Open Internet and Net Neutrality in Europe

MEPs insisted on a consistent implementation of the EU Telecom regulatory framework and on a close monitor of traffic management practices to preserve the open and neutral character of Internet.

The Commission, the Member States and the Body of European regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) should ensure consistency in the approach on net neutrality and an effective implementation of the EU Telecom regulatory framework, MEPs say in a resolution by Herbert Reul (EPP, DE) unanimously adopted on Thursday with 38 votes.

It would benefit all stakeholders if the Commission were to provide EU-wide guidelines, including with regard to the mobile market, to ensure that the provisions of the Telecom package on net neutrality are properly applied and enforced, they consider.

Preserving the open and neutral character of Internet

According to the Commission's Communication, there is at this stage no clear need for additional regulatory intervention on net neutrality at the EU level. However, MEPs in the committee underline the potential for anti-competitive and discriminatory behaviour in particular by vertically integrated companies.

They call on the Commission, together with BEREC in cooperation with Member States to closely monitor the development of traffic management practices and to control that Internet Service Providers do not block, discriminate against or impair the ability of any person to use or offer any service, content or application of their choice irrespective of source or target.

In the Chair: Herbert Reul (EPP, DE)
Procedure: motion for resolution
Vote in committee: 38 votes in favour, 0 against, 0 abstentions
Vote in plenary: November II

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