EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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PUBLIC VERSION

To the notifying party

Subject: **Case M.8872 – ADVENT INTERNATIONAL / LAIRD**
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 19 April 2018, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which Advent International Corporation ('Advent', United States) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of Laird PLC ('Laird', the United Kingdom)by way of purchase of shares.[3]

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

   – for Advent : a global private equity investor that focuses on investments in five core sectors, namely business and financial services; healthcare; industrial; retail, consumer and leisure; and technology, media and telecom. Amongst other portfolio companies, Advent owns Idemia, a global company which develops, manufactures and markets security technology products and services for the telecommunications, payments and identity markets.

   – for Laird : a global technology company that provides systems, components and solutions that enable connectivity in mission-critical wireless applications and antenna systems and protect electronics from electromagnetic interference and heat.

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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 146, 26.4.2018, p. 8.

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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)
Johannes LAITENBERGER
Director-General

4 OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.