## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### DIGINV – Project Meeting

MCA officials participated in the DIGINV Project Meeting which took place between the 21st and 24th March 2019 in Larnaca, Cyprus. During this 3 day meeting all partners in the project discussed the dissemination plan and evaluated the first LTTA in Bevagna. Furthermore, cultural operators from Cyprus presented their best practices for audience development and exchanged their approaches when promoting different cultural activities. The last day was dedicated to the implementation of the digital invasions in Larnaca, in which over 120 people participated.

### The 2nd Partner Meeting for the ERASMUS+ Project – ICT 4 The Elderly

Representatives of the MCA were among other project partners who participated in the 2nd ICT 4 The Elderly Project Partner Meeting on the 19th and 20th March 2019 in Berlin, Germany.

The project partners were welcomed by Nenja Wolbers and Stephan Seiffert from Stiftung Digitale Chanchen for the second face-to-face meeting. The meeting took place at the Digital Learning Centre from Facebook.

On the first day of the meeting, project partners from each organisation presented best practices that they had collected in the previous months. The aim was to select the best content to develop the Training Manual and the Online Academy. The Training Manual will be designed for a 30 hour classroom training, which will take place in Berlin and Malta for 24 participants (12 in Berlin and 12 in Malta). All resources will be then hosted on the Online Academy where participants will deepen their knowledge.

After a very deep analysis of the resources collected, Matthew Borg, project coordinator from MCA, showed participants some samples of project logo and the website.

On the second day of the meeting project partners discussed the next project activities:

- Thanasis Priftis from Ynternet.org presented the concept of the online academy to be developed in the upcoming months.

- Nina Pejic from Simbioza Genesis gave a presentation on the development of the training manual.



### High Level Cybersecurity Meeting on 5G

Malta was represented by an MCA official during the High Level Cybersecurity Meeting on 5G on the 15th March in Brussels, Belgium. The High Level Meeting, chaired by EU Commission Vice President Andrew Ansip, was intended to follow up discussions on cybersecurity that were held on the subject matter in the past. The meeting focused primarily on the security of 5G networks being rolled out across the Union. Malta, as part of the Block is currently focusing on the implementation of the security measures as being recommended by the CION.

### DG-MRKT Meeting on Postal Indicators – Expert Meeting on Postal Statistics

An MCA official attended the Expert Meeting on Postal Statistics, which was held on the 13th March in Brussels, Belgium. The scope of the meeting was to work out a plan towards a more streamlined cooperation with the Commission, ERGP and NRAs. During the meeting, discussions concerned a more aligned approach on definitions, the use of data collected related to Article 4 and 5 of the Regulation on Cross-Border Parcel Delivery Services, the mutual access to postal data and related legal and confidentiality rules that should be applied.

## Cullen International Telecoms Master Class Programme – Mastering European Telecom Regulation

Representatives of the MCA participated in the Cullen International Telecoms Master Class Programme – Mastering European Telecom Regulation between the 11th and 14th March 2019 in Brussels, Belgium.

The masterclass gave a comprehensive overview of regulatory issues and developments in the EU's telecommunications sector. It also gave an insight into the latest developments in the fields of broadband deployment and access regulation, interconnection and call termination, radio spectrum policy and awards, net neutrality, mobile regulation and roaming, and current EU policy goals. Furthermore it provided a detailed understanding of key institutional mechanisms, notably the EU legislative process as it relates to the telecoms sector and the harmonisation mechanisms in Europe.

## ENISA Security & Network Integrity – 27th Article 13A Workshop

MCA officials attended ENISA's Article 13a Working Group and its preceding Workshop, which was also open to other stakeholders in the industry between the 6th and 8th March 2019 in Stockholm, Sweden. The open workshop tackled various issues including the security of 5G networks, cybersecurity and the impact of climate change on the security and integrity of networks to name a few. The closed workshop, intended for the NRAs and other supervisory bodies served as a platform to discuss best practice related to security of networks and services including the challenges posed by the upcoming changes to law following the approval of the new European Electronic Communications Code.

