Net neutrality is the principle that every point on the network can connect to any other point on the network, without discrimination on the basis of origin, destination or type of data.

In 2013, the Commission proposed a Telecommunications Single Market Regulation, addressing net neutrality, among other subjects such as roaming, user rights and spectrum. Now, the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council started informal discussions to reach an agreement. How? Through a series of meetings called “trialogues”.

**What are “trialogues”?**

Trialogues are not mentioned in the EU treaties. They are informal, closed-door meetings between the three institutions to work towards an agreement. The process is regulated by Parliament’s “rules of procedure”.

**The European Commission** initially made a proposal that was full of loopholes regarding net neutrality.

The European Parliament adopted a strong position in first reading and needs to stick to its position.

The Latvian Presidency of the Council finalised a political agreement from the Member States as the basis for the negotiations. It needs to be amended in order to close substantial loopholes.

**Negotiating texts**

If an agreement is reached between the three institutions, that text will be voted in the Council. Afterwards, it will be sent to the European Parliament for a final approval.

**EU Regulation**

Outcomes are from everyone and from no-one, so accountability is limited.

**Trialogue meetings are not public, the documents presented are not public.**

**Democratic?**

Pilar del Castillo

RAPPORTEUR

- **Pilar del Castillo** EPP

KEY PARLIAMENTARIANS

- **Patricia Yog S&D**
- **Dario Tamburini EFDD**
- **Jens Rohde ALDE**
- **Vicky Ford ECR**
- **Petra Kammerevert S&D**

**European Parliament**

EU Regulation

First reading

Proposal

European Commission

Political Agreement

Council of the EU

LATVIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EU

European Commission

Agreement

Parliament vote

Second Reading

Council of the EU

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