

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

9th World Radiocommunication Conference Radio Spectrum Policy Group Subgroup Meeting

The MCA participated in the 9th World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) sub-group meeting of the Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) on the 28th of February 2025. The meeting focused on further developing the interim draft opinion on specific agenda items for the World Radiocommunication Conference 2027.

European Regulators Group for Postal Services Regulatory Framework Working Group Meeting

The MCA participated in a meeting of the European Regulators Group for Postal Services (ERGP) Regulatory Framework Working Group (RFWG) that was held on 27th February 2025. The meeting discussed the work required to execute the planned tasks of the RFWG during 2025. It also discussed considerations on the resilience and security of postal services, including new obligations that are being introduced under EU legislation. Other discussion took place on the evaluation of force majeure requests. Various views were also exchanged on the work being carried out on ERGP's forthcoming report on the outline of a new postal regulatory framework.

BEREC End-User Working Group Meeting

A virtual meeting of the BEREC End-User Working Group took place on the 24th February 2025. During this meeting, the BEREC Co-Chairs presented a progress update on the working group's assigned work streams. During this meeting the group discussed and agreed on the targets and objectives of the End-User Team's working programme for 2025.

8th Meeting of Working Group 3 of the European Board of Digital Services

The MCA attended the 8th meeting of Working Group 3 (WG3) of the European Board of Digital Services, which was held remotely on Thursday 20th February 2025. The meeting provided an update on the Digital Services Act (DSA) Transparency Database including the changes that are being implemented, as well as discussed process improvements. This was followed by an update on the progress and next steps of the MoU under Article 40. In addition, an initial discussion was held on how the DSA could be useful for the enforcement of IPR. A dedicated meeting is being proposed to be held in the coming months to further elaborate on this topic.

12th Meeting of the European Board for Digital Services

On the 19th February 2025, the MCA participated in the 12th meeting of the European Board for Digital Services held in Brussels. Key topics included the achievements of the Digital Services Act (DSA) in its first year, innovative best practices,

and the Board's priorities for the upcoming year. The meeting featured a keynote speech by EVP Henna Virkkunen, an update and adoption of the Elections Toolkit, and a discussion on activities in the Working Groups.

BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group Kick-Off Meeting

On Friday 14th February 2025, an MCA official participated in a virtual kick-off meeting organized by the BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group (MEA WG), for members of the *BEREC Workshops on the competitive effects of strategic fibre networks deployment, including in the context of copper switch-off*. The meeting aimed to discuss the two workshops that the WG will hold, with the objective of assessing whether there are enough cases to support the development of a case study. During the discussion, a request for information was made, and the MCA submitted its feedback on Monday, 24th February 2025.

The 109th Working Group on Frequency Management

The Electronic Communications Committee's (ECC) Working Group on Frequency Management (WG FM) plays a pivotal role in formulating strategies, plans, and implementation guidance for radio spectrum management within the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations. The most recent meeting, held in a hybrid format from the 10th to 14th of February 2025, took place in Porto, Portugal. During the sessions, the group reviewed several ECC decisions, recommendations, and reports, which deliverables are expected to contribute to the ongoing review of

legislation pertaining to spectrum management in Malta.

4th Working Group 1, Joint Working Group 1/ Working Group 5 & 4th Working Group 5 of the European Board for Digital Services Meetings

On the 12th February 2025, the MCA participated in 3 consecutive online meetings of the European Board for Digital Services. The first to take place was the 4th Working Group 1 (WG1) meeting, which focused on legal issues in relation to certain online platform services and their scope under the Digital Services Act (DSA). This was followed by a joint WG1 and WG5 meeting which discussed the new obligations introduced by the General Product Safety Regulations (GPSR) for online marketplaces and the interplay with the DSA, including enforcement. Lastly, the 4th meeting of the WG5 discussed the allocation of competences related to online marketplaces across different entities at Member State level.

5th Meeting of Working Group 7 of the European Board for Digital Services

On 7th February 2025, the MCA participated online in the 5th meeting of Working Group 7 (WG7) - Orders and Criminal Issues of the European Board for Digital Services. The meeting served to discuss a planned joint mapping exercise on Articles 9 and 10 DSA orders, involving competent MS authorities and national legal bases. The meeting also served to explore the technical challenges and solutions encountered in the transmission of

Articles 9 and 10 DSA orders.

