Motivation

The European wireless communications system is facing an increasing number of challenges:

(1) External players continually undermine the dominant business models with innovations.
(2) Technology and service-neutral regulation will challenge the single-standard approach practised so far.
(3) The success of WiFi creates the impetus for more sharing in spectrum use.

Key questions that arise from this are:

- Should technology competition be implemented rapidly?
- How can spectrum policy balance the rights of users, incumbents and new entrants so as to maximise innovation?
- Should bands be reserved for allocation to new competitors as required?
- Should licence exemption be extended to operation of “beachfront” spectrum, e.g., TV White Spaces?
- Should the European Commission replace national regulators?

The Round Table will examine these issues in some detail, identify the risks and opportunities, and discuss regulatory measures designed to spur on innovativeness in European telecommunications. Possible results of the Round Table are the creation of a study group and the formulation of a consensus statement.
Preliminary Agenda


Welcome and Introduction

Welcoming Remarks
Jun.-Prof. Stefan Seifert, Research Group Industrial Organization in Telecommunications Markets, KIT

Presentation of Agenda and Introduction of Participants
Arnd Weber, ITAS, KIT

Presentations: Licensing and Innovation

Making Content Accessible
Yusuke Kanda, CEO, Access Systems Europe, Germany

The Business of Mobile in Japan
Lars Cosh-Ishii, Director, Mobikyo, Japan

Implementing the WAPECS Concept
Isolde Goggin, former Chairperson of ComReg, Ireland

Spectral Efficiency, and Inevitable Path for Successful Technologies
George El Aily, CEO, Kleos, France

Competition of Technologies (working title)
Christoph Legutko, Manager, Intel

Presentations: Innovations for Shared Use

Questioning National Sovereignty
Robert Horvitz, Director, Open Spectrum Foundation, Czech Republic

Clogging the Mesh: Issues with Open Spectrum Models
Richard Bennett, Research Fellow, Information Technology & Innovation Foundation, USA

Regulation of Shared Spectrum - Technical Issues Arising in Heterogeneous Networks
Jens Elsner, Communications Engineering Lab, KIT

Research Issues with Collective Use
Simon Forge, SCF Associates, UK

Discussion and Agreement on Next Steps

Comments
Gregor Dürrenberger, Executive Officer, Swiss Research Foundation on Mobile Communication

Discussion and Agreement on Next Steps
All

Organisation

The Round Table is organised by ITAS, the Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis within the KIT. The event will be supported in the context of the German “Excellence Initiative”. Participation in the Round Table is limited and allocated on a FCFS basis.

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