

BEREC Consultation - New orientations and priorities

The new telecom code defines the space and direction for BEREC work. Shared spectrum and easier access to spectrum at lower cost are key priorities to encourage higher ICT investments and enhanced market performance.

The European consumer prices have, in international comparison, been pushed down significantly, which is good. But the European telecom play field is more fragmented compared to US and major Asian economies, and the investment capability of many current mobile players are for the moment limited. This is evident from recent year's historic data on mobile investments.

There are however risk-capital and loan facilities available for investment in infrastructures, that now must find its path towards 5G investments. Many mobile operators now adjust to meet this opportunity.

A more levelled play field will encourage a better matching of capital and investment demands, for the benefit of the development of the European economy and its ICT eco system. EU member states must now realize that inflated spectrum auction fees are counterproductive to many EU economic development goals.

Key spectrum issues (2020-23)

- Deploy parts of 3,8-4,2GHz spectrum for local shared spectrum licenses, requiring coordination and some protection with existing users (suggested EU action point on WRC 19)
- Deploy major part of the 26GHz spectrum on shared basis
- Find easy management processes for shared spectrum in general (use e.g. AI testbeds if necessary and avoid target system impacts beyond 5G release 17)
- Steer local spectrum allocation to ventures that contribute to new EU strategic goals, e.g. improved traffic security/reduced death toll and number of invalids, improved health care, increased industry and services productivity, improved energy efficiency/reduced harmful pollution etc. There are provisioning in the Code for managing this in a proportionate and non-discriminatory way.
- New study on EU economic risks associated with inflated spectrum costs should be initiated.

Key BEREC Management issues (2020-2023)

- Foster European cohesion on the new critical issues like e.g. V2x massive sensor fusions (radar, video, infra etc.) with regard to likely required anonymizations? This is important not to halt a pan-European V2x roll-out, due to national fragmentations. Invite stake holder for more informal work-shops and Think-tanks about this.
- Liaison more with US regulator to exchange ideas how our economies and way of life should strive in new era of massive artificial intelligence and massive digitalization. Ditto.

Yours sincerely,

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