



# Telecoms: A Changing Landscape

ComReg Conference  
**2023**

**March 9th 2023 | Mansion House**  
**Schedule & Event Information**



An Coimisiún um  
**Rialáil Cumarsáide**

Commission for  
**Communications Regulation**

# Welcome

## Telecoms: A Changing Landscape ComReg Conference 2023

8:00 **Registration opens**

9:00 Introduction from the MC **Dr. John Evans.**

Opening Address from **Robert Mourik**, ComReg Chairperson

9.35 Address from Danny McCoy, CEO of IBEC.

9:45 **Session One: The Evolving Internet Value Chain**

While Irish consumers are enjoying the benefits of the digital era, there can be no doubt that the internet value chain is evolving. New platforms, content providers and device manufacturers are playing an increasingly important role in the traditional telecoms value chain. A panel of Irish and international speakers will address this issue and offer insights into the future of the internet and the possible regulatory options available.

**This session will include:**

- The future of the internet
- The interaction of Big Tech and Internet Service Providers
- Evolving business models

<b>Speakers</b>	Markus Reinisch	<i>Vice President Public Policy EMEA at Meta</i>
	Alessandro Gropelli	<i>Deputy Director General at European Telecommunication Network Operations (ETNO)</i>
	Selina Chadha	<i>Director of Connectivity at Ofcom</i>
	Tony Shortall	<i>Director of Telage</i>
	Ilsa Godlovitch	<i>Director at WIK Consult</i>



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ComReg Conference  
2023

11:00 **Break**

11.20 **Session Two: Essential Infrastructure – Ensuring Continuity of Supply**

Telecoms infrastructure is the enabling backbone of the digital economy. As such, the essential nature of such infrastructure has become increasingly apparent over recent years. Incentivising investment in network resilience is a new frontier in communications. This panel will discuss the challenges that lie ahead for the sector.

**This session will include:**

- Telecoms networks as an essential infrastructure
- Investor attitudes to Telecoms Infrastructure
- Risks to supply – from Climate to Malicious Actors

**Speakers**

Dr Dan Maldoom *Partner at DotEcon*

Aoife MacEilly *Chairperson of Commission for Regulation of Utilities*

Tony Hanway *CEO of Virgin Media*

Dan Sjöblom *Director General of Swedish Post and Telecom Authority*

12.50 Closing Address from **Robert Mourik**, ComReg Chairperson.

# Speakers



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A Changing  
Landscape**

ComReg Conference  
2023



## **GARRETT BLANEY** COMREG COMMISSIONER

Garrett Blaney joined the Commission for Communications Regulation as Commissioner and Chairperson in January 2019. Garrett Blaney was previously a member of the Commission at the Commission for Regulation of Utilities since February 2010 and Chairperson from February 2014 to February 2017. In 2017 Garrett was elected the Chair of the ACER Board of Regulators (Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators) and also the President of the Council of the European Energy Regulators (CEER). Prior to becoming a Regulator Garrett had over 20 years of experience working in the energy industry. He was previously Strategic Development Director for Viridian Power and Energy, Commercial Director for Huntstown Power, Ireland's first independent power producer, and Asian regional director for ESB International.



## **SELINA CHADHA** OFCOM

Selina Chadha has worked at Ofcom for over 20 years. She currently leads Ofcom's work on digital markets. Her areas of responsibility include Ofcom's digital markets strategy, net neutrality and content gateways. Prior to her current role, she has led both telecoms and broadcasting competition and consumer protection work, including work on ensuring the availability of universal services and extending mobile coverage.

## **ILSA GODLOVITCH** DIRECTOR, BRUSSELS OFFICE, WIK-CONSULT

Ilsa Godlovitch has been Director of WIK-Consult's Brussels office since 2012. She is an expert in telecommunications regulation and policy and has led various studies for the European institutions in recent years, including support for the Impact Assessment on the EU Framework for electronic communications (leading to the proposed EU Electronic Communications Code), implementation of the Broadband Cost Reduction Directive and support for the Review of the SMP Guidelines.

