

AT A GLANCE: ENISA RECOMMENDS EUROPE-WIDE RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR IOT – COMMISSIONER GABRIEL ADDRESSED ECTA REGULATORY CONFERENCE – NO NEW EU LEGISLATION ON AI PLANNED

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BREXIT

Barnier calls for a EU-UK partnership based on fair rules



In a **speech** to the Centre for European Reform, Michel Barnier, who is leading the Brexit negotiations on behalf of the European Commission, defended the single market as a package of 4 indivisible freedoms and the UK's choice to leave the single market meant it would lose the benefits of membership.

In the same speech, Michel Barnier **warned** that a future trade deal will depend on a level playing field between the UK and EU. He acknowledged that this will not be easy as for the first time ever the challenge will be to limit divergence of rules rather than maximise convergence. He stressed "there will be no ambitious partnership without common ground in fair competition, state aid, tax dumping, food safety, social and environmental standards".

EU leaders will meet on 14-15 December to decide if "significant progress" has been made on the three divorce issues to allow talks to move onto the future trade arrangement and a transitional period for the two or more years after the UK leaves on 29 March 2019. Theresa May will meet Jean-Claude Juncker for a dinner on 4 December. December 4 is also the deadline set by Donald Tusk for the UK to make an improved offer to allow time for the European Council conclusions to be drafted.

The European Parliament will debate the state of play of the talks on 13 December and adopt a non-binding resolution giving their opinion on whether sufficient progress has been made. The European Parliament coordinator, Guy Verhofstadt, has warned that the Parliament still has concerns over citizens' rights. European People's Party leader, Manfred Weber (EPP-DE), who has often been the most ardent critic of the UK's position, softened his stance after a meeting with Theresa May on 15 November and he was more optimistic a deal could be reached in December.

Source: [Interel](#)

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CYBERSECURITY

ENISA recommends Europe-wide rules and guidelines for IoT



This month ENISA, the European cybersecurity agency, published a **study** on security recommendations for IoT in the context of critical information infrastructures. The study aims to set the scene for IoT security in Europe and to feed into forthcoming EU initiatives and developments in the area.

The report recommends setting Europe-wide rules and guidelines for IoT. It stresses the importance of implementing specific security measures to protect Internet-connected device from cyber threats.

Source: [Interel](#)

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Draftsman on e-Privacy criticizes publishers

MEP Birgit Sippel (S&D/DE), who is leading the Parliament's negotiations on new privacy rules in Europe, criticized news publishers that serve targeted ads to readers.

"Media, and publishers, can't use whatever business model they like," she said, speaking at the International Association of Privacy Professionals' 2017 data protection conference.

The e-Privacy Regulation would reform EU rules on how companies read emails, messages and online behavior. It aims to push back against the use of "cookies" and other tracking technology.

Mrs Sippel, who recently took over the rapporteur position from Estonian colleague Marju Lauristin, said: "We need to give incentives to develop more privacy-friendly advertising techniques."

The regulation, presented in January by the European Commission, obliges telecoms and online communications applications to protect the confidentiality of calls, messages and other data. It would replace the e-Privacy Directive, which is better known as the EU's "cookie law."

Parliament agreed on its position on the regulation in October. The EU Council is still considering the text, ahead of three-way negotiations on the bill expected early next year.

Source: Politico Pro

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Commissioner Gabriel addressed ECTA regulatory conference



The European Competitive Telecommunications Association (ECTA) held their annual conference in November. The conference focused on the European Electronic Communications Code.

Commissioner Mariya Gabriel, in charge of the Digital Economy and Society, delivered a video message on the occasion of the ECTA Regulatory Conference 2017. She called on ECTA for support in the period of negotiations on the Electronic Communications Code: *"Regulation must aim to help the deployment of the best very high capacity networks to the benefit of as many EU citizens and businesses as possible. Competition is fundamental to foster investment. Investment certainty also requires coordinated internal market rules for spectrum assignments: on timing, licence duration and the assignment process and other conditions. This is crucial for the next generation of network technology, 5G. Europe cannot expect to lead in 5G deployment if significant reforms are not introduced in spectrum management to ensure investments on a wide scale."*

As you may know, the European Electronic Communications Code is a priority file of the Digital Single Market strategy proposed by the European Commission in September 2016 to boost investment in high-speed and high-quality networks. The Code is currently being negotiated with the European Parliament and the Council. The next step will be the Telecoms Council on 4 December in Brussels.

