

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### **European GNSS Evolution Working Group Remote Meeting**

An MCA representative participated in the online meeting of the European GNSS Evolution Working Group which was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. During this meeting the European Commission, European Space Agency and the European GNSS Agency presented information related to current state of play of Galileo and EGNOS, future developments and challenges.

### **Administrative Board of the European GNSS Agency Remote Meeting**

The MCA participated in the online meeting of the Administrative Board of the European GNSS Agency which was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020. During this meeting an overview of the actions that the GSA is undertaking to ensure the continuity of services, to contribute to initiatives of the European Commission to face the COVID-19 and to support the economy was provided.

### **BEREC Planning and Future Trends Working Group Remote Meeting**

An MCA official participated in the online meeting of the BEREC Planning and Future Trends Working Group which was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020. During this event the delegations discussed timeline and relevance of a number of regulatory themes that are to be considered for the 5G ecosystem.

### **BEREC Report on Market & Economic Analysis of Digital Platforms.**

The MCA participated in a web meeting focused on the format of the report and the issues to be addressed in this report. The purpose of the report has to be seen in the context of the envisaged Digital Services Act to be launched by the EU Commission, which will propose ex-ante measures to secure

fair competition in sectors locked in by dominant platforms “gatekeeping platforms” due to network effects.

The Commission updated the group and noted that the publication of the Digital Services Act will be delayed, because of the COVID-19 and the rescheduling of related votes at the EU Parliament.

### **4th Meeting of FM 58 - Maritime Group, within the ECC's Working Group Frequency Management (WG FM)**

The MCA participated through electronic means, in the meeting under reference, held on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020. The key agenda items addressed the following areas: Digital Voice Radio Telephony in the VHF maritime mobile band; Authorisation Regimes for Earth Satellite Stations installed on-board vessels; interference to on-board communications systems and developments to the Cospas-Sarsat programme.

### **BEREC's Open Internet EWG dealing with the Planned Publications of the Net Neutrality Guidelines & BEREC Training Session on the Privacy Aspects concerning the Deployment of the Newly developed Net Neutrality Tool**

Following a public consultation held last year, BEREC is in the process of publishing its revised guidelines on the application of the open internet regulations. The MCA attended a number of meetings of the Open Internet Expert working group hosted virtually to discuss the revisions. In addition, the group also discusses best practices and other matters of procedural interest including the annual reporting.

BEREC has also developed a Net Neutrality tool intended to be deployed by different member states across the Union. BEREC has also organised a virtual training session dealing with the issues surrounding the handling of data in view of privacy regulations which was also attended by the MCA.

## **BEREC Remote Training on Regulatory Framework for Electronic Communications**

An MCA official participated in the fourth session of the BEREC National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) training held via video conferencing on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020. The BEREC NRA training programme, provides training on the regulatory framework and other issues related to BEREC activities. This course is divided into four sessions. In light of the current COVID-19 situation, the third session originally planned for March 2020, was postponed to a later date this year.

### **MoU**

## **The MCA signs MoU with the eSkills Foundation**

The MCA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the eSkills Foundation. This MoU aims to solidify the excellent relationship between the two entities and further improve on their common interest to improve further the knowledge of the general population particularly in the areas of IT skills, digital transformation and eCommerce. In this regard, the two entities will in fact be launching a number of initiatives over the coming months to further assist micro enterprises and SMEs on their journey to an increasingly digital world helping them tap into the advantages digital can bring to businesses of all sizes. The MoU was signed by Mr. Jesmond Bugeja, CEO of the MCA and Mr. Carm Cachia, Chief Administrator of the eSkills Malta Foundation.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

