Jornadas sobre a Regulação dos Mercados de Telecomunicações



Towards a new telecoms regulatory framework for Europe

Luis Enriquez Lisbon, November 5, 2002 McKinsey & Company, Inc





- Liberalization of telecommunications markets has generated huge medium term benefits to consumers but at significant cost to industry profitability in the fixed sector
- The regulatory debate is far from over: new EU regulation calls for a change in the regulatory frameworks of all Member States over the next year. The impact on the industry could be huge.
- As countries implement the new EU directives, Portugal must carefully evaluate both the short term and long term impact of regulation on the industry

EUROPEAN TELECOM MARKETS HAVE BEEN LIBERALISED OVER THE LAST 4-6 YEARS



1996 - 1997

Creation of a regulatory framework for the liberalisation of the telecom sector

1998 - 2001

Transposition of the European regulatory framework to the Member States

Liberalised markets

Content

- Adoption of a series of EU directives to achieve the liberalisation of the telecoms industry
 - Access (open networkprovision)
 - Universal service
 - Interconnection
 - Licensing
 - Data protection

- Gradual implementation of the new framework in the Member States:
 - Before/in 1998: Holland,
 Finland, Sweden and UK*
 - 1998/1999: Germany,
 Spain, Denmark, France,
 Belgium, Austria and
 Norway
 - 2000: Portugal and Greece

Effects on telecom markets

- Abolition of privileges and exclusive rights of wireline incumbent operators
- Entry of new wireline and wireless operators

Source: EU Legislation

^{*} UK started the liberalisation movement in 1984

REGULATORY FOCUS HAS BEEN VERY DIFFERENT IN WIRELINE AND WIRELESS



In wireline, asymmetric regulation aimed at facilitating market entry of new competitors . . .

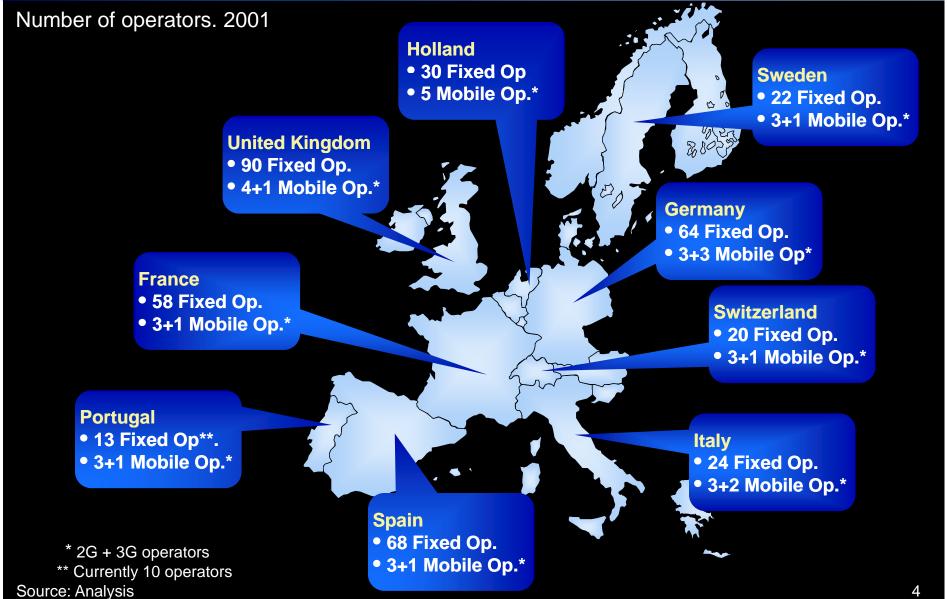
- Opening of essential incumbent's network elements to competitors
- Cost oriented interconnection obligations for incumbent operators
- Definition of Universal Service obligations and establishment of financing methods
- Pricing obligations to incumbent operators (price-cap, price controls, limited commercial flexibility, etc...)
- Flexible **licensing** process

