

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### **67<sup>th</sup> Electronic Communications Committee Plenary Meeting**

An MCA official attended the 67<sup>th</sup> Electronic Communications Committee Plenary Meeting which took place in Bled, Slovenia, between the 27<sup>th</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup> of June 2025. The meeting resulted in the adoption of several new and revised ECC deliverables and CEPT Reports, including for public consultation. Key strategic outcomes included the approval of the ECC strategic plan for 2025-2030 and an updated 6G roadmap.

### **14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the European Board for Digital Services**

On the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025, the MCA took part in the fourteenth meeting of the European Board for Digital Services (EBDS) in Brussels. Discussions centered on enhancing online user safety, with a strong focus on tackling financial scams, improving protections for minors, and advancing data access for vetted researchers. The Board emphasized the need for coordinated enforcement under the DSA and welcomed new measures to support research transparency and systemic risk assessment.

## **BEREC MEA Working Group Meeting**

An MCA representative attended 2 meetings which were held between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025, in Brussels. The meetings were organised by the BEREC MEA Working Group, as part of the *BEREC Workshops on the competitive effects of strategic fibre network deployment, including in the context of copper switch-off*.

The first day consisted of an internal workshop during which representatives from the French, German, and Austrian NRAs presented their respective national progress on fibre rollout, with a particular focus on overbuild and co-investment models.

On the second day, the workshop was extended to include external stakeholders, who provided overviews of their national markets in terms of fibre deployment and overbuilt. Several other external stakeholders also contributed valuable feedback, and in some cases, raised concerns about the discussed business models. As a next step, the working group will take the points raised during the external workshop into consideration, in collaboration with the NRAs concerned.

## **Working Group 5 of the European Board of Digital Services Workstream 2 - Financial Scams**

On 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025, the MCA participated online in the first meeting of Working Group 5, Workstream 2: Financial Scams and Deceptive Practices. This dedicated workstream focuses on enhancing coordination and enforcement across the EU in response to the increasing scale and complexity of financial scams originating from online platforms. Its key objectives are to share enforcement approaches among Member States, identify and

map common scam patterns, and strengthen detection, prevention, and response mechanisms across platforms.

## **20<sup>th</sup> European Spectrum Management Conference**

The MCA attended the 20<sup>th</sup> European Spectrum Management Conference, in Brussels between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The event featured high-level discussions on several key spectrum policy topics, including next-generation wireless connectivity, satellite communications including direct-to-device services, the use of the UHF and the 6 GHz bands and WRC-27 preparations. Discussions also addressed the upcoming digital networks act.

## **30<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ECC Working Group Numbering and Networks (WG NaN)**

Two representatives from the MCA participated physically in the WG NaN Plenary meeting held in Oxford, United Kingdom between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2025. During this meeting, participants were provided with updates on the work related to current and future numbering issues which was carried out by the three project teams reporting to this working group during the preceding seven months. An overview of work activities taking place within other organisations, such as EENA, GIRAF and BEREC, in areas which are relevant to this working group was also provided. During the meeting, the revised ECC Recommendation (12)04 'Numbering for Nomadic Voice Services' was approved for final adoption, and both the draft ECC Recommendation 'Measures to handle alphanumeric SMS Sender IDs' and the draft ECC Report 'SMS to 112 and other national emergency numbers for roaming end-users' were approved for public consultation. 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.

## **67<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) and other Events**

The MCA participated in the 67<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the RSPG, which was held in Brussels on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2025, during which the progress of the various sub-groups was reviewed. Notably, the meeting has adopted for public consultation a draft Opinion on the 'long-term vision for the upper 6 GHz band' and a draft Report on 'assessment of future usage of the frequency band 470-694 MHz within the EU'. In addition, the meeting has also adopted its Opinion on the 'EU-level policy approach to satellite Direct-to-Device (D2D) connectivity and related Single Market issues' and a draft Interim Opinion on 'WRC-27'.

The MCA also participated in a workshop held between the RSPG and the European Commission which focused on strategic spectrum policy matters.

