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In the face of the deep crisis affecting its economy and society, Europe needs to tap into new sources of growth in areas that will reinforce its competitiveness, drive innovation and create new job opportunities.

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As the world moves rapidly towards an Internet-based economy, directly affecting everything from traditional services such as banking and insurance to new sectors such as online retail, and from industrial production to energy supply, ICT is increasingly seen as a source of the smart, sustainable and inclusive growth envisaged in [Europe 2020](#) [1]. However, Europe lacks a genuine single market for electronic communications. The Union is fragmented into distinct national markets and as a result Europe is losing out on a major source of potential growth. The European Commission therefore welcomes the conclusions of the [2013 Spring European Council](#) [2], calling for measures to create a Single Telecoms Market as early as possible.

Three years of consultations, public events and private meetings inform these proposals - including two major public events with 1000 participants in June. On 11 September 2013, we adopted a legislative package for a "Connected Continent: Building a Telecoms Single Market" aimed at building a connected, competitive continent and enabling sustainable digital jobs and industries.

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- [3] <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/communication-commission-european-parliament-council-european-economic-and-social-committee-a-0>
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