



Czech Telecommunication Office

June 2023

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## Telegraphically

### Roundtable on the P2B Regulation

On 19 June 2023, a roundtable meeting was held at the premises of the Czech Telecommunication Office, at which the [Guide](#) to the application of EU Regulation 2019/1150 (the so-called P2B Regulation), which we discussed in more detail in the [previous monitoring report](#), was presented to stakeholders and interest organisations. At the meeting included a discussion, sharing of knowledge on the topic and there was also space to comment on the Guide.

### The pitfalls of roaming on video

From June 2017, you can use your mobile phone in the European Union, Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland at the same price as at home. In a [new video](#), the Telecommunication Academy explains the difference between roaming and international calls and provides useful tips on how to keep an eye on your bills during the summer holiday season when travelling to European and exotic destinations. As always, you can find it on the Telecommunication Academy's [YouTube channel](#).

### Workshop on the so-called spoofing

On 26 June 2023 at 10:00 a.m., a workshop for invited experts will be held at the CTU premises to discuss the most appropriate measures to prevent the negative impact of spoofing (i.e. manipulation of caller identification) in the Czech Republic. We have discussed this issue in more detail for example in [Monitoring Report 2/2022](#) or on [our website](#). We reported on the increasing number of spoofing complaints in our previous [Monitoring Report](#).

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## Report on Česká pošta's compliance with its obligations in 2022: the number of complaints increased, fines reached almost a million

The report on the fulfilment of the postal licence holder's obligations is issued annually by CTU as the supervisory authority for postal services. The report focuses exclusively on universal services, i.e. those postal services that are provided by Česká pošta as a postal licence holder on the basis of an obligation imposed by a decision of CTU and for which the postal licence holder receives compensation from the state in the form of reimbursement of net costs. The findings of possible deficiencies are therefore only related to universal services and do not include fines issued for other administrative offences. After the overall assessment of all findings, it is possible to conclude that despite individual deficiencies, in 2022 Česká pošta complied with its legal obligations arising from the postal licence granted to it.

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## Legislative changes

### DECREE ON DENSITY CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHMENTS (POST OFFICES)

On 31 May 2023, [Decree No. 147/2023 Coll.](#) amending [Decree No. 464/2012 Coll.](#), on the determination of specifications of individual universal services and basic quality requirements for their provision, as amended by [Decree No. 203/2016 Coll.](#) was published in [Volume 72 of the Collection of Laws](#).

This Decree is issued in connection with the amendment to [Government Order No. 178/2015 Coll.](#), on the determination of the minimum number of establishments for the provision of universal services, implemented by [Government Order No. 108/2023 Coll.](#), which reduced the minimum number of establishments for the provision of universal services from 3,200 to 2,900. The government order sets the number of establishments, and the decree sets the requirements for their location through density criteria.

Thus, in response to the reduction of the minimum number of establishments for the provision of universal services by 300 post offices, the provisions of [Section 14\(2\)\(d\)](#) of the Decree are amended to modify the requirement for distance to a post office from any location, except in areas serving exclusively a purpose other than housing, in municipalities having a population of more than 2,500. This distance must now not exceed 3 km as the crow flies instead of the previous 2 km.

This Decree shall come into effect on 1 July 2023.

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## Price increase by Česká pošta

**From 1 July 2023, Česká pošta, s.p. will increase the basic prices of some national universal postal services and international universal postal services.**

For national universal postal services, the following across-the-board increases in basic prices are occurring:

The price will increase by CZK 4 for economy ordinary letter and priority ordinary letter. The basic price of economy ordinary letter in the lowest weight category up to 50 g will be CZK 27. The basic price of priority ordinary letter in the lowest weight category up to 50 g will be CZK 34.

For economy registered letters and priority registered letters, the price will increase by CZK 10. The basic price of economy registered letter in the lowest weight category up to 50 g will be CZK 72 and the basic price of priority registered letter in the lowest weight category up to 50 g will be CZK 79.

For insured letters the price will increase by CZK 10. The basic price of insured letter in the lowest weight category up to 50 g will be CZK 77 (without the obligatory surcharge according to the cost of the postal item indicated by the sender).

