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A7-0272/ 001-057

AMENDMENTS 001-057

by the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Report

Evžen Tošenovský

A7-0272/2013

Trans-European telecommunications networks

Proposal for a regulation (COM(2013)0329 – C7-0149/2013 – 2011/0299(COD))

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation

Title

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on guidelines for trans-European
telecommunications networks and
repealing Decision No 1336/97/EC

on guidelines for trans-European **digital**
networks and repealing Decision No
1336/97/EC

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1) **Telecommunications** networks and services are increasingly becoming internet-based infrastructures, with broadband networks and digital services closely interrelated. The internet is becoming the dominant platform for communication, services, and **doing** business. Therefore, the trans-European availability of fast Internet access and

(1) **Digital** networks and services are increasingly becoming internet-based infrastructures, with broadband networks and digital services closely interrelated. The internet is becoming the dominant platform for communication, services, **education, participating in social and political life**, and business. Therefore, the trans-European availability of **widespread**,

digital services in the public interest is essential for economic growth and the Single Market.

high-speed, secure Internet access and digital services in the public interest is essential for **social and** economic growth, **competitiveness, social inclusion** and the Single Market.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4a) The development of broadband and high-speed broadband networks and digital services will reinforce the need for European technical standards. Union research and development programmes and increased monitoring of standardisation procedures are needed if the Union is to play a pivotal role in the telecommunications industry.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5) Large scale pilots between Member States and co-financed by the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme such as PEPPOL, STORK, epSOS, eCODEX or SPOCS have validated key cross border digital services in the internal market, based on common building blocks. These have already reached or are in the future reaching the maturity level required for deployment. Existing projects of common interest have already demonstrated the clear added value of action at European level, such as in the fields of cultural heritage (Europeana), child protection (Safer Internet), social security (EESSI), while others such as in the field of consumer protection (ODR) have been proposed.

(5) Large scale pilots between Member States and co-financed by the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme such as PEPPOL, STORK, epSOS, eCODEX or SPOCS have validated key cross border digital services in the internal market, based on common building blocks. These have already reached or are in the future reaching the maturity level required for deployment. Existing projects of common interest have already demonstrated the clear added value of action at European level, such as in the fields of cultural heritage (Europeana), child protection (Safer Internet, **including Better Internet for Kids programme**), social security (EESSI), while others such as in the field of consumer protection (ODR) have been proposed.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation Recital 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5a) Any actions intended to set up or develop digital cross-border services within the framework of the Digital Agenda should include a set of measures and instruments to protect and promote children's rights in the online environment.

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation Recital 5 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5b) Given its recognised important role in protecting and in empowering children, the functioning of the Safer Internet Programme (the future "Better Internet for Kids") - with the awareness nodes, helplines and hotlines - should be ensured after 2014 and beyond.

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation Recital 5 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5c) The financing for the Safer Internet Programme, including the Safer Internet Centres (SIC) (with awareness nodes, helplines and hotlines) in the Member States and the Better Internet for Kids programme must be maintained.

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

(7) With regard to digital service infrastructures, building blocks shall take priority over other digital service infrastructures, since the former **are a pre-condition** for the latter. Digital service infrastructures should, inter alia, create European added value and meet proven needs. They should be sufficiently mature for deployment, technically as well as operationally as proven in particular through successful piloting. They should be based on a concrete sustainability plan to ensure the long-term operation of core service platforms beyond the CEF. Financial assistance under this Regulation should therefore wherever possible be phased out over time and funding from sources other than the CEF should be mobilised.

Amendment

(7) With regard to digital service infrastructures, building blocks **and digital services infrastructures with elements that can be used by other service providers** shall take priority over other digital service infrastructures, since the former **provides a basis** for the latter **to build on**. Digital service infrastructures should, inter alia, create European added value and meet proven needs. They should be sufficiently mature for deployment, technically as well as operationally as proven in particular through successful piloting. They should be based on a concrete sustainability plan to ensure the long-term operation of core service platforms beyond the CEF. Financial assistance under this Regulation should therefore wherever possible be phased out over time and funding from sources other than the CEF should be mobilised.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

(8) Digital service infrastructures that are necessary to meet legal obligations under EU law and/or are developing or providing building blocks, with a potential high impact on the development of pan-European public services, should be prioritised for funding, so as to support multiple digital service infrastructures and over time gradually build up a European interoperability ecosystem. In this context, legal obligations mean specific provisions requiring either developing or using digital service infrastructures, or requiring results which can only be achieved through European digital service infrastructures.

