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TO: European Commission

TO: UNIT H3 / Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT)

TO: UNIT B3 / Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE)

First of all, a lot of thanks to European Commission for organising this important consultation.

This opinion represents an opinion of an individual citizen, not any legal entity.

This opinion does not contain:

- any business secrets
- any trade secrets
- any confidential information.

This opinion is public.

PDF file of this opinion can be added to a relevant web page

Annex 1 holds information about previous consultations on the European Union level.

Annex 2 holds information about disclaimers and copyright.

Best Regards,

Jukka S. Rannila
citizen of Finland

signed electronically

[Continues on the next page]

38

39 **A list of previous consultations**

40

41 On Annex 1 is information about my previous consultations based on different consultations. Many
 42 opinions have been addressed to different units of the European Commission. I have repeated the
 43 same issues several times on those documents (Opinions).

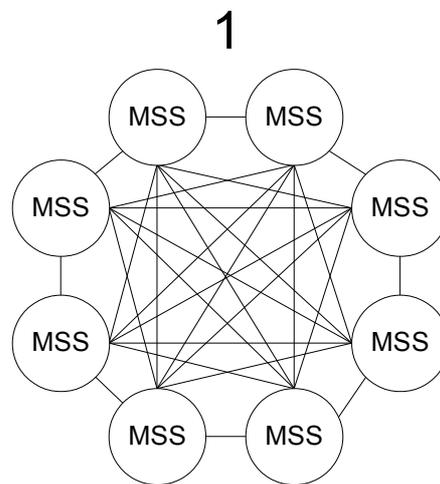
44

45 **About links between different information systems**

46

47 Different member states (European Union) have unique situations with information systems. Next
 48 figure tries to describe this situation with member state systems (MSS).

49



MSS = Member State System

50

51

52

53 Based on unique situations there can be several complicated system-to-system connections in
 54 different member states.

55

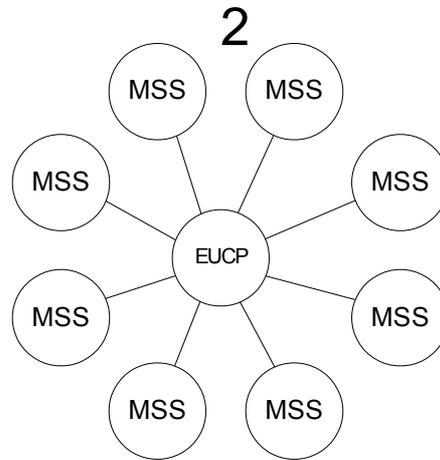
56 One option could be linking different member state systems to one European Union Contact Point.

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60 [Continues on the next page]



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MSS = Member State System, EUCP = European Union Contact Point

This option (MSS ↔ EUCP) could mean very large number of different member state system. Based on 28 member state systems there could be hundreds of connections:

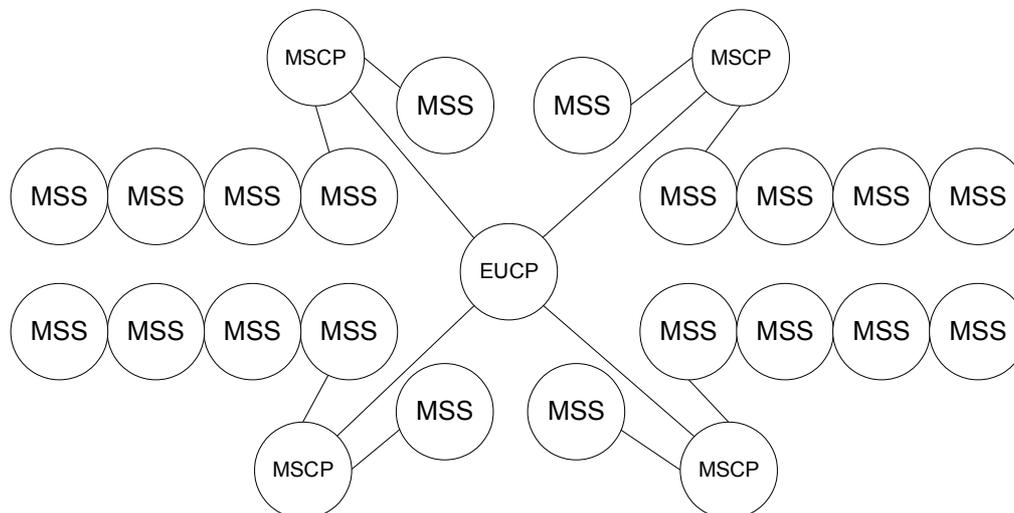
- 28 x 10 = 280 MSS ↔ 1 EUCP
- 28 x 20 = 560 MSS ↔ 1 EUCP
- 28 x 30 = 840 MSS ↔ 1 EUCP
- etc.

