

Protecting UHF spectrum for broadcasting at WRC-23 and the value of DTT for Europe

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Terrestrial Network Operators in 20 Countries

 <i>UK</i>	 <i>Spain</i>	 <i>Czech Republic</i>	 <i>Greece</i>		
 <i>Finland</i>	 <i>Poland</i>	 <i>Serbia</i>	 <i>Italy</i>		
 <i>Italy</i>	 <i>Germany</i>	 <i>Croatia</i>	 <i>Austria</i>		
 <i>Switzerland</i>					
 <i>Ireland</i>	 <i>Romania</i>	 <i>Norway, Belgium</i>	 <i>France, Estonia</i>	 <i>Sweden</i>	 <i>Slovakia</i>

BNE Mission

Regulatory Context

- Representing the commercial interests of Terrestrial Broadcast Network Operators with regard to policy developments and regulatory intervention being undertaken by European Institutions and other organisations and stakeholders.
- To take necessary actions to ensure, in each country where the Association has Members, long term availability of adequate spectrum for current and future developments of the Terrestrial Broadcast platforms.

Long Term Value

- Providing a forum for information exchange and cooperation on topics of common interest between Members to ensure that the Broadcast Network Operator sector remains attractive to the market over time.
- Sustaining and nurturing the long term market opportunity for the distribution of content and data via Terrestrial Broadcast Networks.

It's all about Agenda item 1.5 at WRC-32

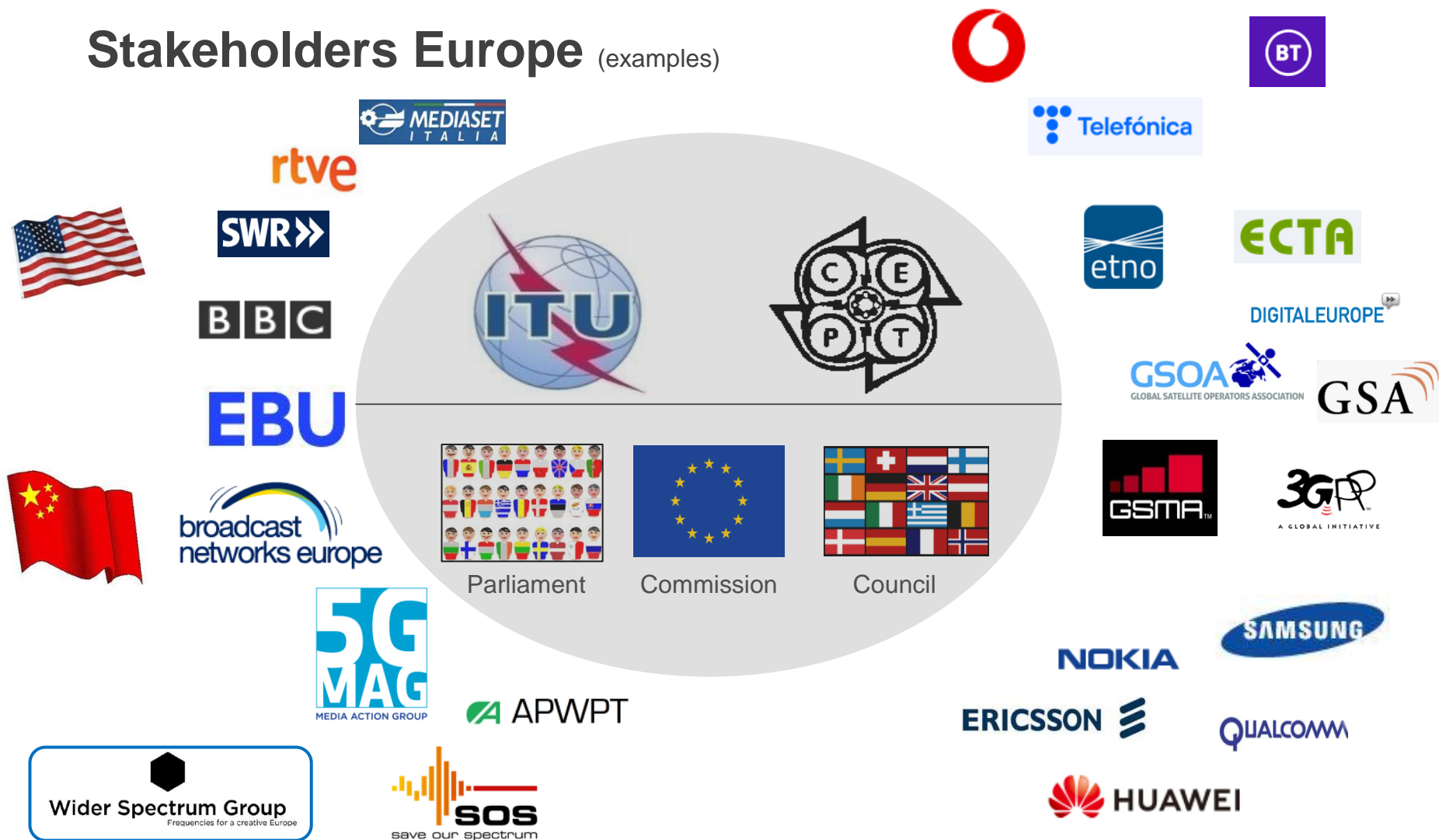
“to review the spectrum use and spectrum needs of the existing services in the frequency band 470-960 MHz in Region 1 and consider possible regulatory actions in the frequency band 470-694 MHz in Region 1 on the basis of the review in accordance with Resolution 235 (WRC-15)”

