

# ECB – The New Regulator SSM - The Lawyers' View

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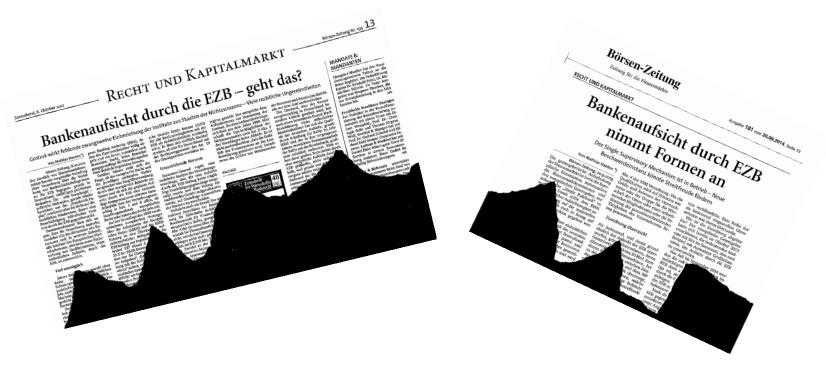


- What are the Lawyers' roles r/ SSM?
  - Before SSM
  - Currently
  - In the Future
  - Open Questions
  - Some Psychology

#### **Before SSM**



- What are the Lawyers' roles r/ SSM?
  - Before SSM
    - Participating in the discussion
    - Taking the clients' interest in the law making procedure vs. lobbying
    - What were our standpoints ?







What are the legal links and which laws apply ?

Currently

- Institutional Side and Procedural Side
  - Regulation EU/1024/2013 "SSM Regulation"
  - Regulation ECB/2014/17 "SSM Framework Regulation" (equivalent to EU/468/2014)
    - "Core" of the competences and procedures and implies the Representation of Parties Regime (Art. 27)
- Material Side
  - CRD IV (EU/36/2013)
  - Local and transposing laws
  - CRR (EU/575/2013)





- What are the very current topics ?
  - Comprehensive Assessment (results to be published on 26. October 2014)
    - Risk Assessment
      - "Normal" supervisory review process
    - Balance Sheet Assessment
      - Review of the main assets and their valuation, loan collaterals and the banks' risk provisioning
    - Stress Test
  - Determining Significance for SSM Purposes

## **Currently (3)**

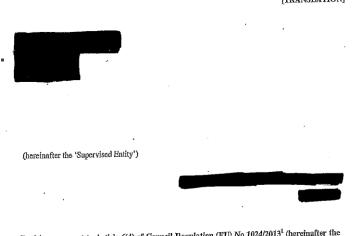


#### Stress Test

- What is the legal basis of Stress Tests?
  - Art. 4 par. 1 lit. f) SSM-Regulation, Art. 32 par. 2 EU/1093/2010 "EBA-Regulation"
  - EBC and European Banking Authority (EBA) perform in cooperation
- Is the scope of Stress Tests adequate?
  - EBA Examines the banks' resilience under adverse economic conditions, Art. 32 par. 2 EBA-Regulation
- Is the disclosure of the results compliant with constitutional law and with the legal basis?
- Remedies ?

- Determining Significance for SSM Purposes
  - Decision pursuant to Art. 6 par. 4 and Art.70 par 1 of the SSM Regulation
  - Criteria for determining significance, Art.
    50 subsequent of the SSM Framework Regulation
    - What does "(...) justified by particular circumstances to be specified in the methodology (...)" in Art. 6 par. 4 of the SSM Framework Regulation mean?
  - Remedies ?





Decision pursuant to Article 6(4) of Council Regulation (EU) No 1024/2013<sup>1</sup> (hereinafter the 'SSM Regulation') and Article 147(1) of Regulation (EU) No 468/2014 of the European Central Bank (ECB/2014/17)<sup>2</sup> (hereinafter the 'SSM Framework Regulation')







[TRANSLATION]

#### In the Future (1)



- In The Future
  - Applicable Laws
  - Tasks Conferred to ECB in Detail

#### In the Future (2)



Applicable Laws

- Transposed National CRD IV Laws
  - Application of the relevant transposed national laws
  - In other words: ECB must apply the relevant national laws
    - Take away questions:

What is relevant Union law in the scope of SSM regulation under Art. 4 par 3 of SSM Regulation?