For international universal postal services, the following across-the-board increases in basic prices are occurring:

For ordinary postal items to foreign countries, the price will increase by CZK 5. For example, the basic price of ordinary letter to EU countries in the lowest weight category up to 50 g will be CZK 44.

For registered letters to foreign countries, the price will increase by CZK 15. For example, the basic price of a registered letter to an EU country in the lowest weight category up to 50 g will be CZK 121.

For insured letters to foreign countries, the price will increase by CZK 15. For example, the basic price of insured letter to an EU country in the lowest weight category up to 50 g will be CZK 152 (without the obligatory surcharge according to the cost of the postal item indicated by the sender).

The price list of Česká pošta, s.p. valid from 1 July 2023 is available [here](#).

CTU assessed the price changes submitted by Česká pošta, s.p. according to the Methodology for Assessing the Affordability of Universal Postal Services and found that the price changes effective from 1 July 2023 will not lead to unaffordability of universal postal services.

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## Postal services operators

In May, CTU issued one new certificate of notification of business activities in the postal services, namely to NOVA GLOBAL CZ s.r.o. An up-to-date list of all notified operators is available via the [search database](#) on the CTU website.

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## CTU warns about risks of premium services

CTU has been dealing with an increasing number of complaints concerning so-called premium services, consisting, for example, in the sale of tickets or the provision of specific content, which are paid for via premium SMS messages. Customers, who often incur unexpected and high costs for these services, repeatedly complain about not ordering them, not being informed about ordering them, and the poor quality of the content provided as part of these services. CTU offers several tips and tools to prevent unwanted activation of such premium services and how to submit claims about their unsatisfactory provision.

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## Checked by CTU in May...

...compliance with the terms and conditions of General Authorisation No. [VO-R/12/11.2021-11](#) for the use of radio frequencies and for the operation of equipment for broadband data transmission in the bands 2.4 GHz to 71 GHz

CTU completed 15 inspections in May. Defects were identified in 14 cases, consisting mainly in harmful interference with radiocommunication service stations on a primary basis and use of indoor frequencies outside a building, which were resolved by a call to rectify the identified deficiencies and which will subsequently be addressed in administrative proceedings.

... [the use of radio frequencies without authorisation](#)

Based on radio monitoring, CTU carried out a total of 7 inspections focused on the use of frequencies without authorisation (including frequencies for the use of which an individual authorisation cannot be issued). In 6 cases, the use of frequencies without authorisation was detected, mainly by the operation of mobile service stations and broadband data transmission devices (RLAN). The cases were referred to administrative proceedings.

... [compliance with the conditions of an individual authorisation for the use of radio frequencies](#)

Five inspections were carried out and in all cases violations of the terms and conditions of the individual authorisation were found. The operators of the equipment were issued notices to remedy the deficiencies and the cases were referred to administrative proceedings.

... sources of interference with the operation of electronic communications equipment and networks, the provision of electronic communications services or the operation of radiocommunications services

In May, CTU closed 8 cases of interference to LTE and GSM public mobile communication networks, 8 cases of interference to radio and satellite reception, 6 cases of interference to meteorological radar and one case of interference to the base station of the integrated rescue system. The other six interference investigations involved a central PCO receiver, short range devices and broadband data transmission equipment (RLAN). In cases where the interference was confirmed and the source of the interference was traced, the operators of the interference sources were ordered to eliminate them.

... sources of interference with TV signal reception

In May, CTU closed a total of 128 cases of TV signal reception interference. The investigation of complaints about poor TV reception revealed that in 67 cases the defect was in the viewer's equipment (most often a technical fault of the receiving antenna or lead-in), in 14 cases the interference stopped or occurred sporadically, in 12 cases the complainant cancelled the interference complaint during the investigation. In 8 cases, the reception problem was caused by poor signal quality at the reception location. In 27 cases, a source of interference was detected, and in 26 cases the source of interference was identified as a base station of a mobile operator, see below.

