EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, CONTENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Digital Decade and Connectivity
Radio Spectrum Policy Group
RSPG Secretariat

Brussels, 12 November 2025
DG CNECT/B4/RSPG Secretariat

RSPG25-034 FINAL

RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

DRAFT

Work Programme for 2026 and beyond

DRAFT

RSPG Secretariat, office L-51 05/DCS,
Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË
Telephone: direct line (+32-2)29.21.261, switchboard 299.11.11;
E-mail: cnect-rspg@ec.europa.eu
Website CIRCABC: https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/f5b44016-a8c5-4ef6-a0bf-bc8d357debcb
Website : https://radio-spectrum-policy-group.ec.europa.eu/index_en

Explanatory note.

The RSPG work programme is intended to provide interested parties and stakeholders with an overview of the activities that the RSPG intends to pursue in the coming two years period (a period coinciding with the two years term of its elected Chair and Deputy Chair).

To this end, the RSPG has, in the past, adopted previous Work Programmes, including that for "2024 and beyond" in February 2024. This resulted in several RSPG Opinions and Reports adopted in 2024 and 2025 (see: Opinions and Reports (europa.eu)).

Some of the work areas in this new work programme are permanent or ongoing activities such as the Peer Review, the Good Offices and the preparation of World Radiocommunication Conferences. This new Work Programme updates these work items while also introducing new areas of work. In accordance with the provisions of the European Electronic Communications Code it should be noted that there could be further requests for an RSPG Opinion from the Commission, the Council or the European Parliament.

Most work items are proposed by the RSPG members themselves, while one – related to the sub-700 MHz band– has been requested by the European Commission.

The RSPG is also committed to the principle of transparency and will therefore normally publish all draft Opinions and Reports for public consultation (see article 23 of the RSPG Rules of Procedure).

To this end, this work programme has been subject to a public consultation [insert date] to [insert date]. [insert number] responses were received from various stakeholders and the draft Work Programme has been modified as appropriate to take into account comments and proposals.

Please also note the provisional nature of the dates provided in this work programme for the various deliverables proposed. Dates may vary according to circumstances.

Please also note that once the work programme has been adopted (normally during the first meeting in 2026) the European Commission will decide, after consultation with RSPG members, whether to create RSPG sub groups to facilitate RSPG activities. (See article 14 of the Commission Decision establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups).

Peer review and Member States cooperation

Rationale

This work item was originally established in 2017 to facilitate peer learning between Member States on spectrum awards and authorisation. According to Article 35 of the European Electronic Communications Code[1](EECC), from 21 December 2020 on, this informal process is formalised for draft selection measures that are subject to Article 55 (2) EECC in relation to radio spectrum, which has been harmonised in accordance with Decision No 676/2002/EC in order to enable its use for wireless broadband networks and services. It is normally up to the national authority concerned to decide whether to subject its draft measure to a Peer Review Forum under Article 35 EECC. The RSPG may also exceptionally take the initiative to convene a Peer Review Forum where it considers that any draft measure would significantly prejudice the ability of the national authority to achieve the objectives set in Articles 3, 45, 46 and 47 EECC.

The RSPG holds so called Award Workshops - to distinguish from the Peer Review Forums under the EECC - to share experience and expertise on specific (planned or completed) awards which may refer to non-harmonised frequency bands. In addition, the RSPG holds Stakeholder workshops which serve the exchange of good practices between the interested parties and the RSPG Member States.

Sharing best practices is no doubt relevant for the benefit of the efficient, effective and timely spectrum availability and use across the EU, as well as in relation to the achievement of EU goals and the identification of the main challenges and obstacles in the current new momentum of technological evolution and geopolitical context. It is thus appropriate to take advantage of the Peer Review subgroup to share initiatives, best practices and knowledge on spectrum awards and authorisation, with the involvement of relevant experts (including in emerging technologies and integrated technologies, such as AI for instance) in order to elaborate/discuss deeper on challenges, obstacles and ways-forward to address different issues that the subgroup, the RSPG or the Commission consider of interest and relevance.

In addition to the involvement of Member State experts, peers, relevant stakeholders and related bodies, an open event should be held regularly (at least once a year) to more widely share experiences, identify obstacles and possible ways to overcome them, as well as early challenges and innovative solutions.

