

Regulation (EU) No 236/2012 of the European Parliament and
of the Council of 14 March 2012 on short selling and certain
aspects of credit default swaps (Text with EEA relevance)

CHAPTER V

POWERS OF INTERVENTION OF COMPETENT AUTHORITIES AND OF ESMA

SECTION 1

Powers of competent authorities

Article 20

Restrictions on short selling and similar transactions in exceptional circumstances

1 Subject to Article 22, a competent authority may take one or more of the measures referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article where:

- a there are adverse events or developments which constitute a serious threat to financial stability or to market confidence in the Member State concerned or in one or more other Member States; and
- b the measure is necessary to address the threat and will not have a detrimental effect on the efficiency of financial markets which is disproportionate to its benefits.

2 A competent authority may prohibit or impose conditions relating to natural or legal persons entering into:

- a a short sale; or
- b a transaction other than a short sale which creates, or relates to, a financial instrument and the effect or one of the effects of that transaction is to confer a financial advantage on the natural or legal person in the event of a decrease in the price or value of another financial instrument.

3 A measure taken under paragraph 2 may apply to transactions concerning all financial instruments, financial instruments of a specific class or a specific financial instrument. The measure may apply in circumstances or be subject to exceptions specified by the competent authority. Exceptions may in particular be specified to apply to market making activities and primary market activities.

Changes to legislation:

There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EU) No 236/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Regulation power to modify conferred by [2023 c. 29 s. 3 Sch. 1 Pt. 1](#)
- Regulation revoked by [2023 c. 29 Sch. 1 Pt. 1](#)
- Art. 20(1) words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(4\)\(a\)\(i\)\(aa\)](#)
- Art. 20(1) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(4\)\(a\)\(i\)\(bb\)](#)
- Art. 20(2) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 20(3) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(4\)\(c\)](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole legislation item and associated provisions

- Ch. 5 heading words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(1\)](#)
- Ch. 7 heading substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 14\(1\)](#)
- s. 2 heading words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 12\(1\)](#)
- Art. 1(1)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 4\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 1(1)(b)(c) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 4\(1\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 1(1)(c) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 4\(2\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 5\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(d) substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 5\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(i)(j) omitted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 5\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(k) words inserted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 5\(2\)\(d\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(k) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 5\(2\)\(d\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(k) words substituted in earlier amending provision [S.I. 2018/1321, reg. 5\(2\)\(d\)\(ii\)](#) by [S.I. 2020/1301 reg. 3Sch. para. 9\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(l) substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 5\(2\)\(f\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(p) substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 5\(2\)\(g\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(q) substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 5\(2\)\(h\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(r)-(x) inserted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 5\(2\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(s)(ii)(iii) words substituted in earlier amending provision [S.I. 2018/1321, reg. 5\(2\)\(i\)](#) by [S.I. 2020/1301 reg. 3Sch. para. 9\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 2(1)(ka) inserted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 5\(2\)\(e\)](#)
- Art. 7(3)(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 8\(3\)\(c\)\(iii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Art. 7(3)(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 8\(3\)\(c\)\(iii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Art. 7(3)(c) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 8\(3\)\(c\)\(iv\)](#)
- Art. 16(4)(b) omitted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 10\(1\)\(d\)\(i\)\(bb\)](#)
- Art. 16(4)(c) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 10\(1\)\(d\)\(i\)\(cc\)](#)
- Art. 17(6A) inserted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 10\(2\)\(e\)](#)
- Art. 17(6A) words substituted in earlier amending provision [S.I. 2018/1321, reg. 10\(2\)\(e\)](#) by [S.I. 2020/1301 reg. 3Sch. para. 9\(c\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 18(1)(a) words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(2\)\(a\)\(ii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Art. 18(1)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(2\)\(a\)\(ii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Art. 19(1)(a) words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(3\)\(a\)\(ii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Art. 19(1)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(3\)\(a\)\(ii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Art. 20(1)(a) words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(4\)\(a\)\(ii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Art. 20(1)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(4\)\(a\)\(ii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Art. 21(1)(a) words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(5\)\(a\)\(ii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Art. 21(1)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(5\)\(a\)\(ii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Art. 25(2)(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1321 reg. 11\(8\)\(b\)](#)