

Universal Service Companion
Interconnection And
Monopoly In The Making Of
The American Telephone
System Aei Studies In

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Telecommunications Deregulation

The book presents an updated dialogue between researchers and analysts on policy-relevant telecommunication issues and public

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and private sector decision makers engaged in making telecommunication policy. It focuses on the two major issues of sectoral convergence - looking at the new challenges to regulation in Europe and at company strategies for

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alliance and competition at the national and global level - and competition - discussing interconnection of both local/long distance, incumbent/new entrant, and universal service definition in a liberalised framework as well as the

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new dynamics between network and service competition with special concern on the role played by national telecom operators. Each theme concerns both corporate strategy in the international environment and public policy

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responses to shifting realities.

Emerging Competition in Postal and Delivery Services brings together practitioners, postal administrators, the courier industry, regulators, academic economists and lawyers to examine important policy and

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regulatory issues facing the postal and delivery industries. This volume reviews such topics as cost and productivity analysis, universal service and entry, demand analysis and the structure of postal payment system, price regulation and

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competition.

Communications markets have made much progress towards competition and deregulation in recent years. However, it is increasingly clear, in the age of the Internet and the digital revolution,

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that much more needs to be done,
and that new approaches, both at the
Federal Communications
Commission and in Congress, will
be required to complete the task. In
this volume, the Progress and
Freedom Foundation presents nine

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papers by communications policy
experts and government
policymakers that show how to
finish the job of deregulating
communications markets and
reforming the FCC. The
Telecommunications Act of 1996

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was a landmark piece of legislation for an industry moving from a monopoly orientation towards competition, but additional steps are needed to complete the process of implementing the pro-competitive, deregulatory vision of the act.

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Bringing together a group of the caliber represented in this book makes possible the best recommendations about the exact nature of those necessary changes. In this volume, the most difficult and politically-charged hot-button

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issues involving local and long distance competition, universal service, spectrum allocation, program content regulation, and the public interest doctrine are confronted head-on. As importantly, the authors recommend specific

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reform proposals to be considered by the Federal Communications Commission and Congress. The ideas contained in the experts' essays were presented and debated at a conference hosted by The Progress & Freedom Foundation,

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which was held in Washington, DC, on December 8, 2000. The Progress & Freedom Foundation studies the impact of the digital revolution and its implications for public policy. It conducts research in fields such as electronic commerce,

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telecommunications and the impact of the Internet on government, society and economic growth. It also studies issues such as the need to reform government regulation, especially in technology-intensive fields such as medical innovation,

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energy and environmental
regulation.

Communications Law Reform
Competition in International Voice
Communication
The Telecoms Trade War
Federal Telecommunications Law

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Competition in the Communications Marketplace

Exploring Competition

In 1996, Congress enacted comprehensive reform of the nation's statutory and regulatory framework for telecommunications

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by passing the Telecommunications Act, which substantially amended the 1934 Communications Act. The general objective of the 1996 Act was to open up markets to competition by removing unnecessary regulatory barriers to entry. At that time, the

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industry was characterised by service-specific networks that did not compete with one another: circuit-switched networks provided telephone service and coaxial cable networks provided cable service. The act created distinct regulatory regimes for

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these service-specific telephone networks and cable networks that included provisions intended to foster competition from new entrants that used network architectures and technologies similar to those of the incumbents. This intramodal competition has

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proved very limited. But the deployment of digital technologies in these previously distinct networks has led to market convergence and intermodal competition, as telephone, cable, and even wireless networks increasingly are able to offer

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voice, data, and video services over a single broadband platform. the current market environment, but not on how to modify it. The debate focuses on how to foster investment, innovation, and competition in both the physical broadband network and in the

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applications that ride over that network while also meeting the many non-economic objectives of U.S. telecommunications policy: universal service, homeland security, public safety, diversity of voices, localism, consumer protection, etc. This book explores

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these issues and includes the act in its entirety.

Effective June 1, 1998, The MIT Press no longer distributes titles for the AEI Press. Orders for this book should be placed with: AEI Press c/o Publishers Resources, Inc. 1224 Heil Quaker Blvd. P.O.

