

Bits

Brussels Internet & Telecom Seminars

Brussels
Jan. 28
2014



Should Europe adopt an industrial policy to strengthen its telecoms sector?

Brussels, January 28, 2014, 15:30 - 20:00

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

On January 22, 2014 the Commission will adopt a Communication on industrial policy. On March 20-21, 2014 the European Council will discuss Industrial policy

While an industrial policy chapter was introduced into the Maastricht Treaty, the concept seems to have become obsolete in the 90s. But can the telecoms regulators, whose decisions have shaped the evolution of the sector in the last 20 years, be without any industrial policy views? Industrial policy is most often discussed in the context of manufacturing to debate the future of the European steel industry or the emergence of 3D printing. However, it also applies to the telecom sector.

If industrial policy is no longer a 'dirty word', then the question may be asked: what industrial policy should Europe pursue to strengthen its telecom sector?

The seminar will focus on two main questions:

- *What market structure, if any, lie behind the Commission and the NRA decisions? The question is particularly relevant regarding decisions related to investment ladder, price squeeze tests and spectrum assignments. Does this constitute a form of industrial policy?*
- *What market structures, if any, should the Commission and the NRAs aspire to for the future?*

Additional questions may flow from this:

- *Is the Digital Agenda setting the right balance between fixed and mobile technologies?*
- *What market structures hide behind price squeeze tests (especially type 2 tests – 'reasonably efficient operators')?*
- *What market structures lie behind the assignment of 2*10 MHz in the 800 MHz band to three mobile in 13 European countries (out of 22 that have auctioned that band)?*
- *How should a future industrial policy for telecom networks and services be articulated with EU competition policy?*



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15:30

Registration and coffee

16:00

Academic session

Alexandre de Streel

University of Namur

Justus Haucap

University of Düsseldorf

Fabio Colasanti

Chairman International Institute of Communications

Peter Alexiadis

Kings College and Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

17:30

coffee break

18:00

Industry session

Frederick De Backer

Telefónica

Richard Feasey

Frontraith Ltd and Frontier Economics

Roland Doll

Deutsche Telekom

19:00

Fabio Colasanti

Former Director General DG Connect

Catherine Trautmann

MEP

19:30

cocktail



UNIVERSITÉ
DE NAMUR



CULLEN
INTERNATIONAL

KU LEUVEN

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: melissa.pascale@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/>