

# Public debriefing

Outcomes of the 62nd BEREC ordinary plenary meetings  
13 March 2025

20 March 2025

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# Programme

- Early call for inputs BEREC Work Programme 2026
- BEREC Guidelines on Very High Capacity Networks; Update of Criterion 3 Quality of Service values
- **Q&A session**
- BEREC Opinion on Meta's reference offers to facilitate Messenger and WhatsApp interoperability under Article 7 of the DMA
- BEREC Report on the evolution of private 5G networks and interrelation with public networks in Europe
- BEREC Summary Report from external workshop on the technological advances as security opportunities and challenges for network resilience
- BEREC updates

**Q&A session**

# **BEREC Work Programme 2026**

**Incoming BEREC Chair  
Marko Mišmaš (AKOS)**

# BEREC Work in 2026

- BEREC will execute its work streams around the four strategic objectives of the EECC
- Preparation of the New BEREC mid-term Strategy is in progress
- BEREC will continue to update the BEREC Work Programme with items on emerging challenges, however due to additional ad hoc work envisaged for 2026, a „lighter“ workload of optional items is proposed



# BEREC Work in 2026

- BEREC tasks stemming from:



# BEREC Work in 2026

- 6 Carry-overs brought from 2025:



# BEREC Work in 2026

- 15 recurring items spread among the WGs

## (DM)

- BEREC contribution to the implementation of the Digital Markets Act
- BEREC contribution to the implementation of the Data Act

## (OI)

- Implementation of the Open Internet Regulation and the BEREC Open Internet Guidelines
- Collaboration on net neutrality measurement tools

## (ROAM)

- International roaming benchmark data and monitoring
- Ukraine monitoring report

## (RAMM)

- Article 32/33 Phase II process
- WACC parameters' calculation according to the EC Notice
- Report on regulatory accounting in practice

## (WNE)

- Peer review process and engaging with RSPG

## (PFT)

- BEREC Work Programme 2027

## (CSR)

- Ad-hoc work on cybersecurity related matters

## (SUST)

- Ad hoc on sustainability

## (RF)

- Ad hoc input to the EU/NRAs

# BEREC Work in 2026

- 18 optional items have been identified as potential work in the Outline WP 2026; however, some of them may not be included in the 2026 Work Programme:



☐ (RF) BEREC inputs to the regulatory framework review

☐ (RF) Opinion for the evaluation of the application of Regulation (EU) 2015/2120 in 2026 as input to the Commission's report

☐ (OI) Internal workshop to assess the need to review BEREC Guidelines for QoS parameters

☐ BEREC contribution to the review process of the Recommendation on relevant markets susceptible to ex ante regulation

☐ BEREC contribution to the implementation of the Data Act

☐ Facilitating copper network switch-off



☐ BEREC input on connected and automated mobility

☐ Further work on 5G cybersecurity

☐ Workshop and Report on practices for ensuring equivalence of access and choice with respect to accessibility

☐ Exploration of the concept of Digital Sufficiency

☐ Update to BEREC Guidelines on Geographical surveys of network deployments

☐ Call for Inputs (CFI) on interfaces to mobile networks for developers and third-party services



☐ Report on IoT

☐ Potential Role for NRAs under the Artificial Intelligence Act (AIA)

☐ Potential Role for NRAs under the Gigabit Infrastructure Act (GIA)

