Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.10286 – bpost bank)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2021/C 269/07)

1. On 29 June 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:

— BNP Paribas Fortis S.A./N.V. ('BNPPF', Belgium),

— bpost bank N.V. / bpost banque S.A. ('bpost bank', Belgium), jointly controlled by BNPPF and bpost S.A. ('bpost', Belgium).

BNPPF acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of bpost bank.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. Both undertakings provide banking services to a wide range of customers (including individuals and corporate customers). The undertakings also distribute life insurance products to their customers.

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.

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

M.10286 – BNPPF – bpost bank

Observations can be sent to the Commission by email, 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.