

Amendment 14**Marietje Schaake, Michel Reimon, and others****Recommendation for second reading****A8-0300/2015****Pilar del Castillo Vera**European single market for electronic communications
10788/2/2015 – C8-0294/2015 – 2013/0309(COD)**Council position****Recital 7***Council position*

(7) In order to exercise their rights to access and distribute information and content and to use and provide applications and services of their choice, end-users should be free to agree with providers of internet access services on tariffs for specific data volumes and speeds of the internet access service. Such agreements, as well as any commercial practices of providers of internet access services, should not limit the exercise of those rights and thus circumvent provisions of this Regulation safeguarding open internet access. National regulatory and other competent authorities should be empowered to intervene against agreements or commercial practices which, ***by reason of their scale***, lead to situations where end-users' choice is materially reduced in practice. ***To this end, the assessment of agreements and commercial practices should inter alia take into account the respective market positions of those providers of internet access services, and of the providers of content, applications and services, that are involved.*** National regulatory and other competent authorities should be required, as part of their monitoring and enforcement function, to intervene when agreements or commercial practices would result in the undermining of the essence of the end-

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(7) In order to exercise their rights to access and distribute information and content and to use and provide applications and services of their choice, end-users should be free to agree with providers of internet access services on tariffs for specific data volumes and speeds of the internet access service. Such agreements, as well as any commercial practices of providers of internet access services, should not limit the exercise of those rights and thus circumvent provisions of this Regulation safeguarding open internet access. National regulatory and other competent authorities should be empowered to intervene against agreements or commercial practices which lead to situations where end-users' choice is materially reduced in practice. National regulatory and other competent authorities should be required, as part of their monitoring and enforcement function, to intervene when agreements or commercial practices would result in the undermining of the essence of the end-users' rights.

users' rights.

Or. en

Justification

Either the freedom to receive and impart information is protected or it is not. Leaving it, in the first instance, to national telecoms regulators to determine if this fundamental right has been breached enough to warrant an intervention is below the standards European citizens rightly expect.

For the same reason, the following sentence referring to market position should be deleted.

Amendment 15**Marietje Schaake, Michel Reimon, and others****Recommendation for second reading****A8-0300/2015****Pilar del Castillo Vera**European single market for electronic communications
10788/2/2015 – C8-0294/2015 – 2013/0309(COD)**Council position****Recital 9***Council position*

(9) The objective of reasonable traffic management is to contribute to an efficient use of network resources and to an optimisation of overall transmission quality responding to the ***objectively different technical quality of service requirements of specific categories*** of traffic, and thus of the content, applications and services transmitted. Reasonable traffic management measures applied by providers of internet access services should be transparent, non-discriminatory and proportionate, and should not be based on commercial considerations. The requirement for traffic management measures to be non-discriminatory does not preclude providers of internet access services from implementing, in order to optimise the overall transmission quality, traffic management measures ***which differentiate between objectively different categories of traffic***. Any ***such differentiation*** should, in order to optimise overall quality and user experience, be permitted only on the basis of objectively different ***technical quality of service requirements*** (for example, in terms of latency, jitter, packet loss, and bandwidth) ***of the specific categories of traffic***, and not on the basis of commercial considerations. Such ***differentiating***

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(9) The objective of reasonable traffic management is to contribute to an efficient use of network resources and to an optimisation of overall transmission quality responding to the ***objective*** requirements of traffic, and thus of the content, applications and services transmitted. Reasonable traffic management measures applied by providers of internet access services should be transparent, non-discriminatory and proportionate, and should not be based on commercial considerations. The requirement for traffic management measures to be non-discriminatory does not preclude providers of internet access services from implementing, in order to optimise the overall transmission quality, traffic management measures. Any ***traffic management measures*** should, in order to optimise overall quality and user experience, be permitted only on the basis of objectively different requirements (for example, in terms of latency, jitter, packet loss, and bandwidth), and not on the basis of commercial considerations. Such measures should be proportionate in relation to the ***specific network management*** purpose ***in question***. Such measures should not be maintained for longer than necessary.

measures should be proportionate in relation to the purpose *of overall quality optimisation and should treat equivalent traffic equally*. Such measures should not be maintained for longer than necessary.

Or. en

Justification

The Council first reading text contradicts itself between supporting a permanent differentiation between different “categories” of data on the one hand, and a requirement that such (permanent) measures are only permissible if they are maintained for no longer than “necessary”. If not, encrypted traffic, being a unidentified category, would end up being discriminated against.