## 38th BEREC Plenary Meeting and IRG General Assembly & Heads Workshop

MCA attended the 38th BEREC Plenary meetings held on the 7th and 8th March in Prague, Czech Republic and hosted by NMHH, the Hungarian national regulatory authority for electronic communication services. During the Plenary, the BEREC Board of Regulators adopted guidelines on intra-EU

communications, as required under the new European Electronic Communications Code. From 15th May, operators must offer tariffs to consumers with a maximum charge of €0.19 a minute for intra-EU calls and €0.06 per intra-EU SMS (excluding VAT). BEREC has issued guidelines on how the new rules should be applied, aimed at giving clarity to operators, regulators and consumers. The Board also agreed on changes to the process for the development of the BEREC Work Programme, which encourages early engagement with stakeholders. Reports on 'Terminating Contract and Switching Provider' and 'Internet of Things Indicators' were also adopted. A full list of public documents adopted is available on the BEREC website https://berec.europa.eu/

## BEREC Market & Economic Analysis Working Group Meeting + Workshop on the BEREC Guidelines on Co-Invenstment

An MCA official attended a kick-off meeting organised by BEREC's Market and Economic Analysis Expert Working Group (MEA EWG) on the 6th March 2019 in Brussels, Belgium.

The discussion focused on Article 76 of the European Electric Communications Code (EECC), specifically on the conditions under which NRAs shall not impose certain obligations on operators deploying very high capacity (VHCNs). In this regard, BEREC is to publish guidelines to foster the consistent applications by NRAs of the criteria set out in Article 76(1) of the EECC, whereby they will have to assess proposed commitments by these operators in order to determine whether their offer to co-invest with other operators in the relevant VHCN, meets the specific cumulative conditions set in Article 76(1). On this basis, NRAs would decide whether not to impose any additional obligations pursuant to Article 68 (as regards the parts of the new very high capacity network that are subject to the commitments). The main deliverable in the coming weeks will be to draft the Scoping and Working Document, which would outline the main issues to be addressed by the EWG with respect to the guidelines as well as the level of harmonisation that would be sought.

A workshop was also organised by the EWG on the 7th March 2019 with operators' associations to collect their initial views on what are the aspects to be addressed in the guidelines and

their view on the level of harmonisation they consider as adequate.

## Safer Internet for Children Expert Group

The MCA was represented in the new Expert Group on Safer Internet for Children which convened on the 6th March 2019 in Brussels, Belgium. This Expert Group helps to improve coordination and cooperation between EU Member States and propose concrete actions to keep children safe when using the internet. The meeting addressed various topics including the scope of the Group, Context of the Better Internet for Kids Strategy and implementation and the state of play at national level. One particular aim of the group is to facilitate the sharing of best practice between Member States on how to implement some of the specific provisions concerning minors in key existing legal acts. These include for example measures to protect minors from harmful content in the Audio-visual Media Services Directive (AVMSD) or rules on requiring parental consent to access children's data covered by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

## PUBLICATIONS

### Data Report Sheet (DRS) with the Latest Figures is Published

*Published On: Mar 29th 2019 News*

### Key Market Indicators for Electronic Communications and Post: Q1 2014 to Q4 2018

*Published On: Mar 29th 2019 Data Report Sheet*

### The MCA Registers an Increase of 13% in Consumer Complaints in the Last 6 Months of 2018

*Published On: Mar 29th 2019 News*

### MCA End-User Half Yearly Statistical Report July - December 2018

*Published On: Mar 29th 2019 End User Half Yearly Report*

### Numbering Resources for M2M/IoT Connectivity Services (and other Non-Interpersonal Communications Services (Non-ICS))

*Published On: Mar 29th 2019 Consultation*

### Pricing Developments February 2019

*Published On: Mar 27th 2019 News*

### Monthly Newsletter - February 2019

*Published On: Mar 25th 2019 News*

### MCA Publishes Service Providers' Price Comparisons for February 2019

*Published On: Mar 25th 2019 Monthly Pricing Developments*

### BEREC Guidelines on Intra-EU Communications

*Published On: Mar 13th 2019 News*

## MEDIA ACTIVITY

### Television:

**Date:** 26.03.2019
**Channel:** TVM
**Programme:** Niskata
**Topic:** End User Report
**Participant:** Yanika Bugeja

**Date:** 25.03.2019

**Channel:** TVM

**Programme:** WaraNofsinhar

**Topic:** End User Report

**Participant:** Yanika Bugeja


**Date:** 12.03.2019

**Channel:** TVM

**Programme:** Niskata

**Topic:** Wangiri Calls

**Participant:** Yanika Bugeja


**Date:** 11.03.2019

**Channel:** TVM

**Programme:** WaraNofsinhar

**Topic:** Wangiri Calls

**Participant:** Yanika Bugeja


## LEGAL UPDATES

### Litigation:

•Receipt of appeal by Aspider Solutions Malta Ltd (notified on 21st March 2019) filed before the Administrative Review Tribunal. Aspider are contesting a regulatory decision of the MCA imposing an administrative fine for non-compliance with number porting requirements.

### Publication of Legislation:

•Legal Notice 39 of 2019 entitled 'Malta Communications Authority Act (Second Schedule) (Amendment) Order, 2019