

Do we have the right framework for regulating the digital world?

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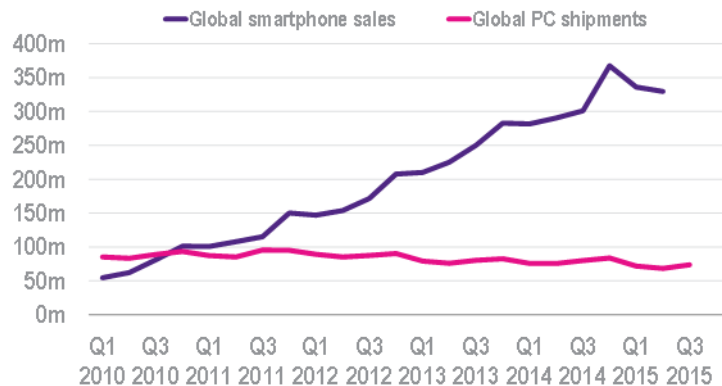
The Great Telco Debate, London

4 November 2015

Reconsider everything in light of pivot to mobile

Five times more smartphones sold than PCs

Sales to end users



Source: Plum Consulting, Gartner

- “Facebook product chief Chris Cox said the company’s road map is shaped by how Facebook is used in countries such as Indonesia, India, Thailand and Myanmar, places where the service is popular but connections are often poor.”
WSJ, 20 October 2015

Applications – allow innovation

Narrow focus of framework & *ex ante* regulation to access only

Allow digitalisation of the whole economy



Review the old rules throughout the economy

Networks – allow innovation (transition)



Europe

- 5 years notice for copper closure, permission required

US (FCC, 6 August 2015)

- 90 to 180 days notice for copper closure, permission not required (provided customer no worse off)

Proposals

- Remove constraints on “all-IP” transition
- Remove constraints on copper closure
- Allow fibre pricing freedom (anchor)
- Allow long-term access contracts to substitute for *ex ante* regulation

More flexible approach with greater reliance on commercial agreement

Avoid a fibre cargo cult



- “I am wondering why some communities...are rolling out rural networks that deliver Gigabit connectivity, when the EU's existing targets are more than 30 times less ambitious.”
Günther H. Oettinger - 17 April 2015
- Cargo cult: belief that various ritualistic acts will lead to material wealth.

Follow technology agnostic consumer driven approach