

Regulation (EU) No 600/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on markets in financial instruments and amending Regulation (EU) No 648/2012 (Text with EEA relevance)

TITLE II

TRANSPARENCY FOR TRADING VENUES

CHAPTER I

Transparency for equity instruments

Article 3

Pre-trade transparency requirements for trading venues in respect of shares, depositary receipts, ETFs, certificates and other similar financial instruments

1 Market operators and investment firms operating a trading venue shall make public current bid and offer prices and the depth of trading interests at those prices which are advertised through their systems for shares, depositary receipts, ETFs, certificates and other similar financial instruments traded on a trading venue. That requirement shall also apply to actionable indication of interests. Market operators and investment firms operating a trading venue shall make that information available to the public on a continuous basis during normal trading hours.

2 The transparency requirements referred to in paragraph 1 shall be calibrated for different types of trading systems including order-book, quote-driven, hybrid and periodic auction trading systems.

3 Market operators and investment firms operating a trading venue shall give access, on reasonable commercial terms and on a non-discriminatory basis, to the arrangements they employ for making public the information referred to in paragraph 1 to investment firms which are obliged to publish their quotes in shares, depositary receipts, ETFs, certificates and other similar financial instruments pursuant to Article 14.

Article 4

Waivers for equity instruments

1 Competent authorities shall be able to waive the obligation for market operators and investment firms operating a trading venue to make public the information referred to in Article 3(1) for:

- a systems matching orders based on a trading methodology by which the price of the financial instrument referred to in Article 3(1) is derived from the trading venue where that financial instrument was first admitted to trading or the most relevant market in terms of liquidity, where that reference price is widely published and is regarded by market participants as a reliable reference price. The continued use of that waiver shall be subject to the conditions set out in Article 5.
- b systems that formalise negotiated transactions which are:

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- (i) made within the current volume weighted spread reflected on the order book or the quotes of the market makers of the trading venue operating that system, subject to the conditions set out in Article 5;
 - (ii) in an illiquid share, depositary receipt, ETF, certificate or other similar financial instrument that does not fall within the meaning of a liquid market, and are dealt within a percentage of a suitable reference price, being a percentage and a reference price set in advance by the system operator; or
 - (iii) subject to conditions other than the current market price of that financial instrument;
- c orders that are large in scale compared with normal market size;
 - d orders held in an order management facility of the trading venue pending disclosure.
- 2 The reference price referred to in paragraph 1(a) shall be established by obtaining:
- a the midpoint within the current bid and offer prices of the trading venue where that financial instrument was first admitted to trading or the most relevant market in terms of liquidity; or
 - b when the price referred to in point (a) is not available, the opening or closing price of the relevant trading session.

Orders shall only reference the price referred to in point (b) outside the continuous trading phase of the relevant trading session.

- 3 Where trading venues operate systems which formalise negotiated transactions in accordance with paragraph 1(b)(i):
- a those transactions shall be carried out in accordance with the rules of the trading venue;
 - b the trading venue shall ensure that arrangements, systems and procedures are in place to prevent and detect market abuse or attempted market abuse in relation to such negotiated transactions in accordance with Article 16 of Regulation (EU) No 596/2014;
 - c the trading venue shall establish, maintain and implement systems to detect any attempt to use the waiver to circumvent other requirements of this Regulation or Directive 2014/65/EU and to report attempts to the competent authority.

Where a competent authority grants a waiver in accordance with paragraph 1(b)(i) or (iii), that competent authority shall monitor the use of the waiver by the trading venue to ensure that the conditions for use of the waiver are respected.

4 Before granting a waiver in accordance with paragraph 1, competent authorities shall notify ESMA and other competent authorities of the intended use of each individual waiver and provide an explanation regarding its functioning, including the details of the trading venue where the reference price is established as referred to in paragraph 1(a). Notification of the intention to grant a waiver shall be made not less than four months before the waiver is intended to take effect. Within two months following receipt of the notification, ESMA shall issue a non-binding opinion to the competent authority in question assessing the compatibility of each waiver with the requirements established in paragraph 1 and specified in the regulatory technical standard adopted pursuant to paragraph 6. Where that competent authority grants a waiver and a competent authority of another Member State disagrees, that competent authority may refer the matter back to ESMA, which may act in accordance with the powers conferred on it under Article 19 of Regulation (EU) No 1095/2010. ESMA shall monitor the application of the waivers and shall submit an annual report to the Commission on how they are applied in practice.

5 A competent authority may, either on its own initiative or upon request by another competent authority, withdraw a waiver granted under paragraph 1 as specified under paragraph

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6, if it observes that the waiver is being used in a way that deviates from its original purpose or if it believes that the waiver is being used to circumvent the requirements established in this Article.

