



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Competition

***Case M.8475 - SOFTBANK GROUP / FORTRESS
INVESTMENT GROUP***

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 16/06/2017

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 16.6.2017
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PUBLIC VERSION

To the notifying party:

**Subject: Case M.8475 - SOFTBANK GROUP / FORTRESS INVESTMENT GROUP
Commission decision pursuant to Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC)
No 139/2004¹ and Article 57 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area²**

Dear Sir or Madam,

1. On 19.05.2017, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which the undertaking SoftBank Group Corp. ('SoftBank', Japan) acquires within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation control of the whole of Fortress Investment Group LLC ('Fortress', USA) by way of purchase of shares.³
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - SoftBank: listed Japanese internet company which provides a comprehensive range of telecommunication services and products, primarily in Japan and the USA. It currently operates in five segments: Japanese Telecommunications; Sprint Corporation (a US telecommunications carrier); Yahoo Japan (internet advertising, e-commerce and membership services); Distribution (mobile devices, and sale of PC software and peripherals in Japan); and ARM (a UK-based semiconductor company).
 - Fortress: investment management firm based in New York, USA.
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

¹ 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.

² OJ L 1, 3.1.1994, p. 3 (the 'EEA Agreement').

³ Publication in the Official Journal of the European Union No C 172, 31.5.2017, p. 3.

the Commission Notice on a simplified procedure for treatment of certain concentrations under Council Regulation (EC) No 139/2004.⁴

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 and Article 57 of the EEA Agreement.

For the Commission

(Signed)

Johannes LAITENBERGER
Director-General

⁴ OJ C 366, 14.12.2013, p. 5.