What is at stake – Agenda point 1.5 at WRC 23

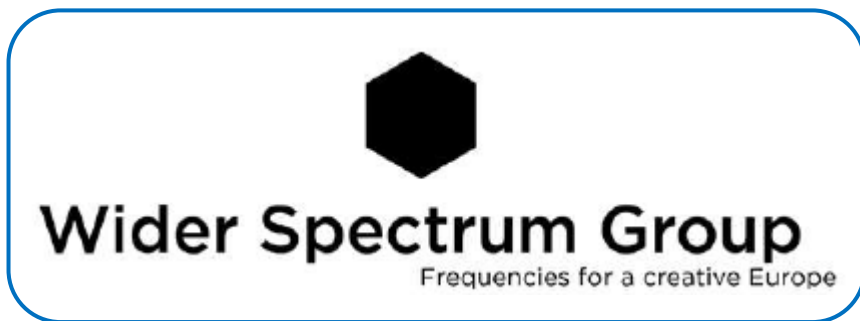
- The current exclusive primary allocation of the sub-700 MHz band to the Broadcasting Service is challenged with a possible co-primary allocation to mobile services at WRC-23
- This can lead to another digital dividend similar to the loss of the 800 and 700 MHz bands for broadcasting and PMSE
- Mobile IMT Services cannot co-exist with Broadcast Services in the sub-700 MHz band
- Without the sub-700 MHz band beyond 2030 the European broadcasting industry can no longer operate, innovate and compete
- *We are no longer talking about additional digital dividends – it's about regulation and decisions which may fundamentally change the media distribution and production landscape for Europe and other parts of Region 1*



Stakeholders Europe (examples)



Representing Europe's creative sector



- 140 trade unions 300 000 members
- 7 000 organisations performing arts
- 320 000 journalists
- 4 500 private radio stations
- Content producers in 18 countries
- Policy makers and broadcasters



Call to Europe - 100 Cultural and Media Organisations

**The show must go on –
vote to protect culture
and media**

**Call to
Europe
2023**



In May 2023, more than 100 cultural and media organizations call on decision makers, governments and regulators to protect production and distribution via the lower UHF spectrum band (470 and 694 Megahertz).

At the World Radiocommunication Conference in the autumn of 2023, there is a risk of transferring this

frequency band to mobile broadband services.

This so-called "co-primary" allocation will result in a de facto exclusion of the media and the cultural sector from the airwaves.