Amendment

deleted

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) The Digital Agenda for Europe stipulates that by 2020 all Europeans should have access to internet speeds of above 30 Mbps and 50% or more of European households should subscribe to internet connections above 100 Mbps.

Amendment

(11) The Digital Agenda for Europe stipulates that by 2020 all Europeans should have access to internet speeds of above 30 Mbps and 50% or more of European households should subscribe to internet connections above 100 Mbps. ***However, given the rapid evolution of technologies that lead to ever faster internet connexions, it is appropriate today, for all Union households, to target internet connections above 100 Mbps with 50% of the households having access to 1 Gbps.***

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 11 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(11a) A European market with nearly 500 million people connected to high-speed broadband would act as a spearhead for the development of the Internal Market, creating a globally unique critical mass of users exposing all regions to new opportunities and giving each user increased value, as well as giving the Union the capacity to be a world leading knowledge-based economy. A rapid deployment of high-speed broadband networks is crucial for the development of European productivity and for the emergence of new and small enterprises that can be leaders in different sectors, for example health care, manufacturing and the service industries.

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 11 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(11b) The combination of new opportunities in infrastructure and new, innovatory and interoperable services should set in motion a virtuous circle by stimulating increasing demand for high-speed broadband to which, in commercial terms, it would be advisable to respond.

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 11 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(11c) While the deployment of fibre and ultra high-speed broadband connections in the Union remains unsatisfactory, other economies in the world are taking the global lead by offering significantly higher capacity and speeds of 1 Gbps and above. Investment in fibre, both in the home and in passive infrastructure in the backhaul network, is a crucial ingredient if the Union is to be home to innovation, knowledge and services.

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 11 d (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(11d) Targets for 2020 should be revised, aiming for the Union to have the fastest broadband speed in the world by seeking to ensure that by 2020 all Union citizens have access to 100 Mbps and 50% of Union households have access to speeds of 1 Gbps or above.

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 13 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(13a) Public funding for broadband should be spent solely on infrastructures open to competition. Only networks open to competition via mandated third party access can deliver affordable competitive services and innovation for consumers and businesses.

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 13 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(13b) Ensuring that consumers are easily able to access and distribute content, services and applications of their choice via a single internet subscription is of vital importance for the completion of the Union's single digital market. In this context, BEREC's findings of May 2012 show that at least 20% of mobile internet users in Europe experience some form of restriction on their ability to access VoIP services. Although competition is expected to discipline operators, progress has been very slow and the publicly-funded telecommunications networks covered by this Regulation should therefore be prohibited from blocking lawful services.

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 19 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(19a) There is a need to gather information and statistical data on the public works which are likely to be used, partly or completely, to install new-generation networks, and to set up a database for monitoring those works and the creation of a Union register of

telecommunications networks, where possible supplemented by similar information on energy and transport networks.

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission

(22) The Commission should be assisted by an Expert Group of representatives of Member States which shall be consulted on and contribute to, inter alia, monitoring of the implementation of these guidelines, planning, evaluation and addressing implementation problems.

Amendment

(22) The Commission should be assisted by an Expert Group of representatives of **all** Member States which shall be consulted on and contribute to, inter alia, monitoring of the implementation of these guidelines, planning, evaluation and addressing implementation problems.

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation Article 1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. This Regulation lays down guidelines for the timely deployment and interoperability of projects of common interest in the field of trans-European *telecommunications* networks.

Amendment

1. This Regulation lays down guidelines for the timely deployment and interoperability of projects of common interest in the field of trans-European **digital** networks.

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) "**Telecommunications** networks" means broadband networks and digital service infrastructures.

