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## Information and Notices

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2020/C 183/01

The following information is brought to the attention of: AL NASSER, Abdelkarim Hussein Mohamed, AL-YACOUB, Ibrahim Salih Mohammed, BOUYERI, Mohammed, IZZ-AL-DIN, Hasan, MOHAMMED, Khalid Shaikh, SHAHLAI Abdul Reza, SHAKURI Ali Gholam, COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES, including NEW PEOPLES ARMY (NPA), Philippines, Hizballah Military Wing, EJÉRCITO DE LIBERACIÓN NACIONAL, POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE (PFLP), POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE-GENERAL COMMAND, 'DEVIRIMCI HALK KURTULUŞ PARTISI CEPHESI' – 'DHKP/C', 'SENDERO LUMINOSO' – 'SL' ('Shining Path') and 'TEYRBAZEN AZADIYA KURDISTAN' – 'TAK' – persons and groups included on the list of persons, groups and entities subject to Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Council Common Position 2001/931/CFSP on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism and to Council Regulation (EC) No 2580/2001 on specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities with a view to combating terrorism (see Annexes to Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/20 and Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/19) .....

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<sup>(1)</sup> Text with EEA relevance.

## IV

(Notices)

## NOTICES FROM EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTIONS, BODIES, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

## COUNCIL

**The following information is brought to the attention of: AL NASSER, Abdelkarim Hussein Mohamed, AL-YACOUB, Ibrahim Salih Mohammed, BOUYERI, Mohammed, IZZ-AL-DIN, Hasan, MOHAMMED, Khalid Shaikh, SHAHLAI Abdul Reza, SHAKURI Ali Gholam, COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES, including NEW PEOPLES ARMY (NPA), Philippines, Hizballah Military Wing, EJÉRCITO DE LIBERACIÓN NACIONAL, POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE (PFLP), POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE-GENERAL COMMAND, 'DEVIRIMCI HALK KURTULUŞ PARTISI CEPHESI' – 'DHKP/C', 'SENDERO LUMINOSO' – 'SL' ('Shining Path') and 'TEYRBAZEN AZADIYA KURDISTAN' – 'TAK' – persons and groups included on the list of persons, groups and entities subject to Articles 2, 3 and 4 of Council Common Position 2001/931/CFSP on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism and to Council Regulation (EC) No 2580/2001 on specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities with a view to combating terrorism (see Annexes to Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/20 and Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/19)**

(2020/C 183/01)

The following information is brought to the attention of the above-mentioned persons and groups listed in Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/20 <sup>(1)</sup> and Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/19 <sup>(2)</sup>.

Council Regulation (EC) No 2580/2001 <sup>(3)</sup> provides for a freezing of all funds, other financial assets and economic resources belonging to the persons and groups concerned and that no funds, other financial assets and economic resources may be made available to them, whether directly or indirectly.

The Council has been provided with new information relevant to the listing of the above-mentioned persons and groups. Having considered this new information, the Council intends to amend the statements of reasons accordingly.

The persons and groups concerned may submit a request to obtain the intended statements of reasons for maintaining them on the above-mentioned list to the following address:

Council of the European Union (Attn: COMET designations)  
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 175  
1048 Bruxelles/Brussel  
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Email: [sanctions@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:sanctions@consilium.europa.eu)

Such a request should be submitted by 10 June 2020.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 8 I, 14.1.2020, p. 5.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 8 I, 14.1.2020, p. 1.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ L 344, 28.12.2001, p. 70.

The persons and groups may submit at any time a request to the Council, together with any supporting documentation, that the decision to include and maintain them on the list should be reconsidered, to the address provided above. Such requests will be considered when they are received. In this respect, the attention of the persons and groups concerned is drawn to the regular review by the Council of the list according to Article 1(6) of Common Position 2001/931/CFSP <sup>(4)</sup>.

The attention of the persons and groups concerned is drawn to the possibility of making an application to the competent authorities of the relevant Member State(s) as listed in the Annex to the Regulation in order to obtain an authorisation to use frozen funds for essential needs or specific payments in accordance with Article 5(2) of that Regulation.

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<sup>(4)</sup> OJ L 344, 28.12.2001, p. 93.

