

History of the BEREC Stakeholder Forums

The BEREC Stakeholder Forum was established in 2013 with a view of providing direct interactive platform for discussion between BEREC and its stakeholders. This platform supports the traditional consultation process, taking place before the adoption of the BEREC documents.

In that respect it is attended by representatives of the stakeholder associations at European level active in the fields of competence of BEREC, including association of the end users, Heads of the National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) primarily responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operation of the markets for electronic communications networks and services, representatives of the European Commission and other European Institutions, individual operators, citizens and others.

The Forum meetings focus on strategic issues related to the medium and long term vision and challenges for the electronic communications markets in Europe and consumer protection.

[1st BEREC Stakeholder Forum](#)

On 25 September 2013, BEREC held the 1st BEREC Stakeholder Forum (Riga, Latvia), organised in compliance with a decision of the BEREC Board of Regulators of May 2013. The meeting was dedicated to two main topics:

The electronic communications markets in Europe – the vision and challenges for the medium and long term

[Presentation by INTUG](#)

[Presentation by EAFM](#)

[Presentation by ESOA](#)

[Presentation by ETSI](#)

Quality of service and transparency – the consumer perspective to broadband use

[Presentation by the BEREC NN EWG](#)

[Presentation by NPT](#)

[Presentation by the European Commission](#)

[Presentation by the INTUG](#)

The meeting was attended by high-level representatives of the NRAs, the EFTA states and the states that are candidates for accession to the EU, the European Commission and a number of other relevant European associations and organisations active in the areas of BEREC's competence.

During the discussion, all speakers agreed that strengthening competition, encouraging the necessary investments in order to meet market demands, while at the same time protecting consumers effectively should be the main medium and long-term objectives of the telecom regulation and it would form an important part of the objective of forming the single market. However, the representatives of different stakeholders had different views on how these objectives are to be achieved. Some of them called for a more harmonised approach to regulation, including abolishment of all geographically-determined charges, while others were convinced that these objectives could be achieved via more market-driven regulation and stimulating the demand side. Nevertheless, all stakeholders agreed that the regulatory approaches to be applied to similar markets should be harmonised throughout the EU. Finally, all stakeholders present were of the opinion that the BEREC Stakeholder forum provides a useful platform for exchange of views in an open and transparent manner and, therefore, BEREC was requested to continue this new initiative in future.

To have more information, please consult the [outcomes of the 1st Stakeholder Forum](#)

[2nd BEREC Stakeholder Forum](#)

On 16 October 2014, BEREC held the 2nd BEREC Stakeholder Forum (Brussels, Belgium), organised in accordance with a decision of the Board of Regulators of February 2014. The focus of the meeting was strategic issues relevant to the medium and long term regulation of the electronic communications markets in Europe.

Video: [Opening remarks by the BEREC Chair](#)

The meeting focused on the following main topics:

- Draft BEREC Strategy 2015-2017 and draft 2015 BEREC Work Programme

Presentation by [BEREC](#)

Presentation by [ECTA](#)

Presentation by [ESOA](#)

Presentation by [FTTH Council](#)

Presentation by [EBU](#)

Presentation by [CERRE](#)

Video:

[BEREC Strategy and Work Programme 2015 - part 1](#)

[BEREC Strategy and Work Programme 2015 - part 2](#)

- Regulatory accounting approach to the economic replicability test – ex-ante/sector specific margin squeeze tests

Presentation by [BEREC](#)

Presentation by [FTTH Council](#)

Presentation by [ETNO](#)

Presentation by [ECTA](#)

Video: [Margin squeeze test - what and how?](#)

- Looking for the future model for roaming.

Presentation by [BEREC](#)

Presentation by [INTUG](#)

Presentation by [EAFM](#)

Presentation by [GSMA](#)

Presentation by [ECTA](#)

Presentation by [ETNO](#)

Presentation by [WIK](#)

Video :

[Looking for the future model for roaming - part 1](#)

[Looking for the future model for roaming - part 2](#)

On the draft BEREC Strategy and draft BEREC Work Programme 2015, participants generally considered that BEREC's proposals were very much along the right lines, in particular in respect of its proposed strategic pillars: competition and investment; the Internal Market; and empowering and protecting end-users. Speakers took the opportunity to highlight proposals of special significance to their organisations and a few additional items were suggested. However, it was realised that BEREC's proposals were already very ambitious and that rigorous prioritisation was needed. With regard to BEREC's proposals on ex-ante margin squeeze testing, only a few stakeholders took the opportunity to speak. Nevertheless, some very different views were expressed on how such tests should be conducted. The future of international roaming also attracted some strong and differing views, on a number of important questions – for example, the appropriate timescale for introduction of “Roam like at Home”; the desirability of “fair use criteria”; the need for careful assessment of winners and losers from any change; and the need and extent of reform of wholesale pricing. There did however appear to be a common view that the existing decoupling provisions would be redundant following the introduction of “Roam like at Home”.

Most speakers made a point of expressing their appreciation for the Forum, noting that it provided a useful opportunity for a broad spectrum of opinion to be presented to BEREC simultaneously and was a valuable complement to formal written responses to public

consultations. More generally, BEREC was requested to maintain its policy of active engagement with stakeholders at multiple levels.

The meeting was video-recorded and the full video recording can be consulted here:

To have more information, please consult the [outcomes of the 2nd Stakeholder Forum](#).

Riga, 30 July 2015