

### 1<sup>st</sup> day: 13 October 2026

#### Digital policy for the AI era

09:00 – 09:30 *Welcome & Registration*

#### 09:30 – 10:00 INTRODUCTION AND OPENING REMARKS FROM THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

*Following introductory remarks from WIK, MEP Pilar del Castillo will open the conference with an overview of developments in digital policy, threats and opportunities we face today and her vision for achieving digital leadership within the EU.*

**KEYNOTE** **Pilar del Castillo**, MEP

#### 10:00 – 11:00 COMPETITION POLICY AND ENFORCEMENT IN THE DIGITAL AGE

*In this keynote address, Anthony Whelan, Director General of DG Competition will analyse the lessons learned from ex post and ex ante interventions in digital and telecoms markets. He will discuss the future direction of competition policy and enforcement and how it relates to Europe's priorities to secure digital leadership, sovereignty, and security. Anthony's intervention will be followed by observations from Nicolas Petit, Professor of Competition Law at the European University Institute.*

**KEYNOTE** **Anthony Whelan**, Director General, DG Competition, European Commission

**KEYNOTE** **Nicolas Petit**, Professor, Department of Law of the European University Institute EUI, Co-founder of the Dynamic Competition Initiative (DCI)

11:00 – 11:30 *Break*

#### 11:30 – 12:30 ENSURING FAIR AND CONTESTABLE DIGITAL MARKETS: LESSONS FROM THE DMA, UPCOMING CHALLENGES FOR CLOUD AND AI

*In this session, we assess the progress made under the DMA in achieving fair and contestable digital markets and discuss what action may be needed going forwards to ensure a level playing field in the vital cloud and AI markets. Will the Data Act secure interoperable cloud markets and enable users to switch? Should gatekeepers in Cloud be designated under the DMA as proposed by the Commission, and if so, what measures are needed? What impact will AI have on the digital value chain, and what will be the implications for competition and consumers? Can improved access to data and interoperability enable European players to challenge global leaders in AI?*

#### Speakers tbc

#### 12:30 – 12:50 GEARING UP TO APPLY THE DSA AND DATA ACT: EXPERIENCE FROM A NATIONAL AUTHORITY

*National regulatory authorities and other competent bodies have recently gained additional competences to act as Digital Service Co-ordinators under the DSC and resolve disputes under the Data Act. In this session, we hear from the German authority about their experience in expanding their competences and applying these new provisions.*

**KEYNOTE** **Daniela Brönstrup**, Vice-President BNetzA

12:50 – 13:45 *Lunch*

#### 13:45 – 15:15 SAFEGUARDING MINORS, PROTECTING CONSUMERS

*In this session, we will focus on measures to safeguard minors and protect consumers from manipulation and malicious conduct online. Agustin Reyna the Director General of BEUC will open with a keynote address about the threats to consumers in the digital world. Hubert Gambs will continue with a speech regarding the Commission's actions in the field of consumer protection including the status of the planned Digital Fairness Act. The opening speeches will be followed by a debate about how minors can best be protected from online harms. Should there be a social media ban? What other mechanisms could be considered to address mental health concerns and address issues such as addictive design features in gaming and social media, manipulation by influencers, non-consensual imagery and cyberbullying? How well have the DSA and consumer protection law performed in addressing these issues? How might AI be used to improve enforcement, and what new threats might it pose? Is there a need to change the rules, and if so, how? We will also consider whether there is scope to simplify Europe's expanding variety of rules in this area.*

**KEYNOTE** Agustin Reyna, Director General, BEUC

**KEYNOTE** Hubert Gambs, Deputy Director-General for Digital transformation, Justice and Consumers, DG JUST European Commission

**Debate**

**Speakers tbc**

15:15 – 15:45 Break

#### 15:45 – 16:45 AI: THREAT OR OPPORTUNITY? BUILDING STRENGTH, ADDRESSING RISKS

*In this session we discuss opportunities, risks, and implications for security and digital sovereignty of developments in AI. How should Europe handle markets dominated by foreign AI providers, and should we pursue new investments or new partnerships?*

**Keynote and Debate**

**Speakers tbc**

#### 16:45 – 17:10 CLOSING REMARKS: CAN EUROPE ACHIEVE DIGITAL SOVEREIGNTY?

*In this closing session, we will shine a spotlight on the European Commission's newly released tech sovereignty package. Can the EU achieve digital sovereignty at this late stage? If so, how, in which fields and at what price?*

**Speaker tbc**

17:10 – 19:00 Cocktail Reception

### 2<sup>nd</sup> day: 14 October 2025

#### Telecoms: rewriting the rulebook

08:30 – 09:00 *Welcome & Registration*

#### 09:00 – 10:30 **REWRITING THE TELECOMS RULEBOOK: THE DIGITAL NETWORKS ACT**

*In this opening keynote session, Kamila Kloc, Director for the Digital Decade and Connectivity at the European Commission will present the proposed Digital Networks Act. We will then hear from the Chair of BEREC and German Ministry about their view of the proposals. The debate will close with an academic perspective from Prof. Alexandre de Stree.*

**KEYNOTE** **Kamila Kloc**, Director, Digital Decade and Connectivity, DG CNECT, European Commission

**KEYNOTE** **Marko Mismas**, BEREC Chair, Director AKOS

**KEYNOTE** **Susanne Ding**, Deputy Director General, Department Digital Infrastructure in the Federal Ministry for Digital Transformation and Government Modernisation, Germany

**KEYNOTE** **Alexandre de Stree**, Academic Director of the digital research programme at CERRE and Professor of European law at the University of Namur

10:30 – 11:00 *Break*

#### 11:00 – 12:30 **STRATEGIES TO DELIVER FULL FIBRE AND COPPER SWITCH-OFF**

*In this practical session, we will explore, via case studies and WIK-Consult's extensive research for the European Commission, strategies that have proved to be successful in delivering full fibre coverage and copper switch-off, while promoting sustainable competition which delivers results for end-users. The presentations will address strategies for mapping and declarations, the allocation of State Aid and policies to support in-building infrastructure and wiring. We will also examine what role Universal Service might play in ensuring that no-one is left behind.*

**KEYNOTE** **Alejandra de Iturriaga Gandini**, BEREC Chair elect 2027, Director of Telecommunications and Audiovisual, CNMC

**Key components of a fibre and copper switch-off plan**

**Addressing gaps and providing for vulnerable consumers**

**Speakers tbc**

12:30 – 13:30 *Lunch*

#### 13:30 – 15:00 **ACCESS REGULATION IN A FIBRE ENVIRONMENT**

*In this session, with the aid of expert insights and case studies we explore the role of access regulation in a full fibre environment. We will start with an overview of technological and market developments, and progress to a discussion around replicability and bottlenecks. We will address the role of physical infrastructure access under SMP Regulation and the GIA, as well as the examining the relationship between and experience of asymmetric (SMP) and symmetric (article 61(3)) regulation under the EU Electronic Communications Code and how this might evolve on full fibre markets.*

**Introduction: Overview of WIK studies**

**Stakeholder perspectives on the DNA access provisions, RRM and GIA Guidelines**

**Speakers tbc**

14:45 – 15:00 *Short Break*



**15:00 – 15:20 TOWARDS 6G**

*In this keynote presentation, Erzsebet Fitori, Executive Director the Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking will provide her view about how and when 6G will emerge, how it might influence services and market structures, and what opportunities and threats this may bring for European industry and consumers.*

**KEYNOTE** **Erszebet Fitori**, Executive Director 6G Smart Networks and Services Joint Undertaking  
Commission

**15:20 – 16:20 DEMAND AND INVESTMENT IN MOBILE MARKETS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR REGULATION**

*In this session we will explore what went wrong with 5G with a deep dive into investment and demand conditions. Thereafter, we will debate what is needed to achieve the vision for full 5G and 6G to come. In this context, will debate how the DNA spectrum proposals and proposed new merger guidelines might impact mobile markets going forwards.*

**Introduction: Overview of WIK studies**

**Stakeholder perspectives on the DNA spectrum provisions and proposed Merger Guidelines**

**Speakers tbc**

**16:20 – 17:00 SOVEREIGNTY, SECURITY AND CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

*In this closing session, we will consider what implications EU policy on digital sovereignty and security may have in telecoms markets. We will consider dependencies and areas of European leadership in telecoms and explore the implications of the Huawei prohibition and wider effects of the Cybersecurity Act 2 as well.*

**Speakers tbc**

**17:00** Conference close