RIPE NCC
EU Regulatory Update

SEE Roundtable
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SEE Roundtable | 7 April 2025

Key Political Drivers

- New U.S. Administration poses a **significant challenge** for European leaders and influences EU agenda almost in real time

- The **looming trade war and geopolitical tensions** create risks and uncertainty for businesses and governments on both sides

- The **shift towards an 'America First' foreign policy** may reshape the multilateral order and prompt the EU to reassess its internal policies and international alliances

Key Policy Trends

- **Tech sovereignty, economic security and resiliency**
  - Systemic risk management approach
  - Industrial policy ("eurostack") and supply chain security
- **Competitiveness and regulatory simplification**
  - Response to "compliance shock" experienced by industry
  - Supporting single market, investment and innovation
- **European standardisation and certification**
  - New standards and certificates to support EU policies
  - Push for adoption of Internet security standards

EU cyber, telecom and digital policy

Ongoing

- eIDAS2, NIS2 and CRA implementation

- Preparedness and Cyber Crisis Management (draft EU Blueprint)

Upcoming

- Digital Package and Digital Network Act proposal (Q4 2025, upcoming consultation)

- Revision of Cyber Security Act (CSA) + debate on cloud sovereignty (EUCS)

- EU Cloud and AI Development Act (2026, upcoming consultation)

- Data retention and access to data in context of law enforcement

- Simplification (GDPR, reporting obligations, etc.)
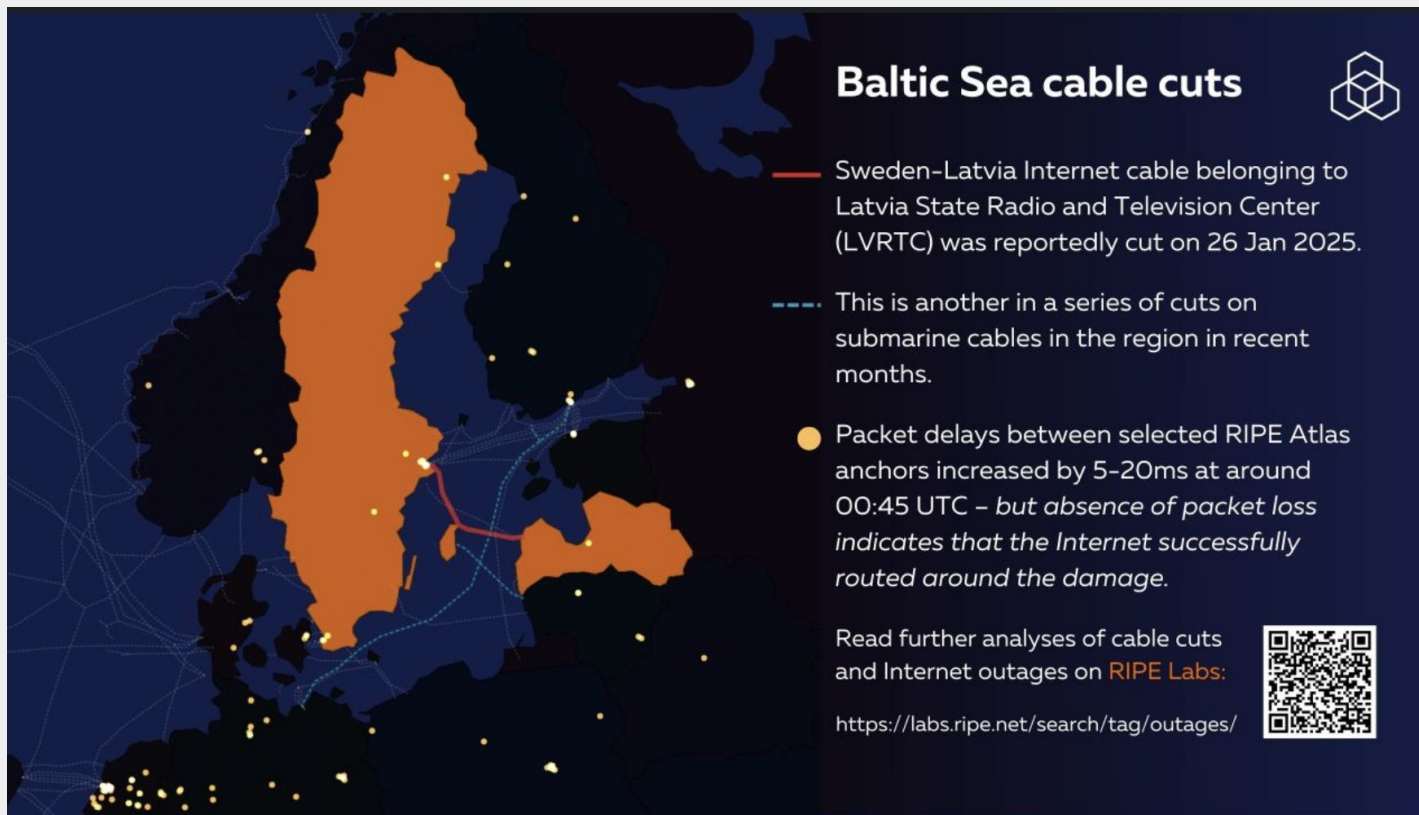
Telecoms Regulation Review

