

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.6281 — Microsoft/Skype)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2011/C 268/09)

1. On 2 September 2011 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 Microsoft Corporation ('Microsoft', USA) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of the undertaking Skype Global Sarl ('Skype', Luxembourg) by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

— for Microsoft: design, development and supply of computer software and related services,

— for Skype: software products for communications over the Internet.

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.6281 — Microsoft/Skype, to the following address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
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⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'EC Merger Regulation').