

– Programme –

Tuesday 16 October

Exploring the new Code and financing for broadband

09.00 REGISTRATION AND WELCOME COFFEE

09.30-10.40 A NEW COMPACT FOR FIBRE?

The Electronic Communications Code envisages a greater role for infrastructure-based competition and commercial deals in defining the structure of telecom markets going forward. However, at the same time, policy-makers have pressed for greater powers enabling regulators to intervene to address oligopolistic markets and bottlenecks to competition. In this session we will explore what the new Code will mean for the market analysis process and SMP regulation that has underpinned telecom access regulation since 2002. Has the ladder of investment been up-ended? Under what circumstances can telecom markets escape ex ante regulation, and what reaction can we expect from operators and investors?

Chair: Richard Feasey

Ilsa Godlovitch	WIK	Navigating the new market analysis process
Ben Wreschner	Vodafone	Implications of the Code for fibre investors

10.40-11.00 BREAK

11.00-12.30 INTRODUCING THE NEW ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS CODE

Anthony Whelan, Director for Electronic Communications Networks & Services at the European Commission, will present in detail the soon-to-be adopted EU Electronic Communications Code and answer your questions about its impacts and the next steps towards implementation. Jeremy Godfrey, the Chair-elect for BEREC 2019 will follow with a presentation of BEREC's reflections on the Code and immediate tasks ahead.

Chair: Iris Henseler-Unger

	Anthony Whelan	Director, Electronic Communications, European Commission
Keynote	Jeremy Godfrey	Chair-elect, BEREC 2019

12.30-13.00 ACADEMIC KEYNOTE: REVISITING THE LADDER OF INVESTMENT

In this session, Marc Bourreau, Professor of economics at Telecom Paristech and joint academic Director at CERRE reflects on the evolution of the ladder of investment for broadband in light of the new Electronic Communications Code.

Chair: Richard Feasey

Marc Bourreau	Telecom Paristech and Cerre
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13.00-14.00 LUNCH

14.00-15.30 THE ROAD TO 5G

The European Commission has set out ambitious targets for Europe to gain a leading role in 5G technologies and applications by 2025. In this session we explore developments in the auctioning of 5G spectrum within Europe and beyond, as well as experiences from 5G trials. We also discuss how the provisions of the Electronic Communications Code may affect spectrum assignments and conditions going forwards, and the implications for competition and investment in new licensed and unlicensed wireless technologies.

Chair: J. Scott Marcus

Fernando Gordo	Huawei Technologies
Bernd Sörries	WIK
Frank Krüger	RSPG and BMVI
Kip Meek	Communications Chambers

15.30-15.50 BREAK

The future of connectivity

WIK Conference, 16-17 October 2018

Le Châtelain Hotel, Rue du Châtelain 17, 1000 Brussels

15.50-17.00 BRIDGING THE GAP: A NEW ROLE FOR STATE AID?

The European Commission has estimated that there will be a funding gap of more than €150bln in delivering its fixed and wireless gigabit targets. As negotiations continue for the next multi-annual financing framework, we discuss experience with EU and national aid programmes for broadband and consider the case for further public intervention to bridge the gap in pursuit of a gigabit society.

Chair: Peter Alexiadis

Fabio Nasarre de Letosa	European Commission	EU financing regimes
Iris Henseler-Unger	WIK	The State aid regime in Germany
Gabrielle Gauthey	Formerly Caisse des Dépôts	The French rural initiative model

17.00-18.00 DEBATE: REGULATION OVER THE TOP?

In the final session of the day we explore the new rules on communication and 'interpersonal' services under the Code, and discuss the implications for consumers, as well as major players in the OTT space and telecom sector. What are the different characteristics, benefits and challenges associated with traditional telephone and other interpersonal communication services? Was there a lack of a 'level playing field' between traditional telcos and content and application providers? If so, has the Code levelled the field? Has it achieved the right balance, or is there a risk that the extension of the Framework could stifle innovation?

Chair: René Arnold

Marc Lebourges	Orange
Will Scrimshaw	Microsoft
Johan Keetelaar	Facebook

18.00 CLOSING REMARKS

Wednesday 17 October

Visions for a gigabit society

09:00 REGISTRATION AND WELCOME COFFEE

09.15-10.15 KEYNOTE SPEECH: HAVE WE REACHED THE END-GAME OF TELECOMMUNICATION POLICY?

To open the closing day of the conference, Prof Ingo Vogelsang reflects on the future telecom policy in light of the anticipated EU Electronic Communications Code. Telecommunications policy has come a long way from regulation of vertically integrated monopolies to the current state of competition. As competition becomes self-sustainable, will telecommunications policy in the form of industry-specific regulation go away or, if not, what form will it take?

Chair: Ilsa Godlovitch

Keynote	Ingo Vogelsang	Professor, Boston University
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10.15-12.00 KEYNOTE SESSION: VISIONS FOR A GIGABIT SOCIETY

In this keynote session we hear the visions of leading policy-makers and industry on the next steps towards a gigabit society. Wilhelm Eschweiler, Vice-President of BNetzA will open the session with a speech on Germany's strategy for a gigabit society and the role of 'open access'. Thereafter, we will hear insights on fibre as a critical infrastructure from Simone Bonannini, Marketing and Commercial Director of Open Fiber. Discussion will then turn to the future of mobility with speeches from Richard Clarke, Assistant Vice-President at AT&T, drawing on AT&T's experience in deploying 5G networks in the US, and from William Webb, author of the „5G myth“ and „Our digital future“.

Chair: Iris Henseler-Unger

Keynote	Wilhelm Eschweiler	Vice-President BNetzA
	Simone Bonannini	Marketing and Commercial Director, Open Fiber
	Richard Clarke	Assistant Vice-President, AT&T
	William Webb	Author and visiting professor

12.00 CLOSING REMARKS