Here we can note that there can be hierarchy between different system (EU ↔ member states) and there can be member state contact points (MCP). Then there can be some hierarchy between different systems. (EU ↔ EUCP ↔ MSCP ↔ MSS ↔ Member state). There are unique situations with member state systems in member states. Therefore member state contact points (MCP) can reduce the complexity with European Union contact point (EUCP)

Based on those large numbers connecting (MSS ↔ EUCP) member state system I have to conclude that there should be member state contact points (EUCP ↔ MSCP ↔ MSS).

[Continues on the next page]

3



MSS = Member State System, EUCP = European Union Contact Point
MSCP = Member State Contact Point

Proposal: There could be some serious work for developing a standardised member state contact point (MSCP).

Proposal: After developing a standardised member state contact point (MSCP) different member states could consolidate their systems (MSS ↔ MSCP).

Proposal: European Union contact point (EUCP) and member state contact points (MSCP) could then handle cooperation (EUCP ↔ MSCP ↔ MSS) on the European Union level.

Naturally we have to note that developing a standardised member state contact point (MSCP) means more work. On the other hand a standardised member state contact point (MSCP) could handle cooperation (EUCP ↔ MSCP ↔ MSS) based on unique situations in member states. Some member states may have more systems than other member states. We have to note that there are different systems based on several technological solutions.

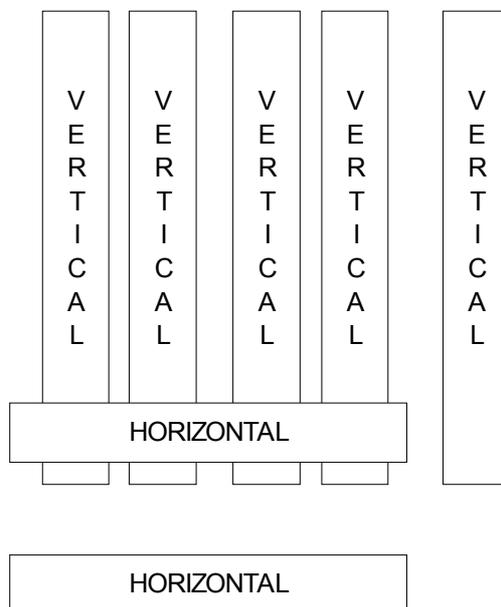
About different standards to be used when developing standardised member state contact points (MSCP)

Developing a *standardised* member state contact point (MSCP) means some work to be done.

I have proposed several times to use *open horizontal standards* when developing different information systems.

Favouring open standards / Favouring horizontal standards

112



113

114

115 There are differences between horizontal and vertical standards. A simple example is naturally
 116 email solutions. There are several vertical standards when creating technically email solutions. Then
 117 there are horizontal standards which enable sending messages between technically different email
 118 solutions.

119

120 **Proposal: There could be assessment of vertical and horizontal standards.**

121

122 **Proposal: Using horizontal standards could be favoured when creating different
 123 information systems on the European Union level.**

124

125 Horizontal standards enables technological solutions which can work together. Horizontal standards
 126 hides different complexities in information systems.