## **10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Working Group 4 of the European Board for Digital Services**

On 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025, the MCA participated in the tenth meeting of WG4 – Integrity of the Information Space. Held online, the meeting covered updates on national elections across Member States, the DSA Elections Toolkit and its escalation channels, and future work-streams including the European Democracy Shield, transparency of political advertising, and data access.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Working Group 5 of the European Board for Digital Services**

The MCA participated in the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of Working Group 5 (Consumer Protection and Online Marketplaces) of the European Board for Digital Services (EBDS), held online on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The meeting focused on updates provided by the COM regarding orders issued under Articles 9 and 10, enforcement actions undertaken by the COM and MS, and the establishment of two new workstreams. These workstreams will address: Mapping of national authorities in the field of e-commerce, and Financial scams and deceptive practices.

WG5 is expected to deliver outputs on both topics to the Board. MS were urged to nominate representatives to participate in the respective workstreams.

## **The 3<sup>rd</sup> CEPT/ECC Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-27 (CPG27-3)**

Officials from the Malta Communications Authority (MCA) participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Conference Preparatory Group (CPG27-3), organised by the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC) in preparation for the World Radiocommunication Conference 2027 (WRC-27). The meeting was held in a hybrid format from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025. During the sessions, participants reviewed the progress made by the relevant project teams on the various agenda items for WRC-27.

## **4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Working Group 8 of the European Board for Digital Services**

On 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025, the MCA participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of WG8 (Working together) of the EBDS held online. The Chair started the meeting by inviting MS to show interest in undertaking the role of vice-chair. This was followed by updates on recent ongoing work in relation to the data access portal as well as developments on AGORA, such as translation of documents, notes, messages and the WIKI portal. The group also deliberated on possible future sub-groups that could be assumed within the group's work program.

## **12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Working Group 3 of the European Board for Digital Services**

The MCA participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of WG3 (Content moderation and data access) of the EBDS held online, on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The meeting focused on the latest version of the MOU/operational principles for vetting researchers including format and the endorsement by the Board, and the impacts of the DSA on live event piracy. Other items included the alignment on communications content and timing as well as an update by the COM about scheduled outreach activities.

## **BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group – Kick-Off Meeting**

A kick-off meeting was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025 by the BEREC Market and Economic Analysis

Working Group to address aspects from the European Commission's targeted consultation on the revision of the Merger Guidelines. The consultation is structured in two main parts:

- (i) A general questionnaire addressing high-level questions on how mergers should be assessed, focusing on the principles underpinning the Horizontal and Non-Horizontal Merger Guidelines; and
- (ii) A more detailed questionnaire aimed at stakeholders with expertise in merger control, supported by seven focus papers. These papers provide technical background and outline specific topic-related questions on which feedback is sought.

Among these focus areas, the co-chairs have initially identified 'Topic B: Assessing market power using structural features and other market indicators' and 'Topic E: The impact of digitalisation on merger assessment' as the main areas to be addressed.

## **9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Working Group 2 of the European Board for Digital Services**

On the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025, the MCA participated in the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of WG2 (Working together) of the EBDS held online. The meeting focused on key updates and discussions including possible communication cooperation efforts, the upcoming online workshop of communication experts planned for mid-July and the complaints handling process. The group also deliberated on how the transmission of evidence and information between DSCs and EC could be improved. In addition, the EC informed the group of the DSC activity reports received to-date and reminded other DSCs to publish their reports, possibly in early Q3.



## 63<sup>rd</sup> BEREC Plenary Meetings

MCA participated in the meetings held in Reykjavik on the 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> June, hosted by ECOI, the Icelandic national regulatory authority. During the meeting the Board of Regulators adopted a number of key documents including: BEREC's draft strategy 2026-2030; two sets of draft Guidelines specifying how obligations arising from the Gigabit Infrastructure Act under Article 5 (on the coordination of civil works) and Article 11 (right to access in-building infrastructure) are to be met; draft report on submarine cable connectivity in Europe; and a progress report on the EU's transition from copper to fibre networks. A full list of the public documents adopted is available on the BEREC [website](#).

## The 110<sup>th</sup> Working Group on Frequency Management (WGFM#110)

The Electronic Communications Committee's (ECC) Working Group on Frequency Management (WG FM) plays a pivotal role in formulating strategies, plans, and implementation guidance for radio spectrum management within the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations. The 110<sup>th</sup> meeting of WG FM was held in a hybrid format from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025 in Sophia Antipolis, France. During this meeting, the group reviewed several ECC decisions, recommendations, and reports. These deliverables are expected to support the ongoing review of Malta's spectrum management legislation.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Working Group 6 of the European Board for Digital Services

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025, the MCA participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> online meeting of WG6 (Protection of Minors) under the EBDS. The meeting focused on key updates and discussions, including a progress report by the EC on the Age Verification solution project and a round of feedback from DSCs on the draft Guidelines under Art. 28 DSA. Additionally, the EC provided an update on enforcement efforts targeting providers of pornographic content, with DSCs sharing relevant national developments.

