

Competition Department
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Public consultation on termination rates

Post- och telestyrelsen (PTS) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Commission's draft recommendation on the treatment of fixed and mobile termination rates in the EU. In details PTS refer to the comments on the recommendation from ERG and would like to stress the importance of being proactive in the matters of termination charges.

Over the years, PTS has been one of the strongest advocates for enhanced harmonisation in the field of termination, and is therefore in favour of the initiative taken by the Commission on this issue. With a long term goal of reaching neutral incentive to invest for all operators and in the light of the current convergence to NGN, PTS believes that a change in the current termination regime is inevitable.

PTS believes that the draft recommendation paves the way towards such change. Thus, PTS strongly supports the aim of reducing the mobile termination charges even further, to minimize capital flow from fixed to mobile networks with a distortion of competition as a result.

Today symmetry between operators applies in Sweden, both in the fixed and mobile termination markets respectively. Sweden has among the lowest mobile termination rates in Europe today, with a level of approximately 4.5 eurocents per minute, with further reductions likely.

PTS is already looking into alternative approaches to regulate the termination markets in the long term. Therefore, PTS appreciates the fact that the Explanatory note touches upon this more long term view. However, PTS believes that the long term view is crucial in discussing the way forward and would like to stress the importance of this being brought up on the agenda.

Best wishes,

Marianne Treschow

CC: Daniel Pataki