

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION
POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.6079 — BBVA/Dogus Holdings/Turkiye Garanti Bankasi JV)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2011/C 5/10)

1. On 22 December 2010, the Commission received a notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 ⁽¹⁾ by which Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria SA ('BBVA group', Spain) and Dogus Holdings AS belonging to the Dogus group ('Dogus group', Turkey) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the Turkiye Garanti Bankasi AS ('Garanti', Turkey) by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- BBVA group: a global banking group, predominantly active in Spain, Portugal, the United States, as well as South and Central America,
- Dogus group: a Turkish conglomerate group, active in construction, finance, automotive, tourism, media, real estate and energy businesses,
- Garanti: a Turkish bank, active in retail and corporate banking predominantly in Turkey.

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.6079 — BBVA/Dogus Holdings/Turkiye Garanti Bankasi JV, 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').