... in wireless, less intrusive regulatory intervention to foster the sector's development and growth

- Non-regulated access
- Loosely regulated interconnection prices
- Progressive entry of new operators with each technology cycle
- Freedom for each Member State to establish procedures for spectrum licensing (auction, beauty contest)
- No retail price regulation

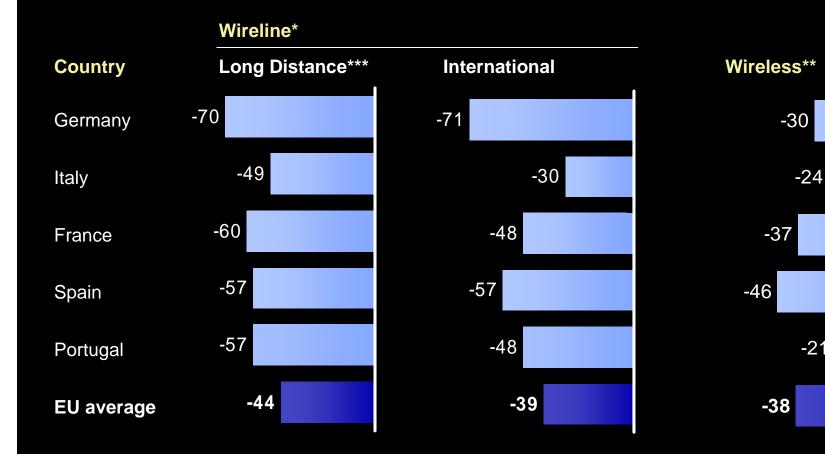
EUROPEAN CONSUMERS HAVE BENEFITED FROM GREATER CHOICE ...





...SIGNIFICANT PRICE DECLINES...

Accumulated tariff reductions 1998-2001. Percentage



^{*} Three-minute call in peak-time. Includes start up cost and does not include VAT

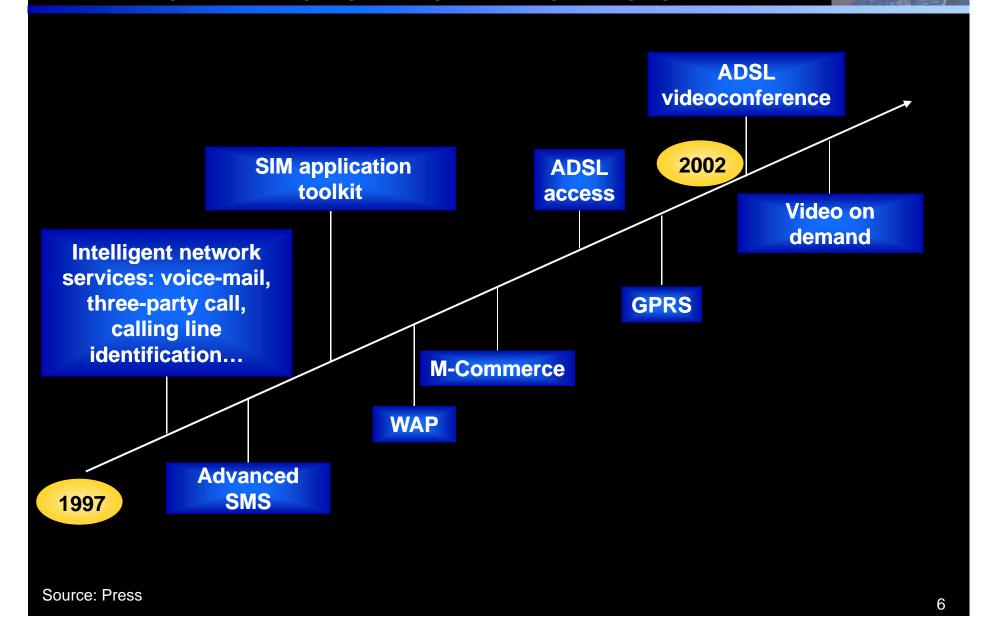
Source: European Commission; EMC; Analyst reports

