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Competition Law and Electronic Communications (CLEC)

A series of seminars organized by

*Centre de Recherches Informatique et Droit (CRID - University of Namur),
Cullen International and
Interdisciplinair Centrum voor Recht en ICT (ICRI - IBBT; K.U.Leuven)*

Two-sided markets in electronic communications : impact on market analyses

Brussels, May 8, 2007, 4:30 pm – 7 pm

Subject

The concept of two-sided market (2SM) appeared in economic literature less than 5 years ago and is currently making an in-road into the regulatory debate and court rooms. According to Jean Tirole, “a market is two-sided if the platform can affect the volume of transactions by charging more to one side of the market and reducing the price by the other side by an equal amount; in other words, the price structure matters”. There are many examples of two-sided markets in electronic communications because the network can be seen as a platform which allows “senders” and “receivers” to complete their match i.e. communicate. Among other things, the concept of 2SM can help understand why different pricing structures on one market could lead to a different outcome regarding dominance on the other market.

The seminar is addressed to economists as well as to non-economists. It aims at clarifying the concept of 2SM and at assessing its possible impact on future market analyses in electronic communications.

Program

16:00 *Registration and coffee*

16.30 The concept of two sided markets: **Xavier Wauthy** (Professor of Economics, Facultés universitaires St Louis, Brussels and CORE, Université catholique de Louvain)

17:30 *Break*

18:00 Application of the concept of two-sided markets to electronic communications and possible implications for the regulation of the sector: **Tony Shortall** (DG Information Society – speaking in a personal capacity)

19:00 *Cocktail Reception*

Venue:

Fondation Universitaire Stichting - rue d'Egmont 11, 1000 Brussels, <http://www.fondationuniversitaire.be/>

Fees* and registration :

Participation fee: €100 (drinks and sandwiches included). If more than two persons participate from the same organisation, the additional participants will benefit from a 25 % reduction. Former DGTIC-students and doctoral students are also entitled to a 25 % reduction.

Registration with Sarah Fievet - sarah.fievet@fundp.ac.be – +32 81 72 52 04

*Any profit will be used for supporting academic research in ICT regulation.