## **Interoperability of Car Radio Devices**

*Published On: Apr 29th 2020 News*

## **Interoperability of Car Radio Devices**

*Published On: Apr 29th 2020 Decision*

## **Notice: Assignment of Radio Spectrum for Fixed Radio Links**

*Published On: Apr 27th 2020 News*

## **COVID-19 – Useful Information for Telecoms Consumers**

*Published On: Apr 20th 2020 News*

## **K2 Forms**

*Published On: Apr 18th 2020 News*

## **MCA's Approach to Regulation during COVID-19**

*Published On: Apr 16th 2020 News*

## **Monthly Newsletter - March 2020**

*Published On: Apr 16th 2020 News*

## **COVID 19**

*Published On: Apr 8th 2020 News*

## **An Overview of Findings for a Perception Survey concerning Mobile Telephony Usage in Malta**

*Published On: Apr 1st 2020 News*

## An Overview of Findings for a Perception Survey Concerning Mobile Telephony Usage in Malta

Published On: Apr 1st 2020 *Mobile Services*

### MEDIA ACTIVITY

#### Television:

**Date:** 27.04.2020

**Channel:** TVM

**Programme:** Niskata

**Topic:** COVID-19 Issues

**Participant:** Matthew Farrugia

**Date:** 20.04.2020

**Channel:** TVM

**Programme:** Niskata

**Topic:** Subscribing to an Electronic Communications Service

**Participant:** Matthew Farrugia

#### Radio:

**Date:** 27.04.2020

**Channel:** Radju Malta

**Programme:** Familja Waħda

**Topic:** COVID-19 Issues

**Participant:** Matthew Farrugia

**Date:** 13.04.2020

**Channel:** Radju Malta

**Programme:** Familja Waħda

**Topic:** Service Providers' Charges

**Participant:** Matthew Farrugia

### LEGAL Updates

#### Legal Notices:

- 155 of 2020 – Authorisation of Frequency Use (Provision of 2GHz Mobile Satellite Services) (Amendment) Regulations, 2020 Government Gazette Of Malta No. 20,394–24.04.2020
- 151 of 2020 – Electronic Communications Networks and Services (General) (Amendment) Regulations, 2020 Government Gazette Of Malta No. 20,391–21.04.2020
- 150 of 2020 – General Authorisations (Radiocommunications Apparatus) (Amendment) Regulations, 2020 Government Gazette Of Malta No. 20,391–21.04.2020

### EVENTS

#### Registration Opens to Free eCommerce Training Programme

Malta Communications Authority (MCA) and eSkills Malta Foundation have teamed up to roll-out further intakes to eBiznify, a fully online training programme. The sudden onset of the COVID 19 global pandemic has given rise to a surge in the use of technology across all of society. Whether a sole trader, an established bricks and mortar business adapting to maintain one's trade, or a startup with an entrepreneurial idea, during these social distancing times it is evident that to compete, businesses need to be online.



The MCA spearheaded the eBiznify initiative as part of its remit in the implementation of the National eCommerce Strategy 2014 – 2020.

With a reputation for excellence since its launch in 2018, the eBiznify training programme develops valuable skills and

provides insights on all aspects of of eCommerce. Participants attend for a series of modules via a dedicated eLearning platform supported by guided online tutorials and peer-to –peer discussions.

On successful completion of eBiznify, participants will be awarded an MQF certified Level 4 course in digital business.

Mr. Jesmond Bugeja, CEO Malta Communications Authority explained, “This is a time where digital skills need to be sharpened to ensure that the opportunities of eCommerce are exploited by local businesses”.



Mr. Carm Cachia, Chief Administrator eSkills added that, “The involvement of eSkills Malta Foundation was a natural transition towards growth and continued success of eBiznify

as this initiative directly contributes to the upskilling and skills development recommended in the National eSkills Strategy 2019-2021.”



eBiznify is delivered through a state-of-the-art customized elearning platform provided by the Advenio eAcademy, an NCFHE-licensed Higher Education Institution with years of experience in the design, development and implementation of training programmes.

These type of initiatives are being encouraged and supported by the Junior Minister for Financial Services and Digital Economy, Hon Clayton Bartolo who today opened registrations in a Virtual Press Conference. He complemented the initiative and the collaborative efforts of MCA and eSkills.