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## Telegraphically

### AI in Public Administration

CTU will participate in the third annual [“AI in Public Administration” conference](#) organised by the Region of South Bohemia on 23–24 April. The discussions and presentations will cover the latest developments in process automation and digitalisation, as well as issues such as what public administration should be mindful of when implementing artificial intelligence. Ivana Kudláčková, AI supervision coordinator, will present the role of the Czech Telecommunication Office (CTU) as the future market surveillance authority for the use of AI systems in the Czech Republic.

### ‘Where Are Digital Networks Headed?’ conference in Mikulov

At the [“Where Are Digital Networks Headed?” conference](#), held on 31 March 2026, in Mikulov, Pavel Šístek, Head of the Policy and Strategy Unit, spoke on behalf of CTU and presented the planned release of the 26 GHz band for fixed wireless access networks and 5G networks. He also described international changes in the regulation of frequency bands for fixed wireless access. Michal Frankl, an advisor to the Chairman of the CTU Council, spoke about facilitating the deployment of very-high-capacity networks.

### Information Society of the Czech Statistical Office

The Czech Statistical Office has published its regular [Information Society in Figures](#), which contains summary data on the progress of digitalisation in various sectors of society in the Czech Republic and in EU countries. Among other things, the publication shows that [digital skills in the Czech Republic are above the EU average](#). The [use of artificial intelligence tools](#) is also growing rapidly; in 2025, one-third of people aged 16 and older in the Czech Republic were using them.

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## Modifications to railway coaches have improved mobile signal coverage for passengers

**At the end of March 2026, the physical implementation of projects supported under the subsidy call “Technical Devices for 5G in Railway Coaches”, administered by the Czech Telecommunication Office, [was completed](#).**

The call focused on improving mobile signal coverage inside passenger railway coaches, particularly on routes included in the European TEN-T transport network. Its main objective, which it successfully achieved, was to improve the quality of mobile voice and data services for passengers during their travel, thereby contributing to greater comfort and better connectivity along major railway corridors.

The subsidised investment was intended for passenger railway coaches that operate primarily on TEN-T corridors and meet the specified operational parameters. The subsidy was directed toward the installation of mobile signal repeaters or the use of passive technical modifications, particularly specially modified windows or walls with higher radio signal permeability. The purpose of these measures is to reduce signal attenuation caused by the coach’s structure and enable passengers to use

mobile services more reliably inside the trains. The technical solution had to ensure compatibility with the networks of all mobile operators operating on the Czech market, while at the same time not adversely affecting railway safety or the quality of the radio environment inside or around the coach.

Another key aspect of the projects was meeting the relevant technical and approval requirements. Each project had to include an assessment of the installed technical device in accordance with the relevant European implementing regulation, approval of the documentation for installation in the coaches, and obtaining an operating permit from the Rail Authority or, where applicable, the European Union Agency for Railways. The project was not considered complete until the coaches equipped in this way were actually put into operation.

As of 31 March 2026, the physical implementation of the projects had been completed. As a result, a higher-quality mobile signal is now available in a total of 384 railway coaches operated by the Czech rail carriers České dráhy and Leo Express. The original target for the call was to equip 350 coaches; the final number thus exceeded the plan by 34 coaches. It can therefore be concluded that the call served its purpose and, at the same time, achieved better results than originally anticipated.

The outcome of the subsidy call is beneficial not only in terms of meeting the parameters of the National Recovery Plan, but above all in terms of its practical impact on the passengers. Better mobile signal coverage inside railway coaches means higher-quality connections during both business and personal travel, more stable access to data services, and an overall better user experience on key domestic and international routes. The measures that have been implemented also complement other investments aimed at strengthening 5G coverage along railway corridors, and together they create the conditions for a more modern and better connected railway transport system in the Czech Republic.

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## CTU held its second workshop on the regulation of artificial intelligence

**On Thursday, 9 April, the second workshop on artificial intelligence was held at the CTU premises, with a specific focus on education and the practical implications of regulation.**

The workshop focused on one aspect of AI education, specifically raising awareness about AI regulation. CTU needs to clearly communicate the rights and obligations arising from the Artificial Intelligence Act (AIA).