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Interest rate applied by the European Central Bank to its main refinancing operations <sup>(1)</sup>:**

**0,00 % on 1 June 2020**

**Euro exchange rates <sup>(2)</sup>**

**2 June 2020**

(2020/C 183/02)

**1 euro =**

Currency		Exchange rate	Currency		Exchange rate
USD	US dollar	1,1174	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,5106
JPY	Japanese yen	120,83	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	8,6609
DKK	Danish krone	7,4541	NZD	New Zealand dollar	1,7680
GBP	Pound sterling	0,89083	SGD	Singapore dollar	1,5668
SEK	Swedish krona	10,4520	KRW	South Korean won	1 364,42
CHF	Swiss franc	1,0741	ZAR	South African rand	19,2755
ISK	Iceland króna	151,00	CNY	Chinese yuan renminbi	7,9413
NOK	Norwegian krone	10,6798	HRK	Croatian kuna	7,5848
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,9558	IDR	Indonesian rupiah	16 107,32
CZK	Czech koruna	26,645	MYR	Malaysian ringgit	4,7797
HUF	Hungarian forint	345,67	PHP	Philippine peso	56,071
PLN	Polish zloty	4,3993	RUB	Russian rouble	76,8001
RON	Romanian leu	4,8423	THB	Thai baht	35,271
TRY	Turkish lira	7,5698	BRL	Brazilian real	5,9499
AUD	Australian dollar	1,6310	MXN	Mexican peso	24,4448
			INR	Indian rupee	84,0390

<sup>(1)</sup> Rate applied to the most recent operation carried out before the indicated day. In the case of a variable rate tender, the interest rate is the marginal rate.

<sup>(2)</sup> Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

## V

(Announcements)

PROCEDURES RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITION  
POLICY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case M.9757 – Providence/VOO/Brutélé)**

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 183/03)

1. On 25 May 2020, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- the Providence Equity Partners group ('Providence', United States) will act for this transaction through the company OTP Luxco S.à.r.l ('OTP Luxco', Luxembourg), controlled by three investment funds: (1) Providence Equity Partners VIII L.P (Caiman Islands), (2) Providence Equity Partners VIII-A L.P. (Caiman Islands), and (3) Providence Equity Partners VIII (Scotland) L.P., which in turn belong to the group;
- VOO SA ('VOO', Belgium), controlled by Nethys SA ('Nethys', Belgium), itself controlled by the inter-municipal public undertaking Enodia SCRL ('Enodia', Belgium);
- Société Intercommunale pour la Diffusion de la Télévision, Brutélé SCRL ('Brutélé', Belgium).

Providence, via its subsidiary OTP Luxco, acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of VOO and Brutélé.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Providence: global investment company specialising in media and communications and education undertakings and in the information industry;
- for VOO: cable operator, active mainly in the Walloon Region, provider of access services for television, fixed and mobile telephony and the internet through its cable network, to both household and professional customers;
- for Brutélé: cable operator, active mainly in and south of the Brussels-Capital Region. The operator provides both household and professional customers with television, telephone and internet access services through its cable network, mainly in the Brussels-Capital Region and around the city of Charleroi in the province of Hainaut (Walloon Region).

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.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation to the Commission.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

Observations must reach the Commission no later than 10 days following the date on which this notification is published. The following reference should always be specified:

M.9757 – Providence/VOO/Brutélé

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

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

European Commission  
Directorate-General for Competition  
Merger Registry  
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel  
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

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**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case M.9850 – EQT Fund management/Schülke & Mayr) –**  
**Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 183/04)

1. On 25 May 2020, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- EQT VIII ('EQT', Luxembourg), controlled by EQT Fund Management S.à r.l.,
- Schülke & Mayr GmbH ('Schülke', Germany).

EQT acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation, sole control of the whole of Schülke.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- EQT. EQT is an investment fund that seeks to make investments primarily in Europe, with a focus on Northern Europe.
- Schülke. Schülke is active in infection prevention and hygiene. Schülke develops, produces and distributes antiseptics for wound care, disinfectants, medical and cosmetic skin care products and preservatives.

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 <sup>(2)</sup> 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.9850 – EQT Fund management/Schülke & Mayr

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

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

European Commission  
Directorate-General for Competition  
Merger Registry  
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel  
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.



