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Dear Minister

Following on from our recent letter regarding the future of wireless connectivity in Europe, we are writing to raise our profound concerns about how the EU is addressing this important issue. When it comes to allocating key spectrum bands, political considerations appear to be now overriding the concrete evidence gathered by the EU's expert groups.

The extensive input to both the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) and the Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) has highlighted how Wi-Fi is better placed to use the upper 6 GHz band (6425-7125 MHz) than mobile networks.

Yet we understand that the German government has ignored this input and changed its position to now advocate that all 700 MHz in the band is prioritised for mobile networks. If this stance is adopted at the forthcoming RSPG Plenary on November 12th, the RSPG will be disregarding its mandate to study "the efficient use on a shared basis" of the upper 6 GHz band by licence-exempt technologies, such as Wi-Fi, and mobile networks, such as 5G.

European stakeholders are calling for more spectrum for Wi-Fi

Blocking Wi-Fi access to the upper 6 GHz band would be devastating to the future of Wi-Fi technology in Europe. This spectrum is uniquely positioned to sustain the evolution of the Wi-Fi ecosystem and enable the next generation of digital innovation.

Reserving this critical spectrum for hypothetical 6G deployments that may never materialise – at the expense of advanced 6 GHz Wi-Fi technology that already exists and can deliver tangible connectivity benefits to European consumers and businesses – would be a serious misstep.

Wi-Fi is the most cost-effective and energy-efficient means of delivering broadband connectivity. Indeed, most of the responses to the RSPG consultation, including those from a wide range of European stakeholders, called for at least 320 MHz of the upper 6 GHz band to be made available for Wi-Fi. In Germany, for example, trade associations, representing several thousand companies, have called for the entire band to be made available for Wi-Fi. The RSPG should not ignore this very clear message.



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Failing to allocate any portion of the upper 6 GHz band to licence-exempt use would contradict the Commission's Mandate, and could seriously undermine the credibility of the institutional process. Such an outcome would be inconsistent with the EU objectives of promoting spectrum sharing, competition, innovation and broad access to connectivity. Such a move would be a major setback for Europe's digital economy and ambitions to be competitive in the industries of the future.

Yours sincerely

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