

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.7126 — Hellman & Friedman/Scout24)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2013/C 366/11)

1. On 9 December 2013, 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 Hellman & Friedman Corporate Investors VII, LP, one of the private equity funds controlled by Hellman & Friedman LLC (such funds, collectively with Hellman & Friedman LLC, 'H&F', USA), acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the undertaking Scout24 Holding GmbH ('Scout24', Germany), by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for H&F: private equity funds with the objective to invest long-term equity capital in businesses in growing markets,
- for Scout24: web platforms and online marketplaces.

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.7126 — Hellman & Friedman/Scout24, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
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').