**Question:**

According to art. 58, par. 4 of the GBER, the exemption of risk finance aid exempted pursuant to art. 21, par. 2 (a) of the GBER shall expire at the end of the period foreseen in the funding agreement, provided the commitment of public funding to the supported private equity investment fund was made on the basis of such agreement within 6 months from the end of the period of validity of the GBER and all other conditions for exemption remain fulfilled.

We would like kindly to ask the Commission to clarify if this is also the way of exemption of regional urban development aid under article 16 of the GBER, considering that this aid should be granted by an urban development fund (financial intermediary)?

**Reply:**

Article 58 of the GBER provides that – at the end of the period of validity of the GBER - any aid scheme exempted under the GBER shall remain exempted during an adjustment period of six months. For regional aid schemes however, Article 58(4) of the GBER provides that the exemption shall expire when the approved regional aid maps expire. Urban development fund aid (designed in accordance with Article 16 of the GBER) is a subcategory of regional aid and is therefore subject to the transitional provisions for regional aid schemes.

*Disclaimer: This reply does not represent a formal and definite position of the European Commission but is only an informal guidance provided by the services of DG Competition to facilitate the application of the GBER. It is therefore not binding and cannot create legal certainty or legitimate expectations.*