

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

BEREC-EC High Level Workshop

The MCA attended a Heads workshop, organised on 31st March 2025, in Brussels, to discuss the future of the electronic communications framework in the context of the review that will be undertaken by the end of this year.

BnetzA - WG4 of the European Board for Digital Services Informal Meeting on Recent German Elections

On 31st March 2025, the MCA participated in a session organized by BnetzA, in order to share experiences and lessons learnt from the recent German elections. This session was informally organised by the Working Group 4 participants.

9th Meeting of Working Group 3 of the European Board of Digital Services

The MCA participated in the ninth online meeting of Working Group 3 (Content Moderation and Data Access), on 31st March 2025. The agenda included the state of play of the Data Access MoU, presentation of the draft assessment grid, and the main elements of the revised delegated act.

BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group Meeting

An MCA official, as a drafter nominated by the MCA, attended a meeting on the 24th March 2025, held by the BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group, in order to contribute to the drafting of the Fact-Finding Report on Competition Indicators and Regulatory Highlights Across Different Jurisdictions, which will be published for consultation.

8th Meeting of Working Group 4 of the European Board for Digital Services

On 21st March 2025, the MCA participated in the eighth meeting of Working Group 4 - Integrity of the Information Space, of the European Board for Digital Services. The meeting, held online, included discussions on lessons learnt from the German elections, updates on upcoming national elections in Member States, next steps for the DSA Elections Toolkit, and manipulation of algorithms and instrumentalization of influencers.

BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group Meeting

An MCA representative attended a meeting held on the 20th March 2025, by the BEREC Market and Economic Analysis Working Group, to actively contribute in the drafting of the Draft BEREC Report on the regulation of physical infrastructure access. The report was published for consultation last December, and with the consultation period now closed, drafters are tasked with preparing a summary of public submissions within their assigned areas.

5th Meeting of Working Group 1 (Horizontal and Legal Issues) of the European Board for Digital Services

On 19th March 2025, the MCA participated in the fifth meeting of Working Group 1 – Horizontal and Legal Issues, of the European Board for Digital Services. The meeting, which was held online, included discussions on legal issues such as cross-border intermediary services, music streaming services, and minor and purely ancillary features. There were also discussions on fees and levies at the national level, practices on enforcing DSA at the national level, and cooperation with civil society.

89th Radio Spectrum Committee Meeting

An MCA official attended the 89th Radio Spectrum Committee meeting on the 19th and 20th March 2025. The meeting continued considering initiatives on spectrum harmonisation opportunities in the EU.

The key discussions focused on the use of radio spectrum for radiodetermination devices in the 116-260 GHz band, wireless broadband systems capable of providing local area network connectivity in the 3800-4200 MHz band, aerial-terminal stations operating in EU-harmonised frequency (mobile) bands and WAS/RLANs in the 5945-6425 MHz band. Matters concerning the EU roadmap, concerning the coexistence of mobile networks and aircraft radio altimeters in the 3.4-4.4 GHz band, were also discussed.

6th Meeting of Working Group 6 (Protection of Minors) of the European Board for Digital Services

On the 18th March 2025, the MCA participated in the sixth meeting of Working Group 6 - Protection of Minors, of the European Board for Digital Services. The meeting, which was held online, included a presentation on draft technical specifications concerning age verification, a discussion on the guidelines under Article 28 of the DSA, and updates by DSCs on national enforcement..

BEREC and Cullen International Training Session

An MCA representative attended a training session organized by BEREC and Cullen International on the 17th March 2025. The session focused on the institutional aspects of the EU regulatory framework, covering the EU institutions, their legislative processes, and the governance of the EU. The training also provided an overview of the involvement of the EU institutions in the adoption,

implementation, and enforcement of laws and regulations. Additionally, it explored the roles of NRAs and BEREC, highlighting also BEREC's evolving responsibilities in issuing guidance and opinions under the regulatory framework.

6th Meeting of Working Group 7 (Orders and Criminal Issues) of the European Board for Digital Services

On the 17th March 2025, the MCA participated in the sixth meeting of Working Group 7, Orders and Criminal Issues, of the European Board for Digital Services. The meeting, which was held online, explored results of the Member State Survey on Article 18 DSA, next steps towards guidance on Article 18 DSA, and updates on the PERCI/Article 18 DSA workflow by Europol.

41st Meeting of the ECC Working Group NaN2

Two representatives from the MCA participated virtually, in a meeting of a project team within WG NaN, which was held between the 11th and 12th March 2025. The project team held discussions on multiple aspects related to trust in numbers, number portability, and switching, including ongoing Recommendation and Report drafting and discussions on future work items.