Prior to joining WIK, Ilsa was Director at the European Competitive Telecommunications Association (ECTA), where she developed and presented recommendations on public policy and telecoms regulation to the European institutions on behalf of more than 100 operators. A key research project she led during this time was the ECTA Regulatory scorecard, which benchmarked institutional and regulatory frameworks and market outcomes for telecoms across 22 European countries using 120 indicators.

From 1998-2002, Ilsa was senior policy advisor at the UK telecoms regulator Ofcom. During that period, she was responsible for Ofcom's first analysis of the broadband market. Together with the UK Ministry for trade and industry, Ilsa also developed policy and negotiated on the e-Commerce Directive, 2000 EU Unbundling Regulation, and the 2002 EU Framework for electronic communications. Ilsa started her career as a technology journalist, and was a member of the launch team of the MSN portal site in the UK. Ilsa has an MA in classics from Oxford University and studied postgraduate economics at London University.



## **ALESSANDRO GROPELLI** DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, ETNO

Alessandro Gropelli is Deputy Director General of ETNO, the European Telecom Association. He is in charge of strategy and communications, Alessandro joined ETNO in 2013 and he is an expert of tech policy and sustainability matters. He is also a Member of the Board and the Treasurer of GeSI, the Global e-Sustainability Initiative.

Prior to joining ETNO, Alessandro was European affairs advisor at Vodafone Group and vice-chairman at m-commerce working group of GSMA Europe. In 2010, he worked in the Brussels team of Telecom Italia. In 2009, he served as public relations officer at the European Parliament.

He holds an Executive MBA from Copenhagen Business School (2021). He graduated in public management from Bocconi University in Milan (2009), but also spent short periods of study at the Hitotsubashi University of Tokyo (2008) as well as at the MIT (2018) and Berkeley Haas (2016).





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ComReg Conference  
2023



### **TONY HANWAY** CEO, VIRGIN MEDIA

Tony Hanway has been CEO of Virgin Media Ireland since 2015. Virgin Media is Ireland's leading connected entertainment provider offering market-leading Broadband, TV, fixed and mobile phone services to the Irish consumer and B2B market. Virgin Media Ireland also incorporates Ireland's leading commercial broadcaster, Virgin Media Television.

Before joining Liberty Global he spent a decade at O2/Telefonica where he held a number of board-level roles including; CEO O2 Ireland, Consumer Director O2 Ireland, Consumer Director Telefonica O2 Czech Republic and Chief Commercial Officer of O2 Deutschland. From 1995 to 2005 Tony held senior positions at the internet pioneer AOL (UK) where he was an executive board member, Vice President of Customer Care and Managing Director AOL Europe Operations Ltd.



### **AOIFE MACEVILLY** CHAIRPERSON, COMMISSION FOR REGULATION OF UTILITIES

Aoife MacEvilly has been a member of the Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU) since October 2014 and was appointed Chairperson in February 2020. Her lead responsibilities include empowering and protecting customers, supporting active customers and communities and the future role of gas in a secure, decarbonised energy system. Aoife previously worked in the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications and in the private sector. She holds a BA in European Business and German from Ulster University, a Professional Diploma in Regulatory Governance from UCD and an MA in Leadership from UCD Smurfit.



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ComReg Conference  
2023



## DANNY MCCOY CEO, IBEC

Danny McCoy is CEO at Ibec, the group that represents Irish business domestically and internationally. Since becoming CEO in 2009, he has led a substantial transformation of Ibec increasing turnover to €31 million, leading a professional services staff of 240 in 7 locations and 38 sub-brands. Prior to joining Ibec, he served as a senior economist at both the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) and the Central Bank of Ireland. He has held lecturing posts at Dublin City University, University College London, University of Oxford and Trinity College Dublin and has been visiting lecturer at the IMD Business School in Switzerland and Harvard University in the US. He has been a consultant for the European Commission and the OECD. He currently serves as President of the Statistical & Social Inquiry Society of Ireland and Honorary Fellow of the Academy of Engineers.



