

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.6699 — MEP/Walach Bros/Walmark)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2012/C 339/12)

1. On 22 October 2012 the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 and following a referral pursuant to Article 4(5) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which the undertakings Mid Europa Partners ('MEP') (UK) and Aternus (Czech Republic) controlled by Adam Walach, Valdemar Walach and Mariusz Walach ('the Controlling Sellers') acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the undertaking Walmark (Czech Republic), currently solely controlled by the controlling sellers, by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for MEP: management of investment funds focused on Central Europe and Turkey, which invest in companies in a number of sectors; MEP owns, amongst others, Żabka, a chain of convenience stores in Poland,
- for the Controlling Sellers: the management of Walmark which is active in the production and distribution of dietary supplements, OTC and other related products. The Controlling Sellers also derive income from three independent pharmacies and lease of property in the Czech Republic.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified transaction could fall within the scope the EC Merger Regulation. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

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 e-mail to COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu or by post, under reference number COMP/M.6699 — MEP/Walach Bros/Walmark, 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').