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Box 7001 La Vergne, TN
37086-7001

The telecommunications industry has evolved into a very competitive industry since 1980. Aggressive competition is the norm in the long distance, equipment, operator services and

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many other segments of the industry. The remaining segment of the market without widespread meaningful competition is the "last-mile" wireline service to the customer premise. Incumbent local exchange carriers enjoy a monopoly to serve nearly all

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residences and most business customers, collecting over 99% of all local exchange service revenues. Using their monopoly status, incumbents have developed a cross-subsidy system which uses the rates paid by some customers to lower the rates paid

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by others to support a policy known as "universal service." This policy has resulted in telephone service reaching 94% of America's households. Carriers claim that this policy cost them \$20 billion annually, potential entrants claim the true cost is as low as \$4 billion

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and the rest is profit. In the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress ordered the end of the local exchange monopoly and opened the local markets to competition. Congress also specified the continuation of universal service, specified that

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telephone penetration should be increased and specified that the universal service concept will be applied to America's schools, libraries and rural health centers. Congress also specified that, unlike today, all carriers will contribute fairly and equitably

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fairly to the universal service fund and that all carriers providing local service, including new competitors, will be eligible to receive support from the fund. The cost to meet these requirements in a competitive environment totals \$7.2 billion, or 5.1% of net carrier

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revenue. This thesis addresses the definition of universal service and the services that should be eligible for support, the new competitive environment, how to collect the universal service support fund, and how to best distribute the funds to customers targeted to receive

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support from the system: those in high-cost areas, low-income consumers, and schools and libraries for advanced communications services.

Universal Service in a Competitive
Local Exchange
Telecommunications Environment

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Competition, Regulation and the
New Economy
A Communications Law Fit for the
Digital Age
Opening Networks to Competition
European Competition Law Annual
2002
Competition and Regulation Issues

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at Local Access and Backbone
Levels

Using numerous practical
examples, this book examines the
evolution of EC telecommunications
law following the achievement of
liberalisation, the main policy goal of

the 1990s. After reviewing the development of regulation in the run-up to liberalisation, the author identifies the methods used to direct the liberalisation process and tests their validity in the post-liberalisation context. A critical analysis is made of

the claim that competition law will offer sufficient means to regulate the sector in the future. Particular emphasis is given to the way in which EC Competition Law changed in the 1990s using the essential facilities doctrine, an expansive non-

discrimination principle and the policing of cross-subsidisation to tackle what were then thought of as regulatory matters. Also examined within the work is the procedural and institutional interplay between competition law and

telecommunications regulation. In conclusion, Larouche explores the limits of competition law and puts forward a long-term case for sector-specific regulation, with a precise mandate to ensure that the telecommunications sector as a whole

fulfils its role as a foundation for economic and social activity. Universal service is a focal point of telecommunications policy in the 1990s, not only in the United States, but in every other country that has begun to liberalize or deregulate its

telecommunications industry. The new policy dialogue revolves around four questions. First, how much do the universal service obligations of incumbent telephone companies cost? Second, how can those costs be financed in a competitive environment?

Third, what kind of technical and pricing arrangements should be made to interconnect incumbent telephone companies with the new, competing networks? Finally, should the service bundle designated as "universal service" be redefined to take into

account new technologies, and if so, how? In the United States, debate over those issues reached a milestone when the U.S. Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The new law is the first comprehensive revision of the Communications Act of

1934 and culminates twenty years of legislative struggle over how to adapt federal law to the new realities of telecommunications. In effect, the new law codifies the perceived wisdom about interconnection, competition, and universal service in

telecommunications. Because one of the chief purposes of Milton Mueller's analysis is to mount a historically grounded challenge to that orthodoxy, the new law provides the perfect foil for a critique that links the historical and contemporary policy debates over

universal service.

