

## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

# Net Neutrality EWG & NIS WS on 5G Cybersecurity

An MCA official attended the 30<sup>th</sup> Article 13a Expert Group Meeting hosted by ENISA in Brussels, Belgium, on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2020. This meeting gathers experts from across the Union to discuss issues related to the supervision of the security provisions in the electronic communications sector. In particular, the upcoming legislation following the transportation of the EECC directive and 5G cybersecurity were high items on the agenda. The meeting was preceded by an open session during which various stakeholders were invited to provide their insights. A training session on 5G security was also held on the following day by P1 security.

### **ENISA's 30th Article 13a Workshop**

The MCA participated in the BEREC's Expert Working Group on the Open Internet (commonly known as Net Neutrality) which was held in Brussels, Belgium, between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2020. Following a consultation process held last year, the working group is preparing updates to the Net Neutrality guidelines intended to provide further clarity an address new technologies.

# Informal Expert Group on Voice Call Termination Rates in the EU

An MCA official participated in the first meeting of the Informal Expert Group on Voice Call Termination Rates in the EU on the  $10^{th}$  February 2020 in Brussels, Belgium. The meeting focused on implementation aspects of the Commission's Delegated Act that will, in line with the European Electronic Communications Code (EECC), be setting a single maximum Union-wide mobile voice termination rate and a single maximum Union-wide fixed voice termination rate. There was also a general exchange of views between the Commission and the members of the Expert Group.

#### **IRG - BEREC Contact Network**

A representative for the MCA attended the first BEREC Contact Network meeting of 2020. This meeting was held in Tromso, Norway, between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February. The Contact Network Group reviews the work carried out by the Expert Groups and prepares the agenda for the BEREC Plenary meeting. A number of topics were discussed during the meeting, mainly on the Regulatory Framework, Market and Economic Analysis and Open Internet.

# BEREC Training on Regulatory Framework for Electronic Communications

An MCA official participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the BEREC National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) training held in Brussels, Belgium, on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> February 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 with the rest of the sessions taking place in March and April 2020.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

# **Monthly Newsletter - January 2020**

Published On: Feb 14th 2020 News

#### **Senior Executive Coordinator**

Published On: Feb 13th 2020 Recruitment

#### **Annual Plan 2020**

Published On: Feb 6th 2020 Annual Plan

# Strategy Update for 2020 - 2022

Published On: Feb 6th 2020 Strategic Plan

#### **LEGAL UPDATES**

#### Litigation:



- 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020: Sitting before ART in the appeal by Aspider Solutions Malta Ltd. Aspider are contesting a regulatory decision of the MCA imposing an administrative fine for non-compliance with number porting requirements. Aspider continued with their evidence in this case. Appeal has been adjourned to the 9th March 2020 for the continuation of Aspider's evidence.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020: Vodafone vs MCA before ART contesting MCA's decision entitled 'Virtual unbundled Access to Fibre-to-the-home: implementing the VULA remedy' adjourned to the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 for the presentation MCA's evidence.

## **EVENTS**

#### **EBIZNIFY GRADUATION CEREMONY**

Parliamentary Secretary for Financial Services and Digital Economy Clayton Bartolo and Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds Stefan Zrinzo Azzopardi attended a graduation ceremony organised by the Malta Communications Authority. 50 students have completed a course organised by MCA in eCommerce.



Parliamentary Secretary Clayton Bartolo highlighted that the eBiznify programme is the result of the MCA's on-going effort to further improve Malta's posture on the eCommerce front. It

is a core deliverable of the National eCommerce Strategy spanning Government's effort on eCommerce and covering from 2014 to 2020. The strategy seeks to ensure Maltese businesses have the necessary means and skills to capitalise on opportunities brought about by eCommerce.

"Government is investing significant effort and resources to assess processes, reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and tap into new technologies to render Government's response more efficient. A case in point are the Government services which are now available online, dramatically reducing the time needed for citizens to apply and consume Government services." Hon Bartolo concluded.



The Parliamentary Secretary for EU funds, Dr Stefan Zrinzo Azzopardi, congratulated all participants upon the completion of this course funded by the European Union. This course objective was intended to develop the knowledge and competences of individuals through ICT upskilling and reskilling training, by explaining and promoting different forms of electronic transactions and emerging monetisation models. This in turn would promote businesses to consider expanding their reach through online methods and tap into wider sectors of the market.