Competent authorities shall notify ESMA and other competent authorities of such withdrawal providing full reasons for their decision.

- 6 ESMA shall develop draft regulatory technical standards to specify the following:
- a the range of bid and offer prices or designated market-maker quotes, and the depth of trading interest at those prices, to be made public for each class of financial instrument concerned in accordance with Article 3(1), taking into account the necessary calibration for different types of trading systems as referred to in Article 3(2);
 - b the most relevant market in terms of liquidity of a financial instrument in accordance with paragraph 1(a);
 - c the specific characteristics of a negotiated transaction in relation to the different ways the member or participant of a trading venue can execute such a transaction;
 - d the negotiated transactions that do not contribute to price formation which avail of the waiver provided for under paragraph 1(b)(iii);
 - e the size of orders that are large in scale and the type and the minimum size of orders held in an order management facility of a trading venue pending disclosure for which pre-trade disclosure may be waived under paragraph 1 for each class of financial instrument concerned;

ESMA shall submit those draft regulatory technical standards to the Commission by 3 July 2015.

Power is delegated to the Commission to adopt the regulatory technical standards referred to in the first subparagraph in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1095/2010.

7 Waivers granted by competent authorities in accordance with Article 29(2) and Article 44(2) of Directive 2004/39/EC and Articles 18, 19 and 20 of Regulation (EC) No 1287/2006 before [^{F13}13 January 2018] shall be reviewed by ESMA by [^{F13}13 January 2020]. ESMA shall issue an opinion to the competent authority in question assessing the continued compatibility of each of those waivers with the requirements established in this Regulation and any delegated act and regulatory technical standard based on this Regulation.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Substituted by [Regulation \(EU\) 2016/1033 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 June 2016 amending Regulation \(EU\) No 600/2014 on markets in financial instruments, Regulation \(EU\) No 596/2014 on market abuse and Regulation \(EU\) No 909/2014 on improving securities settlement in the European Union and on central securities depositories \(Text with EEA relevance\).](#)

Article 5

Volume Cap Mechanism

1 In order to ensure that the use of the waivers provided for in Article 4(1)(a) and 4(1)(b)(i) does not unduly harm price formation, trading under those waivers is restricted as follows:

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- a the percentage of trading in a financial instrument carried out on a trading venue under those waivers shall be limited to 4 % of the total volume of trading in that financial instrument on all trading venues across the Union over the previous 12 months.
- b overall Union trading in a financial instrument carried out under those waivers shall be limited to 8 % of the total volume of trading in that financial instrument on all trading venues across the Union over the previous 12 months.

That volume cap mechanism shall not apply to negotiated transactions which are in a share, depositary receipt, ETF, certificate or other similar financial instrument for which there is not a liquid market as determined in accordance with Article 2(1)(17)(b) and are dealt within a percentage of a suitable reference price as referred to in Article 4(1)(b)(ii), or to negotiated transactions that are subject to conditions other than the current market price of that financial instrument as referred to in Article 4(1)(b)(iii).

2 When the percentage of trading in a financial instrument carried out on a trading venue under the waivers has exceeded the limit referred to in paragraph 1(a), the competent authority that authorised the use of those waivers by that venue shall within two working days suspend their use on that venue in that financial instrument based on the data published by ESMA referred to in paragraph 4, for a period of six months.

3 When the percentage of trading in a financial instrument carried out on all trading venues across the Union under those waivers has exceeded the limit referred to in paragraph 1(b), all competent authorities shall within two working days suspend the use of those waivers across the Union for a period of six months.

4 ESMA shall publish within five working days of the end of each calendar month, the total volume of Union trading per financial instrument in the previous 12 months, the percentage of trading in a financial instrument carried out across the Union under those waivers and on each trading venue in the previous 12 months, and the methodology that is used to derive those percentages.

5 In the event that the report referred to in paragraph 4 identifies any trading venue where trading in any financial instrument carried out under the waivers has exceeded 3,75 % of the total trading in the Union in that financial instrument, based on the previous 12 months' trading, ESMA shall publish an additional report within five working days of the 15th day of the calendar month in which the report referred to in paragraph 4 is published. That report shall contain the information specified in paragraph 4 in respect of those financial instruments where 3,75 % has been exceeded.

6 In the event that the report referred to in paragraph 4 identifies that overall Union trading in any financial instrument carried out under the waivers has exceeded 7,75 % of the total Union trading in the financial instrument, based on the previous 12 months' trading, ESMA shall publish an additional report within five working days of the 15th on the day of the calendar month in which the report referred to in paragraph 4 is published. That report shall contain the information specified in paragraph 4 in respect of those financial instruments where 7,75 % has been exceeded.

