

### **Alliance for broadband competition sets out benchmarks for EU's telecommunications update**

Today, 12 July, EU and US telecommunications experts issued a clear warning: to ensure investment in broadband and to give consumers high-speed access to the internet, efficient competition has to be guaranteed.

EU policy-makers, academics, civil society and internet providers gathered at #NetCompetition's high-level forum to lay down the yardstick for the upcoming telecommunications review. For the EU to deliver for citizens and businesses, the EU must:

- Reinforce the EU's successful pro-competitive principles, because network investment and competition in the market are complementary;
- Prevent the (re)creation of oligopolistic or monopolistic market structures, guaranteeing that big and small providers can compete under fair conditions;
- Update the existing consumer protection rules so that consumers can reap the benefits of competition in the markets;

**Joe McNamee, Executive Director of EDRI** said:

"It is remarkable, after decades of successful pro-competitive regulation in the telecoms sector, the big operators are still trying to turn back the clock. Like it or not - competition works - monopolies don't."

**Johannes Pruchnow, Member of the BREKO Advisory Board and former CEO of Versatel**, said:

"Fast and reliable internet is the backbone of a thriving economy and crucial to guarantee a free and unrestricted flow of ideas among citizens. This is best guaranteed in a competitive telecommunications environment. Therefore, EU policy-makers need to make 'net competition' their guiding principle when revising the EU's telecommunication rules."

#### **About NetCompetition**

The #NetCompetition Alliance exists to ensure that competition in telecoms markets in Europe continues to be the guiding mantra. #NetCompetition is a multi-stakeholder alliance that includes consumer and digital rights organisations, business user groups, network operators, internet service providers, content and application providers.

Since its establishment in November 2015, the #NetCompetition alliance has kept growing with new members joining from different civil society organisations and industry players. Recent key incorporations include content giant Netflix and the [German Association of alternative network operators VATM](#).

The recent additions to the membership of the #NetCompetition Alliance reinforce its message that a competitive broadband market is needed to ensure ultra-fast, innovative and affordable internet access to businesses, consumers and European society at large.

Note: #NetCompetition promotes this [set of principles](#) for competition in the broadband sector.

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**NetCompetition Members**

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