

V

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

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case M.10281 — Astorg/Cobepa/Corsearch)
Candidate case for simplified procedure*(Text with EEA relevance)*

(2021/C 201/10)

1. On 17 May 2021, 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:

- Astorg Asset Management S.a.r.l. ('Astorg', Luxembourg)
- Cobepa SA ('Cobepa', Belgium)
- Corsearch US Holdings, Inc. ('Corsearch', USA).

Astorg and Cobepa acquire within the meaning of Articles 3(1)(b) and 3(4) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Corsearch.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Astorg: private equity firm that seeks to partner with entrepreneurial management teams to acquire global companies and create value through the provision of strategic guidance, experienced governance and adequate capital,
- for Cobepa: privately held investment company centred on growth capital investments and buy-out acquisitions and mainly seeking investment opportunities in Europe and North America,
- for Corsearch: data, analytics, and services that support brands to market their assets and reduce commercial risks as well trademark clearances support and brand protection.

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.

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

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

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.10281 – Astorg/Cobepa/Corsearch

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

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