EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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PUBLIC VERSION

Blackstone Inc.
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United States

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United States

Subject: **Case M.12664 – BLACKSTONE / CLEARLAKE / DISCOVERY EDUCATION**
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 16 October 2026, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which Blackstone Inc. ('Blackstone', United States) and Clearlake Capital Group, L.P ('Clearlake', United States), will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Discovery Education, Inc. ('Discovery Education', United States), currently solely controlled by Clearlake, by way of purchase of shares. ([3])

(2) The business activities of the undertakings concerned are the following:

– Blackstone is a global alternative asset manager,

– Clearlake is a private investment fund.

([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]) OJ C, C/2026/5551, 26.10.2026.

(3) Discovery Education digital is a provider of learning resources designed for children and adolescents from kindergarten through high school, educators and schools across science, mathematics, literacy and social studies.

(4) 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 (b) of the Commission Notice on a simplified treatment for certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004. ([4])

(5) For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified treatment, 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)
Anthony WHELAN
Director-General
Directorate-General for Competition

([4]) OJ C 160, 5.5.2023, p. 1 (the 'Notice on a simplified treatment').