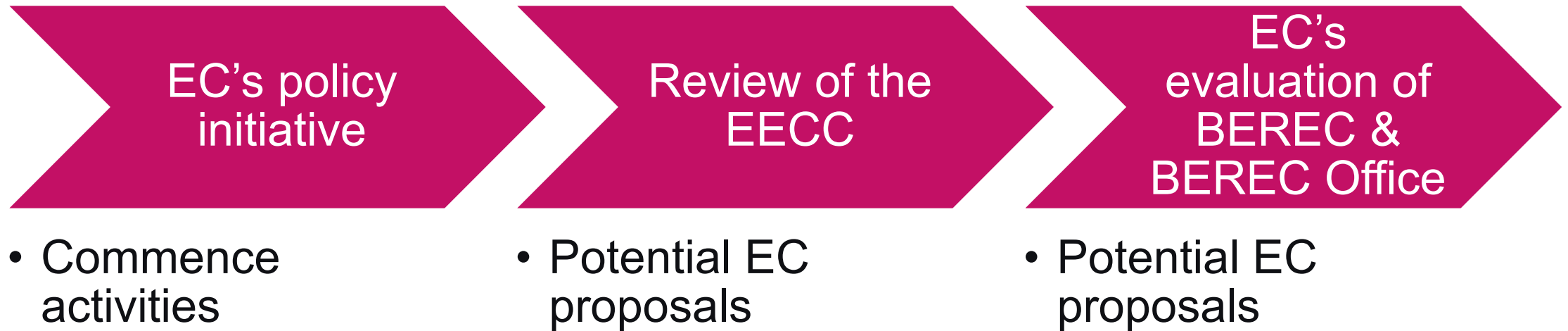
☐ Follow-up work on Submarine cables connectivity in Europe

☐ Follow-up work on the impact of AI on user experiences on the internet and on the environment

☐ Advancing towards environmental data collection on ECN/ECS and contributing to future code of conduct on ECN/ECS sustainability

