## Case No COMP/M.7126 -HELLMAN & FRIEDMAN / SCOUT 24

Only the English text is available and authentic.

## REGULATION (EC) No 139/2004 MERGER PROCEDURE

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION Date: 23/01/2014

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**EUROPEAN COMMISSION** 

Brussels, 23.1.2014 C(2014) 425 final

PUBLIC VERSION

SIMPLIFIED MERGER PROCEDURE

## To the notifying party:

Dear Madam(s) and/or Sir(s),

## Subject: Case No COMP/M.7126 - HELLMAN & FRIEDMAN/ SCOUT24 Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004<sup>1</sup>

- 1. On 9 December 2013, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertaking Hellman & Friedman Corporate Investors VII, L.P., one of the private equity funds controlled by Hellman & Friedman LLC (such funds, collectively with Hellman & Friedman LLC, "H&F", USA), acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the undertaking Scout24 Holding GmbH ("Scout24", Germany), by way of purchase of shares<sup>2</sup>.
- 2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
  - for H&F: private equity funds with the objective to invest long-term equity capital in businesses in growing markets;
  - for SCOUT24: web platforms and online marketplaces.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OJ L 24, 29.1.2004, p. 1 ("the Merger Regulation"). With effect from 1 December 2009, the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ("TFEU") has introduced certain changes, such as the replacement of "Community" by "Union" and "common market" by "internal market". The terminology of the TFEU will be used throughout this decision.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 366, 14-12-2013, p. 37.

- 3. After examination of the notification, the European Commission has concluded that the notified operation falls within the scope of the Merger Regulation and of paragraph 5(b) of the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004<sup>3</sup>.
- 4. For the reasons set out in the Notice on a simplified procedure, the European Commission has decided not to oppose the notified operation and to declare it compatible with the internal market and with the EEA Agreement. This decision is adopted in application of Article 6(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation.

For the Commission (signed) Alexander ITALIANER Director General

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> OJ C 56, 5.3.2005, p. 32.