Amendment

(a) "**Digital** networks" means broadband networks and digital service infrastructures.

Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 2 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) "Broadband networks" means wired and wireless access networks, ancillary infrastructure and core networks capable of delivering very high speed connectivity, thereby contributing to the broadband targets of *the Digital Agenda for Europe*.

Amendment

(f) "Broadband networks" means wired and wireless access networks, ancillary infrastructure and core networks capable of delivering very high speed connectivity, thereby contributing to the broadband targets of **100 Mbps and 1Gbps where possible and above**.

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) economic growth and support to the completion of the Digital Single Market in support of the competitiveness of the European economy, including small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

Amendment

(a) economic growth and support to the completion **and smooth functioning** of the Digital Single Market in support of the competitiveness of the European economy, including small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

Amendment 23

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) improvements in the daily life for citizens, businesses and governments through the promotion of interconnection and interoperability of national, regional and local telecommunications networks as well as access to such networks.

Amendment

(b) improvements in the daily life for citizens, businesses and governments **at every level** through the promotion of **broadband networks**, interconnection and interoperability of national, regional and local telecommunications networks as well as **open and non-discriminatory** access to such networks **and digital inclusion, bearing in mind that the more sparsely populated and less developed regions must be included in and served with connections. In order to complete the single digital market, close cooperation and coordination of activities under the Connecting Europe Facility programme with the national and regional broadband**

actions shall be ensured.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ba) ensure a safe, inclusive and positive online environment for children and young people

Amendment 25

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Projects of common interest may encompass their entire cycle, including feasibility studies, implementation, continuous operation, coordination and evaluation.

Projects of common interest may encompass their entire cycle, including feasibility studies, implementation, continuous operation ***and development***, coordination and evaluation.

Amendment 26

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3a) Financing shall be allocated taking into account the specific needs of the beneficiaries, in particular by balancing the division between subsidies and innovative financial instruments.

Amendment 27

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. Actions contributing to projects of common interest in the field of digital service infrastructures must, to be eligible

1. Actions contributing to projects of common interest in the field of digital service infrastructures must, to be eligible

for funding, *cumulatively*:

for funding:

Amendment 28

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. Building blocks ***essential for, and*** with demonstrable prospects of being used in, the development, deployment and operation of other digital service infrastructures as listed in the annex shall be given first priority for funding.

Amendment

2. Building blocks and ***mature digital services containing technical models (such as an interoperable data model, a standard for access rights or a networking model connecting all Member States)*** with demonstrable prospects of being used in the development, deployment and operation of other digital service infrastructures listed in the annex shall be given first priority for funding.

Amendment 29

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. ***Second*** priority shall be given to digital service infrastructures ***in support of specific provisions of EU legislation and based on existing building blocks.***

Amendment

3. Priority shall be given ***also to other*** digital service infrastructures ***as listed in the Annex (Section 1.2.) to this Regulation.***

Amendment 30

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3a) As the core service platform is a precondition for establishing a digital service infrastructure, the support to core service platforms and their common building blocks shall take priority over generic services.

Amendment 31

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. On the basis of the objectives provided for in Article 3 and in function of the available budget, the work programmes may establish further eligibility and priority criteria in the field of digital service infrastructures.

Amendment

4. On the basis of the objectives provided for in Article 3 and in function of the available budget, the work programmes **as defined in Regulation (EU) No / establishing the Connecting Europe Facility ("work programmes")** may establish further eligibility and priority criteria in the field of digital service infrastructures.

Amendment 32

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. On the basis of the objectives provided for in Article 3 and in function of the available budget, the work programmes may establish further eligibility and priority criteria in the field of digital service infrastructures.

Amendment

4. On the basis of the objectives provided for in Article 3 **and in the Annex to this Regulation** and in function of the available budget, the work programmes may establish further eligibility and priority criteria in the field of digital service infrastructures.

Amendment 33

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 5 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) make a significant contribution to the realisation of the targets of **the Digital Agenda for Europe**.

Amendment

(a) make a significant contribution to the realisation of broadband targets of **100Mbps and 1Gbps where possible and above**.

