

Fact Sheet

Title	COST Action ISO605 Econ@Tel
COST Action Domain	Individuals, Society, Culture, and Health (ISCH)
Project duration	2007-2011
Chair	Prof. Dr. Burkhard Stiller, Switzerland
Co-chair	Prof. Dr. Louis-Francois Pau, Denmark

ACTION'S PURPOSE

The goal of Econ@Tel is to develop a strategic research, training network among key people/organizations in order to enhance Europe's competence in the field of telecommunications economics, to support related R&D-initiatives, and to provide guidelines, recommendations to European players (end-users, enterprises, operators, regulators, policy makers, content providers) for the provision of new converged broadband, wireless, content delivery networks to citizens and enterprises.

Econ@Tel coordinates the development of research methodologies, tools from engineering, media, and business research. Regulatory issues helping or hindering the adoption of economically efficient services are identified.

Econ@Tel mobilizes the "critical mass" and diversity of economists, business research experts, engineers, and scientists working in communications and content economics. It is the first cross-disciplinary COST Action tackling jointly these issues. It differentiates itself from engineering-focused projects under EU Frameworks.

The main objective of this Action is to allow business partnering to drive networking services and their sustainable provisioning for consumers and enterprises alike.

Thus, in closer detail, the Econ@Tel COST Action aims to:

- Mobilize the critical mass of scientists working in telecommunications and media economics across Europe, and enhance European R&D competence in these fields.
- Improve European competitiveness by enhancing the economic and social viability of new services and business models by letting these drive technology selections.
- Develop a new wave of researchers working in telecommunications and media economics.
- Allow European and partner country suppliers of services and products to reduce the time possibly to be spent on identifying suitable partnering and business models and derived functionality.
- Support European strategy and policy development in telecommunications and media economics.
- Investigate proper pricing tariffing and revenue distribution approaches for customized and new services
- Understand better social networks, their impacts on "classical economy" and their heterogeneity

PARTNER COUNTRIES

Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, U.K.

WEBSITE

<http://www.cost605.org/>

WORKING GROUPS

Econ@Tel is organized in cross-discipline Working Groups (WG) aiming to bring together people working in telecommunications, economics, business, and regulation/policy scientific areas and aiming to consolidate and to develop structured scientific and practical applicable results. Thus, those deliverables described below are to be produced at the level of each WG and between WGs.

The following **Working Groups** (WG) have been defined:

WG 1: Economics of Telecommunications and Content Distribution Technologies (ETC)

Leader: Dimitrios Varoutas - Co-leader: Ilari Welling

- Tariffing and billing issues as well as business models for communications and content distribution technologies
- Privacy and security issues
- Macroeconomic and universal service issues
- Econometrics for ICT: Single/multiple function models for telecommunications and price indexes for telco products/ services

WG 2: Communications Business (CBU)

Leader: Louis-Francois Pau - Co-leader: Jerzy Kubasik

- Digital convergence
- Strategic alliances
- Inter-Business networks and SLA economics
- Converged and mobile payment systems
- Mobile marketing
- User Terminal enhancements required to support new business models
- Operator finance

WG 3: Regulation and Public Policies (RPB)

Leader: Marc Bourreau - Co-leader: Erik Bohlin

- Relationship between regulation and competition policy
- Alternative modes of resource allocation
- Institutional determinants of industry performance
- Interfacing regulatory and technology guidelines, including security
- Public policy for newly emerging and developing markets
- Impact of disruptive technologies on regulation

WG 4: Network Management Architectures and Economics (NAE)

Leader: Peter Reichl - Co-leader: Burkhard Stiller

- Role model investigation of IP-related and telecommunication service's provisioning
- Advanced network and service management functionality derived from new business models
- Effective technology support for efficient pricing and tariffing models