

Body of European Regulators
for Electronic Communications

BEREC

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19 October | 2020

Online event

BEREC Stakeholder Forum



WELCOME

Dan Sjöblom, BEREC Chair 2020 and Michel Van Bellinghen, incoming BEREC Chair 2021

It is our pleasure to welcome you to our annual BEREC Stakeholder Forum that will take place virtually on 19 October 2020. It will actually be the second time we will have met virtually this year, due to the current circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 1 April, BEREC organised a webinar in which it presented its strategic priorities for the upcoming four years. Since the main purpose of the BEREC Stakeholder Forum is to interact with our stakeholders, we were happy to see such high early engagement from you on the development of the BEREC working programme for 2021. During our 8th Stakeholder Forum, we will present you with our draft working programme, followed by a discussion with our stakeholders in order to receive valuable feedback on BEREC's work.

As 2020 is in many ways an unprecedented year, we would like to provide BEREC's perspective on the COVID-19 crisis and its impact on the telecommunications sector.

The central topic for the Stakeholder Forum 2020 will be digital platform regulation. As BEREC has adopted its Opinion on the DSA on 8 September, we aim to take the topic forward during an in-depth discussion related to ex ante regulation with some distinguished speakers.

We look forward to exchanging insights and ideas with you on regulation, now and in the future. We hope that the virtual format of the Stakeholder Forum will allow us to stay connected and interact until the time when it will be possible to meet again in person. We are very grateful for having you here today. Once again, welcome!



PROGRAMME

8TH BEREC Stakeholder Forum

14:00 Opening and welcome remarks

MODERATOR:

Philippe Defraigne, Cullen International

Introductory remarks

Thierry Breton, EU Commissioner for Internal Market

BEREC Work Programme 2021

Michel Van Bellinghen, incoming BEREC Chair for 2021, BIPT (Belgium)

Handling COVID-19 crisis – a telecom’s perspective

Dan Sjöblom, BEREC Chair 2020, PTS (Sweden)

Q&A session

MODERATOR:

Philippe Defraigne, Cullen International

SPEAKERS:

Dan Sjöblom, BEREC Chair 2020 (PTS, Sweden)

Michel Van Bellinghen, incoming BEREC Chair 2021 (BIPT, Belgium)

Annemarie Sipkes, elected BEREC Chair 2022 (ACM, The Netherlands)

Keynote speech on digital platform regulation and collaboration between regulators

William E. Kovacic, Professor of Global Competition Law and Policy at George Washington University

Panel discussion on the regulation of digital platforms

MODERATOR:

Matthew Newman, Europe Mlex

SPEAKERS:

Ursula Pacht, BEUC

Benedikt Blomeyer, Allied for Startups

Kay Jebelli, CCIA Europe

Luc Hindryckx, ECTA

Lise Fuhr, ETNO

Closing remarks on the regulation of digital platforms

Roberto Viola, DG CONNECT, EC

17:00 Closing of the Stakeholder Forum

Michel Van Bellinghen, incoming BEREC Chair for 2021, BIPT (Belgium)



SPEAKERS

In order of appearance



Philippe Defraigne

**Director,
Cullen International**

Philippe Defraigne is a founding director of Cullen International, a company monitoring regulatory developments in telecommunications, the digital economy, media, the postal sector and competition law.

He is an economist by training and has spent the last 30 years analysing telecommunications regulation and market developments.

Philippe started his telecommunications career as a researcher at the University of Namur in the 1980s. Between 1991 and 1994, he worked for the European Commission, where he was mainly involved in the legislative process that led to the adoption of the ONP Leased Lines Directive.



Thierry Breton

**EU Commissioner
for Internal Market**

Thierry Breton began his career as a professor of IT and Mathematics at the Lycée Français de New York and was the CEO of Forma Systems. In 1986, Breton started his political career as an adviser to the French Ministry of Education and Research, where he designed the open-air science and technology theme park Futuroscope. He also sat on the Poitou-Charentes Regional Council from 1986 to 1992 and served as its vice-president from 1988.

After six years of working in the public sector, Breton returned to the industry as the Director for Strategy and Development at Bull. The French government also appointed him as CEO of Thomson Multimedia (1997-2002) and France Telecom (2002-2005). Breton returned to politics as the Minister for the Economy, Finance and Industry in 2005. He then spent a year as a professor of leadership and corporate accountability at Harvard University in 2008, before becoming the CEO of Atos.

In 2019, he took on the role of the EU Commissioner for Internal market in Ursula von der Layen's cabinet. Breton is in charge of the Internal Market portfolio, which includes the digital economy and digital transition, functioning of the single market, Europe's industrial future and a European strategy for the data economy. Thierry Breton holds a master's degree in electrical engineering and computer science from SUPELEC and is a graduate of the French Institute for Higher National Defence.



Michel Van Bellinghen

**incoming
BEREC Chair 2021
(BIPT, Belgium)**

Michel Van Bellinghen, Master of Laws (UCL), started off at the university in 1990 as a researcher and then became an assistant under the supervision of Professor Françoise Tulkens at the UCL Laws Centre for Criminal Law.

He became an assistant adviser at the Ministry of Justice in 1992 under the supervision of Professor Marc Bossuyt and joined the BIPT in 1997. From 1999 to 2003, he held the position of expert at the private office of Rik Daems, who was the Federal Telecommunications Minister at the time, and afterwards he took up the function of Assistant Head of the Private Office. From 2003 to 2009, he was nominated as a Member of the BIPT Council for the first time. Following this mandate, he remained closely affiliated to the Council and supervised the legal department of the regulator during a number of years. He has written scientific publications. In 2013, he held a position on the Council as a Member. In January 2017, he was assigned Chairman of the BIPT Council.

Michel Van Bellinghen has been elected to serve as the BEREC Chair for 2021.



Dan Sjöblom

**BEREC Chair 2020
(PTS, Sweden)**

Appointed by the Swedish Government, Dan Sjöblom has been the Director-General of the Swedish Post and Telecom Authority (PTS) since 1 February 2017.

He is the Chair of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) for 2020. Prior to taking this position, Dan Sjöblom was the Director General of the Swedish Competition Authority from 2009 to 2017. He is also a board member of the Swedish Broadband Council. Dan Sjöblom performed various functions as a civil servant at the European Commission between 1996 and 2009.

He holds a Master of Laws from Stockholm University.



Annemarie Sipkes

**elected BEREC Chair 2022
(ACM, The Netherlands)**

Annemarie Sipkes has held the position of Director of the Telecommunications, Transport and Postal Services Department at the Dutch Authority for Consumers and Markets (ACM) since April 2018. She has significant public sector experience, including six years (2012-2018) as the Director of Knowledge and Strategy at the Ministry of Education, Culture & Science in the Netherlands.

During her career, Annemarie Sipkes has also worked at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment, the Central Bank of the Netherlands and for KPMG, the accounting and professional services company.

Annemarie Sipkes holds an MSc in Economics and an MA in Arts, Sciences and Technology.



William E. Kovacic

Global Competition Professor of Law and Policy and the Director of the Competition Law Center at the George Washington University Law School

William E. Kovacic, Global Competition Professor of Law and Policy and the Director of the Competition Law Center at the George Washington University Law School

William E. Kovacic is the Global Competition Professor of Law and Policy and the Director of the Competition Law Center at the George Washington University Law School. He is also a Visiting Professor at the Dickson Poon School of Law at King's College London.

Since August 2013, he has served as a non-executive director on the board of the United Kingdom's Competition and Markets Authority. He is co-editor (with Ariel Ezrachi) of the *Journal of Antitrust Enforcement*. From January 2006 to October 2011, Kovacic was a member of the US Federal Trade Commission, which he chaired from March 2008 to March 2009.

William E. Kovacic was the FTC's General Counsel from June 2001 to 2004.



Matthew Newman

Chief correspondent, Europe MLex

Matthew Newman is a chief correspondent for MLex and writes about data protection, privacy, telecoms, cyber security and artificial intelligence. Matthew Newman began his journalism career in 1991 in community newspapers. He worked as a reporter in Riga, Latvia in 1993 and then moved to Chicago where he covered local news. In 1995, he became a personal finance reporter for Dow Jones Newswires, and was then transferred to Brussels in 1999. He specialized in EU regulatory affairs, including trade and telecom issues. He began covering competition for Bloomberg News as an EU court reporter in 2004.

In 2010, Matthew Newman was named spokesman for Viviane Reding, the EU's justice commissioner. In January 2012, he helped launch the commission's proposal to overhaul the data protection rules. He began working at MLex in April 2012 and has covered mergers, antitrust and state-aid cases.

He spent a year studying French, history and communications in Grenoble, France in 1988 and 1989, and he is a graduate of Boston University with degrees in history and journalism. Matthew Newman earned a diploma in competition law from King's College in 2016.



Ursula Pachl

**Deputy Director General,
BEUC**

Ursula Pachl is the Deputy Director General of BEUC, the European Consumer Organisation, representing 45 independent national consumer associations from 32 European countries.

Before this, she has held various positions at BEUC, starting as a Legal Adviser, and then working as the Senior Policy and Institutional Affairs Adviser.

In her current role, Ursula Pachl leads BEUC's work on digital policies, consumer rights, redress and enforcement.

She is also responsible for horizontal and strategic policy, such as EU governance and Better Regulation issues, and represents BEUC in High Level groups, namely the European Commission's High Level Group for Artificial Intelligence, the stakeholder group of the EU's Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA) and the European Commission's REFIT platform.



Benedikt Blomeyer

**Director of EU policy,
Allied for Startups**

As Director for EU Policy at Allied for Startups, Benedikt Blomeyer engages in policy files ranging from AI to online platform regulation.

He is passionate about shaping a fact-based discussion on the possibilities of innovation and technology, after having worked on the Digital Single Market over the last three years. Prior to joining AFS, Benedikt Blomeyer worked for the European Small Business Alliance, Deutsche Welle and completed a traineeship at the Council of Europe.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Politics and History from Jacobs University Bremen and a Master of Arts in International Relations and Economics from Johns Hopkins University.



**Kayvan
Hazemi-Jebelli**

**Competition & Regulatory
Counsel, CCIA**

At the Computer & Communications Industry Association Kayvan Hazemi-Jebelli (Kay), he represents and advises the association on competition policy issues as well as European regulatory policy matters.

He has over ten years of experience as a competition lawyer in private practice, in the European Commission Directorate-General for Competition, in academia and as the Senior Legal Counsel at a leading UK media and communications company.

Kayvan Hazemi-Jebelli obtained his B.Sc. in Computer Science & Engineering from UCLA, his J.D. from the University of the Pacific and his LL.M. in Competition Law from King's College London.



Luc Hindryckx

Director General, ECTA

Luc Hindryckx has more than 25 years of experience in the telecom industry and has been active in business development, operations leadership as well as regulatory and public affairs. Before joining ECTA in 2016, he worked as Monitoring Trustee on behalf of Advolis. As a rule, the task of the monitoring trustee is to control the implementation of commitments undertaken by companies under merger, antitrust or state aid proceedings on behalf of a domestic or European competition authority.

From 1996 to 2000, Luc Hindryckx was the Benelux Voice Support and Traffic Manager and then the Projects and Interconnection Manager of Global One. From 2000 to 2007, he held senior positions at Telenet, the largest provider of cable broadband services in Belgium. From 2008 to 2009, Luc Hindryckx set up his own company to provide executive leadership and strategic advisory services, and he completed assignments for Coditel/Numericable, KPN Belgium, IPM, WIN and TECTEO/VOO. In 2009, he was appointed Executive Chairman of BIPT the Belgian Regulator and served as an elected or appointed member of multiple boards and delegations, including BEREC, ERGP, CERRE, ENISA and UPU.

Luc Hindryckx has a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in International General Management from the Vlerick Business School as well as a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering from Haute École Louvain en Hainaut (HELHA).



Lise Fuhr

**Director General,
European
Telecommunications
Network Operators'
Association (ETNO)**

Lise Fuhr is ETNO's Director General since January 2016. At ETNO, she leads and oversees all the activities and she is the main external representative of the Association. On behalf of the Association, Mrs Fuhr is also a Board and an Administrative Committee member in ECSO, the European Cybersecurity Organisation. Lise Fuhr has also been reappointed to the Internet Society Public Interest Registry Board of Directors for a three-year term as of May 2019. Prior to joining ETNO, she was the Chief Operating Officer of DK Hostmaster and DIFO, the company managing the .dk domain name. In the period between September 2014 and December 2015, Lise Fuhr also chaired the Cross Community Working Group for the IANA Stewardship Transition, building on her strong network within the Internet community.

She has more than 20 years of experience in the telecoms industry. Lise Fuhr started her career at the Danish Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation (1996-2000), where she wrote and implemented regulation for the telecommunication markets. Thereafter, Lise Fuhr worked for the telecoms operator Telia Networks (2000-2009), where she led various teams dealing with issues as diverse as interconnection agreements, mobile services and industry cooperation.



Roberto Viola

**Director-General,
DG CONNECT,
European Commission**

Roberto Viola is Director General of DG CONNECT (Directorate General of Communication, Networks, Content and Technology) at the European Commission. He was the Deputy Director-General of DG CONNECT, European Commission from 2012 to 2015. Roberto Viola served as Chairman of the European Radio Spectrum Policy group (RSPG) from 2012 to 2013, as Deputy Chairman in 2011 and Chairman in 2010. He was a member of the BEREC Board (Body of European Telecom Regulators) and Chairman of the European Regulatory Group (ERG). He held the position of Secretary General in charge of managing AGCOM from 2005 to 2012. Prior to this, he served as Director of the Regulation Department and Technical Director in AGCOM from 1999 to 2004. From 1985 to 1999, he served in various positions, including Head of Telecommunication and Broadcasting Satellite Services at the European Space Agency (ESA).

Roberto Viola holds a Doctorate in Electronic Engineering and a Master of Business Administration (MBA).

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**The Body of European Regulators
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Agency for Support for BEREC

Z. A. Meierovica boulevard 14

Riga, LV-1050, Latvia



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