127

128 **Opinion: The number of redundant standardisation efforts should be minimal.**

129

130 **Proposal: There could be separation of horizontal standards and vertical standards.**

131

132 **Proposal: There could be different standardisation efforts to horizontal standards and
 133 vertical standards.**

134

135 Personally I have advocated using different horizontal standards. For example email standards
 136 (horizontal) are implemented with very different technologies (vertical).

137

138 Here we can note some problems:

139

- 140 • some systems are based on **de-facto** standards
- 141 • some systems are based on **de-jure** standards
- 142 • there can be confrontations between **de-facto** and **de-jure** standards
- 143 • there can be a monopoly situation in some domain
- 144 • some standards may inhibit possible actions of some stakeholders
- 145 • there can be a standard war on some domains
- 146 • standards have different life-cycles
- 147 • systems have different life-cycles
- 148 • there can be mismatches between different life-cycles
- 149 • there can be failed standards
- 150 • there can be deprecated standards.

151

152 It is quite normal situation in the information technology field that there are competing standards
153 for some application field. Therefore there are all the time ongoing “standards wars” or “format
154 wars”. The information technology standards tend to be interrelated and one “standards war” or
155 “format war” can lead to another similar situation.

156

157 I have advocated open standards even though in some cases open standards are not de facto
158 standards. In practice public sector has very important role, when some standards are competing in
159 the market place. Because public sector has a considerable power when buying/developing
160 information systems and therefore public sector can sometimes direct markets to certain standards.
161 Therefore there should be serious vigilance when assessing different standards and “standards” in
162 some application fields.

163

164 **About different identifiers (ID)**

165

166 Developing a standardised member state contact point (MSCP) means some work to be done. Here
167 we can note that there will be several *identifiers* when developing new systems and maintaining
168 current systems (EUCP ↔ MSCP).

169

170 I have proposed several times to use *open and public identifiers* when developing different
171 information system.

172

173 **More and more new identifiers (ID)**

174

175 In previous consultations there has been discussion about different identifiers (ID) in different
176 information systems. It can be noted from the previous opinions that there will be several and
177 different identifiers (ID) for different levels.

178

179 Examples of these identifiers (ID) are following:

180

- 181 1) Facebook ID for an individual person
- 182 2) Facebook ID for the individual up-dates of individuals
- 183 3) Data Universal Numbering System (D-U-N-S)
- 184 4) Reuters instruments codes (RICs)

185 5) Social security code for individual citizens in the European Union member states

186 6) Business identity code for a company in an European Union member state

187 7) Value added tax code for a company in an European Union member state.

188

189 The examples of private identifiers (Facebook IDs, Data Universal Numbering System (D-U-N-S),
190 Reuters Instrumens Codes (RICs)) show, that persons and/or communities can use or even demand
191 of using identifiers (ID) from privately owned information systems.

192

193 **Proposal: There could be a systematic review of different identifiers (ID) on different**
194 **levels.**

195

196 **Proposal: Possible systematic review of different identifiers (ID) should assess different**
197 **situations.**

198

199 Different information systems have also internal identifiers (ID) and external identifiers (ID) for
200 (possible) public usage. The added value for different stakeholders is provided by combination of
201 different identifiers (ID) in a specific information system.

202

203 **Proposal: There could be some assessment(s) based on different versions of different**
204 **identifiers (ID).**

205

206 It can be possible, that there are some legacy identifiers (ID) in the near future. It can be possible,
207 that gradually some legacy identifiers (ID) can be consolidated for more standardised identifiers
208 (ID), but this consolidation means some serious technical and administrative actions.

209

210 **Proposal: Legacy identifiers (ID) could be assessed seriously.**

211

212 When information about relevant identifiers is collected, there could be a serious assessment of
213 possible (near) monopoly situation of some identifiers. Depending on the nature of an identifier,
214 there may be a need for serious (anti-trust?) negotiations with providers of some identifiers.

215

216 **Proposal: The nature of different identifiers (ID) could be assessed.**

217

218 **Proposal: There could be serious negotiations with some providers of identifiers (ID).**

219

220 In the European Union there has been different anti-trust cases which are related to different private
221 sector identifiers (ID), since some of those private sector identifiers (ID) have been used in several
222 other systems. Some private sector identifiers (ID) can mean a (near) monopoly situation.

