



AGENCY FOR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND  
POSTAL SERVICES

**BRANKO KOVIJANIĆ, PRESIDENT OF EKIP, HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF MINI-BOARD OF THE BODY OF EUROPEAN REGULATORS FOR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS (BEREC) AND AS THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE INDEPENDENT REGULATORS GROUP (IRG)**

During the third Plenary Session of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC), held from 6-7 October 2022 in Salzburg, Austria, Branko Kovijanić, the President of the Council of the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services, has been appointed as the Vice-Chairman of BEREC Mini- Board, and at the Assembly of the Independent Regulators Group (IRG) he has been appointed as the Vice-Chairman of IRG. Branko Kovijanić will perform these functions, according to the rules and procedures of BEREC and IRG, during the calendar year 2023.

We would like to remind that BEREC, the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications, was established by the Regulation of the European Commission and the European Council in 2009. Its competences include, inter alia, the exchange of expertise and best practices, giving opinions and recommendations on the functioning of the telecommunications market in the European Union, along with preparing opinions and positions on various regulatory issues for the needs of the European Commission and the European Council, at their request or on its own initiative. On the other hand, the Independent Regulators Group (IRG) was established in 1997, as a group of European national regulatory authorities for telecommunications with the aim to exchange experiences and views among IRG members regarding important issues related to the regulation and development of the telecommunications market.

After the procedure of voting and election to these two responsible positions was completed, Branko Kovijanić, the President of the Agency's Council has stated: *"According to the*



*regulations of the European Union in the field of electronic communications adopted at the end of 2018 (European Electronic Communications Code - EECC), at the 39th Plenary Session held in June 2019 in Ghent - Belgium, from the position of President of the Council of EKIP, I signed the Working Agreement on our participation in the work of BEREC. According to that Agreement, EKIP participates in the work of the BEREC Committee, Contact Network and expert working groups, as well as in the work of the Management Board of the BEREC Office and the BEREC Mini-Board, which brings together states that are not members of the European Union. The continuous participation of EKIP employees and managers within BEREC enabled EKIP to apply the best regulatory practices in the electronic communications sector in Montenegro, faster transfer of expert knowledge and further strengthening of administrative capacities. I believe that by electing me to these positions, by the leaders of the independent regulatory agencies of the member states of the European Union has been given a great and significant recognition to Montenegro and EKIP as the oldest regulatory agency in this part of Europe, and at the same time it is a confirmation of the permanent improvement and the expertise of the employees of EKIP”.*



*Predsjednik Kovijanić has also pointed out: “In accordance with the BEREC Strategy adopted for the period from 2021-2025, BEREC aims to encourage independent, consistent and high-quality regulation of digital markets in addition to the application of the EU regulatory framework in order to promote an efficient internal market in the electronic communications sector and create conditions for further benefits, both for consumers and businesses. I believe that Montenegro, as a candidate country for EU membership, is getting closer to that goal, and I will devote my upcoming mandate together with my colleagues in EKIP to the implementation of the competences, mission and strategy of BEREC, and also to the implementation of the best practices on our market as well as knowledge transfer of BEREC member experts to the employees in the electronic communications sector in Montenegro. I am also convinced that with my engagement and by involving the team consisted of the colleagues from EKIP, we will contribute to further strengthening of independence of our regulatory agency and to additional strengthening of administrative capacities in our country. I would like to note that these are the two final benchmarks for the temporary closure of negotiations in Chapter 10 - Information Society and Media, which includes the sub-areas: electronic communications, information society services and audiovisual policy”.*

Just for reminding, EKIP will host the second Plenary Session of BEREC, to be held in June 2023, when more than 100 representatives from all regulatory agencies for electronic communications, both the member states of the European Union and non-member states that participate in the work of BEREC as a non-voting observers, are expected to participate.

EKIP

Podgorica, 7 October, 2022