

BEREC press release on the publication of a European Commission Communication on a Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe

BEREC takes note of the adoption by the European Commission of a Communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on a Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe.

BEREC welcomes the new initiative's overall goals of making the most of the growth potential of a barrier-free, seamlessly operational digital single market. BEREC appreciates the holistic approach to promote cross-sectoral measures, considering all factors that have an impact on the completion of the digital single market. Being aware that the measures related to the electronic communications sector represent an important element of the Commission's vision, BEREC particularly shares the acknowledgement that telecommunications represent the backbone of digital products and services and agrees on the need for an assessment of the regulatory treatment of all players on the same market, in the digital ecosystem, and the promotion of competition are the main drivers for investment in new infrastructure, in order to meet the long term connectivity needs of the EU and to exploit innovation such as Cloud computing, Big Data tools or the Internet of Things.

At the same time, BEREC also appreciates the recognition of the key role of the demand side in building a digital single market that the Commission considers from the perspective of consumers, businesses and public administrations respectively.

Through close and continuous cooperation with the European Commission, BEREC is pleased to contribute its expertise to the process and, in the exercise of its statutory duties, is looking into possible areas of adjustment to the current electronic communications legislative framework where this seems appropriate. BEREC would be glad to share with the EU Institutions its ideas on the specific solutions that the EC will propose.

12 May, 2015

NOTE TO THE EDITOR

About BEREC

BEREC is composed of a Board of Regulators consisting of the Heads of the 28 national regulatory authorities (NRAs). BEREC advises the European Commission and its member NRAs, and assists the European Parliament and Council, on issues related to the application of the EU regulatory framework for electronic communications. BEREC seeks to ensure fair competition and consistency of regulation in the internal market for electronic communications, for the benefit of European consumers. In particular, it provides expert advice on market definitions, analysis and remedies, on the definition of transnational markets, and on cross-border disputes and numbering issues. BEREC also provides expert opinions on emerging challenges including the promotion of broadband, net neutrality and converging markets, and plays an active role in public discussions on these issues.

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