

## **19TH EUROPEAN REGIONAL ITS CONFERENCE**

**Luiss Guido Carli University, Rome, 18-20 September 2008**

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

The electronic communications sector is key for the competitiveness of national economies, and represents a substantial part of productivity and GDP growth. The pace of innovation in the sector is relentless, and scholars, practitioners, industry players and policymakers strive to catch up with transformation dictated by the evolution of technology and demand, of regulatory practices and innovative corporate strategies. **The 19th European Regional ITS Conference** will be held in Rome at Luiss Guido Carli University on **18-20** September 2008. It will focus on key challenges in the sector such as industry structure, spectrum policy, regulatory approaches, interconnection issues, new multi-player business models, the changing role of consumers and ways to bridge the digital divide.

The ITS invites you to submit an **abstract** for a paper to be presented at the 19th European Regional ITS Conference.

#### **1. REGULATORY AND INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES: EMERGING APPROACHES**

*Track Chair: Giovanni Amendola / Antonio Perrucci*

- infrastructure-based vs. service-based competition
- functional and structural separation
- interaction between access policy and innovation
- the list of relevant markets after the review
- harmonisation across Europe and the Internal Market
- the pan-European Regulator: need, role, powers
- the transition towards *ex post* competition policy
- regulatory challenges posed by the movement towards all-IP networks
- impacts of specific regulatory measures on competition (wholesale and retail)
- impacts of specific regulatory measures on investment (infrastructure, services)
- the future of universal service

## **2. SPECTRUM POLICY**

*Track Chair: Gerard Pogorel*

- efficient use of the spectrum (spectrum markets, unlicensed spectrum, etc.)
- flexibility vs. harmonization
- technology and service neutrality
- the digital dividend
- spectrum auctions
- property rights and spectrum usage rights
- legacy rights
- technological developments and unlicensed spectrum
- alternative allocation mechanisms
- simplification of the decision-making architecture
- a pan-European Spectrum Management Authority?
- institutional diversity across Europe: national stakeholders

## **3. BROADBAND PENETRATION AND ECONOMIC IMPACT**

*Track Chair: Graham Vickery*

- contribution of telecommunication services to investment and growth in Europe
- OECD data and other sources: how do they compare?
- determinants of demand for broadband connections
- the discrepancy between availability and connections
- broadband usage: impact on innovation intensity / on employment / working conditions
- the i2010 strategy and the future of EU policy
- eInclusion and means to bridge the digital divide

## **4. INTERNET REGULATION AND GOVERNANCE: APPROACHING WEB 2.0**

*Track Chair: Lorenzo Pupillo*

- Internet governance
- net neutrality in Europe: developments in an all-IP world
- lessons from pioneer countries and historical parallels
- Web 2.0 challenges
- new regulatory institutions?
- the role of Google and its competitors in an all-IP world

## **5. MOBILE TRENDS AND NEW BUSINESS MODELS**

*Track Chair: Johannes Bauer*

- mobile / fixed convergence of services
- flat rate offers vs. micropayments
- location-based services
- mobile broadband
- mobile and the last mile (WIMAX, etc.): relevance and impact on competition
- 4G networks
- mobile interconnection
- multi-play offers
- mobile DRM
- e-payments and m-payments
- mobile peer-to-peer applications
- revenue-sharing models
- MVNOs

## **6. CONTENT, PRIVACY AND TRUST IN THE DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT**

*Track Chair: Nico van Eijk*

- privacy-enhancing technologies and new business models
- content and media regulation on the Internet
- parental controls and other security measures on the Internet
- privacy, DRMs, e-payments
- content downloads and p2p sharing
- RFID: challenges of the “Internet of things”

## **7. ANTITRUST TOOLS IN THE ALL-IP ERA**

*Track Chair: Andrea Renda / Roberto Pardolesi*

- market definition and fixed-mobile convergence
- geographical segmentation of markets
- calculation of market shares
- does SMP still make sense?
- inter- and intra-platform competition in the all-IP layered architecture
- two- and multi-sided markets
- margin squeeze and vertically separated networks
- bundling, tying and technological integration
- collective dominance
- industry consolidation and merger policy
- real option models for securing efficient access to networks

## **8. COUNTRY CASE STUDIES AND COMPARATIVE ANALYSES:**

*Track Chair: Jason Whalley*

- regulatory diversity in Europe: competition of approaches
- service vs. facility-based competition
- regulatory holidays vs. mandatory network sharing
- cost orientation - Approaches to margin squeeze
- unbundled access: The main lessons
- the development of markets in the New Member States
- EU-US comparisons
- emerging trends in developing countries

## **9. OTHER IMPORTANT TRENDS AND POSSIBLE TOPICS**

*Track Chair: Brigitte Preissl*

- the uptake of e-commerce and m-commerce
- the evolving role of consumers as “prosumers”
- IP rights and cross-platform versioning
- state aids for NGN deployment

**This list of topics shall stimulate contributions. Other suggestions are welcome.**

Please send an extended abstract to:

[itseurope@diw.de](mailto:itseurope@diw.de) and to [b.preissl@zbw.eu](mailto:b.preissl@zbw.eu)

no later than 31 March 2008. Abstracts should be about 2 pages long (800 to 1000 words) and contain the following information:

- a research question
- some remarks on methodology
- expected results
- bibliographical notes (main references used in the paper)
- **please indicate the track the paper shall be presented in (see 1-8 above) !**

For more information about ITS and the benefits of joining this network, see:

<http://www.itsworld.org>

### **For the organising committee:**

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