Amendment 16
Marietje Schaake, Michel Reimon, and others

Recommendation for second reading
Pilar del Castillo Vera

A8-0300/2015

European single market for electronic communications
 10788/2/2015 – C8-0294/2015 – 2013/0309(COD)

Council position

Recital 15

Council position

(15) Third, measures going beyond such reasonable traffic management measures might also be necessary ***to prevent impending network congestion, that is, situations where congestion is about to materialise, and*** to mitigate the effects of network congestion, where such congestion occurs only temporarily or in exceptional circumstances. The principle of proportionality requires that traffic management measures based on that exception treat equivalent categories of traffic equally. Temporary congestion should be understood as referring to specific situations of short duration, where a sudden increase in the number of users in addition to the regular users, or a sudden increase in demand for specific content, applications or services, may overflow the transmission capacity of some elements of the network and make the rest of the network less reactive. Temporary congestion might occur especially in mobile networks, which are subject to more variable conditions, such as physical obstructions, lower indoor coverage, or a variable number of active users with changing location. While it may be predictable that such temporary congestion might occur from time to time at certain points in the network – such that it cannot

Amendment

(15) Third, measures going beyond such reasonable traffic management measures might also be necessary to mitigate the effects of network congestion, where such congestion occurs only temporarily or in exceptional circumstances. The principle of proportionality requires that traffic management measures based on that exception treat equivalent categories of traffic equally. Temporary congestion should be understood as referring to specific situations of short duration, where a sudden increase in the number of users in addition to the regular users, or a sudden increase in demand for specific content, applications or services, may overflow the transmission capacity of some elements of the network and make the rest of the network less reactive. Temporary congestion might occur especially in mobile networks, which are subject to more variable conditions, such as physical obstructions, lower indoor coverage, or a variable number of active users with changing location. While it may be predictable that such temporary congestion might occur from time to time at certain points in the network – such that it cannot be regarded as exceptional – it might not recur so often or for such extensive periods that a capacity expansion would be

be regarded as exceptional – it might not recur so often or for such extensive periods that a capacity expansion would be economically justified. Exceptional congestion should be understood as referring to unpredictable and unavoidable situations of congestion, both in mobile and fixed networks. Possible causes of those situations include a technical failure such as a service outage due to broken cables or other infrastructure elements, unexpected changes in routing of traffic or large increases in network traffic due to emergency or other situations beyond the control of providers of internet access services. Such congestion problems are likely to be infrequent but may be severe, and are not necessarily of short duration. The need to apply traffic management measures going beyond the reasonable traffic management measures in order to prevent or mitigate the effects of temporary or exceptional network congestion should not give providers of internet access services the possibility to circumvent the general prohibition on blocking, slowing down, altering, restricting, interfering with, degrading or discriminating between specific content, applications or services, or specific categories thereof. Recurrent and more long lasting network congestion which is neither exceptional nor temporary should not benefit from that exception but should rather be tackled through expansion of network capacity.

economically justified. Exceptional congestion should be understood as referring to unpredictable and unavoidable situations of congestion, both in mobile and fixed networks. Possible causes of those situations include a technical failure such as a service outage due to broken cables or other infrastructure elements, unexpected changes in routing of traffic or large increases in network traffic due to emergency or other situations beyond the control of providers of internet access services. Such congestion problems are likely to be infrequent but may be severe, and are not necessarily of short duration. The need to apply traffic management measures going beyond the reasonable traffic management measures in order to prevent or mitigate the effects of temporary or exceptional network congestion should not give providers of internet access services the possibility to circumvent the general prohibition on blocking, slowing down, altering, restricting, interfering with, degrading or discriminating between specific content, applications or services, or specific categories thereof. Recurrent and more long lasting network congestion which is neither exceptional nor temporary should not benefit from that exception but should rather be tackled through expansion of network capacity.

Or. en

Justification

The provision on impending congestion is unnecessary and it will be difficult to interpret. ISPs are only allowed to engage in blocking or discrimination or applications or classes of applications to "mitigate" congestion under Art. 3(3), subparagraph 3 (c) if the congestion is "temporary" or „exceptional.“ These terms have been defined carefully to ensure that these situations remain the exception, rather than the rule. The current version of the recital allows ISPs to use these intrusive measures to "prevent" any kind of congestion, not just temporary or exceptional congestion. This vastly increases the range of cases in which ISPs can engage in

blocking/discrimination of applications or classes of applications to manage congestion:

(1) it allows ISPs to use these measures before congestion has even occurred (all under the guise of preventing impending congestion).

(2) it allows ISPs to use these measures to prevent any kind of congestion, allowing ISPs to do an endrun around the careful protections that were built into the definitions of "temporary" and "exceptional."

Amendment 17**Marietje Schaake, Michel Reimon, and others****Recommendation for second reading****A8-0300/2015****Pilar del Castillo Vera**European single market for electronic communications
10788/2/2015 – C8-0294/2015 – 2013/0309(COD)**Council position****Recital 16***Council position*

(16) There is demand on the part of providers of content, applications and services to be able to provide electronic communication services other than internet access services, for which specific levels of quality, that ***are not assured*** by internet access services, are necessary. Such specific levels of quality are, for instance, ***required by*** some services responding to a public interest or by some new machine-to-machine communications services. Providers of electronic communications to the public, including providers of internet access services, and providers of content, applications and services should therefore be free to offer services which are not internet access services and which are optimised for specific content, applications or services, or a combination thereof, where the optimisation is ***necessary*** in order to meet the requirements of the content, applications or services for a specific level of quality. National regulatory authorities should verify whether and to what extent such optimisation is objectively necessary to ensure ***one or more specific and key features*** of the content, applications or services ***and to enable a corresponding quality assurance to be given to end-users***, rather than simply granting ***general*** priority

Amendment

(16) There is demand on the part of providers of content, applications and services to be able to provide electronic communication services other than internet access services, for which specific levels of quality, that ***cannot be provided*** by internet access services, are ***necessary***. Such specific levels of quality are, for instance, ***essential for*** some services responding to a public interest or by some new machine-to-machine communications services ***to function***. Providers of electronic communications to the public, including providers of internet access services, and providers of content, applications and services should therefore be free to offer ***such*** services which are not internet access services and which are optimised for specific content, applications or services, or a combination thereof, where the optimisation is ***essential*** in order to meet the requirements of the content, applications or services for a specific level of quality. National regulatory authorities should verify whether and to what extent such optimisation is objectively necessary to ensure ***the functioning*** of the content, applications or services, rather than simply granting priority over comparable content, applications or services available via the internet access service and thereby

over comparable content, applications or services available via the internet access service and thereby circumventing the provisions regarding traffic management measures applicable to the internet access services.

circumventing the provisions regarding traffic management measures applicable to the internet access services.

Or. en

Justification

Council's first reading text is contradictory. If “comparable content, applications and services” are available via the internet access service, these specialised services are being offered a competitive advantage - exactly contrary to the stated intention of the draft Regulation. The amendment seeks to resolve this contradiction. The use of the word “essential” seeks to reflect the logic of the requirement for “enhanced quality from end-to-end” supported by the Parliament in first reading (cf. Article 2(15)).

Amendment 18
Marietje Schaake, Michel Reimon, and others

Recommendation for second reading
Pilar del Castillo Vera

A8-0300/2015

European single market for electronic communications
 10788/2/2015 – C8-0294/2015 – 2013/0309(COD)

Council position

Recital 17

Council position

(17) In order to avoid the provision of such other services having a negative impact on the availability or general quality of internet access services for endusers, sufficient capacity needs to be ensured. Providers of electronic communications to the public, including providers of internet access services, should, therefore, offer such other services, or conclude corresponding agreements with providers of content, applications or services facilitating such other services, only if the network capacity is sufficient for their provision in addition to any internet access services provided. The provisions of this Regulation on the safeguarding of open internet access should not be circumvented by means of other services usable or offered as a replacement for internet access services. However, the mere fact that corporate services such as virtual private networks might also give access to the internet should not result in them being considered to be a replacement of the internet access services, provided that the provision of such access to the internet by a provider of electronic communications to the public complies with Article 3(1) to (4) of this Regulation, and therefore cannot be considered to be a circumvention of those provisions. The provision of such services

Amendment

(17) In order to avoid the provision of such other services having a negative impact on the availability or general quality of internet access services for endusers, sufficient capacity needs to be ensured. Providers of electronic communications to the public, including providers of internet access services, should, therefore, offer such other services, or conclude corresponding agreements with providers of content, applications or services facilitating such other services, only if the network capacity is sufficient for their provision in addition to any internet access services provided. The provisions of this Regulation on the safeguarding of open internet access should not be circumvented by means of other services usable or offered as a replacement for internet access services ***or for content, applications or services available over internet access services***. However, the mere fact that corporate services such as virtual private networks might also give access to the internet should not result in them being considered to be a replacement of the internet access services, provided that the provision of such access to the internet by a provider of electronic communications to the public complies with Article 3(1) to (4) of this Regulation, and therefore cannot be

other than internet access services should not be to the detriment of the availability and general quality of internet access services for endusers. In mobile networks, traffic volumes in a given radio cell are more difficult to anticipate due to the varying number of active end-users, and for this reason an impact on the quality of internet access services for end-users might occur in unforeseeable circumstances.

considered to be a circumvention of those provisions. The provision of such services other than internet access services should not be to the detriment of the availability and general quality of internet access services for end-users. In mobile networks, traffic volumes in a given radio cell are more difficult to anticipate due to the varying number of active end-users, and for this reason an impact on the quality of internet access services for end-users might occur in unforeseeable circumstances.