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Tariffs calculated as ARPU/MOU

^{***} November 2001

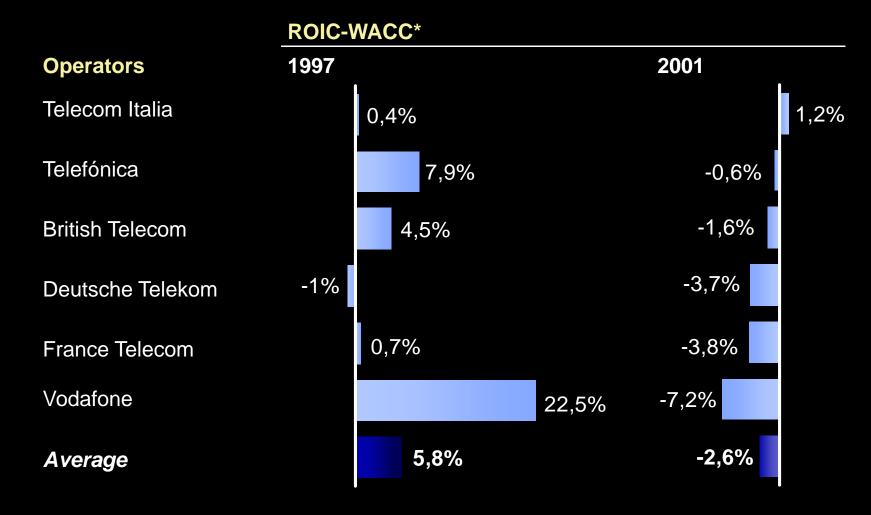
...AND PROLIFERATION OF INNOVATIVE SERVICES



HOWEVER, RETURNS HAVE FALLEN BELOW COST OF CAPITAL ...



Percentage



^{*} ROIC net of UMTS licenses

Source: Datastream; Bloomberg

THE SEVERE INDUSTRY CRISIS PUTS IS ALREADY HAVING SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES



Downwards trend in industry results...

- Record breaking losses in telecom operators
- Several attackers going bankrupt
- Difficulties for new operators to achieve EBITDA breakeven

... creates doubts about the sustainability of the current model

- Major job cuts
- Sharp reductions in CAPEX
- Delays in new projects

RECENTLY ISSUED EU DIRECTIVES CALL FOR AN EVOLUTION OF REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS IN ALL MEMBER STATES



1996 - 1997

1998 - 2001

Creation of a regulatory framework for the liberalisation of the telecom sector

Transposition of the European regulatory framework to the **Member States**

2002 Evolution of regulatory frameworks in Liberalised acknowledgement of markets progress in the liberalization

Content

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Effects on telecom markets

- Abolition of privileges and exclusive rights of wireline incumbent operators
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- Publication* of a new series of EC Directives to advance in the telecoms liberalization process in the direction of gradual deregulation:
 - Framework directive
 - Access directive
 - Authorisation directive
 - Data Protection directive
 - Decision on Spectrum
 - Recommendation on Relevant Markets
- Requirement to change telecommunications laws in all Member States by 24 July, 2003

Source: EU Legislation

^{*} UK started the liberalisation movement in 1984

^{**} Main body of new regulation framework published in the Official Journal of the European Communities on 24 April, 2002. Guidelines on Relevant Markets published on 17 June, 2002

THE "SPIRIT" OF THE NEW EUROPEAN DIRECTIVES IS THE GRADUAL DEREGULATION OF THE TELECOM MARKETS



Guiding principles

- Gradual deregulation of telecommunications markets as effective competition is attained
- Ex-post application of general Competition Law to gradually replace telecomspecific ex-ante regulation

- Rigorous market analysis according to general rules of Competition Law for determination of significant market power (SMP) and imposition of obligations to dominant operators
- Proportionality between obligations imposed to dominant operators and the lack of effective competition in the markets
- No inappropriate ex-ante regulation of emerging markets