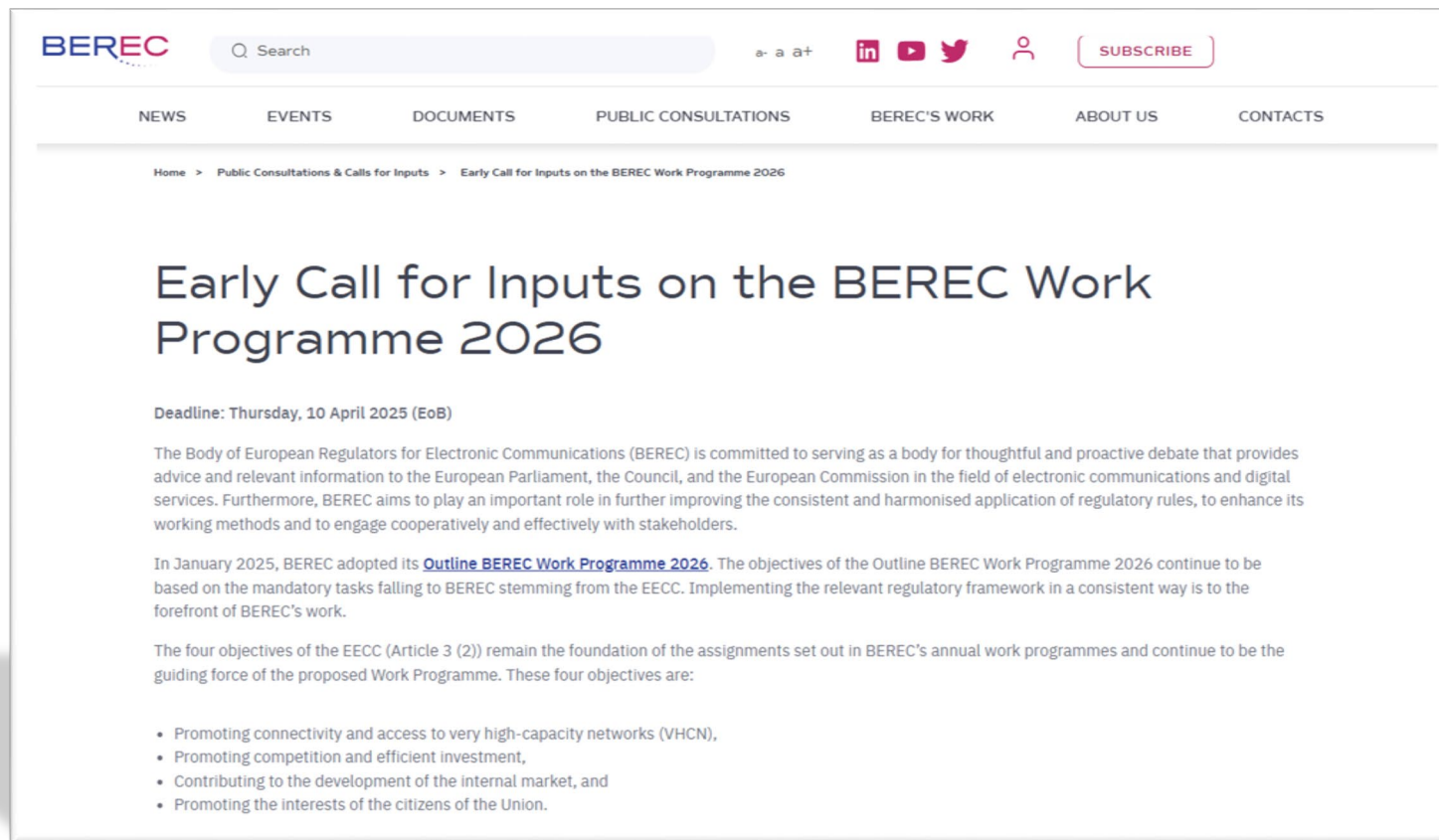


# Source of other potential projects to commence in 2026



# Draft WP 2026 – activities in progress

- On 3 March external ECI from Stakeholders was published (with a deadline: 10 April),



# Draft WP 2026 - Next Steps 1/2

20 March 2025

- Public debriefing after P1
- CFI & deadline repeated

1 April 2025

- Stakeholder Forum Brussels
- CFI & deadline repeated

July/Aug 2025

- To align the Work Programme with the draft new BEREC Strategy

# Draft WP 2026 - Next Steps 2/2

7/8 Oct 2025

- Launch of Draft WP 2026 for public consultation

7/8 Nov 2025

- End of public consultation

4 Dec 2025

- Presentation to P4
- Adoption for publication

10 Dec 2025

- Presentation of adopted Work Programme at Public debriefing

# **BEREC Guidelines on VHCN Update of Criterion 3 QoS values**

**Fixed Network Evolution Working Group  
Alexander Thelen (BNetzA), François Weber (Arcep)**



# Introduction and background

# BEREC Guidelines on VHCHN

- According to Art 82 EEC, BEREC shall, in close cooperation with the Commission, issue Guidelines on the criteria that a network has to fulfill in order to be considered a VHCHN
- BEREC shall update the Guidelines by 31 December 2025, and regularly thereafter
- BEREC issued the original BEREC VHCHN Guidelines in 2020

# Current performance thresholds

- Criterion 1: Any network providing a fixed-line connection with a fibre up to the multi-dwelling building
- Criterion 2: Any network providing a wireless connection with a fibre roll out up to the base station

Criterion 3: Fixed Parameters (2020) subject of review		Criterion 4: Mobile Parameters (2023)	
Downlink data rate	$\geq 1000$ Mbps	Downlink data rate	$\geq 350$ Mbps
Uplink data rate	$\geq 200$ Mbps	Uplink data rate	$\geq 50$ Mbps
IP packet error ratio	$\leq 0.05\%$	IP packet error ratio	$\leq 0.01\%$
IP packet loss ratio	$\leq 0.0025\%$	IP packet loss ratio	$\leq 0.01\%$
Round-trip IP packet delay	$\leq 10$ ms	Round-trip IP packet delay	$\leq 18$ ms
IP packet delay variation	$\leq 2$ ms	IP packet delay variation	$\leq 5$ ms
IP service availability year	$\geq 99.9\%$ per year	IP service availability	$\geq 99.9\%$ per year





# New version of the Guidelines

# No adoption of new technologies was observed

- According to the PRD, the reason for the update of criterion 3 was, “to take into account more advanced access technologies (e.g. MG.fast, DOCSIS 4.0) compared to 2020”
- No new technology is used (MG.fast and DOCSIS 4.0 was not mentioned in any reply to the BEREC questionnaires)
- Most values are comparable to what was observed in 2020 and can best be understood as confirmation of the 2020 values

# New version of the Guidelines

- Performance values remain unchanged
- Minimal changes to the main body of the BEREC Guidelines
- Annex 3 on the determination of performance threshold 1 (fixed networks) based on data collected in 2019 was maintained and slightly updated. It is the basis for the calculation of the values that will remain in place.
- New Annex 4, describing
  - the methodology and results of the 2024 data gathering exercise
  - how the fixed performance thresholds determined in annex 3 and currently in use, are validated and confirmed by the data collected in 2024
- Determination of performance values for mobile networks now in Annex 5 (renumbered)