7 In order to ensure a reliable basis for monitoring the trading taking place under those waivers and for determining whether the limits referred to in paragraph 1 have been exceeded, operators of trading venues shall be obligated to have in place systems and procedures to:

- a enable the identification of all trades which have taken place on its venue under those waivers; and
- b ensure it does not exceed the permitted percentage of trading allowed under those waivers as referred to in paragraph 1(a) under any circumstances.

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8 The period for the publication of trading data by ESMA, and for which trading in a financial instrument under those waivers is to be monitored shall start on [F13 January 2017]. Without prejudice to Article 4(5), competent authorities shall be empowered to suspend the use of those waivers from the date of application of this Regulation and thereafter on a monthly basis.

9 ESMA shall develop draft regulatory technical standards to specify the method, including the flagging of transactions, by which it collates, calculates and publishes the transaction data, as outlined in paragraph 4, in order to provide an accurate measurement of the total volume of trading per financial instrument and the percentages of trading that use those waivers across the Union and per trading venue.

ESMA shall submit those draft regulatory technical standards to the Commission by 3 July 2015.

Power is delegated to the Commission to adopt the regulatory technical standards referred to in the first subparagraph in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1095/2010.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Substituted by [Regulation \(EU\) 2016/1033 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 June 2016 amending Regulation \(EU\) No 600/2014 on markets in financial instruments, Regulation \(EU\) No 596/2014 on market abuse and Regulation \(EU\) No 909/2014 on improving securities settlement in the European Union and on central securities depositories \(Text with EEA relevance\).](#)

Article 6

Post-trade transparency requirements for trading venues in respect of shares, depositary receipts, ETFs, certificates and other similar financial instruments

1 Market operators and investment firms operating a trading venue shall make public the price, volume and time of the transactions executed in respect of shares, depositary receipts, ETFs, certificates and other similar financial instruments traded on that trading venue. Market operators and investment firms operating a trading venue shall make details of all such transactions public as close to real-time as is technically possible.

2 Market operators and investment firms operating a trading venue shall give access, on reasonable commercial terms and on a non-discriminatory basis, to the arrangements they employ for making public the information under paragraph 1 of this Article to investment firms which are obliged to publish the details of their transactions in shares, depositary receipts, ETFs, certificates and other similar financial instruments pursuant to Article 20.

Article 7

Authorisation of deferred publication

1 Competent authorities shall be able to authorise market operators and investment firms operating a trading venue to provide for deferred publication of the details of transactions based on their type or size.

In particular, the competent authorities may authorise the deferred publication in respect of transactions that are large in scale compared with the normal market size for that

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share, depositary receipt, ETF, certificate or other similar financial instrument or that class of share, depositary receipt, ETF, certificate or other similar financial instrument.

Market operators and investment firms operating a trading venue shall obtain the competent authority's prior approval of proposed arrangements for deferred trade-publication, and shall clearly disclose those arrangements to market participants and the public. ESMA shall monitor the application of those arrangements for deferred trade-publication and shall submit an annual report to the Commission on how they are applied in practice.

Where a competent authority authorises deferred publication and a competent authority of another Member State disagrees with the deferral or disagrees with the effective application of the authorisation granted, that competent authority may refer the matter back to ESMA, which may act in accordance with the powers conferred on it under Article 19 of Regulation (EU) No 1095/2010.

2 ESMA shall develop draft regulatory technical standards to specify the following in such a way as to enable the publication of information required under Article 64 of Directive 2014/65/EU:

- a the details of transactions that investment firms, including systematic internalisers and market operators and investment firms operating a trading venue shall make available to the public for each class of financial instrument concerned in accordance with Article 6(1), including identifiers for the different types of transactions published under Article 6(1) and Article 20, distinguishing between those determined by factors linked primarily to the valuation of the financial instruments and those determined by other factors;
- b the time limit that would be deemed in compliance with the obligation to publish as close to real time as possible including when trades are executed outside ordinary trading hours.
- c the conditions for authorising investment firms, including systematic internalisers and market operators and investment firms operating a trading venue to provide for deferred publication of the details of transactions for each class of financial instruments concerned in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article and with Article 20(1);
- d the criteria to be applied when deciding the transactions for which, due to their size or the type, including liquidity profile of the share, depositary receipt, ETF, certificate or other similar financial instrument involved, deferred publication is allowed for each class of financial instrument concerned.

ESMA shall submit those draft regulatory technical standards to the Commission by 3 July 2015.

Power is delegated to the Commission to adopt the regulatory technical standards referred to in the first subparagraph in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1095/2010.

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