This definitive legal guide to the new world of telecommunications provides you with thorough, authoritative analysis you need to understand and comply with the complex regulatory landscape in the industry. You'll find

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timely review of key legislation, FCC rules, regulations and orders, and court decisions with extensive citations and cross-references for such essential topics as the economics of interconnection and detailed discussions of pricing methodologies of offering services for

resale; interconnection rules for wire line networks, including the specific rules imposed on incumbent LECs; antitrust litigation in the wake of the 1996 Act, with comprehensive analysis of the cases brought against incumbent local telephone companies; significant

changes to universal services requirements; regulations and policies involving horizontal and vertical mergers and acquisitions; the FCC's rule-making and other powers; rights and duties arising from the laws of privacy, intellectual property and free

speech; and much more. Federal Telecommunications Law, Second Edition provides all the laws and rules -- including those for price regulation, common carriage, universal service, regulations and court decisions -- are analyzed in detail to provide you with a

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thorough understanding of the environment within which you must work. Trends in competition, industry structures and technology are explored -- offering you a total picture of the telecommunications industry, in areas such as telecommunications

equipment; long distance services; wireless services; the Internet and data services; information services; video services; and more.

Interconnection and the Internet
An Overview of Key Policy Concerns
and Potential Initiatives to Facilitate

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the Transition Process
Telecommunication
Selected Papers from the 1996
Telecommunications Policy Research
Conference
Implementation of the
Telecommunications Act of 1996

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Constructing the EU Network of Competition Authorities

This book presents an
integrated assessment of
regulatory reform in the
Netherlands in areas
such as the

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macroeconomic context,
the quality of the
public sector,
competition policy and
enforcement, and
integration of market
openness, and in sectors

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such as electricity and telecommunications. David Gabel and David F. Weiman The chapters in this volume address the related problems of regulating and pricing

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access in network
industries.

Interconnection between
network suppliers raises
the important policy
questions of how to
sustain competition and

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realize economic efficiency. To foster rivalry in any industry, suppliers must have access to customers. But unlike in other sectors, the very organization of

network industries
creates major
impediments to potential
entrants trying to carve
out a niche in the
market. In traditional
sectors such as gas,

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electric, rail, and
telephone services,
these barriers take the
form of the large
private and social costs
necessary to duplicate
the physical

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infrastructure of pipelines, wires, or tracks. Few firms can afford to finance such an undertaking, because the level of sunk costs and the very large scale

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economies make it extremely risky. In other newer sectors, entrants face less tangible but no less pressing constraints. In the microcomputer

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industry, for example,
high switching costs can
prevent users from
experimenting with
alternative, but perhaps
more efficient hardware
platforms or operating

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systems. Although gateway technologies can reduce these barriers, the installed base of an incumbent can create powerful bandwagon effects that reinforce

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its advantage (such as the greater availability of compatible peripherals and software applications). In the era of electronic banking, entrants into

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the automated teller machine. (A TM) and credit card markets face a similar problem of establishing a ubiquitous presence.

"The structural changes

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that come with
privatization may induce
a reconsideration of the
regulations defined
during the early stages
of
privatization" --Cover.

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Hearing Before the
Committee on Commerce,
Science, and
Transportation, United
States Senate, One
Hundred Fourth Congress,
Second Session, June 18,

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1996

Hearings Before the
Committee on Commerce,
Science, and
Transportation, United
States Senate, Ninety-
seventh Congress, First

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Session, on S. 898 ...
June 2, 11, 15, 16, and
19, 1981
The Politics of
Telecommunications
How Technology is
Changing the Structure

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of the Industry :
Hearing Before the
Committee on Energy and
Commerce, House of
Representatives, One
Hundred Ninth Congress,
First Session, March 2,

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2005

The Telecommunications
Act of 1996: The "Costs"
of Managed Competition
Competition,
Interconnection and
Monopoly in the Making

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of the American
Telephone System

The Telecommunications Act of 1996
envisioned a competitive free-for-all in
the U.S. telecommunications industry
with removal of barriers to entry in
local telecommunications markets and

the lifting of the artificial restrictions that kept the Regional Bell Operating Companies (RBOCs) out of the interLATA long-distance market. After close to 5 years, only one RBOC has been granted permission (controversially) to enter the interLATA market, and local competition has yet

to provide most consumers with meaningful choices. In addition, the wave of mergers across the industry has raised the specter of putting the former Bell System back together again. Policymakers now openly question whether the Act can deliver what it promised. Three principal

