

## REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË AUTORITETI I KONKURRENCËS

## PRESS RELEASE

The Competition Commission, at its meeting on 29.03.2024, considered 2 concentration notices.

- 1. The concentration related to the proposed transaction on the acquisition of sole control of the company Fortenova Group MidCo B.V. and indirectly on Fortenova Group by the company Open Pass Limited.
  - The transaction will not create an overlap or upstream or downstream relationship between the activities of the parties at the national level and for these reasons, will not bring change and will not have an impact on the Albanian market.
- 2. The concentration realized through the acquisition of control of the company EUROSIG SHA by the company EURO-ALBA-EA SHPK.

The Competition Commission by Decision no. 1067, dated 29.03.2024, decided to authorize the concentration related to the proposed transaction on the acquisition of sole control of the company Fortenova Group MidCo B.V. and indirectly on Fortenova Group by the company Open Pass Limited and by Decision no. 1068, dated 29.03.2024, decided to authorize the concentration obtained through the acquisition of control of the company EUROSIG SHA from the company EURO-ALBA-EA SHPK.

Also, the Competition Commission reviewed the AKEP document "Analysis of wholesale markets of fixed broadband acces", which has been sent for public consultation to the Competition Authority.

Since AKEP is currently before the adoption of the Decision on the approval of the market analysis "Analysis of wholesale markets of fixed broadband acces", we estimate that it is necessary for AKEP to fulfill the purpose and regulatory objectives, defined by law, to define the enterprise One Albania SHA with significant power in: (i) the wholesale local access market provided at a fixed location (WLA); (ii) the wholesale central access market provided at a fixed location for general market products (WCA); (iii) the market for high-quality wholesale access provided at a fixed location (WHQA) and take regulatory measures to prevent anti-competitive practices.

For these reasons, the Competition Commission, by Decision no. 1069, dated 29.03.2024, decided to recommend the following to the Electronic and Postal Communications Authority:

- a. Maintaining the ex-ante regulatory obligations currently imposed on the One Albania enterprise in:
  - i. the wholesale local access market provided at a fixed location (WLA);
  - ii. wholesale central access market provided at a fixed location for general market products (WCA);

iii. the high-quality wholesale access market provided at a fixed location (WHQA).b. Regulatory intervention and the adoption of relevant measures by AKEP in the wholesale market for passive interurban physical infrastructure, to address the problems caused by the lack of competition in this market.

Furthermore, please consult the official page of the Competition Authority at <a href="http://caa.gov.al">http://caa.gov.al</a>