

V

*(Announcements)*PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION
POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case M.9849 – Banco Santander/Aegon/Popular Vida)
Candidate case for simplified procedure*(Text with EEA relevance)*

(2020/C 190/05)

1. On 28 May 2020, 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:

- Banco Santander, S.A. ('Banco Santander', Spain),
- Aegon N.V. ('Aegon', Netherlands),
- Popular Vida 2020, Compañía de Seguros y Reaseguros, S.A.U. ('Popular Vida', Spain), controlled by Banco Santander.

Aegon acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the whole of Popular Vida.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Banco Santander: a Spanish bank and the parent company of an international group of banking and financial companies operating principally in European countries, Latin America and the United States/Puerto Rico,
- for Aegon: the parent company of a group of insurance companies listed in Amsterdam and New York, active worldwide, mainly in the United States, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom,
- for Popular Vida: a company active in the life-insurance market in Spain. Its main distribution channel is the commercial network of Banco Santander.

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.

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

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. The following reference should always be specified:

M.9849 – Banco Santander/Aegon/Popular Vida

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

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