EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 07.05.2020
C(2020) 3105 final

PUBLIC VERSION

To the notifying party

Subject: **Case M.9772 – HELVETIA / CASER**
Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004[1] and Article 57 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area[2]

Dear Sir or Madam,

1. On 14 April 2020, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertakings Helvetia Schweizerische Versicherungsgesellschaft AG ('Helvetia', Switzerland), ultimately controlled by Helvetia Holding AG, acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control over the whole of the undertaking Caja de Seguros Reunidos, Compañía de Seguros y Reaseguros, S.A ('CASER', Spain) by way of purchase of shares.[3]

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

   – CASER: Spanish group focused on the insurance business, as well as the provision of healthcare services, dental clinics, or care home services.

   – Helvetia: Swiss all-lines insurer, also present in certain European Union Member States (such as Germany, Austria, France, Italy, and Spain). It is ultimately controlled by Helvetia Holding AG, a Swiss company listed in the Swiss stock exchange.

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1 OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation'). With effect from 1 December 2009, the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ('TFEU') has introduced certain changes, such as the replacement of 'Community' by 'Union' and 'common market' by 'internal market'. The terminology of the TFEU will be used throughout this decision.

2 OJ L 1, 3.1.1994, p. 3 (the 'EEA Agreement').

3 Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 131, 22.04.2020, p. 22.

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3. After examination of the notification, the European Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of the Merger Regulation and of paragraph 5(c) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004.[4]

4. For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified procedure, the European Commission has decided not to oppose the notified operation and to declare it compatible with the internal market and with the EEA Agreement. This decision is adopted in application of Article 6(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation and Article 57 of the EEA Agreement.

For the Commission

(Signed)
Olivier GUERSENT
Director-General

4 OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.