Amendment 34

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 5 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

(e) use the technology which is deemed most suitable to address the needs of the

Amendment

deleted

area in question taking into account geographic, social and economic factors based on objective criteria and in line with technological neutrality.

Amendment 35

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 5 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) *deploy* state of the art *technology* and/or be based on innovative business models, and have a high potential for replicability.

Amendment

(f) *propose the best balance between* state of the art *technologies in terms of data flow capacity, transmission security, network resilience, and cost efficiency.*

Amendment 36

Proposal for a regulation Article 6 – paragraph 6

Text proposed by the Commission

6. The criteria mentioned in point (f) of the preceding paragraph shall not be required for project funded from additional ring-fenced contributions provided in accordance with Article 15.2 of Regulation (EU) No xxx/2012 [CEF regulation]

Amendment

deleted

Amendment 37

Proposal for a regulation Article 7

Text proposed by the Commission

The Union may establish contacts, discuss, exchange information and cooperate with public authorities or any other organisations in third countries to achieve any objective pursued by these guidelines. Among other objectives, this cooperation shall seek to promote the interoperability between *telecommunications* networks in the Union and *telecommunications* networks of third countries.

Amendment

The Union may establish contacts, discuss, exchange information and cooperate with public authorities or any other organisations in third countries to achieve any objective pursued by these guidelines. Among other objectives, this cooperation shall seek to promote the interoperability between *digital* networks in the Union and *digital* networks of third countries.

Amendment 38

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. On the basis of information received under Article 21 of the Regulation XXX establishing the CEF, Member States and the Commission shall exchange information about the progress made with the implementation of these guidelines.

Amendment

1. On the basis of information received under Article 21 of the Regulation XXX establishing the CEF, Member States, the Commission shall exchange information **and best practices** about the progress made with the implementation of these guidelines. ***A yearly overview of that information shall be sent to the European Parliament. Member States shall involve local and regional authorities in the process.***

Amendment 39

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The Commission shall consult and be assisted by an Expert Group, composed of a representative of each Member State. In particular, the Expert Group shall assist the Commission in:

- (a) monitoring the implementation of these guidelines;
- (b) **planning** national plans or national strategies, where applicable;
- (c) undertaking measures to evaluate the implementation of the work programmes on a financial and technical level;
- (d) addressing existing or emerging project implementation problems.

The Expert Group may also consider any other issue relating to the development of the trans-European **telecommunications** networks.

Amendment

2. The Commission shall consult and be assisted by an Expert Group composed of a representative of each member State. In particular, the Expert Group shall assist the Commission in :

- a) monitoring the implementation of these guidelines;
- (b) **coordinating** national plans or national strategies, where applicable;
- (c) undertaking measures to evaluate the implementation of the work programmes on a financial and technical level;
- (d) addressing existing or emerging project implementation problems;

The Expert Group may also consider any other issue relating to the development of the trans-European **digital** networks.

In particular, the Expert Group shall assist the Commission in preparatory

work prior to drawing up the annual and multiannual work programme and its revision referred to respectively in Article 17(1) and Article 17(2) of Regulation (EU) No xxxx/xxxx establishing the Connecting Europe Facility.

To that end, the Expert Group shall engage in structured cooperation with those involved in the planning, development and management of digital networks and services such as, inter alia, local and regional authorities, national regulatory authorities and the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC), internet access providers, public network administrators and component manufacturers.

The Commission and the European Investment Bank shall pay particular attention to the Expert Group's observations and shall publicly justify any instances where such observations are not taken into account. The Commission shall inform the Expert Group, at each of its meetings, of the progress made in implementing the work programme.

Amendment 40

Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3a) That report shall provide an evaluation of:

(a) the progress achieved in the development, construction and commissioning of projects of common interest and, where relevant, delays in implementation and any other difficulties encountered;

(b) the funds committed and disbursed by the Union for projects of common interest in accordance with Regulation (EU) No xxxx/xxxx of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the

Amendment 41

Proposal for a regulation Annex – Section 1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Interventions in the area of digital service infrastructure generally rely on a two-layer architecture approach: core service platforms and generic services. ***As the core service platform is a pre-condition for establishing a digital service infrastructure, the support to core service platforms and their common building blocks shall take priority over generic services.***

Amendment

Interventions in the area of digital service infrastructure generally rely on a two-layer architecture approach: core service platforms and generic services.

