

PPF Group buys Telenor's telecommunications assets in CEE countries

PPF Group today announces that it has agreed with Telenor to buy their telecommunications assets in Central and Eastern Europe, specifically in Hungary, Bulgaria, Serbia and Montenegro. Through this transaction, PPF will gain full control over Telenor's mobile operators in the aforementioned countries, the rights to use the Telenor brand through the first half of 2021, and property used for the companies' operations. The total purchase price for 100% of the shares is EUR 2.8 billion. The completion of the transaction is expected in June 2018, and is subject to the relevant regulatory approvals.

"With this purchase, PPF Group is expanding its telecommunications portfolio to four more countries, and fulfilling our long-held goal to become a mid-sized European operator and to use our experience to strengthen our market position," said Ladislav Bartoníček, PPF Group's shareholder responsible for telecommunications assets within PPF.

Telenor is a leading provider of telecommunications and mobile services in Scandinavia, CEE and Asia, with an annual turnover of NOK 125 billion (2017) (EUR 12.7 billion)* and 178 million customers. The company has been active in Central and Eastern Europe for 25 years. Telenor entered the Hungarian market in 1994 as a local operator, Pannon. In 1996, it extended its reach to Montenegro, buying Mobi 063, and in 2006 it moved into Serbia. In 2013, Telenor entered the Bulgarian market by acquiring Globul. At the end of 2017, Telenor was providing its services to over 9 million customers across the four CEE countries, and was employing almost 3,500 staff there.

PPF Group

PPF Group invests into multiple market segments such as banking and financial services, telecommunications, biotechnology, insurance, real estate, and agriculture. PPF's reach spans from Europe to Russia, the USA and across Asia. PPF Group owns assets of almost EUR 35 billion (as at 30 June 2017).

Telenor Serbia and Montenegro

- The two countries' leading operator based on mobile revenue and market share
- Over 3 million customers (Q4 2017)
- 910 employees (Q4 2017)
- Total revenue of NOK 3.903 billion (2017) (EUR 314 million)*
- Headquartered in Belgrade and Podgorica

Telenor Hungary

- The second-largest mobile operator in the country based on mobile revenue and market share
- Over 3 million customers (Q4 2017)
- 976 employees (Q4 2017)
- Total revenue of NOK 4.634 billion (2017) (EUR 471 million)*
- Headquartered in Budapest

Telenor Bulgaria

- The country's leading operator based on mobile revenue and second in terms of market share
- Over 3 million customers (Q4 2017)
- 1681 employees (Q4 2017)
- Total revenue of NOK 3.220 billion (2017) (EUR 327 million)*
- Headquartered in Sofia

More information is available at www.telenor.com

** NOK converted to EUR as at 1 EUR = 9.8465 NOK (interbank closing rate on 31 Dec 17)*

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