# Next steps

- Public consultation closes on 30 April
- Final BEREC Guidelines expected to be adopted in Plenary 4 in December 2025

# **BEREC Opinion on Meta's reference offers to facilitate Messenger and WhatsApp interoperability under Article 7 of the DMA**

**Digital Markets Working Group**

**Chiara Caccinelli (Arcep), Margarida Melo Santos (ANACOM)**

# Context

- In September 2023 **Meta has been designated** for its number-independent interpersonal communication services (NI-ICS) **WhatsApp and Messenger**, among others
- Under Article 7 of the DMA, Meta has to make these services interoperable with those of competing NI-ICS who request it (by March 2024 for WhatsApp and September 2024 for Messenger)
- According to Recital 64 DMA, **the designated gatekeeper should publish “a reference offer laying down the technical details and general terms and conditions of interoperability”** with its NI-ICS, and the **EC can consult BEREC** “in order to determine whether the technical details and the general terms and conditions published in the reference offer that the gatekeeper intends to implement or has implemented ensures compliance with this obligation”

# Recent contributions by BEREC

## 2023

- BEREC report on interoperability of NI-ICS (BoR (23) 92)

## 2024

- January – EC formally requested BEREC to produce an opinion on Meta's draft reference offer (RO) for WhatsApp
- February – BEREC published its first Opinion on the draft RO for WhatsApp (BoR (24) 19)
- March – Meta published final version of RO for interoperability with WhatsApp
- June – BEREC published its second Opinion on Meta's RO for WhatsApp (BoR (24) 78)
- September – Meta published the RO for interoperability with Messenger

## 2025

- March – BEREC published its third Opinion on Meta's ROs for WhatsApp & Messenger (BoR (25) 21)

# Key points 1/2

- BEREC welcomes some improvements made by Meta following BEREC previous Opinions (e.g. addition of messaging features; different options for free-of-charge encryption protocols; some proposals for user discoverability and reachability)
- BEREC does not see any technical justification for
  - Restrictions on Messenger (age floor and sole availability on application)
  - Restrictions on some messaging functionalities (e.g. deleting messages)
- Multi-device should be proposed if 3<sup>rd</sup> parties confirm interest



# Key points 2/2

- The current technical process of discoverability and reachability of users is not specified enough to shape a definitive opinion – further elements are needed
- User location: availability of service for EEA users should be clarified and not be more restrictive than e.g. roaming regulation
- SLAs and KPIs should be included in the RO
- 3<sup>rd</sup> parties to be informed with due notice about adjustments and changes
- Efforts must be made to solve disputes before reaching national courts

# **BEREC Report: Evolution of private 5G networks and interrelation with public networks in Europe**

**Wireless Network Evolution Working Group**  
**Joe Lynch (ComReg) and Sietse van der Gaast (ACM)**

# High-level overview of Final Report

- Introduction
- Numbering identifiers and drivers
- Insights on trends and regulatory matters
- Updates to the report and our harmonisation work
- Thank you for the rich consultation information received
- Co-chairs happy to stay in contact and have discussions with you about private 5G networks deployments in Europe

# **Summary Report of the BEREC Stakeholder Workshop on Network Resilience**

**Cybersecurity and Resilience Working Group  
Katja Kmet Vrčko (AKOS) and Zdravko Jukić (HAKOM)**

# BEREC Stakeholder Workshop on Network Resilience – Summary Report

**Purpose:** raise awareness of the current resilience and security related challenges among NRAs, operators and other stakeholders

**Main topics** (identified in stakeholder survey conducted in April 2024):

- National strategies to increase resilience of the sector
- Technical and operational solutions used by operators
- Disaster response and collaboration between operators and authorities
- Emergency communication

# BEREC Stakeholder Workshop on Network Resilience – 2 Expert Panels

## Panel 1: The National Perspectives on Resilience and Coordination

- Experiences from European National Regulatory Authorities:  
**ECOI** (Iceland), **Nkom** (Norway), **Ofcom** (United Kingdom)