Although CTU, together with the Czech National Bank and the Office for Personal Data Protection, are the only market surveillance authorities, it is necessary to coordinate with other institutions and organisations in the Czech Republic as well. 19 additional organisations therefore participated in the workshop. This diversity ensured that CTU gained a truly broad understanding of the needs of individual target groups (the private sector, public administration, and particularly vulnerable groups—children and the elderly). With this workshop, CTU built on its existing cooperation efforts, which currently serve as a key pillar of its AI oversight activities.

### **Steps taken to date and legislation**

The first part of the workshop provided an overview of the steps taken so far and, above all, the current situation regarding European and Czech legislation (with a focus on the so-called AI Omnibus, which simplifies the rules contained in the AIA). Following this introduction, the terminology used in AI education was standardized. Half of the workshop was devoted to a discussion during which individual participants, based on the scope of their organisations or institutions, proposed specific steps and

activities that CTU could incorporate into its educational activities in 2026. The discussions took place in small groups, each focusing on the needs of a specific target group.

The private sector, which will primarily act as a provider or deployer, emphasized, for example, the need for a single point of contact where companies can obtain verified information regarding their obligations under the AIA, ideally presented in the context of specific sectors. At the same time, it was emphasized that companies would also welcome summary information regarding, for example, the timeline for the gradual entry into effect of the AIA, or clear maps outlining the responsibilities of the various government agencies that play a role under the AIA.

Public administration officials, for example, highlighted the need to consistently address the various roles and responsibilities held by public servants and, accordingly, to effectively determine the scope of relevant information.

When it comes to vulnerable groups, it is advisable, among other things, to focus on effective collaboration with organisations that have long been active in this field.

The workshop highlighted the need to consult with those who are actually affected by the AIA in practice to ensure the relevance of all educational activities carried out by CTU, as well as the need to take action as soon as possible and start with smaller but crucial steps.

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## A SELECTION OF PLANNED ITEMS ON THE AGENDA OF THE CTU COUNCIL MEETING

### **Opening the 26 GHz band**

The Council will discuss a draft radio spectrum utilisation plan that sets out the technical parameters and conditions for the use of radio spectrum in the 24.25 GHz to 27.5 GHz frequency band by radiocommunication services, as well as an amendment to a measure of general nature specifying the scope of data on individual authorisations for the use of radio frequencies excluded from the release.

### **Draft amendment to Decree No. 156/2005 Coll., on the conditions of the amateur radio communication service**

The Council will discuss the supporting documents for an amendment to Decree No. 156/2005 Coll., which regulates the technical and operating conditions of the amateur radio communication service, as the current provisions no longer reflect current developments or the need to make the service available to a wider audience. CTU took into account insights gained from the practical operation of the amateur radio communication service and suggestions from the amateur radio community, while ensuring compliance with the ITU Radio Regulations. Another reason for the changes is the conclusions of WRC-23, particularly the requirement to protect Galileo system frequencies in the 1240–1300 MHz band.

### **Assessment of changes to the conditions in the Radio Spectrum Utilisation Plan (PVRs) 10 (UHF Band)**

The Council will discuss an information on the use of radio frequencies allocated for broadcasting networks 25 and 26. Until 30 June 2026, it is possible to apply for individual authorisations in certain radio frequency bands to ensure the required coverage of the territory or population with digital broadcasting (so-called transmitters for extended coverage for existing networks 21 through 24). In the other part of this frequency band, applications for experimental broadcasting authorisations may be submitted. So far, CTU has issued a total of six authorisations for extended coverage and none for

experimental broadcasting. From 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2027, it will be possible to apply for individual authorisations for regional and local broadcasting.

We will also inform you via press releases about the key materials discussed by the CTU Council.

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## Checked by CTU in March...

### ... the use of radio frequencies without authorisation

In March, based on radio monitoring, CTU carried out a total of 4 inspections focused on the use of frequencies without authorisation. In all 4 cases, the use of frequencies without authorisation was detected, mainly by the operation of radio transmitters (VHF-FM). 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 March, CTU closed 18 cases of interference to GSM, LTE and 5G public mobile communication networks, two cases of interference to radio and satellite signal reception, four cases of interference to an amateur service radio station, five cases of interference to short-range devices, and one case of interference to a RLAN device. 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 March, CTU closed a total of 36 cases of TV signal reception interference. The investigation of complaints about poor TV signal reception revealed that in 11 cases the defect was in the viewer's equipment (most often a technical fault of the receiving antenna or lead-in). In 5 cases the interference stopped or did not manifest itself during the investigation. In 4 cases, the complainant withdrew the interference complaint during the investigation. In two cases, poor reception was caused by insufficient signal parameters at the reception site, and in the remaining 14 cases, a source of interference was found, with the source of interference being identified in all 14 cases as a mobile operator's base station (see below).