A BASIC PROCEDURE IS DEFINED FOR MARKET ANALYSIS AND IMPOSITION OF OBLIGATIONS TO DOMINANT OPERATORS



- 1 Market definition 2 Market definition at European level
 - at national level
- 3 Competitiveness analysis
- 4 SMP* designation and imposition of obligations

- European Commission recommends list of markets to be analysed by **NRAs**
- Draft list recently published for public consultation

- NRAs to define list of markets to be analyzed at national level
- EC has right of veto on any market not included in its recommendation
- NRAs to analyse, under defined periods, the competitive situation of each market according to general competition criteria
- NRAs, to identify **SMP** operators in non-competitive markets
- NRAs to impose certain obligations to **SMP** operators proportionate to competitive constraints

A DRAFT LIST OF RELEVANT PRODUCT AND SERVICE MARKETS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION



Relevant markets

Retail

- Access to fixed networks
- Services from fixed networks
- Leased lines

Call origination on fixed networks

- Call termination on individual fixed networks
- Wholesale local access for broadband Internet services
- Local dedicated capacity (Wholesale local or leased lines)
- Call termination on individual mobile networks
- National market for international roaming
- Broadcasting transmission services and distribution networks

- No retail market in wireless
- Broadband not explicitly separated

Termination markets are

considered dominant)

- Roaming defined at national level
- Broadband explicitly separated

"individual" (i.e., all operators

Broadcasting market introduced

Wholesale

THE NEW DIRECTIVES OPEN UP SEVERAL REGULATORY TOPICS ...



Framework Directive

Main aspects introduced

- Definition of NRA functions and competences
- Definition of "significant market power" (SMP) in line with Competition Law
- New methodology for the analysis of competition in relevant markets
- Inclusion of TV and radio distribution networks within the scope of telecommunications law

Access Directive

- Generalization of "access" definition, extending the potential regulation to new elements
- Principle of "technological neutrality"
- Regulation of "maxima", to be applied case-by-case to tackle specific market failures

Universal Service Directive

- Functional access to Internet (narrowband) introduced in USO
- Retail regulation to be used only when wholesale regulation has proved uneffective

Authorization Directive

- Introduction of a general authorization that simplifies and harmonizes procedures to assign licenses
- Number of licenses to be limited only for the sake of efficient use of scarce resources

Data protection Directive

- Reinforcement to the right of customer privacy through the need of previous consent
- Increased requirements to store customer information for potential future investigation by Government agencies

High discretionality awarded to NRA's for the transposition of directives into their respective national regulatory frameworks

... WITH POTENTIALLY MAJOR IMPLICATIONS BOTH FOR WIRELINE AND WIRELESS OPERATORS



NOT EXHAUSTIVE

Wireline

- Opening of additional incumbent's network elements (e.g., network management systems, billing systems, etc.)
- Potential limitation on incumbent's pricing regulation
- Limited regulation of emerging businesses (e.g., xDSL)
- Revision of various topics regarding Universal Service (financing, affordable price, ...)

Wireless

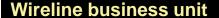
- Opening of dominant operators' networks to MVNOs at cost-oriented, regulated prices
- Potential creation of a secondary market for spectrum
- Redefinition of procedures for new spectrum assignments
- Application of wireline-type regulation to wireless, based on the principle of technological neutrality
- Regulation of network sharing
- Limited regulation of emerging businesses (e.g., wireless data)

THE TRANSPOSITION OF EU DIRECTIVES TO NATIONAL REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS COULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON INDUSTRY ECONOMICS...