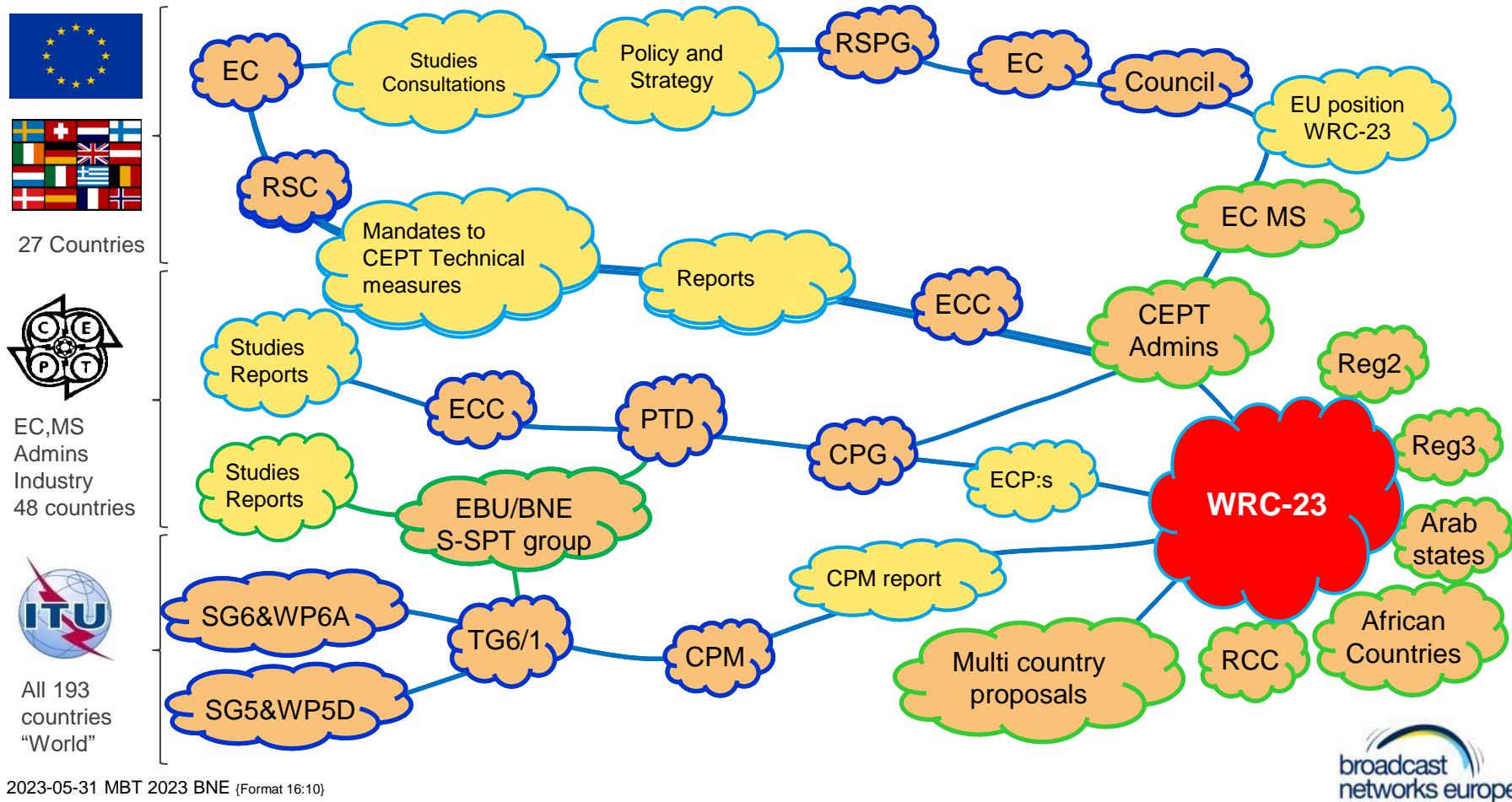
<https://sos-save-our-spectrum.org/call-to-europe-3-c2e3-may-2023/?lang=en>

