

From: Leen Besselink
Sent: jeudi 30 septembre 2010 0:21
To: INFISO NETNEUTRALITY
Subject: Public consultation on the open internet and net neutrality in europe

To the European commission,

Network neutrality is the first line of defense to guarantee innovation. Trying to come up with new ways to prioritise traffic on existing networks is not innovation. Putting in new (faster) networks and upgrading networks is the way to push innovation forward.

It has been shown time and time again that when there is enough bandwidth new applications get created.

If you allow providers to prioritize traffic based on the source or destination on their own agenda, they will choose to prioritize based on which content-provider or application-provider payes them the most money.

This means new initiatives will never get the bandwidth they need to because they don't have the money to have their traffic prioritized.

It also means network providers will stop upgrading their networks and focus on the money from content-providers instead of competing on providing the best service for their customers.

It has also been shown, that speed of a website matters, fast websites get more return visitors.

If a website has more visitors they get more income and can keep the site running.

When large players pay the most for prioritization that will create a mono-culture where smaller players can not compete. This means smaller (also read: local) players can not compete. Which will mean more import from other countries/continents instead of supporting the local players.

Which creates a situation where money is not invested in the local economy, but just exported.

To create fast websites and networks takes knowledge and skill (and time and money ofcourse), the more competition there is and more knowledge is created in those fields the better the industry can advance and Europe can compete on the world stage.

If there is any prioritization it should happen at the 'last mile', where the bandwidth is the most limited.

For example voice over IP (VoIP/Telephony) is sensitive to congestion,

so if this is prioritized there is nothing wrong with this, because it is not prioritized based on the source or destination. It is in the interest of the customer.

But an abundance of bandwidth still guarantees the best platform for innovation and competition.

There is obviously nothing wrong with prioritizing or blocking traffic based on technical reasons like DOS-attacks (Denial Of Service attacks) at any part of the network. But these methods just exists to prevent evildoers from disrupting normal operations for other people.

Because I was only aware of this public consoltation very near the deadline, I was not able to answer all the questions in time.

I hope this still gives you some insight the current situation and how important it is to keep the networks neutral.

My background:

I've been working in the internet industry for over 10 years, creating content/websites and building provider networks.

With kind regards,
Leen Besselink

PS Don't publish my e-mail address.