

DU MONOPOLE A LA CONCURRENCE:

QUELLE REGULATION ?

Services postaux, Energie, Rail et Télécommunications

VAN MONOPOLIE NAAR MEDEDINGING:

WELKE REGULERING?

Postdiensten, Energie, Spoorwegverkeer en Telecommunicatie

FROM MONOPOLY TO COMPETITION:

WHICH REGULATION ?

Postal Services, Energy, Railway and Telecommunications

Bruxelles, 16 mai 2008

Brussel, 16 mei 2008

Brussels, 16 May 2008

Philippe  Partners

A V O C A T S - A D V O C A T E N - L A W F I R M

Regulation has many different meanings. It is used in the fields of health, media, banking and financial services, telecommunications, energy, etc. Regulation is likely to cover further sectors in the future, such as water e.g.

In particular, “regulation” means the intervention of specialised public authorities to promote the development of economic activities while safeguarding stakes of public nature (consumer protection, universal supply of a minimal service,...), which are specific to certain sectors. It thus reflects the search for an essential balance between, on the one hand, promoting and enhancing competition and, on the other hand, respecting the general interest, in economic activities.

Regulatory intervention is heavily framed, in particular at European level. It is an answer to specific procedures. It gives place to a wide range of litigation generated by the recipients of the decisions adopted by the regulatory authorities, as well as by their competitors. In addition the “recentness” of the regulation systems gives rise to many new legal and economic challenges and questions.

This new operating mode of economic activities cannot leave one indifferent.

The law firm Philippe & Partners took the initiative to organise a one day seminar on this topic, so as to cast light on the contents, methods, specificities, even already on the consequences of the implementation of some regulation systems. Beside interventions, which may concern all regulated sectors, this seminar will also offer an opportunity to listen to representatives of four sectors of network industries: postal services, energy, the rail and telecommunications.

*Organisers and scientific coordinators:
Sébastien Depré and Laurence Mourlon Beernaert
(lawyers, Philippe & Partners)*

MORNING

**Chairman: Ms Catherine Rutten,
Member of the Board of Directors, Belgian Institute
for Postal Services and Telecommunications (BIPT)**

- 9.00 Welcome
- 9.15 Introduction
Jean-Pierre Buyle, lawyer at the Brussels Bar
- 9.30 The concept of regulation
Nicolas Thirion, professor at the University of Liège (ULg)
- 10.00 Regulation and contracts : interrelated public and private spheres
Denis Philippe, lawyer at the Brussels and Luxemburg bar
- 10.30 Coffee break
- 11.00 Tools of regulation. Example : the intervention of the Belgian regulator on the wholesale mobile markets
Jean-Pierre Pirlot, Engineer at the Belgian Institute for Postal Services and Telecommunications (BIPT)
- 11.30 The intervention of Courts in the regulatory process. Example : telecommunications, the Spanish regulator experience
Alexia Salinas, Legal counsel, Comisión del Mercado de las Telecomunicaciones (CMT, Spanish regulator)
- 12.00 Questions time
- 12.30 Lunch

AFTERNOON

**Chairman: Mr Dominique Woitrin,
Director of the technical operation of the markets,
Commission of Regulation of Electricity and Gas (CREG)**

- 14h00 The intervention of European authorities in the process of regulation
Paraskevi Michou, European Commission, Head of Unit for Procedures related to national regulatory measures, Information Society and Media Directorate-General
- 14h30 The intervention of competition authorities in the process of regulation
Jacques Steenbergen, Director General, Belgian Competition service
- 15h00 Coffee break
- 15h15 Postal services, energy, railway and telecommunications. Round table under the leading of *Sébastien Depré and Laurence Mourlon Beernaert, lawyers at the Brussels bar*
- Dirk Tirez, General Counsel, La Poste*
- Pierre Bernard, Secretary General, Elia Group*
- Peter Lepoutre, Legal counsel, SNCB Holding*
- Igor Makedonsky, Legal Director, Belgacom*
- 17h00 Conclusions and closing of the conference
Paul Nihoul, Professor at the Catholic University of Louvain (UCL)

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

DATE : 16 May 2008

VENUE : Hotel Bristol Stephanie
Avenue Louise - Louizalaan, 91-93
1050 Brussels (parking)

Localisation : <http://www.bristol.be/EN/location.aspx#>

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Free of charges

Recognized by OBFQ as training for lawyers : 6 points

Publication : the texts of the conference will be published later on

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