



Dear Colleague

As many of you will be aware, we are saying fond farewells over recent weeks to Andrea Millwood Hargrave, in her role as Director General of the IIC. Andrea has held this role for just over 11 years, although she has been deeply involved with the IIC for a lot longer than that.

It is true to say that Andrea has made the IIC what it is today. Under her leadership, this Institute has flourished; it has grown and developed as the industry we cover has itself evolved. Last year saw a number of IIC fora and events throughout the world, a true reflection of how global the IIC is. Undoubtedly, the highlight was our annual Communications Policy and Regulation Week in London, celebrating our 50th anniversary. We were honoured to be joined by over 300 of you.

Andrea is passionate about ensuring that all voices are heard in a neutral and collegiate environment to allow the free-flowing exchange of opinions and best practices for the better good, which is the unique experience the IIC offers. She has brought a number of new initiatives to the organisation to encourage input from a wider sector, including, more recently: the Future Leaders' Network, and in particular the competition run for this group to allow emerging talented people to witness first-hand the wealth of information and knowledge shared at the Annual Conference. There is also the inception of the Small Nations Regulators' Forum, the group set up within the IIC for nations with smaller populations who face similar challenges and can benefit from each other's knowledge and experience.

While we are sad to see Andrea step down as Director General, we are pleased that she will continue to be involved in the regulators' forums and some other special projects, as well as ensuring a smooth transition for the incoming Director General (more on that appointment in the next few weeks).

At the very moment Andrea is stepping down and as a reminder of the role the IIC plays, we were naturally delighted to be so generously recognised in Ofcom's recently-released proposed Plan of Work for 2020-21:

"To ensure that we can continue to learn from, and exchange best practice with other regulators within the EU and beyond, we will continue investing in our bilateral relationships with relevant counterparts around the world. We will also continue participating in the work of bodies such as the European Platform of Regulatory Authorities (EPRA), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the International Institute for Communications (IIC)." (From section 3.26 on 'Support through Brexit and continued international relationships.')

Again, a fitting testament to a Director General who has given all to this Institute and who has forged such enduring, warm friendships with so many of you.

Warmest Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris", with a small flourish underneath.

Chris Chapman

President

International Institute of Communications