Approaches to net neutrality in Norway, Europe and US

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The Norwegian approach to net neutrality

- Nkom use a co-regulatory approach to net neutrality.
- The Norwegian guidelines for NN launched in 2009.
- The longest running net neutrality regime in Europe.
- Guidelines followed by stakeholders of the industry.
- The Guidelines are comparable with the Parliament resolution April 2014:
  - Transparency (of course)
  - Allow specialised services
  - Non-blocking and non-throttling
  - Allow reasonable traffic management
## Rough NN comparison Europe vs. US

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Europe / EP</th>
<th>US / FCC</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No blocking</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No throttling</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>No prioritisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>«Specialised services»</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ban zero-rating</td>
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<td>IP interconnect</td>
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<td>Case-by-case</td>
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* The devil is in the details...
** Some national initiatives
Specialised services provide extensive exceptions from net neutrality – therefore they

- must be (virtually or physically) separated from the Internet access service at the network layer.
- must not be provided at the expense of the Internet access service (IAS).

Specialised services use built-in QoS mechanisms, and they do not need protection against IAS!

- It is the other way round; IAS needs protection against specialised services!
Application-agnosticism

• Differentiation in line with NN should be done based on *access speed* or *data volume* as long as all applications are treated equally.

• Differentiation based on *specific content or applications* would constitute a breach of NN.

• Zero-rating favours specific content/applications where *providers, instead of end-users*, decide how we should use the Internet.

• Application-agnostic QoS is however possible.
Do we understand the value of the Internet?

- The Internet is different from traditional telecommunication.
- Reverse engineering telecoms over IP can hardly be called innovation.
- Internet applications are decoupled from the underlying network.
- The Internet provides global connectivity.
- We should avoid fragmenting the Internet.
- Need for a pan-European approach to NN.