



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Competition

Case M.8961 - HPS / MDP / PFP

Only the English text is available and authentic.

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

Article 6(1)(b) NON-OPPOSITION
Date: 12/06/2018

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 12.6.2018
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PUBLIC VERSION

To the notifying parties:

**Subject: Case M.8961 – HPS / MDP / PFP
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 18 May 2018, the European Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of the Merger Regulation by which HPS Investment Partners, LLC ("HPS", USA) and Madison Dearborn Partners, LLC ("MDP", USA) acquire within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Merger Regulation joint control of the whole of Professional Fee Protection Limited ("PFP", United Kingdom) by way of purchase of shares.³
2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:
 - HPS is a US-based investment firm with a focus on acquisitions and strategic financing or recapitalisation of companies that require financial assistance;
 - MDP is a US-based private equity investment firm;
 - PFP is a small UK provider of risk management services and tax advisory services.
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(c) 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 181, 28.05.2018, p. 12.

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.