

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION
POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Prior notification of a concentration

(Case COMP/M.6878 — Alior Bank/Erste Group Bank/Polbita)

Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2013/C 77/06)

1. On 8 March 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 undertakings Alior Bank SA ('Alior', Poland), controlled by Carlo Tassara SpA (Italy) and Erste Group Bank AG ('Erste', Austria) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of Polbita sp. z o.o. ('Polbita', Poland) by way of an acquisition of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Alior: retailer of banking services,
- for Erste: provider of financial services,
- for Polbita: retailer of personal care products.

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.6878 — Alior Bank/Erste Group Bank/Polbita, 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').