Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9822 – Bridgepoint/Groupe Financière CEP)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 132/10)

1. On 14 April 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:

— Bridgepoint SAS ('Bridgepoint', France),

— Groupe Financière CEP and its subsidiaries ('CEP', France).

Bridgepoint acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of CEP.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of securities.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— Bridgepoint: a private equity investment firm that, via its subsidiaries, manages and advises a number of investment funds with direct or indirect shareholdings in many operating companies worldwide,

— CEP: a group active mainly in credit insurance brokerage and mortgage credit brokerage.

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 no later than ten days following the date on which this notification is published. The following reference should always be specified:

M.9822 – Bridgepoint/Groupe Financière CEP

Observations can be sent to the Commission by e-mail, 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
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([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.