## Panel 2: Solutions for Resilience

- Practical solutions by and for European telco operators:  
**A1 Slovenija** (Slovenia), **Vodafone**, European Emergency Number Association (**EENA**), **ASTRID**: Blue Light Mobile (Belgium)

# Main takeaways Panel 1

## ECOI:

- Developing a strategy to build resilient and robust networks in Iceland by 2034
- Goals include preventing total outages, enhancing reliability, and increasing redundancy
- Measures include physical separation of fiber paths, multiple Points of Presence (POPs), and dual independent broadband connections

## Nkom:

- Conducting regional risk and vulnerability analyses to identify potential threats after recent incidents
- Mapping critical infrastructure to prioritize protection and resilience efforts in the face of key challenges
- Proposed a Security Plan 2025-2030 to strengthen network resilience and increase cooperation among stakeholders

## Ofcom:

- Provided a Resilience Guidance (2024) to help UK telecoms providers comply with resilience-related legislation
- Focusing on service availability, risks, and network infrastructure domains to enhance resilience
- Emphasizing the importance of staff training, avoiding single points of failure, supply chain management and cross-sectoral coordination for ensuring power backups

# Main takeaways Panel 2

## A1 Slovenija:

- Shared experience with the 2023 floods in Slovenia, which caused a major network outage
- Activated crisis management team and cooperated with civil protection, police, and army to restore services
- Implemented regionally limited roaming and free data services to maintain connectivity

## Vodafone:

- Presented its Technology Resilience Programme, which aims to enhance network robustness against risks
- Highlighted the importance of constant risk assessments, recovery plans, and resilience testing
- Showcased examples of the programme's effectiveness, such as minimal service disruption in a fire incident in Italy

## EENA:

- Emphasized the importance of network resilience for emergency communications
- Identified challenges such as climate change, geopolitical threats, and technological transitions
- Advocated for robust network design, regular component testing, and efficient procedures to enhance resilience

## ASTRID:

- Presented its Blue Light Mobile solution (BLM), which provides priority access and pre-emption for emergency services in Belgium to all MNO networks with a single SIM card
- Discussed the evolution of BLM, including 5G capabilities and mission-critical data and voice capabilities
- Future dual-track approach (safety & mission critical track); focus on flexibility, security, resilience, and sovereignty





# BEREC updates

**BEREC Chair  
Robert Mourik (ComReg)**

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# Working arrangements with ANRCETI (Moldova)



- BEREC participant without voting rights
- BEREC Working Groups
- Secondment to the BEREC Office

# Upcoming public events

- **1 April** 13<sup>th</sup> BEREC Stakeholder Forum in Brussels, Conference Centre The EGG
- **30 April** Workshop on digital services eco-design for greener networks and ICT
- **21 May** Workshop on practical issues preventing number misuse and possible fraudulent activities as a result of impact of new technologies
- **11 June** BEREC public debriefing online

# 13th BEREC Stakeholder Forum

1 April 2025

The Egg, Brussels

BEREC

09:00-13:00 **Meet&Greet sessions** with Working Group Co-chairs

12:45-14:00 Lunch

14:00-17:00 **Conference**

BEREC Work Programme 2026 and engagement with stakeholders

High-level keynote address

End-users role in fast-developing digital markets

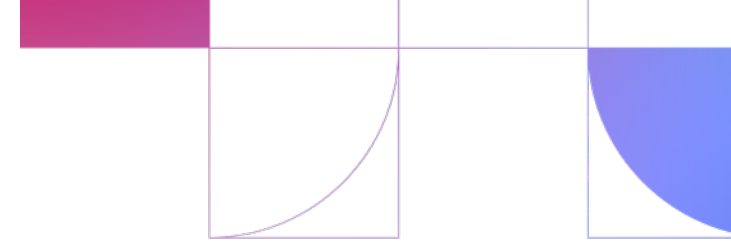
Future of market power regulation

17:00-19:00 **Networking reception**

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# Public consultations



Document title	Deadline
Early call for inputs BEREC Work Programme 2026	<b>10 April 2025</b>
Draft BEREC Report on the update of criterion 3 of the BEREC Guidelines on very high-capacity networks	<b>30 April 2025</b>

# Let's stay in touch!



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