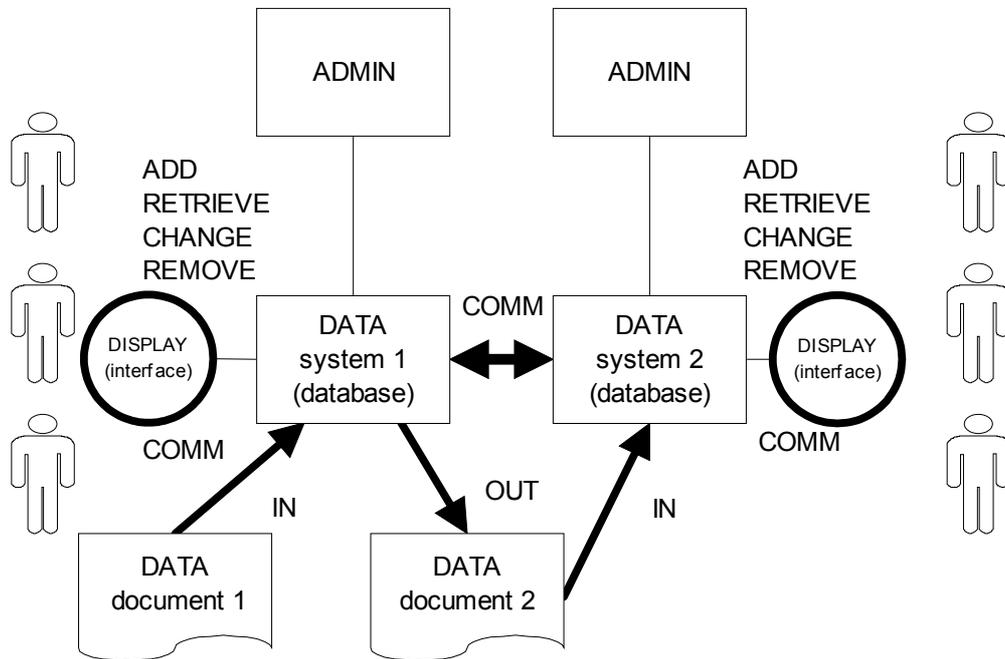
223

224 **One conception for information systems**

225

226

227 [Continues on the next page]



228
229

230 Now we can add four basic functions, communication, displays, interfaces, users, documents, data
231 and databases for describing an information system.

232 Like the figure indicates, there are databases in different information systems. Then there are
233 different documents for transmitting data between different systems. Here we can note especially
234 following standardisation needs for different parts of different parts of an information system.
235

236 From this simple (figure) conception we can differentiate several standard classes.

237

- 238 1) Data (documents) standards
- 239 2) Data (database) standards
- 240 3) Standards for adding data to a system.
- 241 4) Standards for retrieving data from a system.
- 242 5) Standards for changing data in a system.
- 243 6) Standards for removing data from a system.
- 244 7) Display standards
- 245 8) Interface standards
- 246 9) Different communication standards.

247

248 **Some issues to be consider – public systems and private systems?**

249

250 Here we can note following combinations:

- 251 • public ↔ public
- 252 • private ↔ private
- 253 • private ↔ public
- 254 • (public ↔ private)

255

256 Based on previous considerations there could be some efforts:

257

- 258 • There could be some adjustments for (public ↔ public) public information systems.
- 259 • There could be some adjustments for (private ↔ private) private information
- 260 systems.
- 261 • There could be some adjustments for (private ↔ public) cooperation between public
- 262 and private information systems.

