

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case M.9803 – SAZKA Group/OPAP)
Candidate case for simplified procedure

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 217/09)

1. On 22 June 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:

- SAZKA Group a.s. ('SAZKA Group', Czech Republic), controlled by KKCG AG, and ultimately controlled by the VALEA Foundation,
- OPAP S.A. ('OPAP', Greece).

SAZKA Group acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of OPAP.

The concentration is accomplished by way of contract or any other means and by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for SAZKA Group: active in the lottery, gaming, and betting sectors in the Czech Republic, Austria, and Italy,
- for OPAP: active in the lottery, gaming and betting sectors in Greece and Cyprus.

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.

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

M.9803 — SAZKA Group/OPAP

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

E-mail: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Competition
Merger Registry
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
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⁽¹⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

⁽²⁾ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.