

Notice for the launch of the public consultation for the draft BEREC-RSPG joint report on facilitating mobile connectivity in 'challenge areas'

This public consultation is seeking stakeholders' views regarding a draft BEREC-RSPG joint report on facilitating mobile connectivity in 'challenge areas'. The draft report compiles a comprehensive and comparative assessment of initiatives to facilitate mobile connectivity in what could be described as 'challenge areas', where mobile connectivity is limited or non-existent. It particularly focuses on regulatory and legal measures that have been adopted to resolve that issue (for example RAN-sharing, passive/active sharing etc.).

The draft report describes four categories of challenge areas: indoor, transportation means, non-profitable areas and other areas (protected areas, "grey" areas, low quality of service areas). For each type of challenge areas, the draft report describes the difficulties encountered in the identified challenge areas and describes different technical, regulatory or legal solutions and practices that have been implemented or considered by EU member states.

The purpose of the public consultation is to give an opportunity for stakeholders to provide valuable feedback on the draft report. In particular, stakeholders are invited to comment the described solutions, their benefits and their possible limitations. After approval, the BEREC-RSPG report can be used by policy makers as a knowledge base for methods of enhancing mobile connectivity in challenge areas.

In accordance with the BEREC policy on public consultations, BEREC will publish a summary of all received contributions, respecting confidentiality requests.

The public consultation will run from **31 October to 28 November**.

All stakeholders are invited to submit their contributions via the new BEREC online public consultation tool on <https://consultations.berec.europa.eu/en/page/berec>, **by 28 November 2017 17:00 CET**. When registering with the consultation tool, please indicate your name and/or the name of the organisation or company you represent.

Alternatively, contributions could also be submitted to the following e-mail address: Mobilecoverage-Consultation@berec.europa.eu. Further enquiries about the consultation including registration with the online platform may also be submitted to this address.

The overall size of the e-mail (including attachments) should not be larger than 2 MB.

After submitting the contribution via e-mail, an automatic reply will be generated. If this confirmation e-mail is not received, the submission of the contribution was not successful and it should be submitted again.

We strongly encourage all stakeholders to submit their contributions as early as possible. **Contributions received after the above mentioned deadline will not be taken into account.**

Contributions should preferably be sent in English.

This public consultation is organised mainly in BEREC online public consultation platform <https://consultations.berec.europa.eu/en/berec> in a way that allows participants to submit their comments, to provide feedback on comments and parts of the text or to upload their public or confidential files in every section.

The platform **also provides the possibility to download the “word” consultation document** for organisations and stakeholders that would like to share it with their partners to consolidate their views and comments in a single file input.

A single file input can be also uploaded on the platform at any “Add comment” section of discussion, ensuring the classification of this input as public or confidential.

However, in case you send your comments by e-mail, your answers should be organised according to the requested structure (i.e. paragraph by paragraph) in order to facilitate processing the responses.

All contributions will be published on the BEREC website, taking into account requests for confidentiality and publication of personal data. Any such requests should be clearly indicated as: “Consider this contribution as confidential”or, if submitted via e-mail, by clearly stating which information is considered confidential.

Please note that it is also possible to submit both a confidential and a public version of your contribution on the e-mail address: Challengeareas-Consultation@berec.europa.eu .