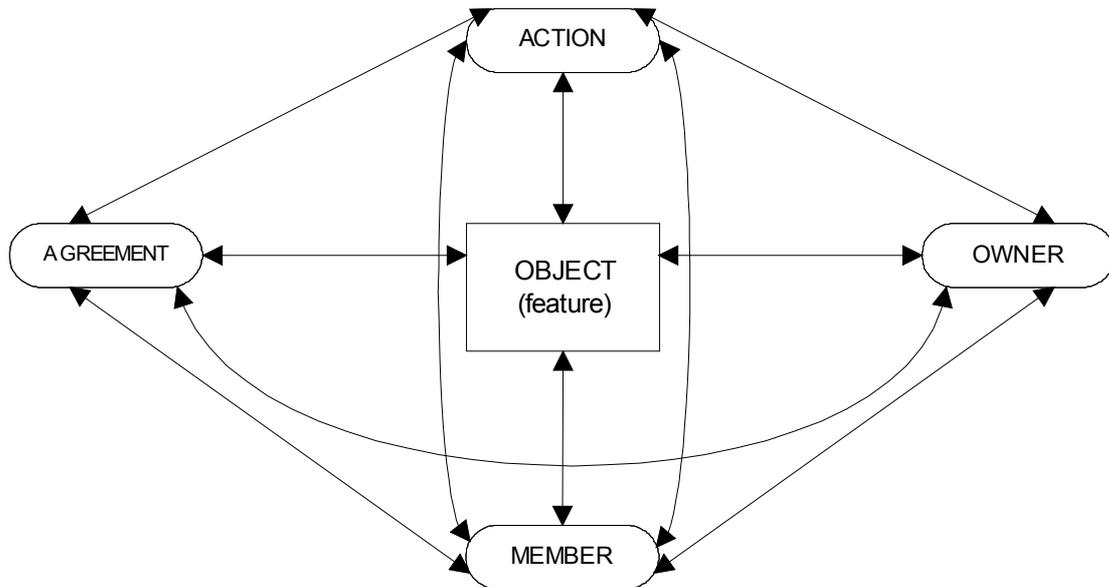
263

264 **There can be some examples:**

265

- 266 a) There could be some regulations for providing interfaces (private, public)
- 267 b) There could be some regulations for document formats (private, public)
- 268 c) There could be some regulations for transmitting data between different systems
- 269 d) There could be some regulations for using databases (private, public)
- 270 e) There could be some regulations for using programs (private, public)
- 271 f) There could be some regulations for retrieving information from different systems.

272



273

274

275 **Note: The relations between different aspects of information systems can result**

276 **rather complicated (legal) network(s): i.e. Ownership, Membership, Agreement.**

277

278 Here we can note the difference between owners, agreements and members. In reality ownerships

279 agreements and memberships cause very complex networks, and those networks are changing all

280 the time: divisions, mergers, ownership changes, agreement changes, cooperation with other

281 entities, life-cycles, etc.

282

283 Here we can note that ownership, agreement and membership are interlinked in different ways.

284 Generally speaking average usage of a system means an unique combination of ownership,
 285 agreement and membership. When everything works fine there are not problems. However changes
 286 with ownership, agreement and membership can result difficult situations.
 287

	Owner? Member? Agreement?	Standards?	OPEN	CLOSED
1. Device / Machinery				
2. Operating system				
3. Program(s)				
4. Data models / Conceptual models				
5. Documents				
6. Databases				
7. Communications				
8. Retrieve / Interface / Display				
9. Add / Interface / Display				
10. Remove / Interface / Display				
11. Change / Interface / Display				

288
 289 Naturally, there can be solutions, which are not based on the maximum solution. It can be
 290 concluded, that this consultation is not (yet) about technical details.

