

## Margrethe Vestager Executive Vice-President of the European Commission

Thierry Breton
Member of the European Commission

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Dear Ms Sanghani,

We thank you for your letter of 3 January 2023, in which you expressed your concern about the Commission's alleged plans to introduce a mandatory 'call termination settlement' model, labelled as Sending Party Network Pays (SPNP). You also mention in your letter that any regulatory initiative in this matter should be preceded by careful examination of the market and by an inclusive consultation with concerned stakeholders.

The reflections by the Commission on the 'fair share' debate are still ongoing. The Commission currently has no plans to introduce a mandatory 'call termination settlement' model, nor has the Commission proposed a model of SPNP.

To gather more information on this and other topics, a broad consultation on the future of the electronic communications sector and its infrastructure has been launched on 23 February 2023. It will seek the views of stakeholders on the challenges related to achieving the Digital Decade targets, including the current and future market and technological changes and which resources and assets would be required to mobilise the roll out of connectivity infrastructure. As for all other stakeholders, we look forward to reading your reply and those of the organisations that Euro-IX represents.

Based on the outcome of the consultation, the Commission will consider the most appropriate initiatives to foster its vision for the future of the electronic communications sector and to implement the principles enshrined in the 'European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles for the Digital Decade', signed on 15 December 2022 by the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission, among which there is the principle whereby all market players benefiting from the digital transformation should make a fair and proportionate contribution to public goods, services and infrastructure, for the benefit of all Europeans.

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Ms Bijal Sanghani Managing Director Euro-IX

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Should the result one day culminate in the development of potential legislation, rest assured that the Commission will follow its better regulation guidelines and that civil society groups and other stakeholders will be involved accordingly.

Finally, let me reiterate an important point: the Commission is strongly committed to protecting a neutral and open internet. This fundamental principle was also included in the 'European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles for the Digital Decade'. The consultation outlined above will be based on this approach.

We can assure you that your concerns are duly noted. We are looking forward to continuing the dialogue on these very important subjects.

Yours sincerely,

Margrethe Vestager

Thierry Breton