

Bits

Brussels Internet & Telecom Seminars

Brussels
June 4
2013



KU LEUVEN

Modernisation of the EU regulatory framework for Electronic Communications and Consolidation of the sector

Brussels, June 4, 2013, 14:15 – 20:00

Fondation Universitaire Stichting, rue d'Egmont 11, 1000 Bruxelles

Ideas for modernizing the regulatory framework and boost investment in Europe's Digital Future

Commissioner Kroes has recently announced that the Commission will table before October 2013 proposals to ensure a fully functioning Digital Single Market by 2015. A first draft might be published in June 2013.

The seminar will examine the following issues:

- *What is a functioning digital market?*
- *How to balance the objectives of competition and investment?*
- *What is required to create the optimal investment environment?*
- *How to ensure that the infrastructure needed to drive information technology led productivity gains and growth is put in place?*

Towards a consolidation of the electronic communications sector in Europe?

A debate has recently re-emerged in Europe on the fragmentation of the telecommunications markets and the dark contrast with the more consolidated US market. The question of the optimal level of competition of national markets is also raised.

The seminar will explore the following issues:

- *Is there a shortage in the provision of pan-European telecom services?*
- *Why the electronic communications framework has not delivered consolidation?*
- *How to define consolidation?*
- *Four operators minimum: laudable goal or inefficient duplication of assets?*
- *Is consolidation desirable?*
- *Appraising the level of competition: static vs. dynamic effects*
- *Is there a business case for cross-border consolidation?*
- *Network sharing as a way of delivering economies of scale Should spectrum pooling be allowed?*
- *Industrial policy: still a dirty word?*



The seminar will be chaired by

Fabio Colasanti - *President International Institute of Communications*

14:15 - Registration and coffee

14:45

Modernisation of the EU regulatory frame-work for electronic communications

James Fontanella-Khan - *Brussels correspondent, Financial Times Moderator*

Victor Calvo-Sotelo Ibanez Martin - *Secretary of State for Telecommunications & Information Society of Spain*

James Cicconi - *Senior Executive Vice President, AT&T*

Dr. Georg Serentschy - *CEO, Austrian Regulatory Authority - RTR-GmbH*

Göran Marby - *Director-General, Swedish Regulator PTS*

Dr. Andrea Renda - *Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies*

15:45 - Panel moderated by James Fontanella-Khan

16:15 - Coffee break

16:35

Towards a consolidation of the electronic communications sector in Europe?

Philippe Defraigne - *Cullen International*

Pierre Larouche - *Professor University of Tilburg*

Stephen Howard - *Analyst HSBC*

Marc Lebourges - *Head of European and Economic Regulation – Orange Group*

Richard Feasey - *Regulatory Adviser Vodafone Group*

18:20 - Coffee break

18:45

Policy panel

Bernd Langeheine - *Deputy Director-General Mergers – DG Competition – European Commission*

Anthony Whelan - *Adviser DG Connect – European Commission*

Herbert Ungerer - *Former Deputy Director General – DG Competition – European Commission*

Pierre Larouche - *Professor University of Tilburg*

19:45 - Cocktail reception



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Venue

Fondation Universitaire Stichting
rue d'Egmont 11, 1000 Brussels

www.fondationuniversitaire.be

Fee* and registration

The seminar is a joint event of CRIDS of the University of Namur, Cullen International, and ICRI of the University of Leuven

Participation fee: € 130 (drinks and sandwiches included).

Free for EU officials and diplomats

If more than two persons participate from the same organisation, the additional participants will benefit from a 25 % reduction. Former DTIC-students and Ph.D. students are also entitled to a 25 % reduction.

Registration: <http://www.crids.eu/formations/juritic/inscription>

Email: sarah.fievet@unamur.be

*Any profit from this event will be used for supporting academic research in ICT regulation at CRIDS <http://www.crids.eu/> and ICRI <http://www.law.kuleuven.be/icri/>