Dakar AUB workshop on spectrum for broadcasting

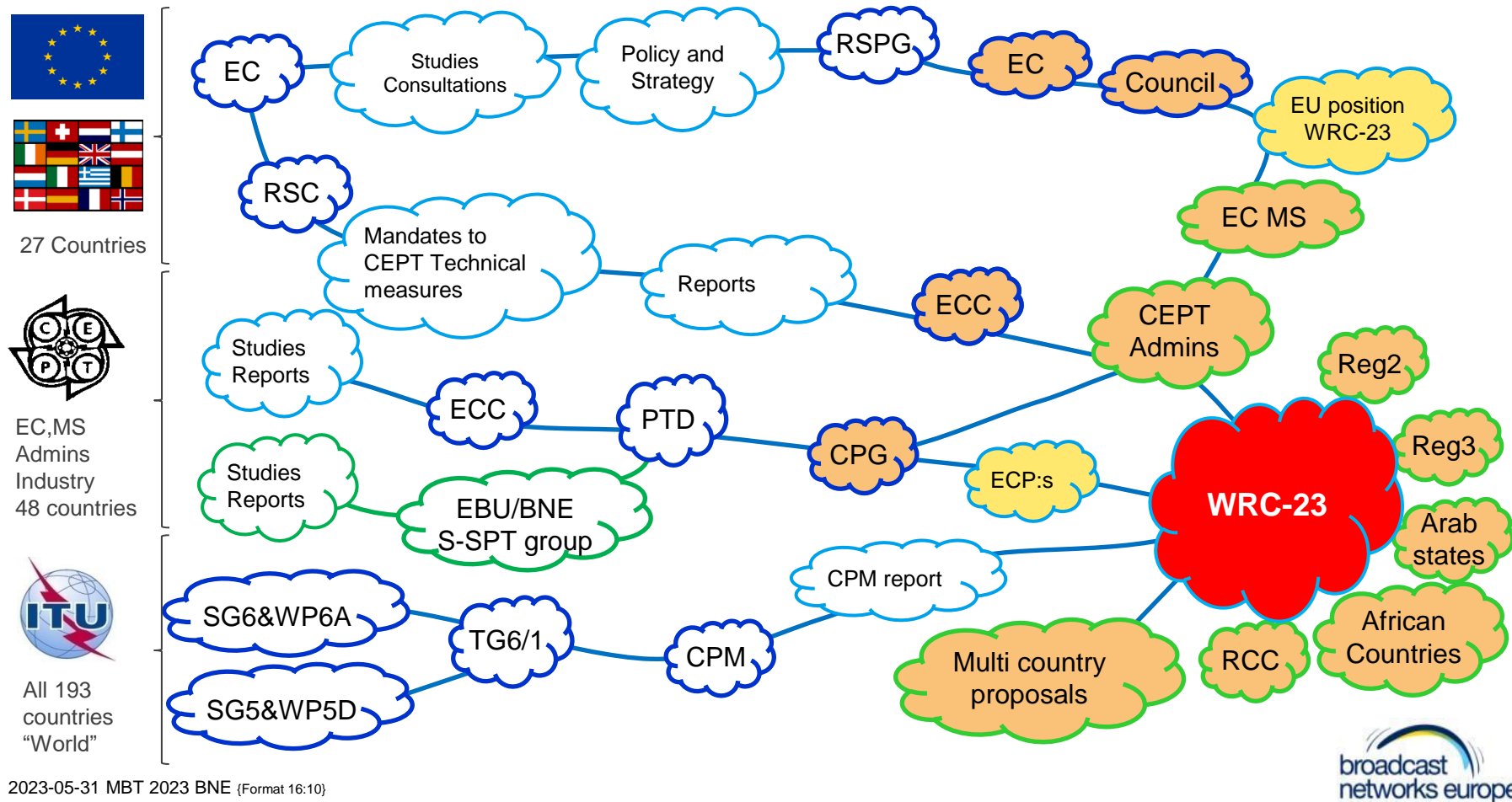
(Example of BNE and EBU jointly reaching out to African Broadcasters)



WRC-23 preparatory process (greatly simplified)



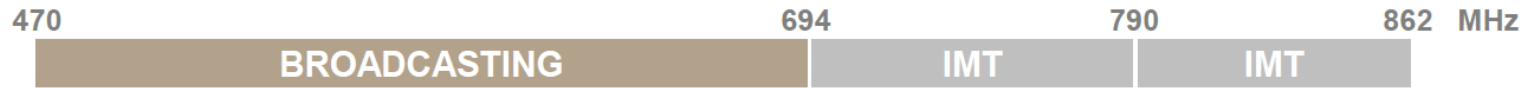
WRC-23 preparatory process (end May 2023 greatly simplified)