7th Meeting of Working Group 4 of the European Board for Digital Services

The MCA participated in the 7th meeting of Working Group 4 (WG4) - Integrity of the Information Space of the European Board for Digital Services, held online on 3rd February 2025. The meeting covered updates on recent and upcoming national elections in MS, with presentations by HAKOM, BnetzA, and ANCOM, as well as a discussion on the DSA Elections Toolkit for Digital Services Coordinators. The meeting also covered the WG4 plan of activities and deliverables for 2025.

60th Meeting of the ECC Working Group NaN1

Two representatives from the MCA participated virtually in a meeting of a project team within Working Group NaN1, which was held between the 4th and 5th February, 2025. The project team held discussions on multiple aspects related to future numbering issues, including ongoing drafting of Reports, reviewing of ECC Recommendations and discussions on future work items.

BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group Meeting

The MCA participated in a virtual meeting organized by the BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group (MEA WG) for drafters of the BEREC Report on the regulation of physical

infrastructure access. The draft report was released for public consultation on December 5th, 2024, with feedback accepted until February 19th, 2025. The meeting focused on the approach for incorporating consultation submissions into the report, and on outlining the role of drafters to review all 16 received contributions and to integrate feedback into the draft report.

A follow-up drafters meeting is scheduled for March 20th, 2025, to further discuss the report's progress. Link to the BEREC Consultation: <https://www.berec.europa.eu/en/all-documents/berec/reports/draft-berec-report-on-the-regulation-of-physical-infrastructure-access>

OTHER ACTIVITIES

MCA's participation in GTG's Tech Law Seminar



The Malta Communications Authority (MCA) continues to play a leading role in shaping discussions on technology and regulation. Representing the Authority, Ing. Antoine Sciberras, Chief responsible for Technology and Spectrum Management, contributed to a seminar on Tech Law, organized by GTG. The event brought

together industry professionals to discuss key topics, including the impact of new and evolving legislation on the technology sector.

PUBLICATIONS

Award of Trusted Flagger Status to the Foundation for Social Welfare Services under Article 22 of the Digital Services Act

Published On 25/02/2025 Decision MCA-D/25-5553

The Market for the Provision of Wholesale Fixed Access in Malta - Consultation on Findings and Proposals

Published On 21/02/2025 Consultation MCA-C/25-5537

Update to the Register of Authorised Undertakings providing Postal Services in Malta

Published On 20/02/2025 News

Monthly Newsletter - January 2025

Published On 19/02/2025 News

Changes in Line-Up and Price Developments for Telecom Services – October to December 2024

Published On 14/02/2025 Pricing Developments
MCA/R/25-5550

Changes in Line-Up and Price Developments for Telecom Services – July to September 2024

Published On 14/02/2025 Pricing Developments
MCA/R/25-5549

Changes in Line-Up and Price Developments for Telecom Services – April to June 2024

Published On 14/02/2025 Pricing Developments
MCA/R/25-5548

Quality of Service (QoS) Parameters to be Measured by Providers of Internet Access Services (IAS) and Publicly Available Interpersonal Communications Services (PA-ICS)

Published On 05/02/2025 Consultation MCA-
EXT/ms/25-5542

LEGAL UPDATES

Litigation:

6th February 2025:

Sitting before the Administrative Review Tribunal in the case Maltapost plc versus L-Awtorita' ta' Malta dwar il-Komunikazzjoni, where Maltapost are contesting an MCA decision requiring MaltaPost to pay compensation for not having achieving the quality of service targets for 2019. Case was adjourned to 13th May 2025 for final written submissions by MaltaPost. Subsequently MCA will reply to aforesaid submissions.

6th February 2025:

Sitting before the Administrative Review Tribunal in the case Vodafone Malta Ltd (Now Epic Communications Ltd) versus L-Awtorita' ta' Malta dwar il-Komunikazzjoni, where EPIC are contesting MCA's VULA 2016 decision. Case was decided in favour of MCA with costs.

12th February 2025:

Sitting before the Administrative Review Tribunal in the case: GO plc versus L-Awtorita' ta' Malta dwar il-Komunikazzjoni, whereby GO is contesting a MCA notification issued on the 30th July 2024, whereby MCA informed GO of the next steps in relation to the re-assessment of the wholesale fixed access market. During this sitting, GO presented a document re Commission ruling, relating to market analysis in relation to Estonian market. Oral submission in relation to MCA's preliminary plea contending that GO's appeal were made. Case adjourned to 25th March 2025 for Tribunal's decision on MCA's preliminary plea.