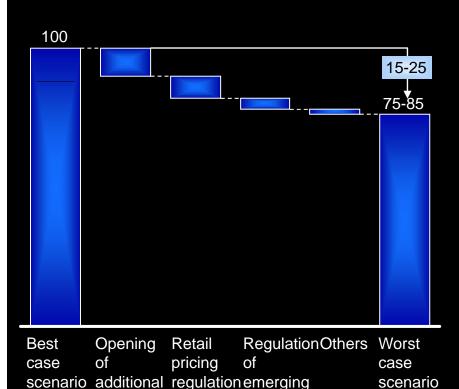
Entity value. Percentage. Base 100

EUROPEAN INCUMBENT



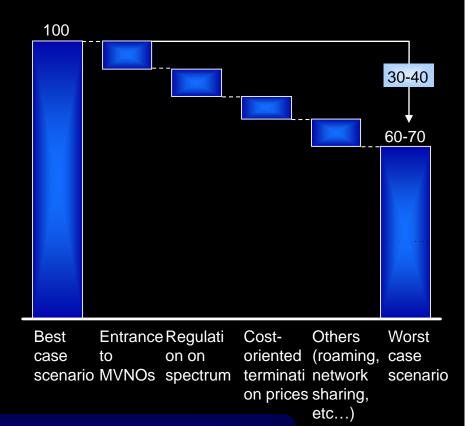
network

elements



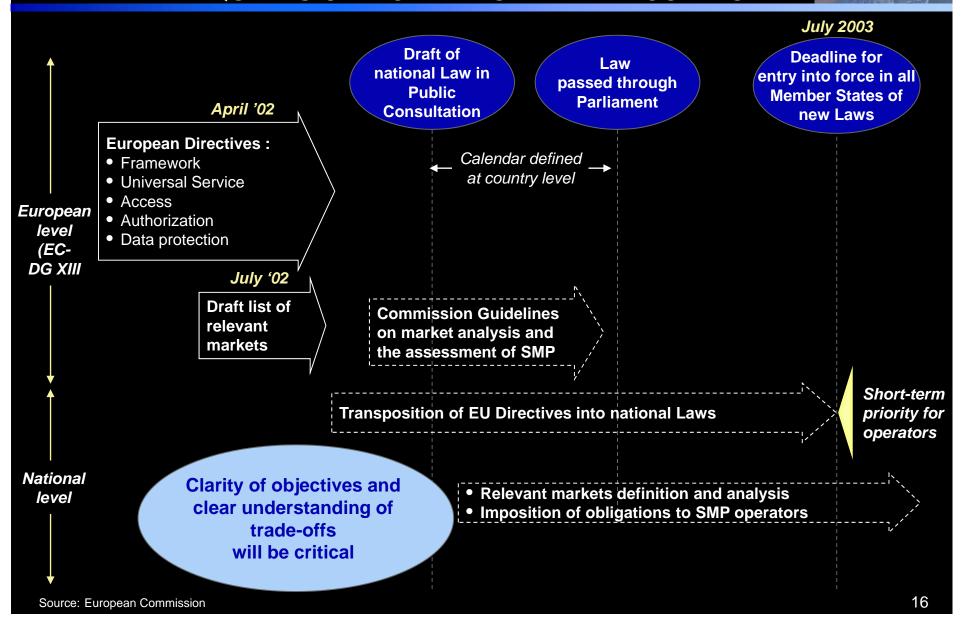
markets

Wireless business unit



NRAs must be careful about clearly understanding the potential trade-offs involved in implementing the new regulatory framework

...AND WILL REQUIRE SIGNIFICANT WORK IN THE COMING YEAR



IN DEVELOPING THE NEW REGULATORY FRAMEWORK IT IS CRITICAL THAT KEY CHALLENGES ARE ADDRESSED



Success in liberalization

- Effective competition
- Market development
- Service innovation
- High levels of investment

New challenges

- Growth slowing down
- Financing problems
- High investing needed to continue innovation

- Is the current industry structure viable?
- Is regulation creating a chronically underperforming sector?
- Are consumer benefits brought about by market liberalization sustainable?
- What impact will financial pressures have on innovation?

Key requirements for the new regulatory framework

- Reduce uncertainty in the industry
- Support business viability
- Foster growth and innovation by creating incentives for investment in infrastructures and services
- Ensure effective competition in the longterm
- Maintain customer benefits