

# ITU Regional Regulatory Forum for Europe on “Regulation Supporting the Digital Transformation”

## Session 2. “Unlocking investments in broadband networks in Europe”

30 November 2020, from 12:00 to 13:00 CEST

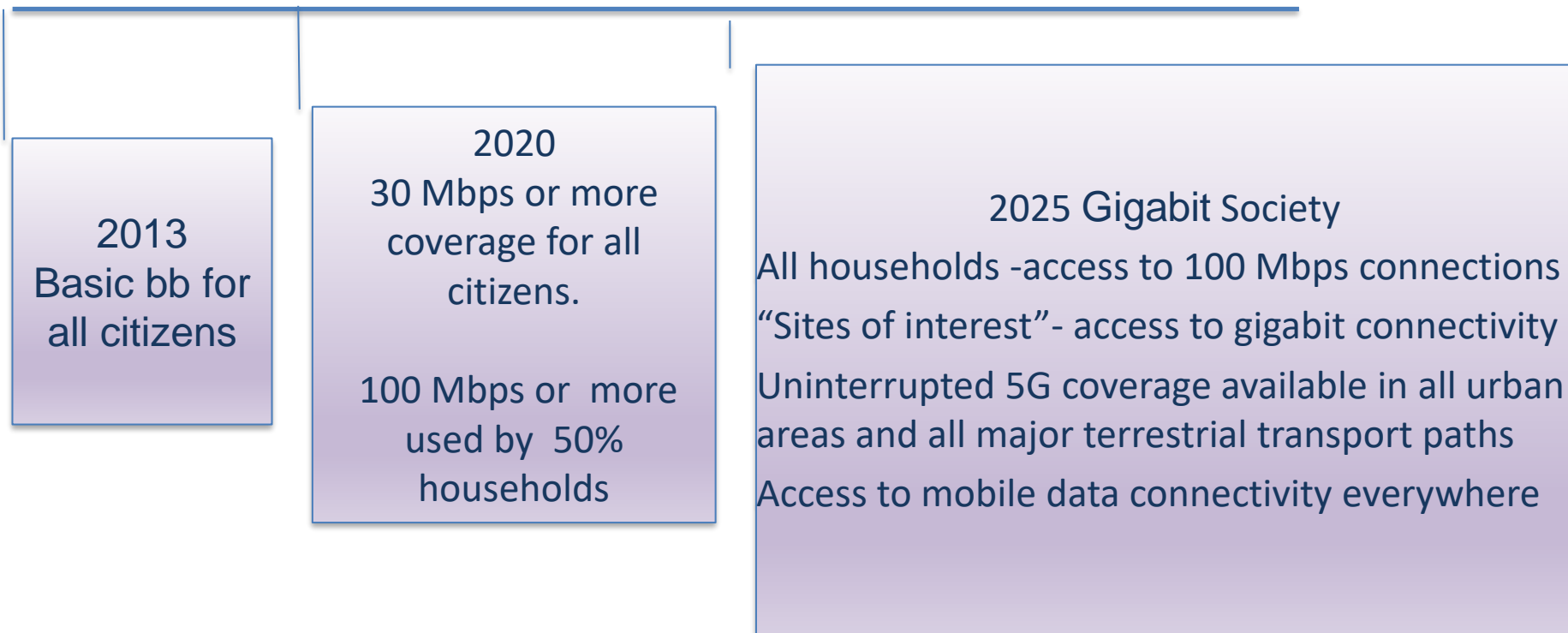
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Body of European Regulators  
for Electronic Communications

**BEREC**

The logo for BEREC (Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications) features the word "BEREC" in a bold, sans-serif font. The letters "B", "E", "R", and "E" are dark blue, while the "C" is a dark red. A thin, dark blue curved line starts under the "R" and sweeps under the "C".

Europe- successive ambitious policy goals for broadband, in terms of demand and available connectivity. Assessing their achievement requires continuous & harmonized measurement



BEREC Sal WG has been on the task of improving the harmonisation of telecom statistics in Europe for years, by developing methodologies, indicator definitions and, in some cases, collecting and publishing data.

