

## Groupe Bruxelles Lambert Will Buy Affidea



Belgian investment firm Groupe Bruxelles Lambert (GBL) announced on 19 April that it will acquire a majority stake in Affidea for up to EUR 1.0 billion from Swiss private investment firm, B-Flexion.

Affidea is the largest European provider of diagnostic imaging, outpatient, and cancer care services. Under B-Flexion's ownership, the company grew from 120 to over 320 centres across 15 European countries. Given that 1300 radiologists operate in its network, Affidea provides services to over 10 million patients annually.

This investment aims to provide both resilience and portfolio diversification for GBL, given its ability to withstand economic cycles and long-term underlying growth trends. It is also GBL's first sizable investment in the healthcare sector. The acquisition also complements GBL's long-term goal to grow its portfolio's share of private assets so that 40% consists of private and alternative assets. As of 2021, they represented 25% of GBL's portfolio. The deal is expected to be completed by the end of the third quarter of 2022.

GBL has stated in a press release that it will support Affidea in its efforts to develop high-quality medical services for patients, doctors, and regulators.

This move follows Affidea's announcement on 12 April that it acquired a majority stake of Brust -Zentrum Zürich, Switzerland's largest integrated breast medicine group. Together, Affidea and Brust-Zentrum Zürich combine over 280 professionals in 11 centres in Switzerland that see over 145,000 patients annually.

## Source: Affidea

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