Amendment 42

Proposal for a regulation Annex – Section 1 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

The core service platforms ***and their common building blocks*** address interoperability and security needs of projects of common interest. They are intended to enable digital interactions between public authorities and citizens, public authorities and businesses and organisations, or among public authorities of different Member States through standardised, cross-border, and user-friendly interaction platforms. ***Building block*** digital service infrastructures shall take priority over other digital service infrastructures, ***since the former are a pre-condition for the latter.*** The generic services provide the connection to the core service platforms and enable the national added value services to use the core service platforms. They provide gateways between national services and core service platforms and allow national public

Amendment

The core service platforms address interoperability and security needs of projects of common interest. They are intended to enable digital interactions between public authorities and citizens, public authorities and businesses and organisations, or among public authorities of different Member States through standardised, cross-border, and user-friendly interaction platforms. Digital service infrastructures ***that provide an integral part of other digital service infrastructures, or that can serve as a model for new platforms,*** shall take priority over other digital service infrastructures. The generic services provide the connection to the core service platforms and enable the national added value services to use the core service platforms. They provide gateways between national services and core service

authorities and organisations, businesses and/or citizens to access the core service platform for their cross-border transactions. The quality of the services and the support for stakeholders involved in cross-border transactions shall be assured. They shall support and stimulate take-up of core service platforms.

platforms and allow national public authorities and organisations, businesses and/or citizens to access the core service platform for their cross-border transactions. The quality of the services and the support for stakeholders involved in cross-border transactions shall be assured. They shall support and stimulate take-up of core service platforms.

Amendment 43

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – Section 1 – point 1 – point e a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ea) Critical measures for online safety: this refers to services to ensure online safety for children and young people through the strengthening and development of approaches that, while maintaining the internet's open nature, employ proportionate technical responses combined with actions empowering individuals, particularly by means of education.

Amendment 44

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 1 – point 2 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. Other digital service infrastructures a priori identified as eligible in accordance with Article 6.1:

2. Other digital service infrastructures a priori identified as eligible in accordance with Article 6.1 **and 6.3**:

Amendment 45

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 1 – point 2 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(f) Access to digital resources of European heritage: This refers to the core service platform based on the current Europeana portal. The platform **will provide a single**

(f) Access to digital resources of European heritage: This refers to the core service platform based on the current Europeana portal. The platform **provides the central**

access point to Europeana cultural heritage content at item level, a set of interface specifications to interact with the infrastructure (search for data, download data), support for the metadata adaptation and ingestion of new content, as well as information on conditions for reuse of the content accessible through the infrastructure.

access point to Europeana cultural heritage content at item level, a set of interface specifications to interact with the infrastructure (search for data, download data), support for the metadata adaptation and ingestion of new content, as well as information on conditions for reuse of the content accessible through the infrastructure.

Amendment 46

Proposal for a directive

Annex – section 1 – point 2 – point g

Text proposed by the Commission

(g) Safer internet service infrastructure: This refers to the platform for acquiring, operating and maintaining shared computing facilities, databases and software tools for the Safer Internet Centres (SICs) in the Member States. Back-office operations to handle reporting of sex abuse content are also included as well as the link with police authorities including international organisations such as Interpol, and when appropriate, the handling of the take down of this content by the relevant web sites. This will be supported by common databases.