- Consultations following EC White Paper on future of connectivity (2024)

- Digital Network Act proposal and Digital Package (Q4, 2025)

  - Facilitate cross-border consolidation; review merger controls?

  - Security aspects e.g. lawful interception, 5G toolbox?

  - Redefining CAPs and IAPs relationship?

  - BEREC Regulation to be reviewed as part of the package?

- EC commissioned external studies (Access, Spectrum, Universal Service, etc.)

- Debate on IP-Interconnexion and Net Neutrality

  - Conclusions of <u>BEREC Report</u> on the IP Interconnection ecosystem: Internet copes well with traffic growth; peering and transit markets work

Nevers Call and Follow-up Actions

- Risk assessment report on Security and resiliency of communications infrastructures and networks (Feb 2024)

  - Raise awareness and promote good practices for the global routing security

- NIS2 Directive extended scope and Implementing Act Recital 8

  - Language on support best practices for DNS security and routing security

  - Multistakeholder forum to promote standards and deployment techniques

- Publication of EU Action Plan on Subsea Cable Security (Feb 2025)

Baltic Sea cable cuts

— Sweden-Latvia Internet cable belonging to Latvia State Radio and Television Center (LVRTC) was reportedly cut on 26 Jan 2025.

--- This is another in a series of cuts on submarine cables in the region in recent months.

● Packet delays between selected RIPE Atlas anchors increased by 5-20ms at around 00:45 UTC – *but absence of packet loss indicates that the Internet successfully routed around the damage.*

Read further analyses of cable cuts and Internet outages on RIPE Labs:

https://labs.ripe.net/search/tag/outages/

EU Position on Internet governance

Council Conclusions on Digital Policy May 2024

- *Develop an EU strategy on the multistakeholder governance of the Internet to set out a common position to uphold in international fora*

Next steps

- Conclusions of the Global Multistakeholder High Level Conference on Governance of Web 4.0 and Virtual Worlds held on 31 March-1 April

- Draft Communication on International Digital Strategy – expected to include positions on digital diplomacy and WSIS (adoption planned H2 2025)

EU Consultation on Internet governance

RIPE NCC input and recommendations

- Fragmentation of the digital and Internet governance landscapes poses a significant risk of fragmenting the Internet itself

- Misaligned policies, conflicting standards, and uncoordinated frameworks threaten the seamless interoperability and global nature of the Internet

- EU should strengthen the multistakeholder approach in Internet governance, aim for regulatory simplification and enhance collaboration with established Internet standards and policy development bodies (eg ICANN, IETF, RIRs)

Questions
& Comments ?

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THANK YOU!