

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.6622 — Banco Santander/Kredyt Bank/Zagiel)
Candidate case for simplified procedure
(Text with EEA relevance)
(2012/C 196/11)

1. On 21 June 2012, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004⁽¹⁾ by which the undertaking Banco Santander ('Banco Santander', Spain) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of the undertakings Kredyt Bank SA ('KB', Poland) and Żagiel SA ('Żagiel', Poland), both currently controlled by KBC Bank NV (The Netherlands), by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Banco Santander: the parent company of an international group of banking and financial companies operating in Spain and internationally,
- for KB: Polish universal bank which provides a full range of services for households and corporate customers., as well as custodian services and investment activities,
- for Żagiel: a lending intermediary offering consumers cash loans and instalment loans.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope of the EC 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 EC Merger Regulation⁽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. Observations can be sent to the Commission by fax (+32 22964301), by email to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference number COMP/M.6622 — Banco Santander/Kredyt Bank/Zagiel, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
J-70
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

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

⁽²⁾ OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32 ('Notice on a simplified procedure').