



Single market and consolidation in the telecom sector

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17 October 2013



Market definition

Product market definition: impact of technological developments

Geographic market definition: markets mainly national

Impact of Commission's Single Market Proposal



Three types of mergers

Expansion into new geographic markets

Usually these transactions do not have a detrimental impact on competition

Expansion into new product markets within the same geographic market (e.g., combination of fixed and mobile activities)

The Commission has not regarded these mergers as problematic in the past

In-market consolidation

These mergers are likely to be the most problematic ones

Past in-market consolidation cases

M.3916 T-Mobile Austria/ tele.ring (2006)

5 to 4 consolidation; remedies (divestment of spectrum and mobile telephony sites)

M.4748 T-Mobile / Orange Netherlands (2007)

4 to 3 consolidation; cleared unconditionally

M.5650 T-Mobile / Orange UK (2010)

5 to 4 consolidation; remedies (network sharing, spectrum divestment)

M. 6497 Hutchison 3G Austria / Orange Austria (2012)

4 to 3 consolidation; remedies (wholesale access, upfront MVNO, spectrum divestment)



Upcoming in-market consolidation cases

M.6992 Hutchison 3G UK/ Telefonica Ireland

Proposed acquisition of Telefónica O2 Ireland (O2 Ireland) by Hutchison 3G UK

4 to 3 consolidation

Notified on 1 October

Telefónica Deutschland/ E-Plus

Proposed acquisition by Telefónica Deutschland of KPN's German business (E Plus)

4 to 3 consolidation

Not yet notified