

DEALS

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Deutsche Telekom gains EU approval for Dutch Tele2 deal

Foo Yun Chee



Deutsche Telekom logo is seen during preparations at the CeBit computer fair, which will open its doors to the public

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AKZEPTIEREN

The European Commission said its investigation showed that the deal posed no competition concerns. Reuters had reported on Monday that the EU competition enforcer would clear the deal without demanding any concessions.

“After thoroughly analyzing the specific role of T-Mobile NL and the smaller Tele2 NL in the Dutch retail mobile market, our investigation found that the proposed acquisition would not significantly change the prices or quality of mobile services for Dutch consumers,” European Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager said in a statement.

The combined company would be the third largest player in the Netherlands but still significantly behind market leader KPN ([KPN.AS](https://www.kpn.nl)) and second-placed player VodafoneZiggo.

The Commission said the deal was unlikely to lead to significant price increases nor would it increase the likelihood of mobile network operators coordinating in anti-competitive practices.

The telecoms industry has long called on the European Commission to take a broader view of mergers aimed at boosting revenue and investment, as well as allowing it to compete more effectively against internet rivals.

Reporting by Foo Yun Chee; editing by Francesco Guarascio and Jane Merriman

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