... pilot operation of LTE base stations in the 800 MHz band

As of 31 May 2023, 340 base stations were in pilot operation, and 17,116 stations were in permanent operation. In May, an LTE base station was not identified as a source of TV signal reception interference.

... pilot operation of 5G/LTE base stations in the 700 MHz band

As of 31 May 2023, 1,448 base stations were in pilot operation, and 4,491 stations were in permanent operation. In May, a 5G/LTE base station was identified as a source of TV signal reception interference in 26 cases. In all cases, the mobile network operators eliminated the interference at their own cost based on a CTU's decision. In May, CTU sent a letter via data mailbox to 76 municipalities in whose region the pilot operation of 5G base stations was launched, with [information](#) on how to proceed in the event of TV signal reception interference.

... security, confidentiality and integrity of public networks

On 30 and 31 May 2023, CTU personnel carried out an inspection of Nordic Telecom 5G a.s. The inspection focused on the security, confidentiality and integrity of public electronic communications networks according to [Section 88](#) and [Section 99](#) of Act No. 127/2005 Coll. on Electronic Communications and Decrees [No. 241/2012 Coll.](#), laying down the technical and organizational rules to ensure the security and integrity of public communications network and the interoperability of publicly available electronic communications services in a state of crisis, and [No. 380/2022](#) on the criteria for determining a serious breach of network and service security and loss of network integrity and the scope and form of transmission of breach information.

2,290 - the number of decisions issued in May on the matter, of which 2,279 decisions concerned a dispute over payment (payment of the price for services).

1,262 - the number of administrative proceedings initiated in May concerning subscriber disputes between the person carrying out the communication activity and the subscriber. These are the

disputes over payments and objections to the settlement of a claim about the billing of the price or the provided publicly available electronic communications service.

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## Market analyses

Market No. 1 - wholesale local access provided at a fixed location, and Market No. 3b - wholesale central access provided at a fixed location for mass-market products

After the CTU Council discussed and approved the final version of the draft analyses of relevant markets No. 1 - Wholesale local access provided at a fixed location and No. 3b - Wholesale central access provided at a fixed location for mass-market products on 23 May 2023, CTU started their notification to the European Commission on 1 June 2023. Now, the European Commission has 1 month to examine these draft documents.

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## Radio spectrum management

### GENERAL AUTHORIZATIONS

On 16 May, CTU launched a [repeated public consultation](#) on draft general authorisation VO-R/7/xx.2023-y for the use of radio frequencies and for the operation of civil radio stations in the 27 MHz band. In a [public consultation](#) launched on 8 February 2023, CTU received a large number of comments on the conditions for the operation of hotspots. On the basis of these comments, CTU made major changes, in particular to allow the use of multiple hotspots at the same time under specified conditions and to modify the specified channels. For this reason, CTU decided to submit the amended text for repeated consultation, which closed on 16 June.

### DIGITAL RADIO BROADCASTING

On 29 May, the public consultation on the draft invitation to tender for the DAB+ commercial digital radio network duly closed. CTU received a total of 46 comments from six entities. A further Roundtable meeting will be held on 28 June to explain the settlement of the comments.

On 31 May 2023, digital radio broadcasting was launched from the German LOEBAU transmitter on block 5D, which strongly interfered with the broadcasting of the Czech LIBEREC PROSEC 5D transmitter. CTU was informed in advance of the situation and was therefore able to secure a replacement and carry out international coordination for the replacement block 5A. Thus, on 1 June 2023, an application was received for the change of the broadcast block 5D to 5A and the very next day CTU issued the authorisation for the new block 5A.

### ANALOG RADIO BROADCASTING

On 18 May, a short one-day test broadcast of Rádio Dechovka from the Zbraslav transmitter at 1233 kHz took place. On 1 June, the new Svitavy 103.2 MHz transmitter with 100 W output was launched for the distribution of the ČRo Plus programme. For news coverage of the football final of the conference league in Fortuna Arena Prague (Slavia football stadium), broadcasting on UHF radio frequencies 88.6 MHz, 93.3 MHz, 104.2 MHz with output of 1 W was launched from 2 to 7 June.