Scope of RSPG activity

With regard to harmonised spectrum, the RSPG uses the formalised processes (Peer Review Forum) according to Article 35 EECC.

In addition, the exchanges based on pre-existing workshops for past and future awards will continue. It is to be noted that this scope of the RSPG work is somewhat larger than anticipated in Article 35 EECC.

The Group can carry out stakeholder workshops that are in the scope of interest of the RSPG and/or the

[1] Directive (EU) 2018/1972 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 establishing the European Electronic Communications Code

Commission and are not covered by other sub-groups, as well as open workshops where matters of the agenda come up from concerns raised by stakeholders and other invited entities. This may also include the sharing of information on national and European initiatives and experiences related to economic, social and environmental sustainability and efforts to combat climate change as well as information on PMSE usage given the changing uses of the spectrum traditionally available for PMSE.

Planned type of deliverable

- Peer Review Forums according to Article 35 EECC with regard to harmonised spectrum.
- At the request of the concerned national authority: as appropriate, reports and opinions on voluntary Peer Review Forums, Article 35 (7), (9) EECC.
- Annual reports according to Article 35 (8) EECC (published each February), and interim reports as appropriate.
- Informal Award Workshops on upcoming and past awards.
- Questionnaire gathering information on PMSE usage in the EU Member States, particularly about the current spectrum permitted/assigned and used by PMSE users.
- Stakeholder Workshops on other topics within the scope of the PR subgroup if desired. This includes at least:
  - Workshop related to sustainability from the radio spectrum perspective, this may include for instance methodologies, standards, key value indicators (KVIs) and key performance indicators (KPIs).
  - Workshop with PMSE industry stakeholders on the evolution of PMSE radio spectrum use.
- Documentation of stakeholders' workshop outcomes
- Collection of lessons learned on the exchange of best practices and challenges as regards the national implementation of the harmonised bands.

Time schedule

Throughout the work programme period.
RSPG Workshops as appropriate.

WRC-27

Rationale:

The Agenda for the next World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-27) and the provisional Agenda for WRC-31 were adopted by WRC-23. The RSPG has already started its work identifying key elements (Agenda Items) of relevance for EU spectrum policy in order to prepare recommendations, including on the level of European Union position(s), on those Agenda Items with the aim to assist the European Commission as early as possible in formulating its proposal for a Council Decision on the positions to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) WRC-27.

Similar to the processes successfully carried out for past WRCs, RSPG will continue its work based on RSPG25-022 FINAL, Interim Opinion on WRC-27[2]. The RSPG intends to report on the outcomes of the WRC-27 in the next Work Programme cycle.

The RSPG has recommended a forward-looking approach on EU coordination[3] at WRC, which was successfully applied during WRC-23 (see RSPG Report on the WRC-23 results[4]).

Scope of RSPG activity:

The RSPG plans to:

1. Prepare a Final Opinion on Agenda Items of WRC-27 with relevance[5] to EU-policies in order to assist the European Commission in formulating proposals for a Council Decision.
2. Consider a Public Consultation on the Final Opinion without prejudice to any material which the RSPG considers should remain confidential.
3. Possibly identify actions for the European Commission in order to provide political support to promote European Union position(s), once adopted, in regular meetings between European Commission and non-EU countries and accompany these actions.

Under the Work programme for 2028 and beyond, the RSPG intends to review and report on the outcome of WRC-27, including the Agenda for the next WRC, and identify any issues of relevance for EU spectrum policy.

[2] https://radio-spectrum-policy-group.ec.europa.eu/document/download/026c0088-c2ba-4c68-bebe-5019fbe2d38d_en?filename=RSPG25-022final-RSPG_Interim_Opinion-WRC27.pdf

[3] RSPG19-009: http://rspg-spectrum.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/RSPG19-009final_RSPG_Opinion_EU-coordination.pdf

[4] RSPG24-017: https://radio-spectrum-policy-group.ec.europa.eu/document/download/3d8d393b-2067-48c4-98f9-b95f4d8ed960_en?filename=RSPG24-017final-RSPG_Report_%20WRC23.pdf

[5] WRC-27 Agenda Items relevant to EU policies have been listed in the Interim Opinion on WRC-27. Additional items relevant to EU policies, not identified in the Interim opinion, could also be covered in the final opinion

Planned type of deliverable:

RSPG Final Opinion on WRC-27.

Time schedule:

Based on the planned date of WRC-27 from 18th October till 12th November 2027 and on the time necessary for the EC to propose a draft Council Decision:

- Draft Final Opinion on WRC-27: June 2026.
- Final Opinion on WRC-27: November 2026.

Anticipated time schedule for the whole Work Item cycle

- RSPG Report on WRC-27 results: June 2028.

The working group could propose a revision of the time schedule according to the progress of the work.

"Good offices" to assist in bilateral negotiations between Member States

Rationale:

The RSPG Good Offices function was originally established in 2012 based on the RSPG Opinion[6] to assist in bilateral spectrum management negotiations between its members and with third countries. The principle of radio spectrum cooperation among Member States was later enshrined into Article 28 of the EECC[7]. When Member States have difficulties in cross-border coordination or from harmful interference with another Member State, they may request the RSPG to use its good offices to address it. The Good Offices will investigate the matter and report to the RSPG.

In addition, at the request of a Member State prevented from using harmonised radio spectrum due to such cross-border harmful interference, the RSPG may adopt an opinion recommending a coordinated solution, in accordance with Article 28(3) EECC.

Scope of RSPG activity:

The RSPG will investigate any coordination issues between Member States brought to its attention, including harmful interference issues, and will develop and propose appropriate solutions.

For cases within the scope of Article 28 (3) of the EECC, the RSPG may issue an opinion proposing a coordinated solution. At the request of any affected Member State, the European Commission may, taking utmost account of any opinion of the RSPG, adopt decisions to resolve cross-border harmful interferences.

The RSPG will continue to monitor the delivery of harmonised frequency bands, including the 700 MHz, the 3.6 GHz frequency bands and possible future harmonised bands, and will address the situations where a cross-border coordination agreement has not been reached, including with non-EU countries.

In addition, the Good Offices will continue to provide support to the European Commission in negotiations between Member States and countries outside the EU with relevant enhancements foreseen in the RSPG Opinion[8] i.e. *define, with the relevant Member States and Commission, the work plan, the negotiation targets/objectives, timeline and the actions to carry out in coordination with third countries*.

Planned type of deliverable:

- RSPG opinion, where appropriate, in cases covered by Article 28(3) EECC
- RSPG report, as appropriate.

Time schedule:

Throughout the work programme period.

[6] RSPG Opinion on the process for EU assistance in bilateral negotiations with third countries and between EU countries (RSPG12-409 FINAL).

[7] Directive (EU) 2018/1972 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 establishing the European Electronic Communications Code.

[8] RSPG Opinion on "The future of the electronic communications sector and its infrastructure" (RSPG23-016 FINAL).

6G spectrum roadmap
(RSPG 1st Opinion)

Rationale:

The RSPG Report on 6G Strategic vision[9] indicates that in order to foster the internal market for network and terminal equipment, the EU needs to indicate possible spectrum band(s) planned for both the launch of 6G and further development of 6G innovation in Europe, drawing lessons from the RSPG 5G Opinions. This should take into account the gradual and selective market adoption of the primary and pioneer bands. The 6G spectrum roadmap should build on the conclusions in the RSPG Report on 6G Strategic vision.

The RSPG should therefore assess the following frequency bands or parts thereof, as possible spectrum band(s) for initial 6G rollout:

- Frequency bands already harmonised for ECS in the EU under the Radio Spectrum Decision:
  - Low bands: 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz
  - Mid bands: 1500 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2.1 GHz, 2.6 GHz, 3.6 GHz
  - High bands: 26 GHz, 42 GHz
- 3.8-4.2 GHz, to be used for low/medium power local area network connectivity (currently under harmonisation)
- 6425-7125 MHz ("upper 6 GHz"), which has been identified for IMT at international level, with the possibility to be also used for the implementation of wireless access systems (WAS), including radio local area networks (RLANs). Recommendations of the upcoming RSPG Opinion for the upper 6 GHz should be taken into account when available.

Scope of RSPG activity

The RSPG will develop an EU-level 6G spectrum roadmap and make recommendations where appropriate, including but not limited to i.e. possible spectrum band(s), spectrum sharing, non-terrestrial networks. This should take into account the services to be offered and the goals to be achieved by the deployment of 6G networks in accordance with the RSPG 6G strategic vision.
The work of the subgroups on:

- Long term vision for the upper 6 GHz band,
- WRC, and
- Assessment of future usage of the frequency band 470-694 MHz within the EU will be taken into account and contribute to this work item.

The RSPG should pay due attention to the ongoing work in CEPT, ITU and technical standardisation developments at the European and global level.

[9] RSPG25-006 : https://radio-spectrum-policy-group.ec.europa.eu/document/download/89457260-ab6b-495a-9a10-437711cbe831_en?filename=RSPG25-006final-RSPG_Report_on_6G_strategic_vision.pdf

The RSPG would assess further issues addressed in the RSPG Report on 6G strategic vision, that it considers relevant, and make recommendations, if appropriate.

Planned type of deliverable

RSGP Opinion on 6G spectrum roadmap (RSPG 1st Opinion)

Time schedule

RSPG Workshops with the stakeholders: as appropriate

Draft RSPG Opinion on 6G spectrum roadmap: February 2026
Final RSPG Opinion on 6G spectrum roadmap: June 2026

Strategic Spectrum Matters

Rationale

Since 2003, the RSPG has provided timely and relevant advice on strategic policy issues to policymakers supporting implementation of EU policy in order to reap the full potential of spectrum for the sustainable development of Europe's economy and society. The RSPG stands on a solid base of cooperation between the national experts on spectrum policy, management, harmonisation and licensing. The RSPG triggers spectrum harmonisation initiatives and develops spectrum policy further to interactions with relevant stakeholders (through workshops, public consultation, etc.).

RSPG contributed to the European Commission's targeted consultation on the "*2030 Digital Compass*" issued on June 22, 2021. In relation to spectrum matters, the RSPG Opinion[10] elaborated on potential actions relating to spectrum roadmaps and initiatives, spectrum management and support mechanisms for spectrum awards.

The RSPG also published an Opinion on the RSPP in 2021[11].

RSPG contributed as well to the European Commission's broad consultation on "The future of the electronic communications sector and its infrastructure"[12] on some of the issues raised and, published in May 2023 a relevant RSPG Opinion[13].

The RSPG also published the Opinion on "How to master Europe's digital infrastructure needs?"[14] contributing to the European Commission broad consultation of the 21st of February 2024, on the "White Paper: How to master Europe's digital infrastructure needs?"[15].

Additionally, as a response to the Commission request, the RSPG adopted in June 2025 the Opinion on the EU-level policy approach to satellite Direct-to-Device connectivity and related Single Market issues[16]. RSPG identified the need to establish a process in order to enable a collective response to non compliance with the common requirements.

There is ongoing reflection at EU level on the design of the regulatory framework for electronic communications with the review or replacement of the Electronic Communications Code and the elaboration of a Digital Networks Act[17], with a legislative proposal from European Commission envisaged for the Q42025.

[10] RSPG21-037 FINAL: RSPG Opinion on the targeted consultation on the 2030 Digital Compass.
[11] RSPG21-033: RSPG Opinion on "a Radio Spectrum Policy Programme (RSPP)".
[12] https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/consultations/future-electronic-communications-sector-and-its-infrastructure
[13] RSPG23-016 FINAL: RSPG Opinion on "The future of the electronic communications sector and its infrastructure".
[14] RSPG24-019 FINAL : RSPG Opinion on "How to master Europe's digital infrastructure needs?"
[15] COM(2024) 81 final, https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/white-paper-how-master-europes-digital-infrastructure-needs
[16] Document RSPG25-020: https://radio-spectrum-policy-group.ec.europa.eu/document/download/72e52901-fa1a-474a-9480-a222c5b36545_en?filename=RSPG25-020final-RSPG_Opinion_on_D2D_and_Single_Market_Issues.pdf
[17] https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14709-Digital-Networks-Act_en

RSPG sees great value in contributing to these processes supporting EU policies both by emphasising strategic spectrum issues and, when appropriate, recommendations and Opinions on relevant topics.
RSPG intends to continue to support EU policies and to advise the European Commission as appropriate.

Scope of RSPG activity

The RSPG is ready to advise the European Commission, the Council and the European Parliament as required, on matters within its areas of competence, in order to support EU initiatives supporting the Digital Decade 2030 and other EU Policy/initiatives addressing spectrum such as the Digital Network Act.

The RSPG intends to follow the Digital Decade 2030 process, the reflection on a new regulatory policy for electronic communications and other EU Policy/initiatives that may require additional contribution from RSPG which are not already covered by the other work items of its Work Program.

The RSPG intends to further engage concerning the DNA proposal and any further relevant legislation.

Planned type of deliverable

Opinion/Report to be defined, as appropriate and if needed.

Time schedule

Draft RSPG Opinion/Report as appropriate and if needed.
Final RSPG Opinion/Report as appropriate and if needed.

Throughout the period of the Work Programme.
RSPG Workshops as appropriate.

Guidance for alternative use of the sub-700 MHz band in countries where spectrum is available in the band.

Rationale

The UHF Decision[18] mandated the harmonised use of the 694-790 MHz ('700 MHz') frequency band in the UE and provided safeguards for use of the 470-694 MHz ('sub-700') MHz frequency band by terrestrial broadcasting and PMSE until at least 2030, while considering flexibility for other uses in the band.

Footnote No. 5.295A (WRC-23) of the Radio Regulations allocated in 44 countries (including all EU countries except Spain and Italy) the 470-694 MHz band to the mobile service, except aeronautical mobile, on a secondary basis, subject to agreement obtained under No. 9.21. During WRC23, Resolution 235 was revised inviting the ITU-R and administrations to review spectrum use and needs of applications of broadcasting and mobile services within the frequency band 470-694 MHz or parts thereof in time for the WRC-31 for countries listed in No. 5.295A, taking into account PMSE applications.

The RSPG Opinion of 2023[19] on "Strategy on the future use of the frequency band 470-694 MHz beyond 2030 in the EU" analysed possible and technically feasible scenarios for post 2030, recognizing that a common path for all Member States seems difficult even after 2030, due to different national spectrum needs and cross border issues and recommending "any future EU regulatory action to facilitate, to the extent feasible, the implementation of various scenarios among Member States, emphasizing the pursuit of compatible uses and focusing on the means to achieve them".

The RSPG Report of 2025[20] on « Assessment of future usage of the frequency band 470-694 MHz within the EU" confirmed the large diversity between Member States as regards the future spectrum needs for broadcasting and the long-term market role of DTT. In some Member States the band 470-694 MHz remains important for DTT service provision, whereas in some other Member States a significant amount of spectrum in the sub-700 MHz is currently unused or is foreseen to be vacated before 2030 for the provision of the DTT services, or with a limited number of users so that alternative platforms may become more suitable.

In particular the RSPG Report of 2025 points out that "*a flexible, forward-looking framework across the Union must acknowledge the roles of DTTB and PMSE in many EU countries, while also addressing the needs for different uses, such as mobile and broadband, in other EU countries."*

[18] Decision (EU) 2017/899 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on the use of the 470-790 MHz frequency band in the Union

[19] RSPG Opinion on "Strategy on the future use of the frequency band 470-694 MHz beyond 2030 in the EU" (RSPG23-035) (https://radio-spectrum-policy-group.ec.europa.eu/document/download/6cb17632-9aba-4a15-aee9-28b9d272d9ed_en?filename=RSPG23-035final-RSPG_Opinion_on_UHF_beyond_2030.pdf)

[20] RSPG Report on "Assessment of future usage of the frequency band 470-694 MHz within the EU"

Scope of RSPG activity:
In consequence, based on the considerations in previous RSPG Opinions, Reports and particularly in the Report on the assessment of future usage of the sub-700 MHz frequency band within the EU,

taking into account the impact and the needs of other incumbent services in the band like audio PMSE or RAS and cross-border coordination ensuring the needed protection for countries wishing to have a continued use of DTTB and PMSE in the 470-694 MHz band, the RSPG plans to:

- Assess scenarios for the use of the sub-700 MHz band by those countries where demand for spectrum for terrestrial broadcasting drops below supply.
- On the basis of the previous assessment, provide strategic common guidance on a potential way forward for those countries wishing to repurpose spectrum within the sub-700 MHz band for alternative uses in the mobile service, such as IMT or PPDR.

Planned type of deliverable:

RSPG Opinion.

Time schedule:

Draft Opinion for public consultation: June 2027.
Final Opinion: February 2028.