CRR

SSM Regulations



- Task Conferred to ECB in Detail
  - Granting and Withdrawal of Authorization, Art. 4 par. 1 lit. a) of SSM Regulation
  - Supervision of Outbound Procedure into Non-Participating MS, Art. 4 par. 1 lit. a) of SSM Regulation "under the relevant Union Law"
  - Assessment of Acquisitions of Qualifying Holdings
  - Other Potential Topics

### In the Future (4)

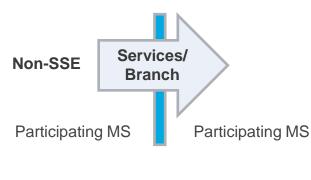


- Granting and Withdrawal of Authorization, Art. 4 par. 1 lit. a) of SSM Regulation
  - Art. 14 applies to all banks, not only to SSE
  - Preparation by NCA under national law and ECB's right to object
  - My question:
    - How will the cases, which have started before 4 November 2014 be handled ?

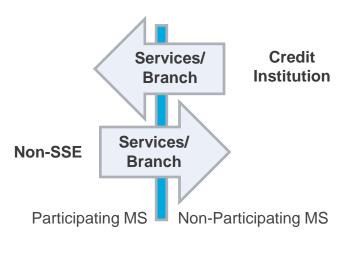
### In the Future (5)



Supervision of Procedure relating to Member States "under the relevant Union Law"



> NCA

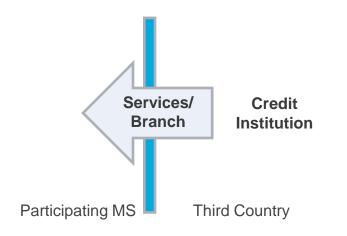


 ECB pursuant Art. 4 par 1 lit b) and par. 2 SSM-Regulation

### In the Future (6)



Supervision of Inbound Procedure relating to Third Countries
 "under the relevant Union Law" in a cross-border or branch mode







> Change of the established Home Country or European Passport Concept

### In the Future (8)



- Assessment of Acquisition of Qualifying holdings, Artt. 4 par. 1 lit. c) in conjunction with Art. 15 SSM Regulation
  - Preparation by the relevant NCA, Art. 15 par. 2 SSM Regulation (under national law)
    - Submission at least 10 working days before the expiry of the relevant assessment period as defined by the relevant Union law
      - Union law and transposed national law may well deviate
  - ECB' decision proviso on the basis of the assessment criteria "set out in relevant Union Law"
  - My question:

How will the cases, which have started before 4 November be handled ?

### In the Future (9)



- Further Investigatory and Supervisory Powers, Art. 4 par. 1 lits. d) to i) of SSM Regulation
  - Own Funds, Securitization, Large Exposure Limits, Liquidity, Leverage (lit d))
  - Fit and proper tests, risk management processes, internal control processes; remuneration policies and internal capital adequacy processes (lit. e))
  - Supervisory Reviews, including Stress Tests (lit. f))

• (...)

#### **Open Questions (1)**



- Two Interesting Open Legal Questions
  - Competence of the General Court ?
  - State Liability for Measures of the ECB under SSM Regulation?

### **Open Questions (2)**



- Interesting Question No. 1
  - Competent Court?
    - Artt. 256 in conjunction with 263 TFEU: General Court
      - The German version of Recital 60 of SSM Regulation ("EUGH") is wrong
        - Interesting procedural situation: The Court of First Instance could be obligated to apply national regulatory law applied by the ECB

### **Open Questions (3)**



- Interesting Question No. 2
  - State Liability ?
    - >Does Art. 340 par. 3 *TFEU* apply ?
    - Case C-352/98 Bergaderm
      - the rule of law which has been breached must be one which is intended to confer rights on individuals;
      - the breach must be sufficiently serious to merit an award of damages; and
      - there must be a direct causal link between the infringement of the rule and the damage suffered by the claimant.
    - Case C-222/02 Paul and others did not decide differently

#### Some Psychology...



- To come to an end: Some Psychology
  - The Regulator's Style
    - ECB will have to develop a regulatory and supervisory style
      - Light Touch was yesterday
  - The Psychological State of the Supervised
    - The SSE are still in the process of orientation and will try to get acquainted to this new style
  - The Disposition to Conflict
    - In previous times there was no disposition for judicial and administrative review
      - Now new tools for review such as Administrative Board of Review and Judicial Review



#### Thank you for your attention