### EU CONFERENCE ON IMPORTANT ISSUES IN THE SPECTRUM

The 18th European Spectrum Management Conference, organized by Forum Europe in cooperation with technology and consulting companies, associations of broadcasters, mobile and satellite operators and others, took place in Brussels on 6 and 7 June. The conference was an opportunity to share views on important European and global issues in the radio spectrum between representatives

of regulators, spectrum users, technology companies and representatives of the European Commission. The main topics included the forthcoming proposal for a new EU Radio Spectrum Policy Programme, conditions for the development of new satellite constellations and hybrid networks integrating satellite and terrestrial connectivity, addressing requirements for local and private networks (e.g. in the 3.8-4.2 GHz band), spectrum sharing options not only in the 5G bands, assumptions of frequency needs for the upcoming 6G generation, the UHF band with regard to TV broadcasting and other issues. The upper-6GHz band was also discussed in detail, where conditions for either IMT or licence-exempt RLAN are being studied. Mention was made of the possibility of shared use, which could consist, for example, in a technological solution. One discussion session was also devoted to the role of spectrum in climate protection, with the need for telecommunication network operators to save on operating energy costs playing a positive role.

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## First set of European positions for autumn World Radiocommunication Conference adopted

**In the CEPT, which will represent 46 European countries at the WRC, about two-thirds of the upcoming conference proposals have already been accepted. Unfinished or problematic items will be approved in September. Nominations of European representatives to the conference structure were also discussed.**

The second last meeting of the European CEPT Preparatory Group took place from 22 to 26 May 2023. The group drafted and discussed a total of 22 joint European proposals on those points of the conference where a compromise could be reached. Some of the remaining draft positions, including those in the areas of air and maritime services, scientific services and satellite services, require further elaboration within the project teams. Particular attention is paid, for example, to the problem of communications for unmanned systems using satellite communications, as well as to some procedures in the field of satellite constellation coordination. For the draft European position for the 470-694 MHz band, used by terrestrial television broadcasting, there is majority support for a secondary allocation to a mobile service, with the proviso that these are explicitly not nationwide public mobile networks for provision of voice and data services, but rather support for the operation of reporting applications or other local applications according to national need. A complex discussion took place on the upper-6 GHz band, where Europe is preparing a proposal for conditional acceptance of the possibility of using the band by public mobile nationwide networks, with the condition being the protection of services and applications that use the band or may use the band in the near future, such as satellites, microwave links or low-power Wi-Fi. Final versions of unfinished positions will be discussed in September 2023.

The European Union plays an important role in the development of European positions, preparing decisions with positions binding on EU Member States in view of the potential impact on common European policies.

The participants also discussed the nominations for the organizational structure of the Conference, taking into account Europe's interests in the leadership of the Conference's decision-making committees and subcommittees.

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## Telecommunication regulation in the EU

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE EU

On 24 May, [Commission Recommendation \(EU\) 2023/1018](#) of 4 May 2023 on combating online piracy of sports and other live events was published.

[Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2023/1054](#) of 30 May 2023 laying down rules for the application of [Regulation \(EU\) 2021/696](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the service portfolio for the Governmental Satellite Communications services offered by the system established under the Union Space Programme, which was published on 31 May 2023 in the Official Journal of the EU, was published on May 31. This Decision shall enter into force on the day following its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

On 12 May, the inaugural [meeting](#) of the High Level Group on the Digital Markets Act (DMA) brought together appointed representatives of European authorities and associations, including the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications ([BEREC](#)), to discuss issues of common interest regarding the implementation of the [DMA](#). During this first meeting, the High Level Group discussed key topics such as the state of implementation of the Regulation and expert preparedness. The Commission also presented its findings from a series of DMA workshops it has organized over the last six months on individual issues such as the [ban on self-preferencing](#), interoperability, openness of application stores and data obligations.

