

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23)

Three members of the MCA participated in the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23) which was held in Dubai, UAE, between the 20th of November and 15th of December 2023. World Radiocommunication Conferences (WRCs) are held every three to four years with the aim to review and possibly revise the Radio Regulations. The conference managed to conclude its work and revised the Radio Regulations, an international treaty governing the use of radio spectrum and satellite orbits.

4th Meeting of the Digital Services Expert Group

On the 13th December, the MCA participated online in the 4th meeting of the Digital Services Expert Group, organised by the EC's DG CNECT. Key topics discussed included the enforcement of the DSA, member states' preparedness in appointing Digital Services Coordinators and authorities, and legislative processes for national implementation. Additionally, discussions on age verification mechanisms and the implications of a significant Court of Justice judgement related to the DSA were highlighted. The meeting concluded with a focus on the implementation of Article 18 of the Digital Services Act.

4th Meeting of the Digital Services Expert ICT Subgroup

On the 13th December, the MCA participated in the 4th Digital Services Expert ICT Subgroup meeting, organised by the EC's DG CNECT, focused on the development of the IT system now styled as Agora. Agenda items included work strand updates, MS feedback on user roles and responsibilities, and onboarding non-VLOPs into the Statements of Reasons database. Discussions covered the ISS implementing act, followed by a demo on the ISS complaints process, with MS feedback.

57th BEREC Plenary Meetings

The MCA participated in the BEREC Board of Regulators and Management Board meetings held in Warsaw on 06-08 December 2023. The meetings were hosted by UKE, the Polish national regulatory authority responsible for electronic communications. The Plenary adopted a number of documents including the [draft report](#) on the general authorisation and related framework for international submarine connectivity; the [BEREC Report](#) on practices and challenges of the phasing out of 2G and 3G; the [External study](#) on evolution of competition dynamics of tower and access infrastructure companies not directly providing retail services; the [Draft BEREC Report](#) on empowering end-users through environmental transparency on digital products and services; and the [BEREC Work Programme 2024](#). A list of public documents approved during the 57th BEREC Board of Regulators ordinary meetings can be found on the [BEREC website](#).

4th IRG General Assembly of 2023

The MCA participated in the IRG General Assembly held on 6th December 2023, back-to-back to the BEREC Plenary meeting. The Assembly approved the draft IRG Work Programme and Capacity Building events for 2024. The Assembly was preceded by a Heads Workshop which discussed the implementation of the Digital Services Act, with the participation of representatives from the national regulatory authorities, the European Commission and experts hailing from digital industries and academia.

Postal Directive Committee (PDC) Meeting

In regards to regulation of the postal sector, the European Commission is assisted by a committee made up of the national regulatory authorities in the EU. A member of the MCA participated in the second PDC meeting for 2023 which was held on the 4th December 2023 in Brussels. The meeting focused on the European Commission's Prospective Study. The study will assess the possible evolutions of the postal sector in the wake of recent crises and long-term structural trends and the possible effects of changes to the EU regulatory framework. The European Commission presented the objectives, methodological approach, and timeline of the prospective study. The meeting also discussed the ERGP Report on the effects of the modernization / adaptation of the Universal Service, the ERGP Report on practices for environmental sustainability in the postal sector and the ERGP work of 2023 and 2024. A presentation was delivered by Antwerp University on the impact of the last mile, e-commerce, and logistics on the environment. A summary of the key outcomes of the UPU extraordinary congress was also presented.

by the Belgium and Spanish delegates.

PUBLICATIONS

International News Week 31 2023

Published On: Dec 21st 2023 [News](#)

'Tis the season to slam the scam!

Published On: Dec 21st 2023 [News](#)

Monthly Newsletter - November 2023

Published On: Dec 20th 2023 [News](#)

MCA International News Week 29-30 2023

Published On: Dec 15th 2023 [News](#)

DECISION NOTICE - Contracts which include 'Price Indexation Clauses'

Published On: Dec 7th 2023 [Decision](#)

MCA International News Week 28 2023

Published On: Dec 6th 2023 [News](#)

MEDIA ACTIVITY

Radio:

Date: 14.12.2023

Channel: NETFM

Programme: Brunch ma' Marbeck Spiteri

Topic: Roaming

Participant: Yanika Bugeja

Date: 21.12.2023

Channel: Radju Malta

Programme: Minn Jum għal Jum

Topic: Roaming

Participant: Yanika Bugeja / Naomi Mallia

Television:

Date: 04.12.2023

Channel: NET TV

Programme: Bejnietna ma' Stephanie Chircop

Topic: MCA's Remit vis-à-vis Consumers

Participant: Yanika Bugeja / Naomi Mallia

Date: 07.12.2023

Channel: NET TV

Programme: Bejnietna ma' Stephanie Chircop

Topic: Fault Repair Timeframes & Compensation Schemes/Scams

Participant: Yanika Bugeja / Naomi Mallia

Date: 07.12.2023

Channel: TVM

Programme: Niskata

Topic: Scams

Participant: Yanika Bugeja / Alistair Farrugia

Date: 14.12.2023

Channel: TVM

Programme: Niskata

Topic: Scams

Participant: Yanika Bugeja / Alistair Farrugia

Date: 20.12.2023

Channel: NET TV

Programme: Bejnietna ma Stephanie Chircop

Topic: Contract Summary

Participant: Mark Stivala

LEGAL UPDATES

Publications:

Publication on the 7th December 2023 of Bill Number 81 entitled '*Communications Laws (Amendment) Bill*'

The objects and reasons of this Bill are in order for both versions to be in conformity for legal certainty and to provide for amendments in conformity with Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19th October 2022 on a Single Market For Digital Services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act).