### ... coverage of cities and municipalities of the Czech Republic by the signal of mobile networks

As part of the verification of the availability of the signal of mobile networks in the Czech Republic, CTU completed in March the measurement of parameters of the signal of the 2nd, 4th and 5th generation networks in a total of 201 cities and municipalities or parts thereof. The measurement focused primarily on areas where it was not possible to perform an overall coverage assessment due to the poor accessibility of certain address points. The measurement results are published on an ongoing basis in the [VPortal](#) application operated by CTU on its website. Municipalities, or, more precisely, basic residential units, where the level of signal coverage by the 4th or 5th generation networks of at least one of the operators does not reach at least 97% of the population are subsequently included in the so-called white areas list. The continuously updated list and other information on this issue can be found on the [CTU website](#).

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

As of 31 March 2026, 456 base stations were in pilot operation and 18,350 stations were in permanent operation. In March, an LTE base station was identified as a source of TV signal interference in 4 cases.

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

As of 31 March 2026, 1,180 base stations were in pilot operation and 14,649 stations were in permanent operation. In March, a 5G/LTE base station was identified as a source of TV signal interference in 10 cases.

In all identified cases, the mobile network operators eliminated the interference at their own cost based on CTU's decision.

1,943 - the number of decisions issued in March on the matter, of which 1,932 decisions concerned a dispute over monetary consideration (payment of the price for services).

2,818 - the number of administrative proceedings initiated in March concerning subscriber disputes between the person carrying out the communication activity and the subscriber. These are disputes over pecuniary consideration and objections to a claim settlement concerning a claim about the billing of the price or the provided publicly available electronic communications service.

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## Annual report on the coordinator's activities pursuant to the DSA

In March, the Czech Telecommunication Office [published](#) on its website an annual report summarising the key activities of CTU in the role of designated Digital Services Coordinator under the DSA for the year 2025. Although no law had been passed in the Czech Republic by the end of 2025 that would grant CTU full authority as a Digital Services Coordinator, CTU engaged in a number of activities.

More detailed information is available in the [Czech version](#) of the monitoring report.

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## Radio spectrum management

### Opening the 26 GHz band

Comments on the proposed amendment to the Measure of General Nature, Part No. PV-P/2/XX.2026-YY of the Radio Spectrum Utilisation Plan for the 24.25–27.5 GHz frequency band could be submitted until 27 March 2026. The main purpose of the amendment to the existing part of the radio spectrum utilisation plan was to make selected sub-bands of the 26 GHz frequency band available for FWA and mobile networks, as well as to establish conditions for the phased-out use of radio frequencies by point-to-point fixed radio links. In response to the comments received during the public consultation, CTU will prepare a table summarizing the responses to these comments and will contact the Office for the Protection of Competition in accordance with the signed memorandum of understanding.

### Public consultations

Until 10 April 2026 it was possible to [submit comments](#) on the draft Measure of General Nature No. PV-P/11/XX.2026-Y for the 27.5–33.4 GHz frequency band. The main reason for the new issue of this part of the plan is to establish the conditions resulting from the amendments to the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union adopted by the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23) concerning fixed and satellite services, as well as the expiration of the transitional provisions regarding the use of the 27.9405–28.4445/28.9485–29.4525 GHz duplex sub-bands for P-MP systems.

Until 4 May 2026 it is possible to [submit comments](#) on the draft Measure of General Nature No. PV-P/12/XX.2026-Y for the 1700–1900 MHz frequency band. The reason for issuing the part of the plan is

to implement Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2324 amending Decision 2008/294/EC, to include additional access technologies and measures for the operation of mobile communications services on aircraft (MCA services) in the Union. Under the Commission's decision, it is no longer required to install network control units (NCUs) on board aircraft when providing in-flight mobile phone connectivity. The NCUs on board were designed to prevent mobile phones from connecting to networks outside the aircraft, but in practice, the aircraft fuselage provided sufficient signal attenuation. This will save operators the cost of installing the NCUs. The proposal also removes a provision in the fixed radio communication service regarding the use of the 1880–1900 MHz frequency band by fixed links, which is no longer in effect.

