V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case M.9959 — Advent/Aareal/Aareon)
Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 319/03)

1. On 18 September 2020, 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:

— Advent International Corporation ('Advent International', USA),

— Aareal Bank AG ('Aareal Bank', Germany),

— Aareon AG ('Aareon', Germany), controlled by Aareal Bank.

Advent International and Aareal Bank acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and Article 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Aareon.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Advent International: private equity investor active in various sectors, including industrial, retail, media, communications, information technology, internet, healthcare and pharmaceuticals,

— for Aareal Bank: provider of financing, software products and digital solutions for the real estate industry and related industries,

— for Aareon: provider of software solutions and ancillary services (consulting, trainings and data centre services) for housing associations.

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.9959 — Advent/Aareal/Aareon

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

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

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

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË