PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9089 — Hellman & Friedman/Concardis Payment Group)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2018/C 347/07)

1. On 20 September 2018, 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:

— Hellman & Friedman LLC ('Hellman & Friedman', United States),

— Concardis Payment Group GmbH ('Concardis', Germany).

Hellman & Friedman acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation, sole control of the whole of Concardis. The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Hellman & Friedman: private equity investment through funds controlling several portfolio companies in a variety of economic sectors, including notably Nets, active in the provision of payments, cards, and information services in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Estonia, and Poland,

— for Concardis: merchant acquiring services in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

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.9089 — Hellman & Friedman/Concardis Payment Group

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

E-mail: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

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Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
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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.