## Meeting with EC DSA Officer

The MCA held an introductory meeting with Greta Agius, the DSA Officer from the Commission assigned to Malta, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025, in order to establish a collaborative framework and align on key priorities. The discussion covered the responsibilities and scope of the DSA Officer role, communication channels and operational procedures, the moderation of content in the Maltese language by VLOPs and VLOSEs, a status update on ongoing cases involving Maltese media and Meta, and initial planning and objective setting for the EC mission scheduled for November.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

### Ombudsman Visit to MCA's Premises

The Malta Communications Authority was honoured to welcome the Parliamentary Ombudsman, Judge Emeritus Joseph Zammit McKeon, to its premises.

During his visit, the Ombudsman met with the MCA Management Committee and staff members, engaging in an open and constructive exchange on the Authority's functions, and the valuable work undertaken by the **Office of the Ombudsman - Malta** in safeguarding the interest of the people.



Judge Emeritus Zammit McKeon emphasised the importance of proactive engagement between institutions and reiterated his commitment to promoting dialogue, transparency, and a culture of accountability in public administration — principles that resonate deeply with the MCA's regulatory mission.

CEO Jesmond Bugeja expressed his appreciation for the visit, stating, "It was a privilege to welcome the Parliamentary Ombudsman to the MCA. His visit provided a valuable opportunity to exchange perspectives on our respective roles in upholding public trust, and we look forward to continued engagement built on shared values of transparency, service, and accountability."



We extend our sincere thanks to the Ombudsman for taking the time to visit and for showing genuine interest in the work carried out by the MCA. We value opportunities such as this for dialogue, reflection, and mutual understanding, and we look forward to continued collaboration in service of the public interest.

## Partnering for a Safer Internet!



Members from the MCA participated in a training session on child online protection, organised by the Malta Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society in conjunction with the United Nations International Telecommunications Union.





The session brought together staff from Internet Service Providers, telecom entities and regulators, focusing on enhancing online safety measures and strengthening our role in creating a safer digital space for children. It was an insightful and practical session that highlighted the importance of equipping industry professionals with the right tools to improve response mechanisms and foster a more secure internet for all.



## PUBLICATIONS

### Quality of Service (QoS) Parameters to be Measured by Providers of Internet Access Services (IAS) and Publicly Available Interpersonal Communications Services (PA-ICS)

Published On 27/06/2025 Decision MCA-  
D/ms/25-5662

## International News Week 9 2025

Published On 20/06/2025 News

## Monthly Newsletter - May 2025

Published On 20/06/2025 News

## International News Week 8 2025

Published On 11/06/2025 News

## Career Opportunity: Digital Services Specialist – Digital Services

Published On 03/06/2025 Recruitment Jobsplus  
permit no: 533/2025

## Career Opportunity: Digital Services Specialist - EUDI

Published On 03/06/2025 Recruitment Jobsplus  
permit no: 523/2025

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## MEDIA ACTIVITY

### Television:

**Date:** 19.06.2025

**Channel:** ONE TV

**Programme:** Indigo

**Topic:** Roaming

**Participant:** Yanika Buġeja

**Date:** 18.06.2025

**Channel:** FLiving

**Programme:** FLiving Show

**Topic:** Roaming

**Participant:** Yanika Buġeja

**Date:** 16.06.2025

**Channel:** NET TV

**Programme:** Bejnietna

**Topic:** Roaming

**Participant:** Yanika Buġeja

### Radio:

**Date:** 24.06.2025

**Channel:** Campus FM

**Programme:** Breakfast Show

**Topic:** Roaming

**Participant:** Yanika Buġeja

**Date:** 11.06.2025

**Channel:** NET FM

**Programme:** Brunch ma' Marbeck

**Topic:** Contract Summary

**Participant:** Yanika Buġeja

**Date:** 09.06.2025

**Channel:** Radju Malta

**Programme:** Minn Jum Għal Jum

**Topic:** Telecosts

**Participant:** Yanika Buġeja