C/2026/5263

9.10.2026

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.12595 – BRIDGEPOINT / GBA GROUP)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(C/2026/5263)

1. On 1 October 2026, 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 Group Holdings Limited (United Kingdom), controlled by Bridgepoint Group plc ('Bridgepoint', United Kingdom),

— GBA Holding GmbH (Germany), the holding company of the GBA group business ('GBA Group').

Bridgepoint will acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of the GBA Group.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

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

— Bridgepoint Group Holdings Limited is a holding company for Bridgepoint group's Private Equity strategy. Bridgepoint is one of the world's leading private market growth investors, specializing in private equity, infrastructure, private credit, and secondaries. Bridgepoint has approximately USD 98 billion in assets under management, predominantly across Europe, North America and Asia,

— The GBA Group is an international life science service company with more than 3 500 employees which provides analytical, logistical and specialist services in the fields of pharmaceuticals, medical products, cosmetics, chemicals, food, drinking water and environmental sustainability.

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 treatment for certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 on the control of concentrations between undertakings ([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 concentration 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.12595 – BRIDGEPOINT / GBA GROUP

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 160, 5.5.2023, p. 1.

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:

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