Prior notification of a concentration

(Case M.9496 — Ardian France/Staci)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2019/C 299/08)

1. On 27 August 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:

— Ardian France SA ('Ardian', France),

— Staci Group ('Staci', France), controlled by Compagnie Benelux Participations SA ('Cobepa', Belgique).

Ardian acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of Staci.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Ardian: an independent private investment company which manages and/or advises on assets in Europe, North America and Asia. Ardian does not hold any shares in portfolio companies that are active in the logistics services sector,

— for Staci: active in the logistics sector, a specialist in retail logistics, and more specifically in the field of (i) logistics for marketing products and (ii) retail logistics for commercial products. Staci provides logistics services in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States.

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 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.9496 — Ardian France/Staci

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.