



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Plenary sitting

8.5.2013

B7-0000/2013

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Question for Oral Answer B7-0000/2013

pursuant to Rule 115(5) of the Rules of Procedure

on The Digital Agenda for Europe - Driving European growth digitally - A
roaming-free Europe in 2015
(2013/2593(RSP))

Jens Rohde

on behalf of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

B7-0000/2013

European Parliament resolution on The Digital Agenda for Europe - Driving European growth digitally - A roaming-free Europe in 2015(2013/2593(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission’s communication entitled "The Digital Agenda for Europe - Driving European growth digitally" – COM(2012)784 final,
 - having regard to the question of xx xx xxxx to the Commission/Council on Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - "The Digital Agenda for Europe - Driving European growth digitally" (O-xxxx/xxxx – B7-0000/2013),
 - having regard to the Regulation (EU) No 531/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2012 on roaming on public mobile communications networks within the Union,
 - having regard to Rules 115 (5) and 110 (2) of its Rules of procedure,
- A. whereas the European Council is planning to adopt conclusions on the Digital Agenda for Europe at the European Council of 24-25 October 2013,
1. Regrets that the telecommunications market is still fragmented in national markets and cannot be considered as a single economic market in which competition is encouraged.
 2. Stresses that industry analysts have indicated that the European operator roaming revenue in many cases accounts for about 10 per cent of sales and that industry and consumers often pay four times the price that operators have to pay in the wholesale market for roaming calls.
 3. Regrets that these unbalanced profit margins on roaming increase the costs of mobility within Europe. This hampers growth and prosperity, since mobility is one of the most important factors for growth in Europe.
 4. Stresses that the United States has eliminated roaming tariffs and that the government of India has approved a New Telecom Policy (NTP) 2012, which also eliminates roaming charges.
 5. Believes that the European Union should follow the example of the United States and India. Calls for a comprehensive set of concrete measures to be presented by the Commission and approved before the end of this Parliament that would address the problem of market fragmentation in the telecoms sector.
 6. Believes that these structural measures should create a genuine internal digital and telecommunications market in which competition is encouraged and in which network operators have to offer other mobile providers access to their networks at wholesale

prices. Believes that these measures should include a framework in which users can retain the same number across countries without having to pay roaming charges.

7. Reminds the Council and the Commission that the Digital Agenda for Europe states that the difference between roaming and national tariffs should be close to zero by 2015. Regrets that this goal is far from being achieved.
8. Believes that the measures should therefore abolish roaming charges not later than 2015.
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States.