V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9422 — Leonard Green & Partners/Ares Management Corporation/Press Ganey Associates)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2019/C 225/04)

1. On 28 June 2019, 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:

— Leonard Green & Partners, L.P. ('LGP', USA),

— Ares Management Corporation ('Ares', USA),

— Press Ganey Associates, Inc. ('Press Ganey', USA)

LGP and Ares acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the whole of Press Ganey.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for LGP: private equity investment firm primarily investing in companies providing services, including consumer, business and healthcare services, as well as retail, distribution and industrials,

— for Ares: alternative asset manager holding interests in the credit, private equity, and real estate markets,

— for Press Ganey: provision of patient experience measurement, performance analytics and strategic advisory solutions for health care organizations across the continuum of care, mainly in the USA.

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.9422 — Leonard Green & Partners/Ares Management Corporation/Press Ganey Associates

([1]) OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').
([2]) OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

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

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