Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)

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Geneva, 10 August 2026

- Administrations of ITU Member States in Europe
- ITU-D Sector Members, Associates and Academia in Europe
- National Regulatory Authorities in Europe
- United Nations Funds, Programmes, Specialized agencies and IAEA in Europe

Subject: **ITU-EKIP Regional Regulatory Forum for Europe titled "From global principles to regional practice: Shaping digital markets that deliver", 28 - 29 September 2026, Budva, Montenegro**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the pleasure to invite you to participate in the ITU-EKIP Regional Regulatory Forum for Europe titled **"From global principles to regional practice: Shaping digital markets that deliver"**, which will be held from 28 to 29 September 2026 in Budva, Montenegro. The Forum will be co-organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Agency for Electronic Communications and Postal Services of Montenegro (EKIP).

This Regional Forum will build upon the outcomes of the Global Symposium for Regulators 2026 and its Best Practice Guidelines, and it will be held within the framework of the ITU Regional Initiative for Europe on Digital Infrastructure Development. The Forum will provide a unique opportunity for high-level dialogues between stakeholders on strategies and policies to strengthen the digital ecosystem of the Europe Region in the field of emerging regulatory trends, universal and meaningful connectivity, resilient infrastructures, deployment of digital infrastructures, and investments in the digital sector. It will also provide an opportunity to discuss future actions related to digital regulation to be carried out at the regional and global level. A special highlight of the Forum will be the in-depth presentation of newly released ITU tools that are offered to the Member States, i.e. Connectivity Planning Platform (CPP) and the Global Economic Model and Study (GEMS) tool.

Representatives of National Regulatory Authorities from the Europe Region, Ministries, Operators of Electronic Communications, Academia as well as representatives and experts of international organizations and institutions in charge of the regulation and development policy of electronic communications are invited to take part in this Forum.

All stakeholders are invited to participate as a panellist or a lecturer and are requested to kindly send the proposed title of their presentation by **5 September 2026** to conference@ekip.me with copy to eurregion@itu.int.

Please note that the meeting will be paperless. Documents related to the event, including Agenda, Registration Form and Practical Information for Participants will be posted at ITU-EKIP Regional Regulatory

Forum for Europe 2026 and on EKIP's dedicated webpage. The Forum will be conducted in English and Montenegrin with simultaneous interpretation in both languages.

Participants who require an entry visa to Montenegro should contact the nearest embassy or consulate of Montenegro for assistance well in advance. A list of embassies and consulates of Montenegro can be found on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: https://www.gov.me/en/diplomatic-missions/embassies-and-consulates-of-montenegro .

Mr. Jaroslaw Ponder, Head of the ITU Office for Europe (eurregion@itu.int), and Mr. Boris Jevric, Deputy Director of EKIP (conference@ekip.me), are at your disposal for any further information you might need.

I look forward to active participation from your Administration/Organization in this important event.

Yours faithfully,

(signed)

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director

Annex 1: Draft Agenda

Annex 1

ITU-EKIP Regional Regulatory Forum for Europe

From global principles to regional practice

Shaping digital markets that deliver

28-29 September 2026

Budva, Montenegro

DRAFT AGENDA

Monday, 28 September

09:00-09:30	Registration
09:30-11:00	**Opening segment – Anticipating change: Are Europe's regulators ready for what comes next?** This high-level opening segment will invite officials to look beyond recent developments and reflect on the emerging challenges for which their institutions are preparing. Participants will consider how regulatory frameworks, institutional capacities and supervisory approaches are evolving in response to accelerating technological change, shifting market structures and rising expectations from citizens and businesses. The discussion will set the strategic direction for the Forum by placing anticipation, adaptability and institutional readiness at the centre of the regional regulatory conversation.
11:00-11:30	Group photo and coffee break
11:30-13:00	**Session 1 – Strengthening regulatory coherence across institutions and borders** Digital markets increasingly cut across mandates, sectors and jurisdictions. Session will benefit from the presentation of the outcomes of the Global Symposium for Regulators 2026, including GSR Best Practice Guidelines. This session will also explore how national authorities, regional organizations and international partners can strengthen coordination, information-sharing and capacity-building to reduce duplication, close regulatory gaps and support more consistent oversight across EU Member States, candidate countries and neighboring markets.
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:00	**Session 2 – Defining what digital markets should deliver** Effective regulation starts with a clear understanding of the public-interest results that digital markets are expected to deliver. This session will examine how regulators identify and prioritise objectives such as meaningful connectivity, affordability, accessibility, service quality, resilience, consumer trust and effective competition. It will also consider how these priorities are reflected across regulatory strategies and instruments, balanced against national circumstances and reviewed as markets and public needs evolve.

15:00-15:30	Coffee break
15:30-16:55	**Session 3 – Seeing the market clearly: data, evidence and smarter regulatory oversight** Regulators need credible and timely evidence to assess whether digital markets are delivering the expected results and to identify where intervention may be required. This session will examine the indicators, reporting systems and analytical tools that support market monitoring and regulatory decision-making, including quality-of-service and quality-of-experience measurement, infrastructure and service mapping, targeted verification, regulatory dashboards and AI-assisted analysis. Particular attention will be given to developing proportionate evidence systems that strengthen oversight without creating unnecessary reporting burdens.
16:55- 17:00	Technical Break
17:00-18:00	**Special session – GEMS in practice: measuring the socio-economic value of connectivity investment** This practical session will demonstrate how GEMS can help regulators and policymakers assess the wider economic and social value of connectivity investments. It will show how infrastructure scenarios can be translated into evidence on expected impact, investment returns and policy priorities, supporting better-informed decisions and dialogue with governments, industry and financing partners.

Tuesday, 29 September

08:00-09:00	**Special session – CPP in practice: turning connectivity data into investment priorities** This practical session will demonstrate how the Connectivity Planning Platform can support the design and prioritization of connectivity interventions. The session may show how regulators and policymakers can assess infrastructure gaps, compare deployment scenarios and use data to inform broadband strategies, funding decisions and investment planning. Participants could reflect on the applicability of the platform in the European context and on how it could complement existing regulatory and public-investment tools.
09:00-09:10	Technical break
09:10-11:00	**Session 4 – Adapting regulation to new markets, actors and risk** The evolution of future mobile networks, non-terrestrial connectivity, data centres, cloud infrastructure and other digital services requires regulatory frameworks that can support investment and innovation while responding to new actors and risks. This session will examine how proportionate obligations, spectrum and licensing approaches, infrastructure sharing, regulatory incentives and adaptive mechanisms—including sandboxes, pilot authorisations, phased implementation and review processes—can be used to facilitate market and infrastructure development.
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-12:30	**Session 5 - Effective supervision and consumer protection** This session will focus on how regulators can combine credible enforcement with proportionate and corrective supervision. The discussion will cover approaches ranging from guidance and remediation to stronger intervention where risks persist or non-compliance becomes serious. Participants may address service quality,

	contractual transparency, misleading practices, consumer complaints, compliance plans, procedural safeguards and the conditions under which enhanced supervisory measures can be reduced once compliance improves.
12:30-12:40	Technical break
12:40-13:00	**Closing ceremony**