Since 2019, in collaboration with the EC and other competent authorities, it has been delivering Guidelines for the consistent implementation of the obligations under Article 22 of the European Electronic Communications Code (EECC)

Art 22 (EECC) requires MS to:

- Elaborate surveys of the reach of ECN capable of delivering broadband, which may include forecast information, in particular of very high capacity networks (VHCN- see Art 2 EECC). Surveys must be at an appropriate level of local detail and include sufficient information on QoS.
- Optionally, MS may “designate areas” (areas with no prospects for VHCN or networks delivering more than 100 Mbps download speed) and subsequently call for intentions to deploy VHCN in those areas
- Consider these informations in different contexts (public funding, national bb plans, coverage obligations, verification of USO)

Public  
investment  
("non profit  
making areas"  
EU 2013 State  
Aid Guidelines)

Regulatory environment

Potential availability of service and  
competition conditions

Cost of deployments  
(terrain conditions, local regulations,  
equipment and construction costs  
availability of passive infrastructure)  
Single Information Point, EU  
Directive 2014/61/EU

Demand for services  
(# of households, pop density,  
business areas & sites of interest,  
residential developments)

Other data

Private  
investment

National Regulatory  
authority / OCA

National Statistical  
Institutes or alike

Other public  
authorities (local/  
regional authorities)

Companies-  
operator  
owned data

Local info

**Granularity of information-** indispensable for public funding and broadband planning, also for private investments.



In 2019, BEREC identified around 20 European countries that collected information on calculated theoretical availability of broadband services

Approximately half of these initiatives collected information on a very granular basis (address/small grids) whilst the rest use large zones.

### **BEREC Guidelines BoR (20) 40**

- address/small grid information
- common definitions of core concepts
- require common info to be available across Europe
- emphasize the use of GIS

**Main challenges:** Availability of appropriate address directories, complex data gathering exercise

# Art 22 (2, 3 and 4) EECC: Creating a transparent environment for investments.

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**Designated areas:** Areas with clear boundaries with no deployed/planned VHCNs&100 Mbps for a given forecast period

## **Designated areas must be published.**

The public disclosure of designated areas should enable investors to consider new investment plans or reconsider those.

Authorities may **call for intentions to invest in designated areas** (private and public agents, two-stage invitation), and in doing this need to provide information to the market place.

P63, EECC:

“That procedure will create transparency for undertakings and public authorities that have expressed their interest in deploying in this area, so that, when designing their business plans, they can assess the likely competition that they will face from other networks”

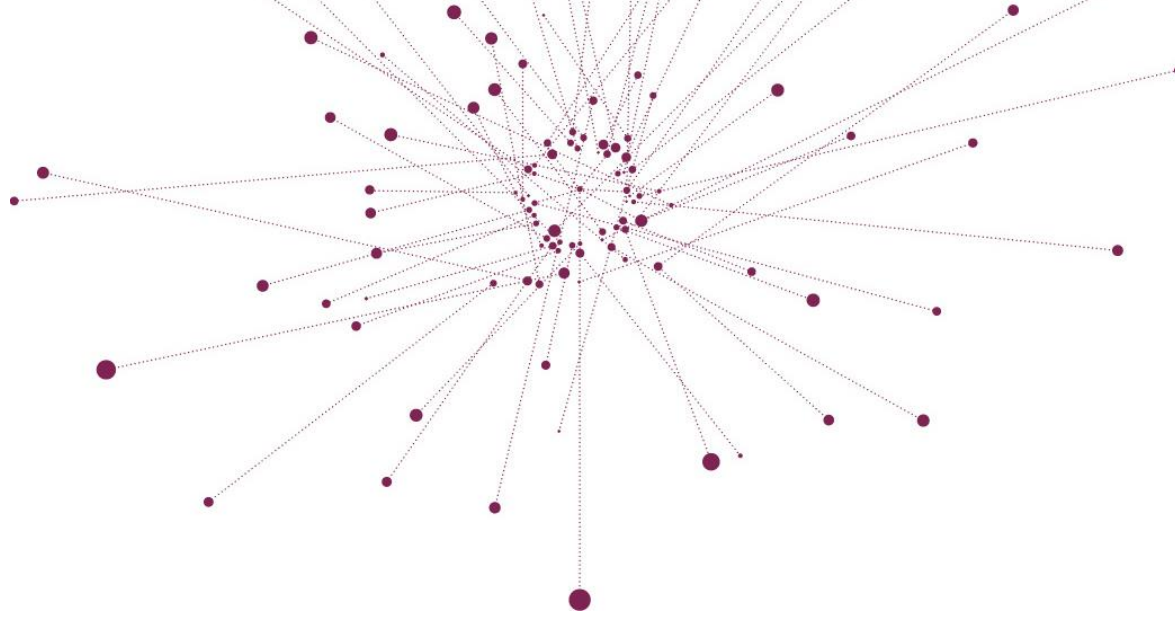
The transparency which the Article aims for can only be achieved if market participants respond truthfully and in good faith.

# Art 22 (2, 3 and 4): Creating a more transparent environment for investments in VHCNs & 100Mbps.

## Topics:

- 1.) Granularity of data and length of forecast period
  - yearly calls for granular forecast data
- 2.) Defining designated areas, provision of useful information for investors:
  - designated areas may have some coverage but public disclosure of “covered” premises/streets
  - recommendation homogeneous areas – “ex ante profitability”
- 3.) Disclosure of information and confidentiality of operator information





Thank you!

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