PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.10115—PAI Partners/Apleona Group)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2021/C 40/08)

1. On 27 January 2021, 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:

— PAI Partners SAS ('PAI Partners', France),

— Apleona Group GmbH ('Apleona Group', Germany), ultimately controlled by EQT AB (Sweden).

PAI Partners acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of Apleona Group.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for PAI Partners: private equity company that manages or advises funds that own companies active in various business sectors, such as business services, food and consumer goods, general industries, healthcare and retail and distribution. Its investment focus is on medium to large European companies, mainly headquartered in France. Within the EU, PAI Partner's portfolio companies are mainly active in France, Germany and Spain,

— for Apleona Group: active in integrated facility management and real estate management with all commercial services, real estate marketing and leasing. It is active in over 30 countries and has a clear business focus in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. It is owned by an investment fund which is part of the EQT group, a group of private investment funds ultimately controlled by EQT AB.

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 the 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.

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

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

M.10115—PAI Partners/Apleona Group

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

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