

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### Telecommunications & Media Forum 2021

MCA participated in this event organised on 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021 by BEREC in conjunction with the International Institute of Communications (IIC) which discussed the steps needed to strengthen the digital capabilities of Europe, increase the resilience of the electronic communications market and close the digital divide. The Forum also focused on green growth, sustainability and information and communications technology (ICT) role in climate change. This online conference brought together statutory national regulators and industry in a collegiate, neutral setting to debate policy issues.

### The 99<sup>th</sup> Working Group on Frequency Management

The Electronic Communications Committee's Working Group on Frequency Management (WG FM) is responsible for developing strategies, plans and implementation advice for radio spectrum management within CEPT (European Conference for Postal and Telecommunication Administrations). The last meeting was held online, between the 24<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2021. The meeting discussed aspects related to a number of radiocommunications services and reviewed several ECC decisions, recommendations and reports. In particular, lengthy discussions took place on Radio LANs (RLAN) in the 5.8 GHz band and Micro Wave Security Scanners (MWSSc) in the 3.6-12.4 GHz band. The participation of the MCA allowed Malta to be involved in the process leading to the adoption of European spectrum management and licensing deliverables. This will feed into the review process of legal instruments pertaining to spectrum management, including Malta's National Frequency Plan (NFP) and subsidiary legislation SL.399.40 - General Authorisations (radiocommunications apparatus) regulation.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> BEREC Contact Network Meeting of 2021

The MCA nominated two officials to attend the second BEREC Contact Network meeting of 2021. The Contact Network

Group reviews the work carried out by the Expert Groups and prepares the agenda for the BEREC Plenary meeting. During this meeting a number of topics were discussed mainly on the Regulatory Framework, Market and Economic Analysis and Open Internet. This meeting was held virtually on the 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021.

### 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the ECC Working Group Numbering and Networks (WG-NaN)

Two MCA representatives participated in a remote meeting of the WG NaN which was held between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021. During this meeting, participants were provided with updates on the work related to current and future numbering issues which was carried out by the project teams reporting to this working group during the preceding six months. An overview of work activities taking place within ITU-T Study Group 2 and ETSI in areas which are relevant to this working group was also provided. The meeting participants also discussed various themes of relevance to WG NaN, in particular those related to ongoing and future work items which will be the focus of the WG NaN project teams during the coming months.

### ERGP Consumers and Core Indicators WG Meeting

The ERGP Consumers and Core Indicators Working Group meeting was held remotely on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021. During the meeting, the following was discussed:

- Report on the contractual situation of consumer:
  - Follow-up on the second draft of the report. This report will be submitted to the ERGP CN taking place on 27<sup>th</sup> May.
- Quality of service, complaint handling, and consumer protection report:
  - The questionnaire was sent to the NRAs, and feedback is to be received by end of May.
- Core Indicators Report
  - The questionnaire was sent to the NRAs, and feedback is to be received by end of May.

## Participation in BEREC's End-User Working Group

In May 2021, MCA representatives participated in BEREC's virtual End-User Working Group. During this meeting representatives discussed and provided updates on recent consumer protection developments which occurred in their respective countries. The Working Group also discussed and agreed the next steps to take with respect to several of the initiatives which the Group is responsible to execute during 2021.

## ERGP Consumers and Core Indicators Workgroup

The focus of this meeting was to discuss the update regarding the contractual situation on consumers' report. During the meeting, the co-chairs discussed the draft version of the document with the Member States. Apart from this report, the co-chairs provided a status update regarding the QoS & Complaints handling questionnaire and the Core Indicators questionnaire.

## Berec Statistics & Indicators Workgroup

Following the publication of the Delegated Act regarding the Eurorates, the BEREC S&I workgroup set a meeting to discuss the way forward regarding the current Termination Report and the new report & indicators to monitor the Eurorate among the Member states. The scope of the meeting was a brainstorming exercise, and further discussions are planned for the future.

## PUBLICATIONS

### New Prices for Certain Postal Services

Published On: May 31st 2021 **Consultation**

### MCA International News Week 15

Published On: May 27th 2021 **News**

### MCA International News Week 14

Published On: May 20th 2021 **News**

### Product and Price Developments Publication - January to April 2021

Published On: May 19th 2021 **Monthly Pricing Developments**

### Monthly Newsletter - April 2021

Published On: May 17th 2021 **News**

### Communications Market Review: July 2019 to June 2020

Published On: May 4th 2021 **Market Review**

## LEGAL UPDATES

### Litigation – 11<sup>th</sup> May 2021:

- MaltaPost vs MCA appeal before the Administrative Review Tribunal – MaltaPost are contesting a decision the MCA issued last August where MaltaPost were required to pay compensation for not having attained the QoS targets for 2019.
- Sitting was adjourned to 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 for the continuation of the evidence obo MaltaPost in this case
  - Vodafone (now EPIC) vs MCA – re contestation of MCA's VULA 2016 decision. GO who intervened in this case presented an affidavit of one's of its witnesses.
- Case has been adjourned to 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 for the cross-examination by EPIC of witnesses produced by GO and by the MCA.

## MEDIA ACTIVITY

### Television:

**Date:** 27.05.2021

**Channel:** TVM

**Programme:** TVAM

**Topic:** Internet

**Participant:** Matthew Farrugia

**Date:** 04.05.2021

**Channel:** TVM

**Programme:** TVAM

**Topic:** Telecosts

**Participant:** Matthew Farrugia

**Date:** 13.05.2021

**Channel:** TVM

**Programme:** Niskata

**Topic:** Telecosts

**Participant:** Matthew Farrugia