



***Rita Wezenbeek***

## Bio

Since 16 December 2020, Rita Wezenbeek is the Director Electronic Communications, Networks & Services of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Communication Networks, Content and Technology ('DG CONNECT'). The Directorate's objective is to design, procure and facilitate a predictable regulatory and economic environment for electronic communications in the EU, that should foster a pro-competitive single market for the roll-out of high-speed internet networks and the delivery of electronic communications services as a key part of the European Commission's Digital Agenda.

Before joining DG CONNECT, Rita was the head of DG Competition's Anti-Trust and Telecommunications Unit. The unit is in charge of applying the European competition rules in the area of electronic communications infrastructure and –services and up- and downstream markets. The unit also contributes to forming the Commission's position on the regulation of electronic communications markets.

Before joining the unit in January 2017, Rita was the head of DG Competition's unit dealing with competition in Retail Financial Services and Payment Systems. This unit *ia.* dealt with the investigations against MasterCard and Visa and the European Payments Council. It was also responsible for the competition elements of the legislative processes leading to the adoption of the Interchange Fee Regulation and the Payment Services Directive II. The latter Directive opened the EU payment services market for non-bank players.

In 2005 and 2006 Rita was a member of the team dealing with the review of the Commission's policy in the area of Article 102 TFEU on abuse of dominance in DG Competition's Policy Unit.

Before joining the European Commission as an official in 2002, Rita worked as a private lawyer at the Dutch/ Belgian law firm Nauta Dutilh for 16 years, dealing with corporate and European law.

Between 1995 and 2010 Rita was a Member of the Commission on European Integration, a sub-commission of the Advisory Council on International Issues, an independent advisory body on foreign policy to the Dutch government and Parliament.