## ROBERT MOURIK COMREG CHAIRPERSON

Robert Mourik was appointed as Commissioner at the Commission for Communications Regulation in January 2019. Prior to joining ComReg, Robert was the Director for Wholesale and Regulatory Affairs for Cubic Telecom from 2015 to 2018. He was also Director of Strategy & the CEO Office at Telefónica Ireland, where he worked for ten years.

He worked as Head of Regulatory Affairs and Public Policy at Meteor Mobile Communications and Senior Regulatory Manager at Vodafone in Brussels.

Robert began his career as the Telecommunications Attaché at the Permanent Representation of the Netherlands to the EU, following his MSc from Erasmus University Rotterdam.



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ComReg Conference  
2023



### **DAN MULDOOM** PARTNER AND CO-FOUNDER OF DOTECON LTD.

Dan Muldoom is a partner and co-founder of DotEcon Ltd. He is an academic economist and a business consultant who specialises in quantitative economics, game theory and economic modelling in the areas of competition economics, market design and business strategy. His extensive client base includes Governments and Regulators around the world as well as multinational companies.

### **MARKUS REINISCH** VICE PRESIDENT, PUBLIC POLICY EUROPE AND GLOBAL ECONOMIC POLICY, META

Markus Reinisch (Vice President, Public Policy Europe and Global Economic Policy at Meta)

Markus Reinisch joined Meta in 2018 as the Vice President for Public Policy in Europe. His portfolio includes the management of the company's regional public policy strategy and key relationships with senior policy stakeholders. Since 2022, he also oversees the company's economic policy strategy. Prior to this, Markus was the Global Public Policy Director at Vodafone where he was responsible for leading the company's work on developing policy strategies and engagement with policy makers. He has also held other executive policy roles within the communications industry including at Colt Group, Orange Group and Deloitte Consulting. Markus holds an LLM from the University of Warwick and a law degree from the University of Vienna.







## TONY SHORTALL DIRECTOR OF TELAGE

Tony Shortall is Director of Telage, a consultancy in the field of telecommunications economics and regulation. He is an economist specialising in the regulation of network industries and is acknowledged expert in the area of telecommunications policy and regulation. He has written extensively on these matters and has advised governments, regulators and firms.

Tony previously worked as an economist at the European Commission (2001-2008), working on developing the 2002 eCommunications Regulatory Framework and the subsequent Reform adopted in 2009. He also prepared the first two iterations of the Recommendation on Relevant Markets, participated in preparing the SMP Guidelines, participated for the Commission on the ERG Common Position on Remedies. He prepared the 1st draft of the Commission Recommendation on Next Generation Access consulted upon in 2008, as well as the Commission Recommendation on Termination Rates. He helped to establish the Article 7 task force and acted as principle advisor to the team which assessed National Regulator's market assessments.

He was previously the senior economist at the Irish Competition Authority (1997-99) dealing with network industries and also has experience in the telecommunications industry having worked with both fixed and mobile operators in the Irish Market. He holds degrees in economics from University College Cork (1992, 1994), Ireland and an LLM from the BSC in Brussels, Belgium (2016).

## MR. DAN SJÖBLOM DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE SWEDISH POST AND TELECOM AUTHORITY (PTS)

Appointed by the Swedish Government, Dan Sjöblom is the Director-General of the Swedish Post and Telecom Authority (PTS) since February 1, 2017.

He is the incoming Chair for the European Regulators Group for Postal Services (ERGP). Previously, he was in 2020 the Chair of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC). In 2021 he was vice Chair for the Eastern Partnership Electronic Communications Regulators Network (EaPeReg). Prior to taking up his current position, Mr. Sjöblom was the Director General of the Swedish Competition Authority from 2009 to 2017.

He also serves on the Boards of the Swedish Broadband Council, the Swedish Agency for Government Employers and the Swedish Government Workers Pension Fund.

Mr. Sjöblom performed various functions as a civil servant at the European Commission between 1996-2009. He holds a Master of Laws from Stockholm University.





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