



International Conference

**"CURRENT AND FUTURE REGULATORY CHALLENGES, HARMONISATION WITH THE
EUROPEAN REGULATORY FRAMEWORK"**

Budva, Montenegro, 26 – 28 September 2022

Dear Sir / Madam,

The Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services of Montenegro (EKIP) will organize International Conference, titled "Current and Future Regulatory Challenges, Harmonisation with the European Regulatory Framework", which will be held from 26 to 28 September 2022 in Budva.

This year, the 19th Conference will be held as one of the leading gatherings of regulators in the region of Central and South-Eastern Europe, where various aspects of the regulation of electronic communications market will be discussed.

Development policy makers and regulators of electronic communications market play a significant role in efficient implementation of digital transformation, which will have positive effects on the economic development and society development as a whole, which has proved to be crucial in the conditions and environment we live and work in recent years. In addition to digital skills, infrastructure is a key prerequisite for wide application of developed digital solutions. The attendees of the Conference will have an opportunity to exchange experiences on incentives and developed solutions for increasing the availability of broadband access, infrastructure development, identification of barriers and measures to remove them. A dynamic discussion is also expected with regard to the efficient implementation and sustainable development of 5G networks and services, with a special emphasis on the contribution and synergy of telecom, IT and other vertical industries, the public sector and academic communities.

Given the fact that radio has a very important social, cultural and democratic role, and that digitalization of radio have met the needs of the audience and provided an economic stimulus to the industry of the countries that have advanced in this process, EKIP has planned a part of the program of this year's Conference to be dedicated to digital radio. Considering the differences with regard to application and development of digital terrestrial radio (DAB) in the Member States of the European Union in relation to the countries of the Western Balkan region, we expect that a discussion at the Conference will contribute to the establishment of a regional initiative for accelerated implementation and development of DAB in our region.

A significant link for the realization of full potential of the electronic communications sector is its regulation, particularly in terms of implementation of the market analysis process, which identifies the operators with significant market power and defines regulatory requirements, in order to re-establish distorted competition and protect the interests of end users and interests of other market players. A major challenge facing the regulators today is establishing cost-oriented price of services, especially when it comes to the fact that the electronic communications sector is characterized by

rapid technological development and growth, as well as large capital investments. The Conference program will focus on exchange of experiences on the results of the market analysis and the cost models based on which the regulation of service prices offered by SMP operators is carried out, as well as discussions on the future activities aimed at decreasing the prices of roaming services between the Western Balkan countries and the European Union.

Special attention at the Conference will be given to the ever-present challenge – how to ensure an efficient protection of the rights of users of electronic communications services in the era of a continuous market development and the emergence of new services, where constant access to digital technologies is required. Nowadays, in a digital society, it is important to ensure universal access to services, information and content, while developing a framework for providing inclusiveness and better access for persons with disabilities.

Considering that this event will foster connectivity in the region and promote the role of NRAs in the era of digital transformation, as well as the transition from integrated to collaborative regulation, EKIP invites all representatives of European regulatory agencies, ministries, electronic communications operators, academic communities, as well as representatives and experts of international organizations and institutions competent for the regulation policy and electronic communications development, to participate in this Conference, and thus contribute to the success and quality of the Conference itself, but also to further development and progress of the regulatory framework, new models of regional connectivity, and the growth of electronic communications in the countries of the region.

If you are interested to present experiences and achievements with regard to one of the topics that will be in focus of the Conference program, please send the proposals for presentation titles no later than 24 July 2022, to the e-mail address: conference@ekip.me. After accepting the proposals of presentation titles by the organizer of the Conference, the deadline for submitting presentation is September 20, 2022. The Conference-related documents, including the Agenda, registration process, accommodation and other useful information will be available on the web page of EKIP, at the following address: <https://www.ekip.me/page/conferences/international-conference-current-and-future-regulatory-challenges-harmonisation-with-the-european-regulatory-framework-budva-2022/content>. The Conference will be held in Montenegrin and English, with simultaneous translation.

The Conference will be held in a picturesque Mediterranean ambience of Budva, the metropolis of Montenegrin tourism, and as it was the case in previous years, other side events will be also organized that will make the atmosphere at the Conference more encouraging and relaxing at the same time, including a unique and always exciting cruising in the Bay of Kotor.

Please, feel free to contact us for any further information:

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Best regards,



Executive Director
Darko Grgurović

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