66th Meeting of the Electronic Communications Committee

An MCA official represented the MCA in the 66th meeting of the Electronic Communications

Committee between the 4th and 7th March 2025. The meeting considered developments taking place by the various subgroups, in accordance with their work programme. In particular, the ECC adopted modifications to several ECC decisions, approved a CEPT report on aerial-terminal stations operating in EU-harmonised frequency (mobile) bands and approved draft CEPT report on railway applications in the 900 MHz band for public consultation.

Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) Subgroup Meetings

The MCA participated in various online meetings of the RSPG subgroups. In particular, the MCA co-chaired the RSPG 'Good offices' meeting where cross-border interference issues continued to be discussed and analysed.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Data: The New Future – Horizon Scanning and Opportunities in the Innovative Era



The Malta Communications Authority (MCA) remains at the forefront of shaping the future of data and technological sphere. Representing the Authority, Mr Ivan Bugeja, Senior Manager of External Relations, participated in a Malta Digital Innovation Authority organised panel discussion on building a thriving data economy. Mr Bugeja joined industry experts in exploring regulatory horizon scanning and emerging opportunities in this new era of innovation.

Meeting with Parliamentary Ombudsman



An MCA delegation, led by CEO Jesmond Bugeja, recently met with the Parliamentary Ombudsman, Judge Emeritus Joseph Zammit McKeon. The discussion focused on the role of the Office of the Ombudsman – Malta, in assisting individuals with public administration matters and fostering engagement with public entities to enhance transparency and accountability.

MCA CEO Jesmond Bugeja highlighted the Authority's evolving role in ensuring that communication technologies and services continue to support economic and societal growth. The conversation also explored how emerging policy and market developments shape the communications landscape.

Constructive dialogue and collaboration between

institutions are essential for maintaining an efficient and citizen-centric public administration. The MCA thanked the Office of the Ombudsman for their hospitality during this insightful discussion.

MCA renews MoU with FITA to enhance Web Accessibility Monitoring



The Malta Communications Authority (MCA) has renewed its partnership with the Foundation for Information Technology Accessibility (FITa) to enhance Web Accessibility Monitoring. This ongoing collaboration ensures that accessibility of government websites and mobile applications stay inclusive and accessible to all. Together, we're dedicated to improving user experiences and fostering a more accessible digital world.

Careers Expo hosted by the University Student Council (KSU)

The Careers Expo, was hosted by the University Student Council (KSU) between the 10th and the 13th March 2025, at the University of Malta. The

Malta Communications Authority (MCA) participated in this event, where team members connected with students and shared with them what we do at MCA, from regulating different sectors to collaborating with international organisations. It was also a great chance for students to learn more about opportunities to join the MCA team.



PUBLICATIONS

Monthly Newsletter - February 2025

Published On 21/03/2025 News

Ensuring Compliance with Consumer Protection Norms in Mobile Telephony Services

Published On 17/03/2025 End User Half Yearly Report MCA/R/25-5577

MCA Renews Collaboration with FITA for Web

Accessibility Monitoring

Published On 12/03/2025 News

Career Opportunity: Junior Analyst (Market Modelling)

Published On 04/03/2025 Recruitment Jobsplus permit no: 140/2025

Annual Plan 2025

Published On 04/03/2025 Annual Plan MCA/O/25-5513

LEGAL UPDATES

Litigation:

Administrative Review Tribunal – Decision 25th March 2025:

On the 25th March 2025, the Administrative Review Tribunal issued a decision whereby it upheld MCA's preliminary plea, contesting GO plc's appeal of MCA's notification dated 30th July 2024, whereby MCA had informed Go of the steps being taken by the MCA, subsequent to the European Commission's ruling of the 27th March 2024; whereby the Commission required the MCA to retract its (MCA's) proposed draft measure relating to the wholesale physical and virtual infrastructure access market in Malta. The MCA in the aforesaid plea argued that its notification was not a regulatory decision, which could therefore be contested before the ART.

MEDIA ACTIVITY

Television:

Date: 31.03.2025

Channel: TVM

Programme: News Feature

Topic: Mystery Shopping Report

Participant: Mark Stivala

Date: 28.03.2025

Channel: NET TV

Programme: Bejnietna

Topic: Mystery Shopping Report

Participant: Yanika Buġeja

Radio:

Date: 18.03.2025

Channel: NET

Programme: Brunch ma' Marbeck

Topic: Mystery Shopping Report

Participant: Yanika Buġeja

Radio/Television:

Date: 17.03.2025

Channel: One

Programme: Morning Mix

Topic: Mystery Shopping Report

Participant: Yanika Bugeja