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The 1999 Review

harmonisation + subsidiarity

Ewan Sutherland

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INTUG contents

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- harmonisation
- subsidiarity
- limits to harmonisation
- consultation and lobbying
- regulation (different types)
- legislative package

INTUG harmonisation

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- the internal market
- we should all do the same thing
- many markets could be or already are pan-European or global
- Fifth Report highlights failings, Sixth will be no better

INTUG limits to harmonisation

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- telephone numbering
- operator codes
- licensing
- spectrum allocation
- European regulator
- mobile roaming

INTUG subsidiarity

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- peculiarity of national circumstances
- governmental support for
 - ex-PTT
 - domestic new entrants
 - cable operators
 - service providers
- national competitiveness and rivalry

INTUG local loop unbundling

- myriad ways of achieving this
- highly complex in different countries
- very hard to develop pan-European services on xDSL

INTUG consultation and lobbying

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- national interest
- know and love
 - own politicians
 - own regulators
- playing one regulator off against another

INTUG regulation

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- regulation
- self-regulation
- co-regulation
- soft law

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- very little increase in harmonisation
- complicated consultation/approval mechanisms instead of a European regulator
- no European licences
- harmonisation is very much slower than the mergers and acquisitions of the operators

INTUG conclusions

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- a question of balance
- regulatory regime could be too weak to control emerging global oligopolies
- government may be misguided in the influence they can have on this sector for industry and cultural policy
- new legislation will have to last a long time