

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### **BEREC Heads Workshop**

On 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020, Heads of National Regulatory Authorities discussed how BEREC could make best use of physical and virtual meetings on the basis of this year's experience. As from next year, BEREC intends to limit the number of physical Plenary meetings from four to three, whilst at the same time continuing to improve its electronic tools to support virtual meetings.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Extraordinary BEREC Contact Network 2020**

MCA participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Extraordinary BEREC Contact Network 2020 held remotely on the 30<sup>th</sup> September. The Meeting discussed the BEREC input to the Commission's delegated act setting single EU-wide maximum Mobile Termination Rates and Fixed Termination Rates; and the BEREC opinion on the European Commission's draft Recommendation on relevant product and service markets susceptible to ex ante regulation.

### **Prague 5G Security Conference 2020**

MCA participated in the Prague 5G Security Conference 2020 held virtually between the 23-24<sup>th</sup> September. The Conference was organised by the National Cyber and Information Security Agency of the Czech Republic in coordination with the Office of the Government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. The main objective of the Conference was to discuss 5G Security challenges and solutions.

### **EUROPEAN DISABILITY FORUM / EUROPEAN COMMISSION Online discussion on the Web Accessibility Directive**

As the designated regulator for the Directive (EU) 2016/2102 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 October 2016 on the accessibility of the websites and mobile

applications of public sector bodies in Malta, the MCA attended to an online discussion on the Web Accessibility Directive (WAD) which was held remotely on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2020. The discussion was organised by the European Commission, the European Disability Forum, all Web Accessibility Experts Group (WADEX) Members (of which the MCA forms part) and other interested stakeholders. To kick-start the discussion, an overview on the importance of Web Accessibility was given together with an outline of the WAD's aim. The main areas of discussion included the progress achieved so far and challenges faced by the member states. In the first panel discussion, Sweden and Bulgaria elaborated on some of the challenges faced when implementing the WAD. Lack of testing software was highlighted as one of the main issues faced. The second panel discussion tackled the importance of compliant web accessibility statements. Unfortunately, many public sector websites in Europe do not have a compliant accessibility statement yet, this is one of the main areas the Directive aims to solve.

### **The 4th meeting of the Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) - Shared spectrum sub group:**

One of the subgroups of the Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) deals with sharing of the radio frequency spectrum and aims to develop an RSPG opinion. This opinion will explore different dynamic spectrum sharing options implemented and also advise on a possible roadmap to increase spectrum sharing in a number of frequency bands. The RSPG-SS met virtually on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and continued to review the draft document in particular the recommendations section. The next RSPG-SS meeting will be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

### **BEREC-GSMA Roundtable**

An MCA representative participated in a virtual roundtable discussion between BEREC and the GSMA held on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2020. Participants discussed the role of telecoms in the recovery from crisis with Industry and how to address 5G deployments cost challenges. An open exchange of views was also held on platform regulation in

view of the European Commission's plans of a new Digital Services Act and new competition tools.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> BEREC Contact Network 2020

MCA participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> BEREC Contact Network 2020 held remotely on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2020. The objective of the Meeting was to prepare the 44<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Plenary Virtual Meetings of the BEREC Board of Regulators (BoR) and the Management Board of the BEREC Office (MB).

## PUBLICATIONS

### Notice: Assignment of Radio Spectrum for Fixed Radio Links

Published On: Sep 29th 2020 News

### End-User Affairs: Half Yearly Report (January – June 2020)

Published On: Sep 15th 2020 End User Half Yearly Report

### Junior Analyst (Communications & PR)

Published On: Sep 1st 2020 Recruitment

### Broadband as a Universal Service: Ensuring the Availability of an Adequate Broadband Internet Access Service, including the Underlying Connection, at a Fixed Location

Published On: Aug 28th 2020 Consultation

### Review of Universal Service Obligations on Electronic Communication Services, Consultation and Proposed Decision

Published On: Jun 11th 2020 Mobile Services

### The Assignment Process of Radio Spectrum in the sub-700MHz Band for Digital Terrestrial Television Services in Malta

Published On: Aug 27th 2020 Decision

### Consultation and Proposed Decision - GO plc's Application for Funding relating to Universal Service Obligations during 2016.

Published On: Aug 25th 2020 Consultation

### Monthly Newsletter - July 2020

Published On: Aug 20th 2020 News

### Key Market Indicators for Electronic Communications and Post: Q1 2016 to Q1 2020

Published On: Aug 4th 2020 Data Report Sheet

## MEDIA ACTIVITY

### Television:

Date: 29/09/2020

Channel: Popolin

Topic: Telephone Boxes

Participant: Tiziana Pace

### Radio:

Date: 23/08/2020

Channel: Calypso

Topic: Mobile Usage in Malta

Participant: Kevin Caruana