**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case M.9851 – Naturgy/Sonatrach/BlackRock/Medgaz)**  
**Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 183/05)

1. On 25 May 2020, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- Naturgy Energy Group S.A. ('Naturgy', Spain),
- SONATRACH S.p.A ('Sonatrach', Algeria),
- Global Energy & Power Infrastructure Fund III L.P. ('GEPIF III', USA), managed by BlackRock Alternatives Management ('BAM', USA) belonging to the BlackRock Group ('BlackRock', USA),
- Medgaz S.A. ('Medgaz', Spain).

Naturgy, Sonatrach and BlackRock acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the whole of Medgaz.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Naturgy is active in electricity markets as well as mid and downstream gas markets, as well as in the gas storage, distribution and retail businesses,
- Sonatrach is the national state-owned oil and gas company of Algeria and is active all along the hydrocarbons value chain,
- GEPIF III is a fund focussing on investments in the energy and power infrastructure value chain. It is managed by BAM,
- Medgaz owns and operates the Algeria-Europe gas pipeline that transports natural gas from Algeria to Spain.

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 <sup>(2)</sup> 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.9851 – Naturgy/Sonatrach/BlackRock/Medgaz

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

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

Email: [COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu](mailto:COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu)

Fax +32 22964301

Postal address:

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Merger Registry  
1049 Bruxelles/Brussel  
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

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**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case M.9782 – Experian/Bertelsmann/Informa)**  
**Candidate case for simplified procedure**

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 183/06)

1. On 20 May 2020, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA ('Bertelsmann', Germany),
- Experian plc ('Experian', UK),
- Informa Solutions GmbH ('Informa', Germany).

Experian and Bertelsmann acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the whole of Informa.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares in a newly created company constituting a joint venture.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Experian: Global information services company which provides software and services to businesses that allows them to manage credit risk, minimise the incidence of fraud and verify the identity of individuals,
- Bertelsmann: a media, services and education company domiciled in Germany that operates in about 50 countries, in particular, in television, magazines publishing, music publishing, education services,
- Informa: currently a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of Bertelsmann. Post transaction, it will bring together the activities of Experian and Bertelsmann in credit reference bureau services, fraud prevention and identity services, creditworthiness data and developing of scoring solutions, automation of claims management processes and decisioning and analytics services.

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 <sup>(2)</sup> 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.9782 – Experian/Bertelsmann/Informa

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.

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

Email: [COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu](mailto:COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu)

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BELGIQUE/BELGIË

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**Prior notification of a concentration**  
**(Case M.9676 – Lov Group/Banijay/ESG)**

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2020/C 183/07)

1. On 25 May 2020, the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004 <sup>(1)</sup>.

This notification concerns the following undertakings:

- Lov Group Invest ('Lov Group', France),
- Banijay Group ('Banijay', France), controlled by Lov Group and DeAgostini,
- Endemol Shine Group ('ESG', the Netherlands), controlled by Apollo Management and The Walt Disney Company.

Lov Group acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation sole control of the whole of Banijay and ESG.

The concentration is accomplished by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- for Lov Group: production of TV content (through Banijay) in Europe, activities in the online gambling and luxury hotels sectors,
- for Banijay: creation, production and distribution of entertainment TV content for broadcasters in Europe and other countries worldwide, and
- for ESG: production and distribution of TV content and licensing to third parties, development of general entertainment content in Europe and other countries worldwide.

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.

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.9676 – Lov Group/Banijay/ESG

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

Email: COMP-MERGER-REGISTRY@ec.europa.eu

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BELGIQUE/BELGIË

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 (the 'Merger Regulation').

## OTHER ACTS

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Publication of an application for registration of a name pursuant to Article 50(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs**

(2020/C 183/08)

This publication confers the right to oppose the application pursuant to Article 51 of Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council <sup>(1)</sup> within three months from the date of this publication.

SINGLE DOCUMENT

**‘Brački varenik’**

**EU No: PGI-HR-02454 – 8.4.2019**

**PDO ( ) PGI (X)**

**1. Name**

‘Brački varenik’

**2. Member State or Third Country**

Croatia

**3. Description of the agricultural product or foodstuff**

**3.1. Type of product**

Class 1.8. other products listed in Annex I to the Treaty (spices etc.)

**3.2. Description of the product to which the name in (1) applies**

‘Brački varenik’ is a product used as a condiment. It is produced by cooking the juice pressed from fresh or dried grapes until its volume falls to roughly one third of the initial volume. ‘Brački varenik’ is a sweet, viscous liquid with notes of honey, a mildly pronounced flavour and aroma of grapes and a moderately pronounced flavour of caramel. ‘Brački varenik’ may be dark red to dark brown in colour where red grape varieties are used, and dark yellow to light brown where white grape varieties are used. When placed on the market, ‘Brački varenik’ must have a soluble dry matter content (determined refractively) of at least 45 %, and a pH value of 3-5 (when diluted with water to 25 % dry matter). ‘Brački varenik’ is placed on the market in glass bottles with a maximum volume of 0,5 l.

**3.3. Feed (for products of animal origin only) and raw materials (for processed products only)**

‘Brački varenik’ is produced from indigenous wine grape varieties, i.e. the red varieties Babić, Crljenak and Plavac mali, and the white variety Maraština. These varieties must make up – individually or combined – at least 80 % of the product, with the remainder composed of other grape varieties from the island of Brač.

**3.4. Specific steps in production that must take place in the identified geographical area**

All steps in the production of ‘Brački varenik’, from picking, pressing and straining the grapes to cooking them, must take place within the production area defined in point 4.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

3.5. *Specific rules concerning slicing, grating, packaging, etc. of the product the registered name refers to*

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3.6. *Specific rules concerning labelling of the product the registered name refers to*

When placed on the market, the name 'Brački varenik' must stand out more clearly on the label than any other inscription in terms of the size, type and colour of its lettering (typography). The size of the producer's inscription must not exceed 70 % of the size of the product name.

**4. Concise definition of the geographical area**

'Brački varenik' is produced on the island of Brač, which administratively forms part of Split-Dalmatia County, and is divided into eight local self-government units: the town of Supetar, and the municipalities of Postira, Pučišća, Selca, Bol, Nerežišća, Milna and Sutivan. It is separated from the mainland by the Brač Channel to the north, from the island of Šolta by the Split Gates to the west, and from the island of Hvar by the Hvar Channel to the south.

**5. Link with the geographical area**

The causal link between 'Brački varenik' and the island of Brač is based on the reputation enjoyed by the product, as well as its specific traditional production method and recipe preserved to this day, which are characteristic of this geographical area.

There are three different geomorphological areas on the island of Brač: a lower-lying coastal belt (up to 170 m high), a central plateau (up to 400 m), and a more mountainous area. The most common parent substrate on the island of Brač is Cretaceous limestone and dolomite, on which rocky, black, brown, red and anthropogenic soils have formed. Best suited for cultivation on these types of soil are the following traditional Mediterranean crops: olives, grape vines and citrus fruits, figs, and aromatic and medicinal plants.

Wine-growing has a long, rich tradition and forms the most important branch of agriculture on the island of Brač. This is indicated by the continued cultivation of grape vines in the area since ancient times. As the island of Brač is dominated by contoured terrain, to create as much land for cultivation as possible, the local inhabitants cultivated anthropogenic soil by clearing, digging and fertilising the land to create terraces. By cutting into the land and building terraces, they retained the fertile soil and enabled the land to be cultivated, most commonly for growing grape vines.

The age-old tradition of cultivating grape vines on the island of Brač; the influence of know-how and expertise in selecting the varieties of grape vine best suited to the natural conditions of the geographical area; the cultivation method and production technique; these are just some of the human factors that have had a decisive influence of the quality of grape used to produce 'Brački varenik'.

The main grape varieties grown on the island of Brač and used to produce 'Brački varenik' are Babić, Crljenak, Plavac mali and Maraština, whose vineyards are located on south-facing slopes. A warm microclimate prevails on the island of Brač, as it is located in southern Dalmatia, which is characterised by a mild Mediterranean (Csa-type) climate, with hot, dry summers, mild winters and high mean annual temperatures (21,8 °C during vegetation), plentiful sunshine, and maritime influences. During the warm part of the year, winds – by day the Maestral, by night the Burin – blow over the south-facing slopes, alleviating the searing summer heat. The island of Brač is located in the sunniest part of the Adriatic, with some 2 600 sunshine hours per year, which is extremely important during the ripening of the grapes.

The inhabitants of the island of Brač use these grapes to produce not only wine, but also the speciality 'Brački varenik', by boiling off the juice from the grapes, for use as an essential condiment in traditional dishes from Brač.