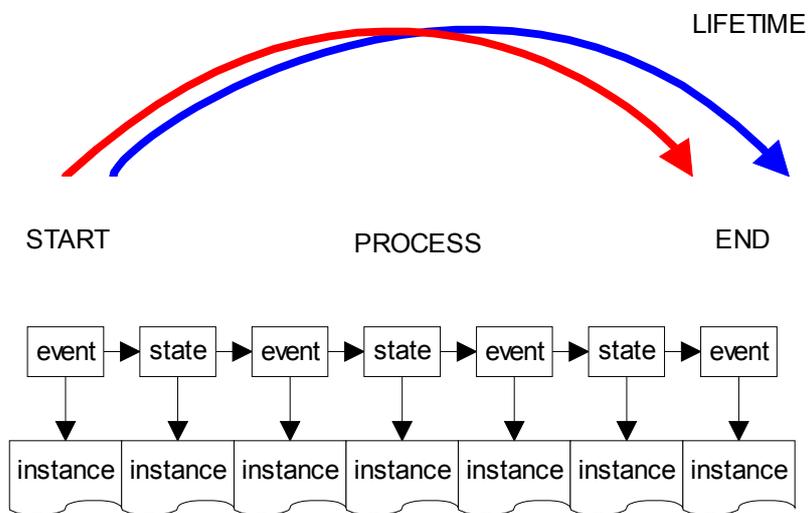
291
 292 **Note: The relations between different aspects of information systems can result**
 293 **rather complicated (legal) network(s): i.e. Ownership, Membership, Agreement.**

294
 295 **Proposal: There could be some considerations for assessing possible / future changes in**
 296 **ownerships, agreements and memberships.**

297 298 **Timelines for consolidating member state systems (MSS)**

299
 300 Here we can note following issues:

- 301
- 302 • lifetime for different systems
- 303 • processes have lifetime (active processes)
- 304 • processes are implemented with help of an information system
- 305 • there are different states and events during a processes
- 306 • there can different documents based on states and events
- 307



308
309

Proposal: There could different timelines for consolidating different member state systems (MSS).

311

312

Note: consolidating different member state systems (MSS) with member state contact points (MSCP) means some work for years.

315

316

317

318

Good luck!!!

320

This opinion is quite limited. Hopefully there are other constructive ideas presented in other opinions. This remains to be seen.

323

[Continues on the next page]

325

ANNEX 1

326

327 My opinions to the previous and relevant consultations – there consultations were mostly organised
328 by the European Commission. General page to all consultations – both in English and in Finnish:
329 <http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html>

330

331

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333 by the European Commission.

334

335 EN: Opinion 1: Review of the rules on access to documents

336 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_1

337

338 EN: Opinion 2: Schools for the 21st Century

339 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_2

340

341 EN: Opinion 3: The future of pharmaceuticals for Human use in Europe- making Europe a Hub for
342 Safe and Innovative medicines

343 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_3

344

345 EN: Opinion 5: Consumer Scoreboard, Questionnaire for stakeholders

346 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_5

347

348 EN: Opinion 6: Consultation on a Code of Conduct for Interest Representatives

349 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_6

350

351 EN: Opinion 8: European Interoperability Framework, version 2, draft

352 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_8

353

354 EN: Opinion 9: CAMSS: Common Assessment Method for Standards and Specifications, CAMSS
355 proposal for comments

356 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_9

357

358 EN: Opinion 15: Collective Redress

359 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_15

360

361 EN: Opinion 17: Opinion to Antitrust Case No. COMP/C-3/39.530

362 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_17

363

364 EN: Opinion 18: Opinion Related to the Public Undertaking by Microsoft

365 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_18

366

367 EN: Opinion 19: Official Acknowledgement by the Commission

368 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_19

369

- 370 EN: Opinion 20: SECOND Opinion Related to the Public Undertaking by Microsoft
371 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_20
372
- 373 EN: Opinion 21: Opinion about the European Interoperability Strategy proposal
374 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_21
375
- 376 EN: Opinion 23: Public consultation on the review of the European Standardisation System
377 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_23
378
- 379 EN: Opinion 27: Public Consultation on the Modernisation of EU Public Procurement Policy
380 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_27
381
- 382 EN: Opinion 28: Consultation on the Europe 2020 Project Bond Initiative
383 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_28
384
- 385 EN: Opinion 30: Internet Filtering
386 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_30
387 NOTE: Organised by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) ¹
388
- 389 EN: Opinion 32: COMP/C-3/39.692/IBM – Maintenance services
390 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_32
391
- 392 EN: Opinion 34: REMIT Registration Format
393 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_34
394 NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER) ²
395
- 396 EN: Opinion 35: Exploiting the employment potential of the personal and household services
397 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_35
398
- 399 EN: Opinion 37: CASE COMP/39.654 - Reuters instrument codes
400 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_37
401
- 402 EN: Opinion 39: Registry options to facilitate linking of emissions trading systems
403 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_39
404
- 405 EN: Opinion 40: Media Freedom and Pluralism / audiovisual regulatory bodies
406 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_40
407
- 408 EN: Opinion 41: AT.39398: observations on the proposed commitments
409 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_41
410
- 411 EN: Opinion 42: Opening up Education
412 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_42

