

SPECTRUM

Ofcom launches investigation into Vodafone and EE rural coverage claims

Source: Total Telecom

The UK's telecoms regulator, Ofcom, has launched a new investigation into mobile network operators Vodafone and EE to ascertain whether the two MNOs provided up to date information for their mobile network coverage [\[read more\]](#).

Joint statement by Vice-President Ansip and Commissioner Gabriel on the European Parliament's vote on the new EU rules facilitating the free flow of non-personal data

Source: European Commission

On 4th October 2018, the European Parliament adopted a Regulation on the free flow of non-personal data as proposed by the European Commission in September 2017 [\[read more\]](#).

SPECTRUM

Italy's 5G pioneer bands spectrum auction raises €6.5bn

Source: Cullen International

The Italian Ministry of Economic Development (MISE) announced on 2nd October 2018 the end of the auction of 1275 MHz of spectrum in the 5G pioneer bands for a total amount over €6.5bn [\[read more – subscription required\]](#).

EE switches on its first 5G live trial site in the UK

Source: Total Telecom

EE has switched on the UK's first live 5G trial site at London's Canary Wharf centre. The live trial will take place in Montgomery Square, Canary Wharf – an area that receives 150,000 visitors and commuters every day [\[read more\]](#).

Vodafone to make Milan Europe's 5G capital, following successful spectrum auction

Source: Total Telecom

Vodafone has also announced plans to make Milan Europe's 5G capital. Building on a series of 5G trials and initiatives in collaboration with the Ministry for Economic Development in Milan and its metropolitan area, Vodafone expects to have achieved 80% 5G mobile network coverage in the city of Milan and its surrounding metropolitan area by the end of December 2018 [\[read more\]](#).

INTERNET

World-wide Wi-Fi coverage is not a million miles away

Source: Total Telecom

Ultrafast, ubiquitous connectivity may seem like a pipe dream, but world-wide Wi-Fi coverage could be closer than you might think. Speaking at the opening of the IP Expo event in London on Wednesday, senior NASA astronaut, Chris Hadfield, said that advances in commercial satellite technology could have a profound impact on the telecoms sector, in the not too distant future [\[read more\]](#).

INNOVATION

'The digital transformation of health and care will improve the lives of all Europeans'

Source: European Commission

Many things are happening in the European digital health and care domain. A European exchange format for Electronic Health Records is getting closer and more and more countries are joining the declaration to share access to their genomic databanks. The Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Andriukaitis unveils his ambitious views [[read more](#)].

INFORMATION SOCIETY

EU Code Week kicks-off with hundreds of thousands of people coding across Europe and beyond

Source: European Commission

EU Code Week started on 6th October with over 12,000 activities taking place in more than 45 countries. The EU Code Week is a yearly grass-roots movement supported by the European Commission as part of its strategy for a Digital Single Market [[read more](#)].

10.9 million people reached by up-skilling activities of the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition

Source: European Commission

Between December 2016 and July 2018, members of the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition offered 10.9 million Europeans a chance to improve their digital skills [[read more](#)].

"Stop. Think. Connect" – Start of the European Cybersecurity Month

Source: European Commission

The 6th edition of the European Cybersecurity Month, taking place during the entire month of October 2018 across Europe, aims at raising awareness of cybersecurity threats and promoting cybersecurity among citizens and organisations through education and sharing of good practices [[read more](#)].

Study: Pre-schoolers increasingly connected

Source: Advanced Television

Independent research company Childwise has found that access to connected devices (e.g., tablet, phone, PC, laptop) has grown this year among UK children under five after two years of little change [[read more](#)].

CONSUMER

New Ofcom rules to better protect consumers

Source: Ofcom

Consumers will be better protected against nuisance calls, and vulnerable customers will be treated more fairly, thanks to strengthened rules that came into force on 1st October 2018 [[read more](#)].