

REGULATION

European Court rules that the sale of SIM cards containing pre-activated paid services without properly informing the consumers constitutes an unfair commercial practice

Source: *Cullen International*

The sale of SIM cards on which services such as internet browsing and voicemail services are pre-loaded and pre-activated without first sufficiently informing consumers qualifies as an aggressive commercial practice under the Unfair Commercial Practices Directive [[read more – subscription required](#)].

Spanish operators face disciplinary proceedings

Source: *Broadband TV News*

The Spanish regulator CNMC has launched disciplinary proceedings against five of the country's leading operators [[read more](#)].

SPECTRUM

Europe ramps up its focus on 5G

Source: *Total Telecom*

Europe's 5G focus is beginning to gather momentum, with 75 % of its population expected to be covered by 5G networks by the year 2025 [[read more](#)].

INNOVATION

Blockchain-based spectrum sharing promising but raises difficult questions

Source: *Policy Tracker*

It's too early to say whether using blockchain technology for spectrum management is better than conventional databases or is even feasible, but initial observations suggest that the decentralised coordination behind blockchains "seems like a strong fit for spectrum sharing," an academic paper argues [[read more – subscription required](#)].

INFORMATION SOCIETY

The European Commission launches the European Digital Skills Awards 2018

Source: *European Commission*

The European Commission wants to put the spotlight on projects which contribute to the development of digital skills in Europe [[read more](#)].

Eight in ten internet users have concerns about going online

Source: *Ofcom*

Around eight in ten adult internet users (79%) have concerns about aspects of going online, while almost half (45%) have experienced some form of online harm – according to research carried out by Ofcom with the Information Commissioner's Office [[read more](#)].