1 <http://www.cen.eu/> (Accessed 2 July 2012)

2 <http://www.acer.europa.eu/> (Accessed 2 July 2012)

- 413
414 EN: Opinion 43: Publication of extracts of the European register of market participants
415 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_43
416 NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)
417
418 EN: Opinion 44: Evaluation policy guidelines
419 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_44
420
421 EN: Opinion 45: About ICT standardisation
422 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_45
423
424 EN: Opinion 46: Review of the EU copyright rules
425 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_46
426
427 EN: Opinion 51: European Area of Skills and Qualifications
428 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_51
429
430 EN: Opinion 52: Trusted Cloud Europe Survey
431 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_52
432
433 EN: Opinion 53: Trade Reporting User Manual (TRUM) (Draft)
434 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_53
435 NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)
436
437 EN: Opinion 55: European Energy Regulation
438 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_55
439 NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)
440
441 EN: Opinion 59: Green paper on mobile Health
442 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_59
443
444 EN: Opinion 60: Cross-border inheritance tax problems within the EU
445 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_60
446
447 EN: Opinion 61: European Register of Products Containing Nanomaterials
448 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_61
449
450 EN: Opinion 64: Corporate Social Responsibility - European Commission
451 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_64
452
453 EN: Opinion 66: Net Innovation for the Work Programme 2016-2017
454 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_66
455
456
457

- 458 EN: Opinion 68: European Network Code Stakeholder Committees
459 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_68
460 NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)
461
462 EN: Opinion 71: Common Schema for the Disclosure of Inside Information
463 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_71
464 NOTE: Organised by The Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER)
465
466 EN: Opinion 74: Enabling the Internet of Things
467 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_74
468 NOTE: Organised by Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC) ³
469
470 EN: Opinion 80: Mandatory Transparency Register
471 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_80
472
473 EN: Opinion 84: Revision of the European Interoperability Framework
474 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_84
475
476 EN: Opinion 86: 2016 Annual Colloquium on fundamental rights
477 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_86
478
479 EN: Opinion 88: Evaluation and Review of the ePrivacy Directive
480 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_88
481
482 EN: Opinion 89: BEREC Guidelines for net neutrality rules
483 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_89
484 NOTE: Organised by Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)
485
486 EN: Opinion 93: Safety of apps and other non-embedded software
487 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_93
488
489 EN: Opinion 95: Targeted consultation on eForms
490 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_95
491
492 EN: Opinion 97: COM(2016) 882 final - 2016/0408 (COD)
493 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_97
494
495 EN: Opinion 98: Opinions related to six (6) co-decision (COD) proposals
496 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_98
497
498 EN: Opinion 99: COM(2016)0863 - European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy
499 Regulators. Recast
500 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_99
501

³ <http://www.berec.europa.eu>, Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

502

503 EN: Opinion 100: Protection of personal data (EU)

504 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_100

505

506 EN: Opinion 101: Governance of the Energy Union

507 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_101

508

509 EN: Opinion 102: Smart Wearables

510 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_102

511

512 EN: Opinion 106: Review of the European Union Agency for Network and Information Security
513 (ENISA)514 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_106

515

516 EN: Opinion 108: Single Digital Gateway

517 http://www.jukkarannila.fi/lausunnot.html#nro_108

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527 [Continues on the next page]

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ANNEX 2

530 DISCLAIMERS

531

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538

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573