



Nasjonal
kommunikasjons-
myndighet

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

	Europe / EP	US / FCC
No blocking	X	X
No throttling	X	X
No prioritisation		X
«Specialised services»	X * **	X
Ban zero-rating		Case-by-case
IP interconnect		Case-by-case

* *The devil is in the details...*

** *Some national initiatives*

«Specialised services»

- 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.