Source: Dods

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Spectrum authorisation approaches will help to achieve the full benefits of future 5G use cases



In June 2016 the Commission launched a call for tenders for the study on spectrum assignment in the EU.

The objective of the study on “Spectrum assignments in the EU” was to assess the specific elements, processes and

conditions under which radio spectrum, in particular for 5G usage including wireless broadband, should be authorised and assigned by Member States and how timely access to spectrum can contribute more fully to the general objectives set out by the EU regulatory framework.

The study, which is now **published**, has determined that both regulators and mobile operators would generally prefer to continue adopting the current approach to spectrum authorisation and assignment and that the current authorisation framework is generally fit for delivering current services. In contrast, industrial sectors (so-called ‘verticals’) favourably consider any licensing approach as long as their quality of service requirements can be satisfied and their long investment timescales can be supported. The grouping analysis established that overall, countries which practiced a group of investment friendly practices when assigning spectrum, namely low reserve prices; well-designed coverage objectives; and long licence lengths exhibited more positive market outcomes, such as wider network roll-out; better quality and choice of services; higher take-up of services and greater competition.

The findings of the Study will provide additional elements in the context of the ongoing negotiations with the European Parliament and the Council on the Commission Proposal for a «European Electronic Communications Code» (EECC). The Study will be further exploited in the context of the implementation of the Commission 5G Action Plan.

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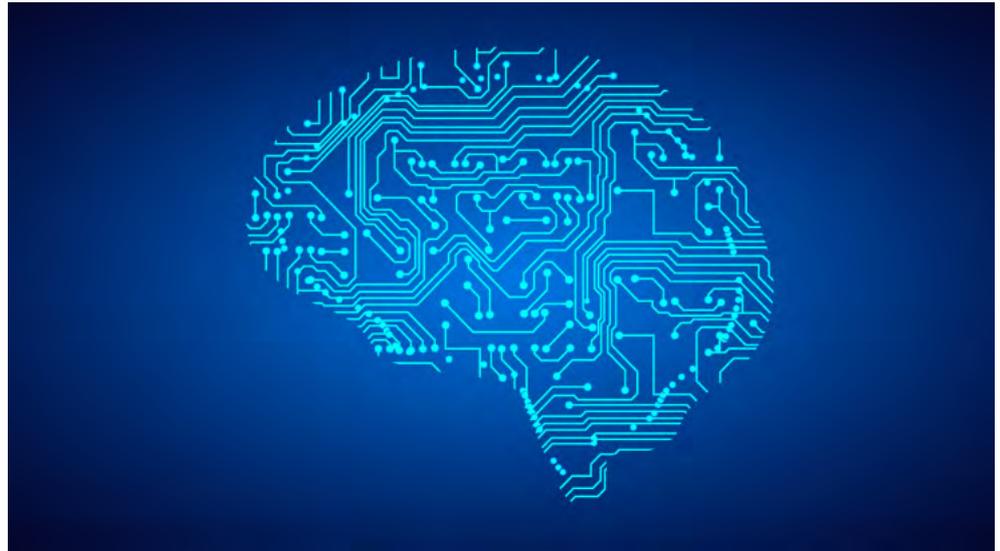
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ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE - ROBOTICS

No new EU legislation on AI planned



At a conference on artificial intelligence attended by Interel earlier this month in Brussels, the European Commission made clear that no new legislation is planned in the area of artificial intelligence. The Commission representative stated that the EU is commercially and scientifically well positioned in the area of AI. Although no new legislation, the Commission wants to strengthen the research and industrial capacity in AI and tackle ethical and socio-economic issues through a Communication which is due to come out in Spring 2018.

Current legislation, the Commission found, is also "AI-ready". In the review process of the current legislation which is regulating AI from a machinery and product liability perspective, the Commission received positive feedback on the regulations from industry and academics, and will hence not propose major changes to the law.

Source: [Interel](#)