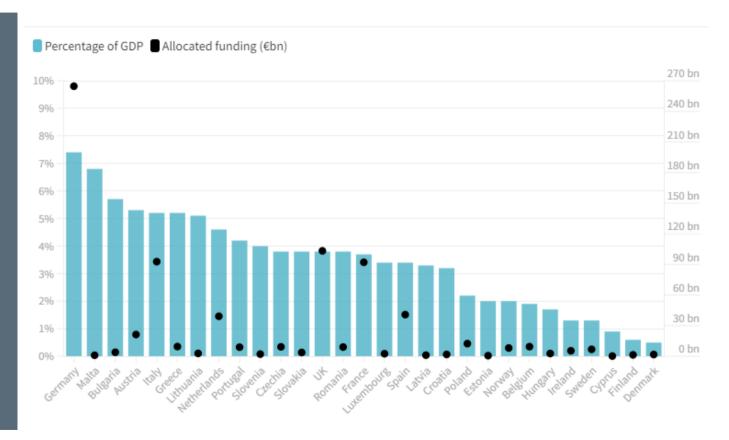




# **EU Governments' Response to Energy Crisis**

Governments response to shield households and firms from direct impact of rise of energy prices (Sep 2021 - Jan 2023), % GDP.

\*Source: Bruegel, "National fiscal policy response to the energy crisis", 24 March 2023





# U.S. Inflation Reduction Act 2022



- Signed into law on 16 August 2022
- Sets out approx. \$370 billion green subsidy package
- Aim is to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy and fight climate change
- Combination of tax credits and rebates, grants, loans, and other incentives and investments to support sustainable industries in the U.S.
- Focuses on 6 clean-tech categories:
  - Clean electricity & energy transmission
  - Clean manufacturing
  - Clean building & energy efficiency
  - Environmental justice
  - Clean transportation
  - Conservation & agriculture
- Provides a simple, transparent and predictable framework
- Condition to benefit from IRA to produce or buy products on US soil
- Extends until 2032



# 2 EC Green Deal Industrial Plan 2023

# EC Green Deal Industrial Plan 2023



- Introduced on 1 February 2023
- Designed to support the transition to climate neutrality
- Four pillars:
  - a predictable and simplified regulatory environment for net-zero industries
  - 2. faster access to finance
  - 3. ensuring skills for the green transition
  - 4. a global cooperation agenda
  - Faster access to finance:
  - New Temporary State aid Crisis and Transition Framework
  - Amended General Block Exemption Regulation



With the **Green Deal Industrial Plan**, the Commission will promote the creation of a more supportive environment for deploying the clean tech manufacturing capacity required to meet Europe's ambitious green targets.

# **Faster Access to Finance**



# Temporary State aid Crisis and Transition Framework

- Adopted 9 March 2023 (OJEU, C 101/3)
- New provisions for green investments in strategic sectors at risk of relocation to the US, or other third countries
- Wider scope to allow Member States to support all possible renewable sources of energy
- Simplified conditions for smaller projects and less mature technologies
- Higher aid ceilings and simplified aid calculations
- In exceptional cases, ad hoc support to companies at risk of relocation to match foreign subsidies (i.e., "matching aid" or "funding gap"), subject to safeguards
- Faster EC assessment and approval
- Applicable until December 2025; prolongs crisis framework adopted in context of the war in Ukraine until December 2023

# **Revised GBER**

- Endorsed on 9 March 2023
- Ensures consistency with new State aid guidelines (incl. Regional, Environmental, Risk Finance and R&D&I guidelines), the Green Deal, the EU Industrial and Digital Strategy
- Further facilitates deployment of renewable energy and the decarbonization of the industry
- Facilitates the implementation of projects involving several Member States (i.e., ICPEI, R&D&I)
- Higher notification thresholds and aid intensities for many types of aid
- Block exempt aid measures set up by Member States to regulate prices for energy
- Clarifies and streamlines possibilities for risk finance aid for SMEs and start-ups
- Prolongs the GBER until the end of 2026



# Is the Revised Toolkit Fit 3 to Address the Energy Dilemma?

# Is the Revised Toolkit Fit to Address the Energy Dilemma?



# Short-term solution to address immediate needs

Support the road towards net-zero industry & reduce energy dependence BUT



- Protect competitiveness of the EU against third-country green support?
  - Effectiveness still to be proven
  - Subsidy war vs. potential benefits of negotiated and coordinated outcomes
  - Potential weakening of FSR tool?



- Maintain EU internal market integrity?
  - Not all Member States have the same financial resources and ability to match aid
  - Risk of subsidy race and fragmentation within the internal market



A successful implementation of the other pillars of the GDIP will be key to ensure European competitiveness in the long term