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## Legislative Changes

### EXTENSION OF THE PERIOD FOR ASSESSING ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE SOCIAL ASSISTANCE BENEFIT

On March 17, 2026, [Act No. 35/2026 Coll.](#) was published in [Volume 35](#) of the Collection of Laws and International Treaties, amending [Act No. 151/2025 Coll.](#), on state social assistance benefits, as amended by Act No. 360/2025 Coll., Act No. 110/2006 Coll., on the living and subsistence minimum, as amended, and other related acts.

This Act came into effect on 31 March 2026.

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## Roaming and international calls: Update to the prices of international communications and roaming

### Updates to price caps for consumers for calls and SMS to EEA countries

On the basis of [Regulation \(EU\) 2015/2120 of the European Parliament and of the Council](#) (amended in 2024 by the [Gigabit Infrastructure Act](#)), the maximum prices for international calls and SMS to countries in the European Economic Area have been updated as of 15 May 2026. After conversion from EUR to CZK, the updated maximum prices will be lower than the maximum prices in effect up to this date, due to the 3.17% appreciation of the Czech crown (CZK) against the euro in the first quarter of 2026 compared to the same period last year. From that date, the operators concerned must not charge a unit price higher than CZK 4.6209 excluding VAT (EUR 0.19), i.e. CZK 5.5913 including VAT per minute for calls from the Czech Republic to the countries of the European Union, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland, and a price higher than CZK 1.4592 excluding VAT (EUR 0.06), i.e. CZK 1.7656 including VAT for sending one SMS message. The maximum prices for calls and SMS sent to those countries are converted each year from the price caps set in euro according to the average of the reference exchange rates published on 15 January, 15 February and 15 March of the relevant year by the European Central Bank in Official Journal of the European Union.

### Regulated roaming price update as of 15 May 2026

In line with the EU Roaming Regulation [No. 2022/612](#), the conversion of maximum wholesale roaming prices in EU countries from EUR to CZK has been updated as of 15 May. After conversion at the average of the reference exchange rates published by the European Central Bank (ECB) on 15 January, 15 February and 15 March 2026 (at CZK 24.321 per EUR), these price caps are CZK 0.4620 per call minute, CZK 0.0729 per SMS sent and CZK 26,7527 per GB of data as of 15 May 2026 (all prices are quoted exclusive of VAT). Similar to the price caps for international calls and SMS, wholesale roaming caps are falling by 3.17% as a result of the appreciation of Czech crown (CZK) against the euro.

One of the situations where it is not possible to draw units (specifically data) in the same way as in the home country, but only up to the amount of the so-called “EU data limit”, is the so-called “open data bundles”, which automatically include tariffs with unlimited data, but can also include other tariffs with data if the average price per GB of data is less than the wholesale unit price.

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## Regulation and digital services in the EU

### Official Journal of the EU

On 6 March, [Commission Directive \(EU\) 2026/500](#) of 5 March 2026 amending [Directive 2008/63/EC](#) on competition in the markets in telecommunications terminal equipment was published. This amendment removes the reporting requirements for Member States under this Directive (Article 7 and Annex I).

On 27 March, the [Corrigendum to Regulation \(EU\) 2024/1689](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024, laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence (Artificial Intelligence Act). This involves correcting one mistranslated term and making a few grammatical corrections.

### European Commission (Digital agenda)

On 12 and 13 March, DG CONNECT and DG ENEST hosted representatives from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Ukraine in the framework of a TAIEX workshop in Brussels. The Commission [updated](#) enlargement countries on the activities carried out in the EU under the Digital Services Act (DSA) and discussed with them emerging online risks and the state of play of the accession process in this area. EU Member States and enlargement countries face similar societal risks stemming from online platforms, including the spread of illegal content online, the sale of unsafe products and risks for the wellbeing of minors.

On 26 March, the European Commission [preliminarily found](#) Pornhub, Stripchat, XNXX and XVideos in breach of the Digital Services Act (DSA) for failing to protect minors from being exposed to pornographic content on their services. The Commission's preliminary findings indicate that platforms didn't diligently identify and assess the risks that their platforms pose to minors. These findings by the Commission indicate that the platforms have not conducted a proper assessment of the risks their platforms pose to minors and have failed to implement effective measures to prevent minors from accessing the services in question. Despite stating in their Terms of Services that their services are for adults only, all four platforms allow minors to access their platforms simply by clicking to confirm that they are over 18. The Commission believes that Pornhub, Stripchat, XNXX, and XVideos must implement more effective measures, particularly age verification measures, to protect children from harmful content. Platforms now have the opportunity to examine the documents in the Commission's investigation files and reply in writing to the preliminary findings. At the same time, they may take measures to remedy the breaches.

