



---

## **The Digital Single Market**

### **Taxation**

#### *Tax Cooperation*

1. The European Council recognizes the importance of coordinated taxation in the digital realm, but comes to the conclusion that a consensus on the Commission's proposal concerning the CCCTB (2016/0336 (CNS)) and interim tax on certain revenue from digital activities (2018/0073 (CNS)) cannot be found.

### **Infrastructure and Education**

#### *EU Education Cooperation and Fostering*

2. The European Council sees the necessity for digital education and recommends member states to implement legislation on a national or local level to promote digital proficiency. Existing educational funds of the EU should be reallocated to strongly promote digital education. The European Council further encourages to refocus already existing educational programs by:
  - encouraging exchange among educators of different member states,
  - creating public online services to inform and educate citizens on topics concerning the digital single market,
  - further supporting start-up projects in digital education,
  - providing financial assistance for procurement of educational hardware to educational institutions.

#### *5G action plan of the EU Commission*

3. The European Council concludes that the Commission's 5G action plan should become a prime goal of the next administration starting in November 2019. The Council prefers a strategy based on geographical factors and not on a population density basis in order to favour internet access in rural regions. In order to strengthen the digital single market, a common frequency band for all member states shall be chosen.

#### *Liberalisation of the national telecommunication markets*

4. Recognizing the price differences for telecommunication between member states, and the lack of international competition between providers, the Council encourages the Commission to find a European solution that promotes a greater homogeneity in the telecom market, such as but not limited to equalizing the structural and organisational differences between member states' national telecommunication markets.

---

### *Funding of fibre infrastructure by the EU*

5. In order to improve the development of the fibre infrastructure, the European Council encourages the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union to gradually increase the share of telecommunications in the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) of currently 0.3 bn EUR to 4-5 bn EUR taken from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, the Fund of Regional Development, and the transportation share of the CEF. The European Council furthermore encourages Parliament and Council to increase the share of telecommunications in other infrastructure funds as well.

### *Digital support for rural areas*

6. The European Council encourages the Commission to establish an action plan bringing the advantages and opportunities of the digital realm to small and mid-sized enterprises by prioritising improving access in rural commercial zones, before gradually expanding to residential areas as well.

### *Basic internet supply*

7. The European Council strongly encourage the commission to evaluate the concept of the right of basic supply and to encourage member states to implement national legislation encouraging providers to connect rural areas to the internet. The basic supply principle is implemented in the electricity market as well as in several other areas and ensures that supply is provided even in areas where economic benefits are not immediately apparent for private investors. The European Council is in favour of expanding this concept to the internet infrastructure as well. This shall be a priority topic for the next Commission.

## **Regulation of the Digital Single Market**

### *Harmonisation of national law*

8. The European Council strongly endorses the efforts by the commission to further harmonize EU privacy law and adapt it to the GDPR with proposal 2017/0003. In light of the entry into force of the GDPR in May 2018, the European Council calls for the legislative bodies of the EU to address this topic with the utmost expediency.

### *Freedom of Data and Net Neutrality*

9. The European Council proposes to introduce the free flow of data as a fifth freedom to the regulatory frameworks of the European single market. The European Council encourages all member states to uphold and move towards the principles of free movement of data (net neutrality).

### *Copyright in the Digital Single Market*

10. In reference to the draft directive 2016/0280 (COD) addressing the issue of copyrights in the Digital Single Market and draft regulation 2016/0284 (COD), the European Council agrees on
  - creating exceptions for education, research, cultural heritage and the inclusion of disabled people,
  - strengthening the position of right holders to easier provide creative content across borders.

---

### *Copyright infringement*

11. Furthermore, the European Council is aware of the usage of copyrights for fraudulent purposes, as well as the possibility for copyright laws to limit the freedom of expression, especially when it comes to online content creation.

### *Hate Speech as a threat to the European Society*

12. The European Council is concerned about the rise of hate speech on the internet and reminds of the importance of an ongoing assessment and harmonisation of national legislation. The European Council is also aware of the thin line between taking action against hate speech and the protection of the freedom of speech.

### *EU Action against Hate Speech*

13. The European Council looks favourably upon governments that have introduced legislation and will continue discussing the topic as a matter of importance. In order to address the topic on a European level we request the Commission to provide a legislative proposal as ground for a unified European solution.

### *Simplifying the report of hate speech*

14. The European Council endorses the creation of an eGovernance mechanism that directly addresses hate speech. This unified mechanism may be put in place, for example, to ensure parties will be able to report instances of hate speech efficiently, so that states may act accordingly.

## **Cybersecurity**

### *Definition of Cyberattacks*

15. The European Council wishes for the European Commission to precisely define cyber-attacks, considered an act of war by the European Union, and cyber-crimes.

### *European Action against Cybercrime*

16. In regard to the Commission's draft regulation to (2017/0225 (COD)) and review it (COM (2017) 477), the Council further encourages investments in the development and expansion of ENISA for cybercrime cooperation and certification of cybersecurity products.

### *Bilateral/Multilateral Cybersecurity Cooperation*

17. The EU member states commit to strengthen cooperation between non-military national security agencies related to cyber-crime.

### *Military Cyber Defence cooperation*

18. The European Council encourages cooperation on cyber defence, noting that PESCO members consider cyber-attacks an act of war. The European Council further trusts the European Parliament of the next legislative period 2019-2024 to posture the European Union in the framework of enhanced cooperation

---

towards collective security on a voluntary basis within PESCO while recognising the neutrality of certain member states.

## **eGovernance**

### *Improvement of State Homepages*

19. Recalling the EU Directive on the Accessibility of Public Sector Bodies Websites on the national level, the European Council
  - encourages member states to further expand their electronic government services to grant and to facilitate access to all citizens,
  - encourages the executive and legislative bodies of the European Union to move forward in the topic of eGovernance in order to improve the efficiency of the European Institutions and to establish a framework for cross-border cooperation in eGovernance (2017/0086 (COD)).

### *Harmonisation of national administration systems*

20. 20. Recalling the Draft Regulation (2017/0086 (COD)) by the Commission on the harmonisation of national administration systems, the European Council instructs the Commission to come up with an implementation proposal for the “Once only” approach until the summit of the European Council in December 2018.
-