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Fabio Colasanti covered the principle guidelines for the review of the regulatory framework of electronic communications. The current review involves a long and exhaustive consultation process with national regulatory authorities (NRA) and the European Regulators Group (ERG). At the moment, the various presented ideas are being discussed within the European Commission, a discussion which should culminate in the Commission's approval of the corresponding proposals in November for subsequent submission to the Council.

The key components of the review of the regulatory framework, which encompasses five Directives and one Regulation, are divided into four groups:

- **Privacy and Consumer Protection:** the proposed amendments reveal social and technological concerns about security and the needs of consumers, particularly those with special needs, about information provided to consumers and access to emergency services.
- **Economic and competition regulation:** despite industry claims of an alleged lack of incentive for investment, the current view is the correct one for bringing competition and will not, therefore be changed. However, some additional measures are being considered with the aim of making regulation more effective, including the implementation of functional separation in the list of “remedies”, the review of the list of markets and the simplification of the process for the notification of NRA measures;
- **Size of the internal market:** a true internal market does not yet exist in the communications sector. Discussions with NRAs on this issue have been intense,

in view of the different realities involved, based on national specifications. The existence of a body (authority) capable of responding to the underlying needs may be a solution that provides consistency in the application of the regulatory framework and in the development of future European policy.

– **Spectrum policy:** technological progress is driving a proliferation of services and infrastructure, making a move essential towards a more flexible model that allows an improved use of the spectrum but which maintains a commitment to the defence of the public interest. The basic principles in the area remain, but with a number of substantial changes.