

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

BEREC Extra-Ordinary Contact Network

MCA participated in a BEREC extra-ordinary Contact Network held on the 31st January 2022. The objective of the meeting was to discuss the draft BEREC response to the public consultation on the draft revised EC Guidelines on State aid for broadband networks (Part I and Part II) for adoption for publication via e-voting procedure. Additionally, the CN members were updated on the BEREC 2030 Heads discussion and Heads workshop on Sustainability, which will take place on 8 February 2022.

3rd Frequency Coordination Meeting on the GE84 Plan Optimization for Africa

The 3rd Frequency coordination meeting on the GE84 Plan Optimization for Africa was held virtually between the 24th and 28th January 2022. The scope of the meeting was to optimise the use of the 87.5-108MHz FM sound broadcasting band in order to identify new radio frequencies for stations in Africa. Malta was involved in the frequency coordination process as some Northern African countries require Malta's coordination agreement in order to register radio stations in the GE84 plan. This was the last meeting held over a series of 3 meetings and the outcome was considered to be successful.

RSPG Sub-Group 'Good office' Meeting

The MCA participated in discussions of this Sub-Group dealing with cross-border frequency coordination issues between EU Member States. The meeting continued evaluating progress achieved in the application of an RSPG Opinion concerning interference issues in the UHF band and as well as in VHF bands designated for sound broadcasting services.

BEREC 2030

MCA is participating in strategic debates at Head's level on how BEREC can contribute to the digital era. A first meeting was held on 20th January 2022.

BEREC End-User Working Group

In January 2022, various MCA representatives participated in BEREC's virtual full End-User Working Group. During this meeting representatives from various national regulatory authorities discussed and provided updates on recent consumer protection developments which occurred in their respective countries. Representatives also discussed the work programme of the planned activities and initiatives which the group will be working on during 2022.

Workshop on the Review of the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive

MCA representatives attended an online workshop on the review of the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive (BCRD) organised by WIK-Consult. During this workshop, WIK-Consult presented the main outcomes and analysis of a study which they carried out in order to contribute to the review by the European Commission of the BCRD. Various options for the way forward were identified. The European Commission is expected to publish a proposal for a revised BCRD in the near future.

PUBLICATIONS

MCA International News Week 42 - 2021

Published On: Jan 26th 2022 [News](#)

MCA International News Week 41 - 2021

Published On: Jan 25th 2022 [News](#)

MCA International News Week 40 - 2021

Published On: Jan 20th 2022 [News](#)

MCA International News Week 33-39 - 2021

Published On: Jan 18th 2022 [News](#)

MCA International News Week 32 - 2021

Published On: Jan 18th 2022 News

MCA International News Week 31 - 2021

Published On: Jan 14th 2022 News

Monthly Newsletter - December 2021

Published On: Jan 12th 2022 News

Key Market Indicators for Electronic Communications and Post: Q1 2017 to Q3 2021

Published On: Jan 11th 2022 Data Report Sheet

MCA International News Week 30 - 2021

Published On: Jan 6th 2022 News

MCA International News Week 29 - 2021

Published On: Jan 5th 2022 News

Decision updating the Directive on Modalities of Payment for Authorisations under the Postal Services Act

Published On: Jan 5th 2022 Decision

MCA International News Week 28 - 2021

Published On: Jan 4th 2022 News

LEGAL UPDATES

Litigation

On the 18th January 2022 before the Administrative Review Tribunal (ART) – two cases

[1] MaltaPost Plc vs MCA re contestation of a 2020 decision whereby MaltaPost were required to pay compensation for not achieving the delivery targets for 2019. Case was adjourned to 5th April 2022 for MaltaPost to conclude with its evidence. During the sitting ART ordered a MET officer who to conclude with her evidence which she did.

[2] Vodafone (now EPIC) contestation of MCA 2016 VULA decision. EPIC renounced to summoning former MCA officers who had worked on the contested decision in 2015-16. EPIC declared that they wish to cross-examine Stefan Briffa former GO official. Case stands adjourned for this purpose for the 5th April 2022.

Legislation

On the 28th January 2022 two legal notices were published and brought into force with immediate effect namely:

[1] LN 18 of 2022 - Radiocommunications Apparatus Exemption (Amendment) Order, 2022 (amending SL 399.42)

[2] LN 19 of 2022 – Radiocommunications (Penalties and Voluntary Settlement of Disputes Procedures) (Amendment) Regulations, 2022 (amending SL 399.37)

MEDIA ACTIVITY

Television:

Date: 17.01.2022

Channel: TVM

Programme: TVAM

Topic: Kif Qed Nikkomunikaw

Participant: Kevin Caruana