

ITU-EC Regional Conference for Europe in Partnership with the Office of Electronic Communications of Republic of Poland "Broadband Services and Infrastructure Mapping"

# **Broadband Policy for Gigabit Society**

Warsaw, 11th-12th April 2016

## **Agenda**

# Intel broadband policy

- Why do we care?
- What we're proposing?
- What is the evidence?

## Why do we care?

#### Goal

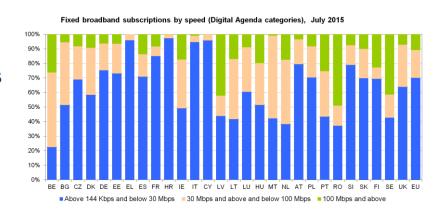
Widespread, affordable, high-quality broadband promotes data usage and PC

#### **Policies**

- Robust content and app ecosystems
- Facilities-based competition
- Targeted, efficient subsidies in high cost areas

#### Subscriptions ≥ 100Mbit/s in EU

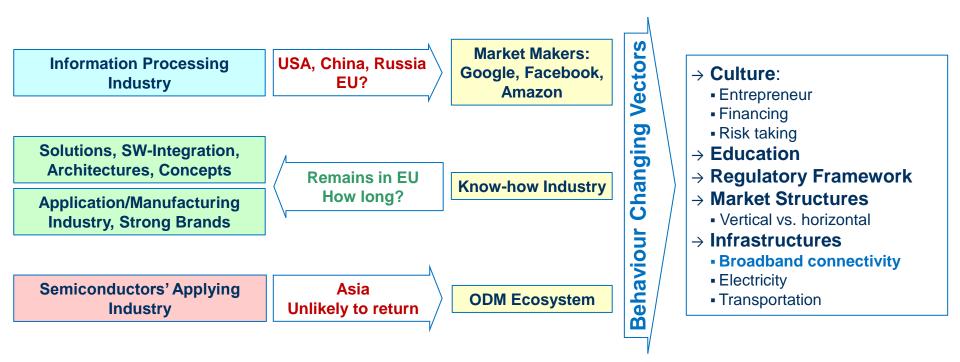
- Status is 11% in 2016
- EC Digital Agenda target is 50% in 2020



### Intel interests align well with consumers



## **Energizing Digital Industries**



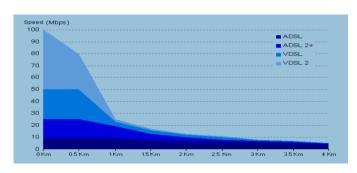
Think holistic: Customers, Products, Infrastructure and Policy

## Copper limits bandwidth, optical fibre not



#### **VECTORING**

Utilizes existing telecom cables Avoids digging for optical fibre Requires "virtual" unbundling





**DOCSIS 3.x** 

~1Gbit/s per cable branch >10users/branch shared medium





LTE

~150Mbit/s per cell ~500m – 10km radius shared medium



## **EU Telecom Policy**

#### **Current EU Telecoms framework**

- Successful in bringing competition to the market
- Less successful in promoting investments in ultrafast broadband

#### **New EU Telecoms framework**

- Must foster incentive based competition and favor ex-post oversight over ex-ante control.
- Remedies must balance the impact on incentives to make risky, expensive broadband investments as well as on static competitive benefits.
- End-users interests and rights must continue to be observed.

## What we're proposing?

### No access (unbundling) requirements on FTTx where

- There is "effective competition"
- Competitors have access to ducts, conduit, poles
- Regulator continues to monitor market performance



## How could this be implemented?

## "Article 7" procedure permits flexibility, e.g., Portugal

- Generate data addressing empirical questions
- Allow variation and trial & error at country level
- Allow for ex post monitoring



## Why is competition beneficial?

# It's a "Discovery Process" that produces

- Allocative efficiency (prices close to cost)
- Productive efficiency (low costs)
- Dynamic efficiency (innovation)



## How do we define effective competition?

- Needs at least 3 "choices" in relevant geographical market
- Effective competition choices include
  - xDSL
  - Cable modem
  - Competitive/municipal fiber
  - ULL is available
  - Other alternatives that represent a meaningful choice to significant share of market

## When are markets competitive?

- Structure versus performance
  - Price declines and share changes
  - New services, innovation and investment
  - New entry
- Performance is key
  - What matters to consumers
  - Rivalry inconsistent with tightknit oligopoly behavior
- Internal growth requires different approach than mergers

### What does the evidence show?

#### Spain, Portugal, Romania

Where "liberalization" exists, all operators deploy their own network

#### EU

Investment per capita of 120 USD; 50% HH subscription of 100 Mbps or more by 2020, 11% now

#### U.S.

#### Investment

- Investment per capita of 240 USD; 65% HH coverage of 100 Mbps or more
- 8% coverage 1 Gbps or more
- Verizon has deployed Fios (FTTH) >70% of wireline footprint; spent \$23 billion since 2004.
- AT&T has deployed U-Verse (FTTC) to comparable levels.
- DOCSIS 3 covers 85 percent of U.S. households.

#### Competition

- Cable and Telco shares comparable where both deployed
- Share change: Comcast and TWC lost 400K HHs to Verizon & AT&T in one Q/2013
- Investment continuing: \$40 plus billion in 2013
- Rivalry belies oligopoly behavior

Liberalization fosters last mile fiber investment







#### **Conclusions**

- Digital industry requires macro-economic, holistic approach
- Competition based broadband policy works
- Accelerate regulation and rollout to get ultra-fast broadband by 2020

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### **Thank You!**

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# **Backup**



#### **Sources of Statistical Data**

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- 10.Jeffrey Rohlfs book "Bandwagon Effects in High Tech Markets", see: https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/bandwagon-effects-high-technology-industries

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