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themes are developed in this book. First, there has been a coordination failure between Congress and the FCC in translating the principles embodied in the Act into practice. The authors provide evidence for this by analyzing stock market reactions to legislative and regulatory actions. This

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coordination failure was largely predictable, given the ambiguity in the Act, as well as conflicting jurisdictions between the FCC and the states. Second, the Act calls for wholesale prices to be 'based on cost.' Regulators adopted a costing standard (TELRIC) that provides a means to

subsidize competitive entry in local telephone service markets. The ready adoption of the TELRIC standard by regulators is shown to be tied to the third theme: price cap regulation provides regulators with 'insurance' against the adverse effects of competition in local telephone

markets. Statistical analysis reveals that regulators in price cap states set uniformly lower unbundled network element prices (lower barriers to entry) in comparison with regulators in rate-of-return and earnings sharing states. The result is a triumph of regulatory processes over market processes - the

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antithesis of the purpose of the Act. This new volume updates the groundbreaking analysis of its first edition in 2002, when the EC common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services had just entered into force. So much has changed in the

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intervening years that that this new edition bears little resemblance to its predecessor, with every chapter either extensively altered or entirely new. It remains, however, the most detailed and comprehensive overview available of the application of the EC Treaty's competition rules in the markets for

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telecommunications and audiovisual media, and of the applicable regulatory framework. In thirteen chapters, each contributed by one or more noted legal authorities in the field, the second edition of EC Competition and Telecommunications Law covers the full range of EC telecommunications

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law across all major areas of both institutional and substantive law, both on the international and EC levels, including the following: State aid; the merger control regulation; justification for sector-specific regulation in EC competition law; network access; authorizations and privileges; and

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mobile telephony. Relevant EC media and communications law and relevant aspects of EC competition law are dealt with in detail. While some chapters focus on competition law, others deal primarily with sector-specific regulation. There is practical guidance throughout on procedural

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matters, alongside analysis of the substantive provisions. Well-known in its first edition, this thoroughly revised and updated version continue to be vital reading for practitioners, in particular those specializing in European competition law and for company and in-house lawyers who

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are seeking advice on how European law affects their business. As a detailed analysis of the basic legislative and regulatory framework of European telecommunications law, it will be an invaluable reference work for lawyers, judges, regulators, and policymakers in all the EC Member

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States, as well as for students and teachers of European law.

In *Competition in Telecommunications*, Jean-Jacques Laffont and Jean Tirole analyze regulatory reform and the emergence of competition in network industries using the state-of-the-art theoretical tools of industrial

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organization, political economy, and the economics of incentives. The book opens with background information for the reader who is unfamiliar with current issues in the telecommunications industry. The following sections focus on four central aspects of the recent deregulatory

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movement: the introduction of incentive regulation; one-way access; the special nature of competition in an industry requiring two-way access; and universal service, in particular, the use of engineering models to compute subsidies and the design of universal service auctions.

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European Competition Law Annual
1998

#CommActUpdate

User Protection in IT Contracts:A
Comparative Study of the Protection of
the User Against Defective
Performance in Information
Technology

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Competition in Telecommunications
Competition, Interconnection, and
Monopoly in the Making of the
American Telephone System
Competition, Innovation, and Reform
This work comprises the revised
papers from the 8th European
Communications Policy Research

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conference (CPR) in October 1993, incorporating the key elements emanating from the discussions. America needs a new communications law fit for the Digital Age. More than twenty years has passed since the last major revision to the Communications Act. Since then, the communications

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marketplace has been dramatically reshaped by increasing competition and technological convergence centered around Internet-based voice, video, and data services. Yet innovation and investment in high-speed broadband networks are constrained by regulatory restrictions

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that sometimes date back to the 1930s, or even earlier. The need for a modernized law is all the more pronounced given the Federal Communications Commission's historical reluctance to remove outdated regulatory restrictions. In the past, the FCC often has sought to

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regulate new digital communications services in competitive markets without clear statutory justification or sufficient economic analysis. Delay in adopting a modernized Communications Act runs an increasing risk of chilling innovation and investment, impeding market

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competition, and harming consumer welfare. A vibrant future for digital communications services and the Internet requires reform that is pro-innovation, pro-free market, pro-consumer, and consistent with the rule of law. Based on those guiding principles, #CommActUpdate - A

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Communications Law Fit for the Digital Age offers a roadmap for a comprehensive update of federal communications law. The book is comprised of six scholarly responses submitted by the Free State Foundation to an earlier congressional process considering an overhaul of the

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Communications Act, along with a Preface and lengthy up-to-date Introduction providing a wealth of background information and context. The book prescribes specific reforms for areas such as broadband policy and Internet oversight, competition policy, network interconnection,

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spectrum management, universal service, and video services regulation. This volume considers the theme of the protection of the user in the field of Information Technology, and more specifically in relation to software licences, electronic information services and Internet access services.

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Litigation in IT usually stems from the users' feeling that their expectations have been frustrated at performance. When dealing with such cases, the courts seem to increasingly take the objective of user protection into account. How is this protection implemented? Is this trend generally

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desirable? Is this judicial protection excessive? What are the constraints met by IT providers that should be taken into account in litigation? How can the user's position be improved? User Protection in IT Contracts extensively presents the reasons why, and the ways in which national courts

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may decide a case in favour of the user. Many practical issues are considered in this respect. Which factors appear relevant to deal with liability claims in IT? Are exemption clauses always enforceable? What are the implications of information duties for IT providers? How can general

conditions be safely incorporated to a contract? This book exhaustively reviews these and other issues in English, Dutch and French law.

Overcoming Obstacles to
Liberalization of the Telecom Sector in
Estonia, Poland, the Czech Republic,
Slovenia, and Hungary

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A Comprehensive Compilation of
Decisions, Reports, Public Notices,
and Other Documents of the Federal
Communications Commission of the
United States
Competition Law and Regulation in
European Telecommunications
Hearings Before a Subcommittee of

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the Committee on Appropriations,
United States Senate, One Hundred
Sixth Congress, Second Session, on
H.R. 4690 ... for the Fiscal Year
Ending September 30, 2001, and for
Other Purposes
Federal Register
Telecommunications Act

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This book presents the most thoroughgoing model yet offered to ensure the emergence of a genuinely competitive electronic communications industry in Europe. In the course of its in-depth analysis the discussion

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focuses on such factors as the following: EU telecommunications policy as revealed in liberalization and harmonization legislative measures; the EU electronic communications framework;

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case law covering issues of refusal to supply and the essential facilities doctrine; application of Article 82 EC to bottlenecks; specific types of an undertakings unilateral behaviour that may often occupy NRAs and

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competition authorities in the context of their ex post competition law investigations under Article 82 EC; strategic alliances and mergers in the move toward multimedia; access to premium content and the

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emergence of new media; the scope of content regulation in the online environment; and broadband (regulation of local loop unbundling and bitstream access). The book also provides practical guidance on issues

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concerning the complicated market definition and analysis mechanism promulgated by the European Commission's Recommendation and Guidelines.

Shows that electoral competition

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and partisan government helped balance the conflicting demands of voters' interests with the financial pressures generated by capital scarcity.

The European Competition Law Annual 2002 is the seventh in a

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series of volumes following the annual workshops on EU Competition Law and Policy held at the Robert Schuman Centre of the European University in Florence. The volume reproduces the materials of the

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roundtable debate that took
place at the seventh Workshop.
Telecommunications
Competition and Deregulation
Act of 1981
FCC Record
Universal Service

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Privatisation Competition and
Regulation in the United
Kingdom
OECD Reviews of Regulatory
Reform: Regulatory Reform in
the Netherlands 1999
The United States, the European

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Union and the World Trade Organisation

This book examines and compares policy making in telecommunications in Britain and France over the last three decades. It confronts important

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questions related to liberalization, regulation and the role of the nation state in an increasingly international economy and analyzes the theoretical strengths and weaknesses of various models of

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public policy formation.

This book examines if the conceptual underpinnings of competition law and international regulatory mechanisms can properly deal with the new economy.

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If one were to believe the politicians and pundits in the trade press, the world is in midst of a “telecoms revolution,” resulting from (the) deregulation and new competitive opportunities represented by the

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1997 World Trade Organisation
Agreement on Basic
Telecommunications Services.
This may be true. Unfortunately,
however, the actions of many
regulators and industry
participants more accurately

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reveal not a telecoms
“revolution” but instead a
growing telecoms trade war that
is dangerously close to spiralling
out of hand. In this book, Naftel
and Spiwak review U.S. and
European competition and

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regulatory initiatives post-WTO and provide both a useful roadmap to today's U.S., EU and WTO telecoms regulation and an examination of various case studies to illustrate their points. In so doing, the authors discover

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unfortunately the sad reality that, despite the political rhetoric, regulators on both sides of the Atlantic have eschewed innovative and indeed productive solutions to create a market structure conducive to long-term

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competitive rivalry. Instead, the authors demonstrate that current policies reveal a growing cynicism towards the maximisation of consumer welfare that will be difficult - if not outright impossible- to remove.

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Political Competition,
Partisanship, and Policy Making
in Latin American Public Utilities
New Dynamics and Driving
Forces
National Institutions,
Convergence, and Change in

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Britain and France
Regulating Communications
Markets
The Regulation and Pricing of
Access
Communications Deregulation
and FCC Reform: Finishing the

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Job

This study emerges from discussions with representatives of the World Bank and high-level representatives of government and the telecommunications services industry in Hungary, Estonia, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, and

Hungary. It considers the problems inherent with the liberalization of the telecom sector. This publication is a Technical Paper sponsored by the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network of the World Bank's Europe and Central Asia Division. It is part of a comprehensive

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series regarding the many important factors that influence European Union (EU) accession in the Central and East European countries (CEEC). The topics in the series cover both the social and economic aspects of accession across a broad range of sectors. The series also provides

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background information for specific acceding countries. These publications will be of interest to EU member and candidate countries, their ministries, and any one studying the accession issue.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996
and the Federal Communications

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Commission's Local Competition Order are just two examples of the continuing monumental and far-reaching changes occurring throughout the telecommunications industry. At the 1996 Telecommunications Policy Research Conference (TPRC) -- an annual

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forum for dialogue among scholars and the policymaking community on a wide range of telecommunications issues -- leading industry and academic researchers presented results of their research and insights in key areas of activity, including:

- *interconnection and competition;

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- *Internet growth and commerce;
- *Internet regulation and control; and
- *the political economy of telecommunications regulation. The best of the 1996 TPRC papers are included here, representing the forefront of research in the telecommunications industry. The third

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in an annual LEA series of volumes based on this important conference, this collection reflects the rapid economic, technological, and social development of telecommunications. It also reflects the current state of research thinking on this issue and provides a foundation for further

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telecommunications policy analysis. The 1998 Volume on the regulation of communications markets is the third in a successful series of European Competition Law Annuals, founded upon open dialogue between technical experts, market analysts and legal practitioners. Gathering together

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academic papers and edited transcripts of expert discussions, it offers readers a lively and informed insight into the topical debate of whether governments, or the European Union, should intervene to prevent powerful firms from abusing their control of critical 'gateways'

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between consumers and communication information services. The Volume examines the technical and market evolutions that have allowed the development of single communications networks, which offer consumers a variety of telephone, audio-visual and computer data

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services. In an era of market liberalisation, the editors and contributors ask how private ownership of such communications networks may be reconciled with the need to ensure consumers easy access to the services that underpin our, so-called, 'information society'.

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Telecommunications and Finance of
the Committee on Commerce, House
of Representatives, One Hundred
Fourth Congress, Second Session,
July 18, 1996

Hearings Before the Subcommittee on
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of Representatives, One Hundred
Fourth Congress, First Session, May
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EC Competition and Telecommunications Law