On 26 March, the European Commission opened [formal proceedings](#) to investigate if Snapchat is ensuring a high level of safety, privacy and security for children online, in compliance with the Digital Services Act (DSA). The Commission will investigate whether Snapchat has exposed minors to attempts at grooming and recruitment in criminal activity, as well as offers of illegal goods such as drugs or age-restricted items, e.g. vapes and alcohol.

### BEREC

On 4 March, BEREC published its [Opinion on the Phase II investigation](#) of the Romanian regulatory authority ANCOM (case RO/2026/2623), which, based on its analysis, concluded that the market for

wholesale local access provided at a fixed location could no longer be considered sufficiently competitive and therefore proposed reintroducing regulation in that market. Following these conclusions, the European Commission opened a Phase II investigation, as it expressed serious doubts regarding the compatibility of the proposed regulation with EU law, particularly with the objectives of promoting investment, innovation, and the internal market. BEREC considers that the European Commission's serious doubts are unfounded.

On 10 March, BEREC [published its response](#) to the European Commission's Digital Fitness Check whose aim is to assess how different laws interact, and to identify any gaps, overlaps, or inconsistencies. BEREC focused primarily on the provisions of the Data Act relating to cloud services. It further emphasised the need for consistent and effective application of EU digital legislation without unnecessary administrative burden, support for coordination among competent authorities, and ensuring a consistent interpretation of the rules.

On 30 March, BEREC [published](#) its early assessment of the proposal of [Digital Networks Act](#) (DNA). BEREC shares the ambition of the DNA to strengthen the internal market and enable resilient, sustainable and affordable connectivity for Europe, through a regulatory framework as simple and predictable as possible and at least as efficient as the existing one. However, it expresses serious doubts about the effectiveness of the measures proposed by the Commission. BEREC does not believe that the DNA proposal would simplify the rules or reduce the administrative burden. It also calls for the text to be clarified, particularly given that this is intended to be a directly applicable regulation. The [Commission's consultation](#) on the proposed Digital Networks Act is open until 15 June.

On 31 March, the [14th annual BEREC Stakeholder Forum](#) took place in Brussels. In addition to presenting BEREC's plans for next year's work program, the forum focused on two main topics: (1) *"Crafting Europe's Next Digital Framework"* and (2) *"When Networks Sense, Connect, and Transcend."* Both discussion panels focused on the future of the sector. The first addressed establishing rules and institutions, while the second examined technological innovations and market dynamics. As is now traditional, an informal "Meet & Greet" session for registered participants with the co-chairs of BEREC's working groups took place prior to the official opening of the forum. During the forum, the current BEREC Chair, Marko Mišmaš (AKOS, Slovenia), and the incoming BEREC Chair for 2027, Alejandra de Iturriaga (CNMC, Spain), jointly answered questions and presented BEREC's key planned projects.

## **AI ADCO**

The fourth meeting of the European Artificial Intelligence Board (AI Board) sub-group for market surveillance authorities took place on 9 March. The main topic of discussion was practical issues regarding the functioning of this new group, namely what working methods it will adopt and how the authorities will communicate with one another. The meeting continued with a presentation of the draft Work Plan for 2026. Two priority tasks were selected: discussing the practical aspects of enforcing the prohibited practices under Article 5 of the Artificial Intelligence Act (AIA) and establishing procedural rules for the practical exercise of surveillance.

## **EBDS**

On 14 April, the European Board for Digital Services (EBDS) [met](#) in Brussels for its 18th meeting. The Commission informed the Board about the recently issued preliminary findings and the opening of formal proceedings against Snapchat. The main topic of discussion at the meeting was the protection of children and minors in the online environment. The Commission and the DSCs exchanged information on investigations in this area and on the progress of work on an application for verifying the age of platform users. The discussion also touched on the highly topical issue of introducing an age

limit for children's access to social media. The agenda also included a more in-depth discussion on the effectiveness of the Board's working groups.