C/2023/386

20.10.2023

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.11251 – NJJ / LML)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(C/2023/386)

1. On 6 October 2023, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([1]).

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

— NJJ Holding ('NJJ', France), controlled by Mr Xavier Niel,

— Le Monde Libre ('LML', France), currently jointly controlled by NJJ and Mr Matthieu Pigasse through the company Le Nouveau Monde ('LNM', France).

NJJ will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of LML.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of securities.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— NJJ has stakes in undertakings and owns assets of various kinds, especially in the media and telecommunications,

— LML controls the Le Monde and Le Nouvel Observateur groups.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

Pursuant to the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ([2]), it should be noted that this case is a candidate for treatment under the procedure set out in the Notice.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.11251 – NJJ / LML

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email or by post. Please use the contact details below:

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Postal address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
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([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.