

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### **BEREC-EC High Level Workshop**

The MCA attended a Heads workshop, organised on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025, in Brussels, to discuss the future of the electronic communications framework in the context of the review that will be undertaken by the end of this year.

### **BnetzA - WG4 of the European Board for Digital Services Informal Meeting on Recent German Elections**

On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025, the MCA participated in a session organized by BnetzA, in order to share experiences and lessons learnt from the recent German elections. This session was informally organised by the Working Group 4 participants.

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

The MCA participated in the ninth online meeting of Working Group 3 (Content Moderation and Data Access), on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. The agenda included the state of play of the Data Access MoU, presentation of the draft assessment grid, and the main elements of the revised delegated act.

## **BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group Meeting**

An MCA official, as a drafter nominated by the MCA, attended a meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025, held by the BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group, in order to contribute to the drafting of the Fact-Finding Report on Competition Indicators and Regulatory Highlights Across Different Jurisdictions, which will be published for consultation.

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

On 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025, the MCA participated in the eighth meeting of Working Group 4 - Integrity of the Information Space, of the European Board for Digital Services. The meeting, held online, included discussions on lessons learnt from the German elections, updates on upcoming national elections in Member States, next steps for the DSA Elections Toolkit, and manipulation of algorithms and instrumentalization of influencers.

## **BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group Meeting**

An MCA representative attended a meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025, by the BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group, to actively contribute in the drafting of the Draft BEREC Report on the regulation of physical infrastructure access. The report was published for consultation last December, and with the consultation period now closed, drafters are tasked with preparing a summary of public submissions within their assigned areas.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Working Group 1 (Horizontal and Legal Issues) of the European Board for Digital Services**

On 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025, the MCA participated in the fifth meeting of Working Group 1 – Horizontal and Legal Issues, of the European Board for Digital Services. The meeting, which was held online, included discussions on legal issues such as cross-border intermediary services, music streaming services, and minor and purely ancillary features. There were also discussions on fees and levies at the national level, practices on enforcing DSA at the national level, and cooperation with civil society.

## **89<sup>th</sup> Radio Spectrum Committee Meeting**

An MCA official attended the 89<sup>th</sup> Radio Spectrum Committee meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025. The meeting continued considering initiatives on spectrum harmonisation opportunities in the EU.

The key discussions focused on the use of radio spectrum for radiodetermination devices in the 116-260 GHz band, wireless broadband systems capable of providing local area network connectivity in the 3800-4200 MHz band, aerial-terminal stations operating in EU-harmonised frequency (mobile) bands and WAS/RLANs in the 5945-6425 MHz band. Matters concerning the EU roadmap, concerning the coexistence of mobile networks and aircraft radio altimeters in the 3.4-4.4 GHz band, were also discussed.

## **6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Working Group 6 (Protection of Minors) of the European Board for Digital Services**

On the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025, the MCA participated in the sixth meeting of Working Group 6 - Protection of Minors, of the European Board for Digital Services. The meeting, which was held online, included a presentation on draft technical specifications concerning age verification, a discussion on the guidelines under Article 28 of the DSA, and updates by DSCs on national enforcement..

## **BEREC and Cullen International Training Session**

An MCA representative attended a training session organized by BEREC and Cullen International on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025. The session focused on the institutional aspects of the EU regulatory framework, covering the EU institutions, their legislative processes, and the governance of the EU. The training also provided an overview of the involvement of the EU institutions in the adoption,

implementation, and enforcement of laws and regulations. Additionally, it explored the roles of NRAs and BEREC, highlighting also BEREC's evolving responsibilities in issuing guidance and opinions under the regulatory framework.

## **6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Working Group 7 (Orders and Criminal Issues) of the European Board for Digital Services**

On the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025, the MCA participated in the sixth meeting of Working Group 7, Orders and Criminal Issues, of the European Board for Digital Services. The meeting, which was held online, explored results of the Member State Survey on Article 18 DSA, next steps towards guidance on Article 18 DSA, and updates on the PERCI/Article 18 DSA workflow by Europol.

## **41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the ECC Working Group NaN2**

Two representatives from the MCA participated virtually, in a meeting of a project team within WG NaN, which was held between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025. The project team held discussions on multiple aspects related to trust in numbers, number portability, and switching, including ongoing Recommendation and Report drafting and discussions on future work items.

## **66<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Electronic Communications Committee**

An MCA official represented the MCA in the 66<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Electronic Communications

Committee between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025. The meeting considered developments taking place by the various subgroups, in accordance with their work programme. In particular, the ECC adopted modifications to several ECC decisions, approved a CEPT report on aerial-terminal stations operating in EU-harmonised frequency (mobile) bands and approved draft CEPT report on railway applications in the 900 MHz band for public consultation.

## Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) Subgroup Meetings

The MCA participated in various online meetings of the RSPG subgroups. In particular, the MCA co-chaired the RSPG 'Good offices' meeting where cross-border interference issues continued to be discussed and analysed.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

## Data: The New Future – Horizon Scanning and Opportunities in the Innovative Era



The Malta Communications Authority (MCA) remains at the forefront of shaping the future of data and technological sphere. Representing the Authority, Mr Ivan Bugeja, Senior Manager of External Relations, participated in a Malta Digital Innovation Authority organised panel discussion on building a thriving data economy. Mr Bugeja joined industry experts in exploring regulatory horizon scanning and emerging opportunities in this new era of innovation.

## Meeting with Parliamentary Ombudsman



An MCA delegation, led by CEO Jesmond Bugeja, recently met with the Parliamentary Ombudsman, Judge Emeritus Joseph Zammit McKeon. The discussion focused on the role of the Office of the Ombudsman – Malta, in assisting individuals with public administration matters and fostering engagement with public entities to enhance transparency and accountability.

MCA CEO Jesmond Bugeja highlighted the Authority's evolving role in ensuring that communication technologies and services continue to support economic and societal growth. The conversation also explored how emerging policy and market developments shape the communications landscape.

Constructive dialogue and collaboration between



institutions are essential for maintaining an efficient and citizen-centric public administration. The MCA thanked the Office of the Ombudsman for their hospitality during this insightful discussion.

## **MCA renews MoU with FITA to enhance Web Accessibility Monitoring**



The Malta Communications Authority (MCA) has renewed its partnership with the Foundation for Information Technology Accessibility (FITa) to enhance Web Accessibility Monitoring. This ongoing collaboration ensures that accessibility of government websites and mobile applications stay inclusive and accessible to all. Together, we're dedicated to improving user experiences and fostering a more accessible digital world.

## **Careers Expo hosted by the University Student Council (KSU)**

The Careers Expo, was hosted by the University Student Council (KSU) between the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025, at the University of Malta. The

Malta Communications Authority (MCA) participated in this event, where team members connected with students and shared with them what we do at MCA, from regulating different sectors to collaborating with international organisations. It was also a great chance for students to learn more about opportunities to join the MCA team.



## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Monthly Newsletter - February 2025**

Published On 21/03/2025 News

### **Ensuring Compliance with Consumer Protection Norms in Mobile Telephony Services**

Published On 17/03/2025 End User Half Yearly Report MCA/R/25-5577

### **MCA Renews Collaboration with FITa for Web**

## Accessibility Monitoring

Published On 12/03/2025 News

## Career Opportunity: Junior Analyst (Market Modelling)

Published On 04/03/2025 Recruitment Jobsplus  
permit no: 140/2025

## Annual Plan 2025

Published On 04/03/2025 Annual Plan  
MCA/O/25-5513

## LEGAL UPDATES

### Litigation:

#### Administrative Review Tribunal – Decision 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025:

On the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025, the Administrative Review Tribunal issued a decision whereby it upheld MCA's preliminary plea, contesting GO plc's appeal of MCA's notification dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024, whereby MCA had informed Go of the steps being taken by the MCA, subsequent to the European Commission's ruling of the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024; whereby the Commission required the MCA to retract its (MCA's) proposed draft measure relating to the wholesale physical and virtual infrastructure access market in Malta. The MCA in the aforesaid plea argued that its notification was not a regulatory decision, which could therefore be contested before the ART.

## MEDIA ACTIVITY

### Television:

**Date:** 31.03.2025

**Channel:** TVM

**Programme:** News Feature

**Topic:** Mystery Shopping Report

**Participant:** Mark Stivala

**Date:** 28.03.2025

**Channel:** NET TV

**Programme:** Bejnietna

**Topic:** Mystery Shopping Report

**Participant:** Yanika Buġeja

### Radio:

**Date:** 18.03.2025

**Channel:** NET

**Programme:** Brunch ma' Marbeck

**Topic:** Mystery Shopping Report

**Participant:** Yanika Buġeja

# Radio/Television:

**Date:** 17.03.2025

**Channel:** One

**Programme:** Morning Mix

**Topic:** Mystery Shopping Report

**Participant:** Yanika Bugeja