

Press release

European Regulators Group for Postal Services (ERGP) 21th Plenary meeting

Athens, 26 November 2021

The European Regulators Group for Postal Services (ERGP) held its second Plenary meeting for 2021 in hybrid format, under the chairmanship of Dr. Spyros Pantelis, Vice President of the Hellenic Telecommunications and Post Commission (EETT), supported by the Vice-Chair Mr. Cadete de Matos, chairman of the Portuguese Autoridade Nacional de Comunicações (ANACOM) and Prof. Dr. M. Bacigalupo, Member of the Board of the Spanish Comisión Nacional de los Mercados y la Competencia (CNMC).

The Plenary agreed on the ERGP Work Programme 2022, which sets out the ERGP's tasks for the year 2022, in line with the strategic pillars the ERGP Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) 2020-2022: (1) revisiting the postal sector legal framework; (2) promoting a competitive EU postal single market and (3) empowering end-users and ensuring a user oriented universal service.

In 2022, the ERGP will focus its activities on the following: the Postal Services Directive evaluation, the impact of on-line platforms and new business models on competition in the postal sector, access to postal networks in a context of booming e-commerce as well as consumer's protection and changing needs in the context of rapidly increasing e-commerce, the implementation of the Regulation on cross-border parcel delivery services, the impact of VAT/customs changes and environmental sustainability issues on the postal sector. In the context of the Report online platforms and e-retailers ERGP is actively following the evolution of the initiatives Digital Markets Act and Digital Services Act.

The Plenary welcomes the EU Reports on

- a) the Evaluation of the Postal Services Directive 97/67/EC application and
- b) the Application and Implementation of Regulation (EU) 2018/644 on cross-border parcel delivery services.

ERGP members have exchanged their initial views on the reports and have agreed on a timely reaction focusing on the next steps to update the Postal Regulatory Framework.

Furthermore, the Plenary approved the following documents:

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- ERGP PL II (21) 23 - ERGP Report online platforms and e-retailers
- ERGP PL II (21) 9 - Report on COVID-19 pandemic impact on the future of the postal sector
- ERGP PL II (21) 24 - ERGP Report on Quality of service, consumer protection and consumer handling 2020;
- ERGP PL II (21) 10 - ERGP report on contractual situation of consumers of postal services,
- ERGP PL II (21) 10a Report on public consultation for the contractual situation of consumers,
- ERGP PL II (21) 25 - ERGP Report on postal core indicators and Covid-19 pandemic impact
- ERGP PL II (21) 20– ERGP Report on the Cross-Border Regulation Implementation (EU) 2018/644
- ERGP PL II (21) 26 - Report on the harmonized measures related to standardized cross border parcel delivery
- ERGP PL II (21) 27 - ERGP Report on Green Deal impact on postal sector
- ERGP PL II (21) 42 – Communication Plan 2022

The ERGP is proud to have elected unanimously Mr. Petros Galides, Deputy Commissioner of the Cypriot Office of Electronic Communications & Postal Regulations (OCECPR) for 2023 ERGP Chair.

Prior to the Plenary meeting, on 25 November, ERGP held a hybrid internal workshop to discuss the recently published EU Report on the Evaluation of the Postal Services Directive, as well as the Report on the implementation of the Regulation on cross-border parcel delivery. In addition, as part of the workshop and on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the ERGP, former ERGP Chairs, Mr Catalin Marinescu, Mr. Veselin Bozhkov (CRC), Prof. Angelo Marcello Cardani (AGCOM), Jack Hamande (BIPT) and Joao Cadete do Matos (ANACOM) expressed their views on the work done by the ERGP as well as the Group's future course.

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About the ERGP

The ERGP (European Regulators Group for Postal Services) is composed of the 27 national

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regulatory authorities (NRAs) for postal services of the EU, as well as national regulatory authorities from countries of the European Economic Area and countries with candidate status to join the EU. The ERGP advises and assists the Commission on the development of the internal market for postal services and on the consistent application in all Member States of the regulatory framework for postal services.