Or. en

Justification

This brings this recital into line with the amendments to recital 16.

21.10.2015

A8-0300/19

Amendment 19

Marietje Schaake, Michel Reimon, and others

Recommendation for second reading

A8-0300/2015

Pilar del Castillo Vera

European single market for electronic communications
10788/2/2015 – C8-0294/2015 – 2013/0309(COD)

Council position

Article 2 – subparagraph 2 – point 1 a (new)

Council position

Amendment

(1a) "net neutrality" means the principle according to which all internet traffic is treated equally, without discrimination, restriction or interference, independently of its sender, recipient, type, content, device, service or application;

Or. en

Justification

This section exists because of the intent to ensure a neutral treatment of internet traffic and the issue of the existence of a net neutrality principle has been already settled in MS primary legislation and other legislation or equivalent around the world.

21.10.2015

A8-0300/20

Amendment 20

Marietje Schaake, Michel Reimon, and others

Recommendation for second reading

A8-0300/2015

Pilar del Castillo Vera

European single market for electronic communications
10788/2/2015 – C8-0294/2015 – 2013/0309(COD)

Council position

Article 2 – subparagraph 2 – point 2

Council position

(2) 'internet access service' means a publicly available electronic communications service that provides access to the internet, and thereby connectivity to virtually all end points of the internet, irrespective of the network technology and terminal equipment used.

Amendment

(2) 'internet access service' means a publicly available electronic communications service that provides access to the internet ***in accordance to the principle of net neutrality***, and thereby connectivity to virtually all end points of the internet, irrespective of the network technology and terminal equipment used.

Or. en

21.10.2015

A8-0300/21

Amendment 21

Marietje Schaake, Michel Reimon, and others

Recommendation for second reading

A8-0300/2015

Pilar del Castillo Vera

European single market for electronic communications
10788/2/2015 – C8-0294/2015 – 2013/0309(COD)

Council position

Article 3 – paragraph 2

Council position

2. Agreements between providers of internet access services and end-users on commercial and technical conditions and the characteristics of internet access services such as price, data volumes or speed, and any commercial practices conducted by providers of internet access services, shall not limit the exercise of the rights of end-users laid down in paragraph 1.

Amendment

2. Agreements between providers of internet access services and end-users on commercial and technical conditions and the characteristics of internet access services such as price, data volumes or speed, and any commercial practices conducted by providers of internet access services, shall not limit the exercise of the rights of end-users laid down in paragraph 1. ***This paragraph shall not prevent Member States from adopting additional regulations with regard to the practice of exempting certain content, applications, or services or categories thereof from data caps.***

Or. en

Justification

This clarifies the position of the negotiators regarding the ability of Member States to take action to protect against discrimination on the basis of download limits and costs, such as zero rating.

21.10.2015

A8-0300/22

Amendment 22

Marietje Schaake, Michel Reimon, and others 40+

Recommendation for second reading

A8-0300/2015

Pilar del Castillo Vera

European single market for electronic communications
10788/2/2015 – C8-0294/2015 – 2013/0309(COD)

Council position

Article 3 – paragraph 3 –subparagraph 2

Council position

The first subparagraph shall not prevent providers of internet access services from implementing reasonable traffic management measures. In order to be deemed to be reasonable, such measures shall be transparent, non-discriminatory and proportionate, and shall not be based on commercial considerations ***but on objectively different technical quality of service requirements of specific categories of traffic***. Such measures shall not monitor the specific content and shall not be maintained for longer than necessary.

Amendment

The first subparagraph shall not prevent providers of internet access services from implementing reasonable traffic management measures. In order to be deemed to be reasonable, such measures shall be transparent, non-discriminatory and proportionate, and shall not be based on commercial considerations. Such measures shall not monitor the specific content and shall not be maintained for longer than necessary.

