The EECC
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A new European Directive underpinning regulation across the telecommunications sector - recasting the four existing telecoms Directives of 2009.

UK played a vital role in the EECC negotiations.

It broadly aligns with principles of current EU telecoms regulatory framework but introduces new tools to incentivise investment and harmonise spectrum management.
EECC timelines

- Autumn 2016 - Summer 2018 - EECC negotiated between EU28
- December 2018 - EECC published in the Official Journal of the European Union
- May 2019 - Impact assessments complete
- July - September 2019 - Formal consultation period for EECC (16 July - 10 September)
- Autumn 2019 - Government response to EECC consultation
- September 2020 - Lay statutory instruments
- December 2020 - UK legislation enters into force
- 21 December 2020 - Final transposition deadline
- End of Implementation Period (expected 31 December 2020) - deficiencies in UK law as a result of Brexit are corrected
Spectrum headlines

Harmonise measures and procedures for spectrum management

Maintain powers for Member States to manage spectrum in line with their specific needs.

Supports the efficient and effective use of spectrum, promoting competition, the timely rollout of 5G services and the widespread availability of mobile connectivity.
Impact Assessments

Article 47: Conditions attached to individual rights of use for radio spectrum
- Option 1: retain status quo
- Option 2: transpose article to apply ‘use it or lose it’ conditions to all future mobile licences
- Option 3: transpose article to apply ‘use it or lose it’ conditions to all future spectrum bands

Article 54: Coordinated timing of assignment for specific 5G bands
- Option 1: retain the status quo
- Option 2: allow the use of 26.5-27.5 GHz of the 26 GHz band for mobile (subject to specified caveats)
- Option 3: allow the use of 26.5-27.5 GHz of the 26 GHz band for mobile and subsequently make the rest of the 26 GHz band (24.25-26.5 GHz) available for mobile (subject to specified caveats).
Roaming

Article 47(2):
● allows competent authorities to provide for the possibility of roaming access agreements and infrastructure or spectrum sharing when attaching conditions

Article 52(2):
● allows competent authorities to take appropriate measures to promote effective competition, including attaching conditions to rights of use to provide for national or regional roaming.

Article 61(4):
● requires that competent authorities have the power to impose obligations to share passive (and where necessary, active) infrastructure or conclude localised roaming access agreements subject to strict conditions, where directly necessary for the local provision of services.

We welcome views on the appropriate circumstances for imposing roaming obligations.
Duration of rights

Article 49: Duration of rights

- Regulatory predictability for 20 years for harmonised spectrum, through a minimum duration of 15 years with rights of extension.
- There are specific cases where the Member State can deviate from the minimum duration requirements and extension procedures.

Welcome views on the potential impact of minimum licence durations given market developments and rollout of 5G services.
Transfer and lease of rights

Article 51: Transfer or lease of individual rights of use for radio spectrum

- Member States must allow undertakings to transfer or lease individual rights of use to other undertakings (provided licence conditions are maintained).

Article should facilitate more dynamic use and reduce barriers to entry into the spectrum market.