Proof that 'Brački varenik' was used as a condiment as far back as ancient Roman times was provided by the author Marcus Gavius Apicius, who described the method for producing the product (V. Vodanović Kukec, 1997, *Iz pijata i žmula, Korijeni bračke kuhinje*). In historical records from 1885, the author S. Bulimbašić states that "Brački varenik" is prepared using a traditional recipe on the Didolić family holding on the island of Brač, destined for the top kitchens of Vienna, where it is especially prized and sought-after as a spice' (S. Bulimbašić, *Brački varenik*, published on 30 September 2011).

As 'varenik' had been produced since ancient times, at the end of the 18th century the inhabitants of the island of Brač sought to save from obscurity its distinct honey aroma and the taste and scent of this condiment made from grapes, according to a recipe guarded for hundreds of years by the old families of Brač. The traditional method for preparing 'Brački varenik' was a special social event forming part of the 'jematva', or grape harvest, which occurred in September and October. The event involved local producers using their extensive know-how and skills to select the best grapes of the indigenous red varieties Babić, Crljenak and Plavac mali or white variety Maraština. The grapes were placed in separate baskets and, at the end of the harvest, crushed and pressed by hand to produce a fresh grape juice that was slowly cooked (for more than 10 hours in some cases) on a low heat, in a large pot known as a 'kotlenka'. 'Brački varenik' would cook well into the night, usually until the next morning, watched over mainly by women, until a thick liquid was formed. The indigenous red and white grape varieties – Babić, Crljenak, Plavac mali and Maraština – have a high sugar content, which is essential for the end product. This age-old tradition of preparing 'Brački varenik' has been preserved to the present day and forms an integral part of the way of life of the inhabitants of Brač.

The reputation enjoyed by 'Brački varenik' is reflected in its re-emergence as a staple on the restaurant menus of Brač, as it is used as an essential condiment in a number of traditional dishes of the island of Brač (*Slobodna Dalmacija*, article entitled 'Tajni recepti bračkih nona', 2014, and *Slobodna Dalmacija*, article entitled 'Supetar pjati puni kuharskih čudesa', 2015).

The cultivation of grape vines, the production of grapes, and the products derived from them have formed the backbone of the island's economy for centuries.

The grape varieties (Babić, Crljenak, Plavac mali and Maraština) used to produce 'Brački varenik', the numerous sunny days when the grapes ripen, the suitable climate, fertile soil and the terracing and position of the vineyards increase the sugar content of the grape, which is essential in the production method of 'Brački varenik', since the cooking time is shortened.

The reputation of 'Brački varenik' and its traditional production method can be attributed to the fact that it is a regional product from the island of Brač that has a long history. The recipe for this product is based on the extensive experience of the local inhabitants of the island of Brač, is passed down from generation to generation and is closely linked to the defined geographical area.

The reputation of 'Brački varenik' is also attested to by its regular appearance each year at various festivals, the numerous awards it has won, and the various press articles it has featured in (*Dani varenika na otoku Braču*, 2015, Supetar Producer Group, *Brački varenik na Markovom trgu*, 2017, and GAST Fair, *Izvorni brački varenik otrgnut od zaborava*, 2017).

The link between the name 'Brački varenik' and the geographical area of the island of Brač is also evident in the promotion of tourism: the tourist board of the town of Supetar has declared 'Brački varenik' an indispensable condiment to the culinary specialities of the island of Brač and to the list of must-try products when holidaying on the island of Brač (Supetar Tourist Board, *Croatian Hot Spots*, March 2017).

To prevent the tradition of production of 'Brački varenik' from being forgotten, workshops are held on the island of Brač to pass on to younger generations the traditional skills needed to prepare the product. One such workshop on how to prepare 'Brački varenik' was held in Supetar's primary school (Supetar Primary School, *Eko kutak*, 2016).

### Reference to publication of the product specification

(the second subparagraph of Article 6(1) of this Regulation)

[https://poljoprivreda.gov.hr/UserDocsImages/dokumenti/hrana/zoi-zozp-zts/Izmijenjena\\_Specifikacija\\_Proizvoda\\_Brački\\_Varenik.pdf](https://poljoprivreda.gov.hr/UserDocsImages/dokumenti/hrana/zoi-zozp-zts/Izmijenjena_Specifikacija_Proizvoda_Brački_Varenik.pdf)

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