From Crisis Response to Industrial Strategy

The Evolution of EU State Aid from the TCF to the CISAF

Guest lecture – Competition Law Research Centre December 18th, 2025



State Aid Supporting Green Transition

GBER (General Block Exemption Regulation)

Key frameworks:

CEEAG (Climate, Energy and Environmental Aid Guidelines)

TCF -> TCTF -> CISAF

Context & Motivation



Russia's aggression against Ukraine triggered energy shocks, inflation, and supply disruptions



The Commission responded with the Temporary Crisis Framework (TCF, 2022) and the Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework (TCTF, 2023)



These instruments evolved from short-term relief into vehicles for structural change in industrial policy





TCF (03/2022): liquidity support; energy affordability; security of supply

Amendments (07/2022; 10/2022): renewables, storage, industrial decarbonisation





TCTF (03/2023): bridges crisis response with net-zero objectives; links to REPowerEU and the Green Deal Industrial Plan

Strategic Sectors & Technological Sovereignty

Beyond energy: semiconductors, renewable hydrogen, critical raw materials, and defence capacities Interaction with sectoral acts: Chips Act, Net-Zero Industry Act, Critical Raw Materials Act

State aid used to reduce strategic dependencies and support European production capacity

Institutional Evolution & Coordination



Closer cooperation between DG COMP and DG GROW (design/assessment of large schemes, IPCEIs)



Joint enforcement synergies (e.g., Foreign Subsidies Regulation) to protect the level playing field



DG COMP operational model: flexible, 'matrix' allocation supporting strategic priorities

Oversight, Transparency & Proportionality



Publication thresholds; annual reporting; 10-year record-keeping obligations



Necessity, appropriateness, proportionality - core tests to limit distortions



Goal: preserve internal-market discipline while enabling rapid, targeted intervention

Use of State Aid Frameworks: Poland and Hungary

Temporary Crisis Framework (TCF)

- Poland: ~€4-5 bn gas market (€3 bn), energy-intensive users (€1.1 bn)
- Hungary: targeted schemes (hundreds of €m) energy-intensive sectors, SMEs

2022-2023

2023-2025

Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework (TCTF)

- Poland: €1.2 bn energy-cost mitigation + transition-oriented measures
- Hungary: limited but targeted support for energy efficiency and renewables

What is the Clean Industrial Deal (CID)?

Strategic policy framework (2025)

Clean energy, industrial decarbonisation, clean-tech

CISAF as the State aid pillar

From TCF/TCTF to CISAF

Continuity rather than rupture

From crisis justification to strategic necessity

Same tools, new logic

CISAF: Legal Architecture



Adopted: 25 June 2025



Applies until: 31 December 2030



Legal basis: Article

107(3)(c) TFEU



Effective 2025 -2030

Five Pillars of CISAF



Clean energy rollout



Electricity cost support



Industrial decarbonisation



Clean-tech manufacturing

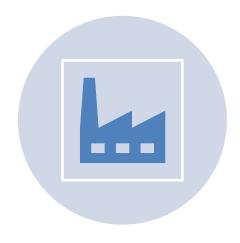


De-risking private investment

What Is New?







STRUCTURED FUNDING-GAP ANALYSIS LESS SHORT-TERM COMPENSATION

CLEAR INDUSTRIAL POLICY ORIENTATION

Early CISAF Measures: Selected Member States

Italy: multiple CISAF approvals (manufacturing capacity, cleantech investments)

Spain: framework for strengthening clean technology value chains (IDAE)

Austria: CISAF Twin Transition Support Programme

France: offshore wind support aligned with CISAF objectives

As of now, neither Poland nor Hungary has notified measures under CISAF

Implications for State Aid Control

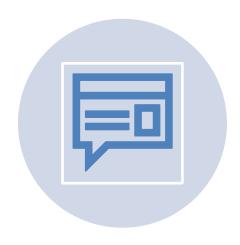
- Normalisation of interventionism
- Commission as policy enabler
- Higher analytical requirements



Risks and Open Questions







INTERNAL MARKET FRAGMENTATION

FISCAL ASYMMETRIES

POST-2030 RECALIBRATION

Future of State Aid and the Green Transition





STRONGER FOCUS ON GREEN
TRANSITION AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES

CISAF ADJUSTMENTS DEPENDING ON GLOBAL SUBSIDY DEVELOPMENTS



Questions?

Thank you!

Nicole Deneka

PUK Doctoral School deneka.nicole@doktorant.uken.krakow.pl