Amendment

(g) Safer internet service infrastructure: This refers to the platform for acquiring, operating and maintaining shared computing facilities, databases and software tools ***as well as exchange of best practices*** for the Safer Internet Centres (SICs) in the Member States. ***SICs in the Member States ensuring Union added value are the key element of the safer internet service infrastructure, of which national helplines, hotlines, awareness nodes and other awareness-raising activities are of particular importance.*** Back-office operations to handle reporting of sex abuse content are also included as well as the link with police authorities including international organisations such as Interpol, and when appropriate, the handling of the take down of this content by the relevant web sites. This will be supported by common databases ***and by common software systems.***

Amendment 47

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 1 – point 2 – point h a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ha) Deployment of infrastructures in public transport allowing the use of secure and interoperable mobile proximity

services: the deployment of infrastructures in public transport allowing the use of secure and interoperable mobile proximity services will enable citizens, businesses and organisations to access a variety of innovative services in mobility across the Union.

Amendment 48

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 1 – point 2 – point h b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(hb) European Platform for Access to Educational Resources. The objective is to exploit the benefits of ICT in the field of education through Union-wide access to shared educational material. Cost-effective access to and improved quality of educational material through peer-review would strengthen Union cohesiveness by enabling contacts, cooperation and debates among students and in the academic world. It would serve as a backbone for cooperation between educational institutions facilitating the implementation of other Union programmes such as "Erasmus for All". It would improve access to education and enhance the position of the Union in the global academic sphere.

Amendment 49

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 2 – point 1 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Where possible, potential synergies shall be exploited between the roll-out of broadband networks and other utilities networks (energy, transport, water, sewerage, etc.), in particular those related to smart electricity distribution.

Amendment 50

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 2 – point 1 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ca) Assistance in narrowing the digital divide.

Amendment 51

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 2 – point 2 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

All projects financially supported under this Regulation shall significantly contribute to the achievement of ***the targets of the Digital Agenda for Europe.***

All projects financially supported under this Regulation shall significantly contribute to the achievement of ***100Mbps and 1Gbps where possible and above.***

Amendment 52

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 2 – point 2 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

All projects financially supported under this ***Regulation*** shall significantly contribute to the achievement of the targets of the Digital Agenda for Europe.

All projects financially supported under this ***section*** shall significantly contribute to the achievement of the targets of the Digital Agenda for Europe.

Amendment 53

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 2 – point 2 – point a – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) be based on state-of-the art technology, either wired or wireless, capable of delivering very high-speed broadband services, thus meeting demand for applications which require high bandwidth, or

(a) be based on state-of-the art technology, either wired or wireless, capable of delivering very high-speed broadband services ***of speeds of up to at least 100 Mbps***, thus meeting demand for applications which require high bandwidth, or

Amendment 54

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 2 – point 2 – point a – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ca) comply with applicable law, in particular with competition law and with the obligation to ensure access. Only networks open to competition should be eligible for public funding as set out in this Regulation.

Amendment 55

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 2 – point 2 – point a – point c b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(cb) support the open nature of the internet by ensuring that blocking of lawful services on telecommunications networks funded via this Regulation is prohibited, while allowing for reasonable traffic management at time of network congestion at peak hours, respecting the minimum quality of service requirements stipulated in Article 22(3) of Directive 2002/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 March 2002 on universal service and users' rights relating to electronic communications networks and services (the Universal Service Directive).

Amendment 56

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – section 2 – point 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) Actions funded from additional ring-fenced contributions provided in accordance with Article 15.2 of Regulation (EU) No xxxx/2012 [CEF regulation] shall bring significant new capabilities to the market in terms of broadband service

(b) Actions funded from additional ring-fenced contributions provided in accordance with Article 15.2 of Regulation (EU) No xxxx/2012 [CEF regulation] shall bring significant new capabilities to the market in terms of broadband service

availability, speeds and capacity. Projects which provide speeds of data transmission of less than **30** Mbps should ensure the increase of speeds to at least **30** Mbps over time.

Amendment 57

Proposal for a regulation Annex – section 3 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

The deployment of trans-European **telecommunications** networks that will help to remove the bottlenecks existing in the digital single market shall be accompanied by **studies and** programme support actions. These actions may consist of:

availability, speeds and capacity. Projects which provide speeds of data transmission of less than **100** Mbps should ensure the increase of speeds to at least **100** Mbps over time.

Amendment

The deployment of trans-European **digital** networks that will help to remove the bottlenecks existing in the digital single market shall be accompanied by programme support actions. Those actions may consist of: