International Institute of Communications

Annual Europe Digital Communications and Media Forum 2025

Date: 18th - 19th March 2025

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Agenda: Tuesday 18 March 2025

08:15: Registration and Refreshments

09:00: Welcome

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications
Michel Van Bellinghen, Chairman of the Council, Belgian Institute for Postal Services and Telecommunications (BIPT)

09:15: In conversation with Robert Mourik, Chair, Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC); Chairperson, Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg), Ireland

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In conversation with
Dr Aude Schoentgen, Director, Head of Office, Plum Consulting; Chair, IIC France Chapter

09:45: Dissecting the Digital Networks Act – the future of connectivity in the EU

– revision of the EECC,
– revision of Open Internet regulation,
– debating the need for a Cloud Act
Moderator
Johan Keetelaar, Senior Adviser, Oxera
Speakers
Dr Federico Boccardi, Head of Connectivity Policy, Amazon Web Services
Inês Nolasco, Senior EU Advisor & Deputy Head, Vodafone
Dr George Houpis, Director, Frontier Economics
Peter Stuckmann, Head of Unit, Electronic Communications Policy, Implementation and Enforcement, DG CNECT, European Commission

10:45: Networking Break

11:15: EMFA and AVMSD Q&A: what's next – for regulators, for industry and for consumers?

Anna Herold, Head of Unit, Audiovisual and Media Policy, DG CNECT, European Commission
Cindy Bauwens, Director, Luxembourg Independent Media Authority (ALIA)
In conversation with
Gordon Moir, Partner, Wiggin LLP

11:45: EU competitiveness on the global stage – building the digital powerhouse

Moderator
Robert MacDougall, Director, Digital Markets, EMEA Centre for Regulatory Strategy, Deloitte
Speakers
Luís Viegas Cardoso, Member, EU's Competitiveness Task Force, European Commission
Victoria de Posson, Secretary General, European Tech Alliance (EUTA)
Alberto Zilio, Head of European Government Affairs, Ericsson
George Xenokratis, Senior Manager Public Policy, EU, Bolt
Amal Taleb, Director, Government Affairs – European Union , SAP

12:45: Networking Lunch

13:45: Online safety briefing: DSA and OSA implementation updates

Moderator
Lisa Gius, Associate, Bird & Bird LLP
Speakers
Bernardo Herman, Member of the Council, Belgian Institute for Postal services and Telecommunications (BIPT)
Professor Elisa Giomi, Commissioner, Autorità per le Garanzie nelle Comunicazioni (AGCOM)
Sheryl Willson,Principal – Online Safety Strategy, Ofcom, UK
Martin Harris Hess, Head of Sector – Protection of Minors Online, European Commission

15:00: Keynote: Digital economy priorities for the new Commission

– Implementing the Draghi and Letta reports' recommendations
– Technology sovereignty, security and democracy – tying the pieces together
– Sustainability and regulatory simplification – implications for the comms and media sectors
Renate Nikolay, Deputy Director General, DG CNECT, European Commission

15:30: Networking Break

16:00: AI Act: Implementation & enforcement progress report

Moderator
Peggy Valcke, Member of the Council, Belgian Institute for Postal services and Telecommunications (BIPT); Full Professor, KU Leuven, Belgium

Speakers
Patrick Van Eecke, Partner, Cooley; Professor, University of Antwerp, Belgium
Ania Helseth, EU Policy Manager, AI, Media & IP, Meta
Thomas Gils,Research Associate, Centre for IT & IP Law (CiTiP), KU Leuven University
Anna Buchta, Head of Unit, Policy & Consultation, European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Nikolaus Forgó, Head of the Department of Innovation and Digitalisation in Law, University of Vienna
Ceyhun Necati Pehlivan, LL.M., Counsel and Head of Technology, Media Telecommunications and Intellectual Property Group, Linklaters, Madrid
This panel forms part of a book launch event series for "EU Artificial Intelligence (AI) Act: A Commentary" and "AI Governance and Liability in Europe: A Primer" by Wolters Kluwer, edited by Ceyhun Necati Pehlivan, Nikolaus Forgó and Peggy Valcke

17:30: Closing remarks and close of day 1
Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

17:30: Networking Reception
A networking reception will follow directly after the end of day one of the Forum. All delegates are welcome to attend.

Agenda: Wednesday 19 March 2025

08:45: Registration and Refreshments

09:00: Welcome
Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

09:05: Discoverability and prominence of media services in the digital age
The content discovery challenge: as prominence takes centre stage in regulatory discussions, we'll explore how data-driven measurement is essential for ensuring fair visibility across platforms. How can industry stakeholders, from streamers to broadcasters and policymakers, quantify and optimise prominence in a way that benefits both audiences and content providers? Join us for an insightful discussion at the intersection of consumer behaviour, platform strategy, and evolving regulatory frameworks.
Moderator
Robert MacDougall, Director, Digital Markets, EMEA Centre for Regulatory Strategy, Deloitte
Speakers
Professor Carlos Aguilar Paredes, Board Member, National Authority for Competition and Markets (CNMC), Spain; Chair, European Board for Media Services (EBMS)
Rowena Burke,Head of International Content Policy, Ofcom
Lucas Bertrand, Founder and CEO, Looper Insights
Anna Theodoulides, Research Assistant in Digital Media, School of Media and Communication, University of Leeds
Dr Renate Dörr, European Regulatory Affairs, ZDF; Chair Expert Group on Content

Regulation, EBU

10:15: Networking Break

10:45: Moderating journalistic content online: challenges and opportunities for regulation

– intersection of media freedom and content moderation
– definitions of media service providers
– legislative requirements of the EMFA
– role of EBMS
Moderator
Dr. The Hon. Allyson Leacock OR, Chairman, Barbados Broadcasting Authority; Board Director, International Institute of Communications
Speakers
Maria Donde, Director of International Relations, Coimisiun na Mean, Ireland
Dr Francesco Sciacchitano, Senior Legal Officer, Autorità per le Garanzie nelle Comunicazioni (AGCOM), Italy
Renate Schroeder, Director, European Federation of Journalists

12:00: Networking Lunch

13:00: In conversation with Brando Benifei MEP; Chair of the European Parliament's EU-US

Brando Benifei MEP; Chair of the European Parliament’s EU-US Delegation
In conversation with
Alberto Zilio, Head of European Government Affairs, Ericsson

13:30: Building trusted, secure AI-ready networks

AI will support almost every aspect of the digital economy: data centres needing vast capacity and security; devices and applications needing “edge technologies” and localised compute capabilities. People and businesses will need to access and use AI capabilities everywhere. Networks will use AI in the operations and to support their security. Networks need to be designed to meet these needs with ubiquitous coverage, enhanced security and the ability to use and support the AI ecosystem. This session will discuss these rapidly evolving network requirements with particular emphasis on:
• how users and their information can be kept safe
• how both edge compute and data centres can be supported with the necessary capacity
• how AI will be used to design, optimise and secure networks
Moderator
Claudia Selli, Vice President International External and Regulatory Affairs , AT&T
Speakers
Philip Marnick, General Director, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA), Bahrain; Board Director, International Institute of Communications
Bo Andersson, Senior Advisor, Swedish Post and Telecom Authority (PTS)
Matteo Quattrocchi, Head of EU AI Policy, Cisco Systems

14:30: Comfort Break

14:40: Connectivity from space: Europe’s vision for the convergence of terrestrial and non-terrestrial networks

– opportunities and challenges for industry

– implications for regulation

Moderator

Professor Konstantinos Masselos, President, Hellenic Telecommunications & Post Commission (EETT); Board Director, International Institute of Communications

Speakers

Jordi Casanova, Head of Telecoms and Space, EU Public Policy Team, Amazon

Afke Schaart, Senior Vice President of International and Institutional Affairs, Eutelsat Group

Ben Wreschner, Group Regulatory Policy Director, Vodafone Group

Valeriu Zgonea, President, National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM)

15:50: Closing remarks and close of Forum

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications