C/2024/4267

2.7.2024

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.11159 – JD SPORTS / GROUPE COURIR)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(C/2024/4267)

1. On 21 June 2024, 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:

— JD Sports Fashion Plc Group ('JD Sports') (UK), ultimately controlled by Pentland Group Holdings Limited ('Pentland' UK)

— Groupe Courir SAS ('Courir') (France), ultimately controlled by Equistone VI FPCI (France)

JD Sports will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of Courir.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are the following:

— JD Group is a sports goods retailer, focused on sports apparel and footwear. Worldwide, it operates under various retail fascia (both online and via over 3,300 physical brick-and-mortar stores), has a limited wholesale business and operates a number of gyms,

— Courir is active in the retail sale of sportswear, including footwear, apparel, and accessories/equipment of brands including Nike and Adidas. In Europe, Courir operates over 300 stores, located in Belgium, Denmark, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. Via the online channel, it generates revenues in all EU countries other than Malta.

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.

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:

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

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Postal address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').