

Explanatory note

On 14 September 2016, the European Commission published its Connectivity package which included notably a proposal for a European Electronic Communications Code and for a new BEREC Regulation.

On December 2016, BEREC first published a <u>high-level opinion</u> providing a general evaluation of the Commission's proposals and assessing some key subjects more in-depth (scope of the regulation, definition of the ECS and end-user provisions, access regulation and governance issues). In a two-step approach, BEREC then focused on a comprehensive analysis of the proposals to provide its technical contribution in the legislative process.

Meanwhile, the discussion of the Commission proposals made its way at the European Parliament and the Council. During the last six months, the Council has proceeded, at an expert level, with an article by article analysis of the draft Code.

At the European Parliament, the two rapporteurs Ms Pilar del Castillo and Mr Tošenovský released the draft ITRE reports on the Code and BEREC Regulation respectively. In addition, nearly two thousands amendments have already been tabled on the draft Code and draft BEREC Regulation. At this stage, compromise amendments will be elaborated and tabled before the end of June. The ITRE Committee is expected to adopt its reports on the Code and BEREC Regulation on 11 July.

In order to provide its contribution to the legislative debate, BEREC is now releasing a series of short papers focusing on the following specific review-related topics:

- The forced step-back of regulation
- Non-competitive oligopolies
- Market analysis
- Symmetric regulation
- Co-investment
- Vertically separate undertakings
- Double lock
- Duration of spectrum rights
- Implementing acts on spectrum
- Information requests (notably on OTTs)
- Notification process and administrative charges
- BEREC views on ITRE draft report on BEREC Regulation

Each paper puts into contrast the current framework and the changes proposed by the Commission's draft and by the ITRE draft reports, ending up with proposals for amendments to the Commission's proposal.

As an expert body, BEREC is pleased to provide the co-legislators with any further support and expertise they may need. In this respect, it remains fully available to them and may proceed with further analyses within the legislative process.