On 30 May, at a workshop on the Radio Spectrum Policy Programme, the European Commission presented the findings of a study on the draft Radio Spectrum Policy Programme (RSPP). The study was commissioned by the European Commission and the research consortium of companies addressed the questions of which objectives from the existing RSPP from 2012 have been met, which are no longer relevant and what measures should be taken to meet the targets of the EU Digital Decade (i.e. by 2030). The main findings were that the existing regulatory framework for radio spectrum management and procedures based on a high degree of coordination between Member States represented in the Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) and the Radio Spectrum Committee (RSC) and their involvement in the CEPT organisation, which is tasked with developing proposals for radio spectrum harmonization, meet the EU's current and future needs. The proposals for new measures therefore focus on specific cases, such as ensuring coordinated licensing of satellites, procedures for asserting sovereignty in spectrum use, negotiating with countries outside of the Commission in implementing harmonized spectrum use or dealing with cross-border interference.

## BEREC

On 5 May, BEREC published its [Opinion on the draft Gigabit Recommendation](#). One of the main concerns shared by BEREC in its opinion is that NRAs will need sufficient time to adjust their regulatory framework and therefore the draft Gigabit Recommendation must foresee an appropriate transitional period before its complete application. In its Opinion, BEREC implies that at least all the formally open proceedings will be finished on the basis of the [Next Generation access networks \(NGA\)](#) and the [Non-discrimination and costing methodologies \(NDCM\)](#) Recommendations. Another important aspect for BEREC is to maintain a sufficient degree of discretion (administrative discretion) for regulators to respond appropriately to specific competitive situations in individual markets.

On 19 May, BEREC published its [input to the EC's exploratory consultation](#) on the future of the electronics communications sector and its infrastructure. BEREC expresses here, among other things, a very reserved attitude towards compensation proposals also known as "fair share" and takes a closer look at the relationship between content providers and electronic communications network operators.

From 1 June 2023, in the context with the [Roaming Regulation](#), mobile operators have to provide to roaming customers when travelling in the European Economic Area (EEA), information about means

of access to emergency services and numbering ranges for value-added services in a user-friendly way. For this purpose, operators are asked to consult the BEREC's roaming [databases](#).

On 8 – 9 June, the 55<sup>th</sup> BEREC Plenary meeting took place. The following documents were adopted for publication:

[BoR \(23\) 87](#) Report on competition amongst multiple operators of NGA-networks in the same geographical region and the Report on the outcome of the public consultation

[BoR \(23\) 89](#) Report on the regulatory treatment of business services and the Report on the outcome of the public consultation

[BoR \(23\) 90](#) Report on WACC parameters 2023

[BoR \(23\) 92](#) Report on interoperability of Number-Independent Interpersonal Communication Services (NI-ICS) and the Report on the outcome of the public consultation

[BoR \(23\) 93](#) Report on the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) solutions in the telecommunications sector on regulation

[BoR \(23\) 98](#) BoR Decision to establish Working Arrangements between the NRAs of Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and BEREC and 6 bi-lateral agreements between BEREC and NRAs from these countries

[BoR \(23\) 109](#) BEREC Annual Report 2022

[BoR \(23\) 112](#) Summary report from the workshop on secure and reliable connectivity in Europe from LEO satellite fleets

[BoR \(23\) 117](#) Report on the Data Act Workshop

[BoR \(23\) 118](#) Report on Study visit to south Korea 2023

[BoR \(23\) 119](#) BEREC Analysis Monitoring of the Joint Statement agreed between Ukraine and EU Operators

Other documents approved for [public consultation](#):

[BoR \(23\) 111](#) Draft BEREC Report on practices and challenges of the phasing out of 2G and 3G

## EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

The plenary meeting of the Eastern Partnership Regulators Network ([EaPeReg](#)) was held in Dublin on 24 May. Representatives of the EaPeReg leadership (Georgia, Ireland), chairs of 3 EaPeReg working groups and representatives of the European Commission and the EU4Digital programme presented the outcomes of their work in the first half of this year and planned future activities. The meeting was also attended by representatives of BEREC, ITU and RSPG, whose contributions focused on cooperation with the regulators of the Eastern Partnership countries. At the meeting, Moldova was nominated for the position of EaPeReg Chair for 2024.