Or. en

Justification

This amendment seeks to resolve two issues:

Firstly, it is inconsistent to state that traffic management “measures should not be maintained as long as necessary” and that they should be “without discrimination”, at the same time as establishing an overarching rule that, by default, different categories can always be treated differently. Moreover, allowing ISPs to discriminate among classes of applications under Article 3(3) subparagraph 2 contradicts Article 3(3) subparagraph 3, which clearly states that “discriminating among categories” of content, applications, or services are “traffic management measures going beyond those measures set out” in Article 3(3), subparagraph 2. That suggests that the drafters wanted to allow discrimination among classes of applications ONLY in the specific cases of exceptions specified in Article 3(3), subparagraph 3, (a)-(c).

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Secondly: The categorisation is only possible if the internet provider has the ability to categorise traffic. So, for example, the category into which encrypted data should be put cannot be ascertained. Encryption is crucial for online security and it has been estimated that, by next year, half of internet traffic will be encrypted (see <http://fortune.com/2015/04/30/netflix-internet-traffic-encrypted/>). If this exception is widely used, internet companies and users will have a choice – the slow lane or the unsafe lane. Furthermore, there will be a de facto discrimination in favour of large video sources (YouTube or Netflix, for instance), where the service provider's (encrypted) traffic will be assumed to be video given its origin while videos from smaller sites (blogs, political parties, etc) will be downgraded.

21.10.2015

A8-0300/23

Amendment 23

Marietje Schaake, Michel Reimon, and others 40+

Recommendation for second reading

A8-0300/2015

Pilar del Castillo Vera

European single market for electronic communications
10788/2/2015 – C8-0294/2015 – 2013/0309(COD)

Council position

Article 3 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 3– point c

Council position

Amendment

(c) prevent ***impending network congestion*** ***and*** mitigate the effects of exceptional or temporary network congestion, provided that equivalent categories of traffic are treated equally.

(c) prevent ***or mitigate*** the effects of exceptional or temporary network congestion, provided that equivalent categories of traffic are treated equally.

Or. en

Justification

The provision on impending congestion is unnecessary and it will be difficult to interpret. ISPs are only allowed to engage in blocking or discrimination or applications or classes of applications to "mitigate" congestion under Art. 3(3), subparagraph 3 (c) if the congestion is "temporary" or „exceptional.“ These terms have been defined carefully to ensure that these situations remain the exception, rather than the rule. The current version of the recital allows ISPs to use these intrusive measures to

"prevent" any kind of congestion, not just temporary or exceptional congestion. This vastly increases the range of cases in which ISPs can engage in blocking/discrimination of applications or classes of applications to manage congestion:

(1) it allows ISPs to use these measures before congestion has even occurred (all under the guise of preventing impending congestion).

(2) it allows ISPs to use these measures to prevent any kind of congestion, allowing ISPs to do an endrun around the careful protections that were built into the definitions of "temporary" and "exceptional."

Amendment 24**Marietje Schaake, Michel Reimon, and others 40+****Recommendation for second reading****A8-0300/2015****Pilar del Castillo Vera**European single market for electronic communications
10788/2/2015 – C8-0294/2015 – 2013/0309(COD)**Council position****Article 3 – paragraph 5***Council position*

5. Providers of electronic communications to the public, including providers of internet access services, and providers of content, applications and services shall be free to offer services *other than* internet access services which are optimised for specific content, applications or services, or a combination thereof, where the optimisation is necessary in order to meet requirements of the content, applications or services for a specific level of quality.

Providers of electronic communications to the public, including providers of internet access services, may offer or facilitate such services only if the network capacity is sufficient to provide them in addition to any internet access services provided. Such services shall not be usable or offered as a replacement for internet access services, and shall not be to the detriment of the availability or general quality of internet access services for end-users.

Amendment

5. Providers of electronic communications to the public, including providers of internet access services, and providers of content, applications and services shall be free to offer services *that cannot be provided via* internet access services which are optimised for specific content, applications or services, or a combination thereof, where the optimisation is necessary in order to meet requirements of the content, applications or services for a specific level of quality. ***Providers of internet access to users shall not discriminate between functionally equivalent services and applications.***

Providers of electronic communications to the public, including providers of internet access services, may offer or facilitate such services only if the network capacity is sufficient to provide them in addition to any internet access services provided. Such services shall not be usable or offered as a replacement for internet access services ***or content, applications, or services available over internet access services***, and shall not be to the detriment of the availability or general quality of internet access services for end-users.

Or. en

Justification

It is crucial for this text to be clear, to minimise uncertainty and to protect against anticompetitive behaviour.