RSPG recommendation on WRC-23 decision on the UHF band

- RSPG in essence identifies a possible compromise EU position for the sub-700 MHz band on the WRC-23 Agenda point 1.5 to *support a secondary allocation to the mobile, except aeronautical mobile, service with a WRC-31 Agenda Item to consider a possible upgrade of the secondary mobile allocation*
- The voting rule in this case for the Council to decide on the compromise is that 55% of member states, representing at least 65% of the EU population, must vote in favour.
- We anticipate that the Commission's proposal to Council for a common EU position will be based on the RSPG recommendation.
- Council decision expected in June or September

CEPT/ECC Current status towards a common European proposal



European Common Proposal for the work of the Conference



- Option 1: No Change
 - Option 2: Primary MOBILE allocation with later entry date
 - Option 3: Secondary mobile allocation and a new WRC-31 agenda item for a possible upgrade to primary
- very likely compromise for CEPT

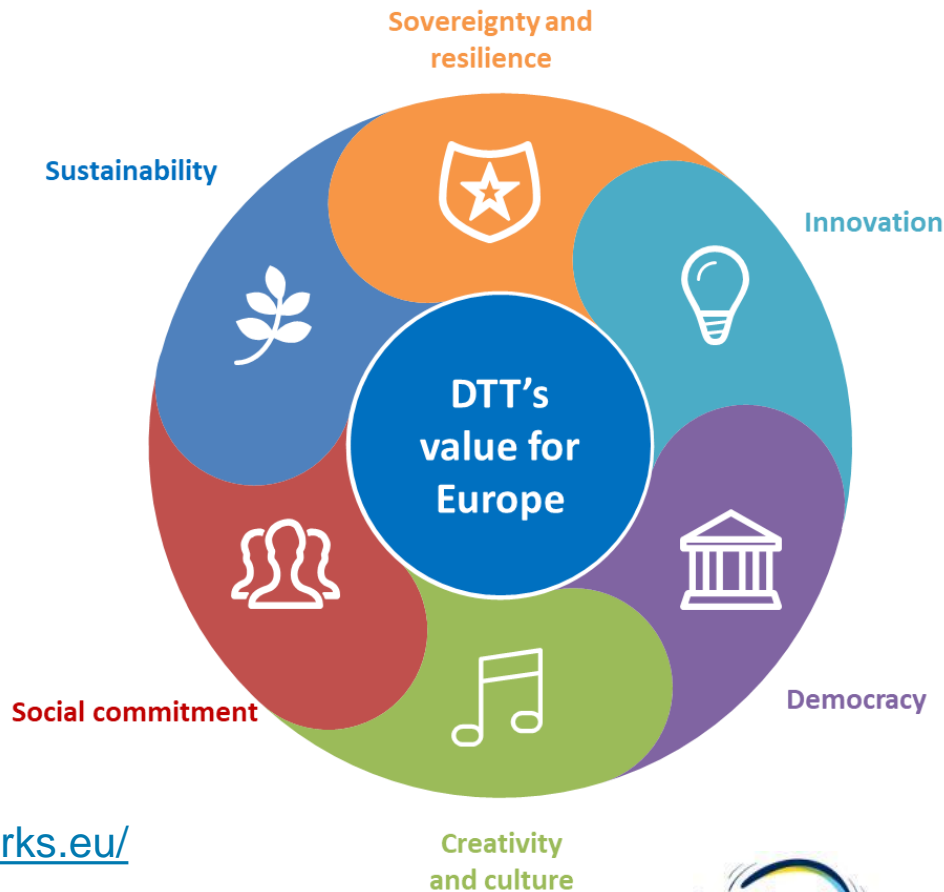
DTT's value for Europe

A vision for Europe beyond 2030

Digital Terrestrial Television Value Model

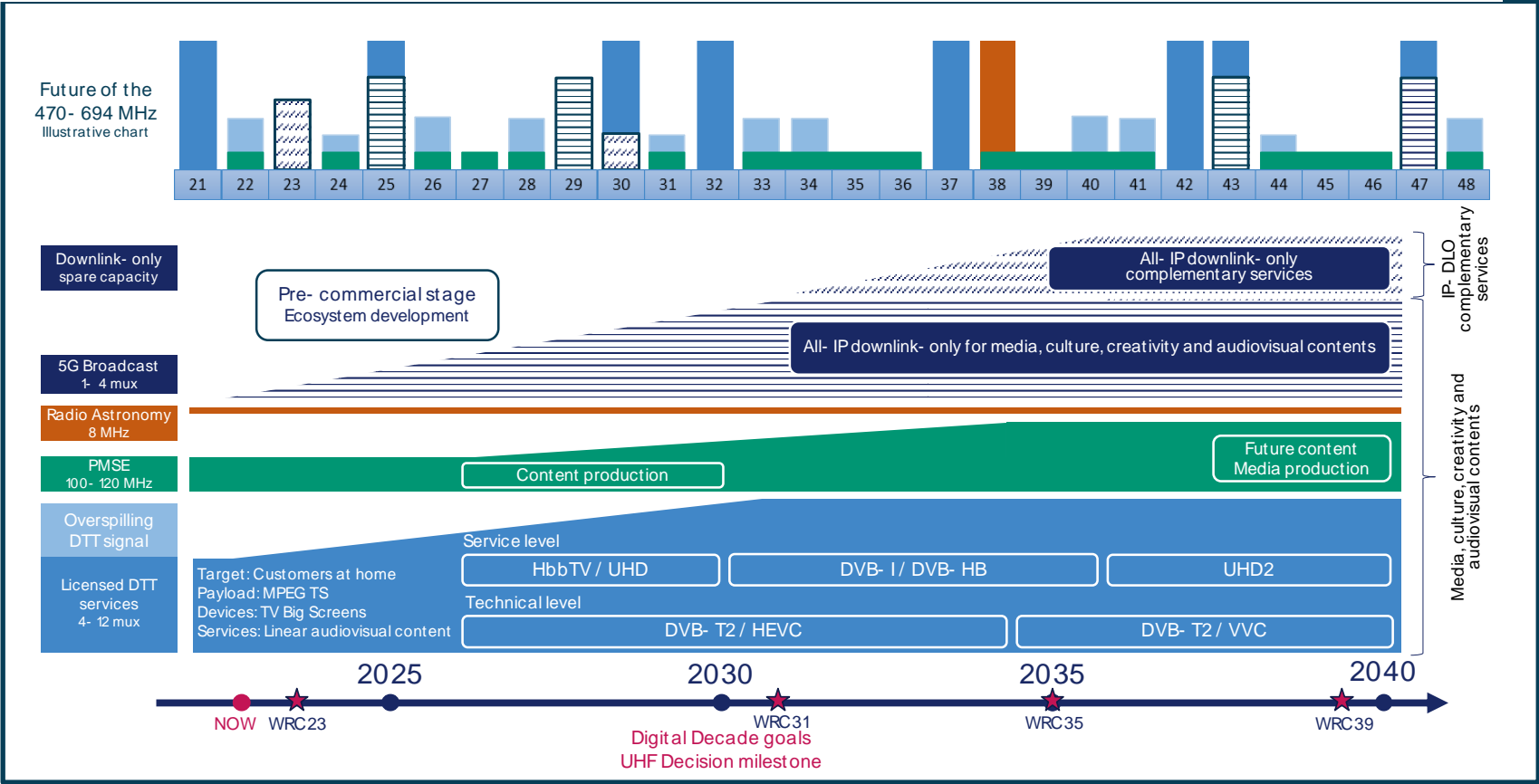
Strategic Study for BNE by South 180

- Key platform delivering value and positive impact on society and the industry
- From infrastructure safety and independence to technical innovation and many other types of economic, social, cultural and democratic values, **all the benefits delivered by DTT turn it into a great asset to build the future of Europe**



Find more info at: <https://broadcast-networks.eu/>

The UHF Band – Innovation Roadmap



Keep the UHF band for Broadcasting

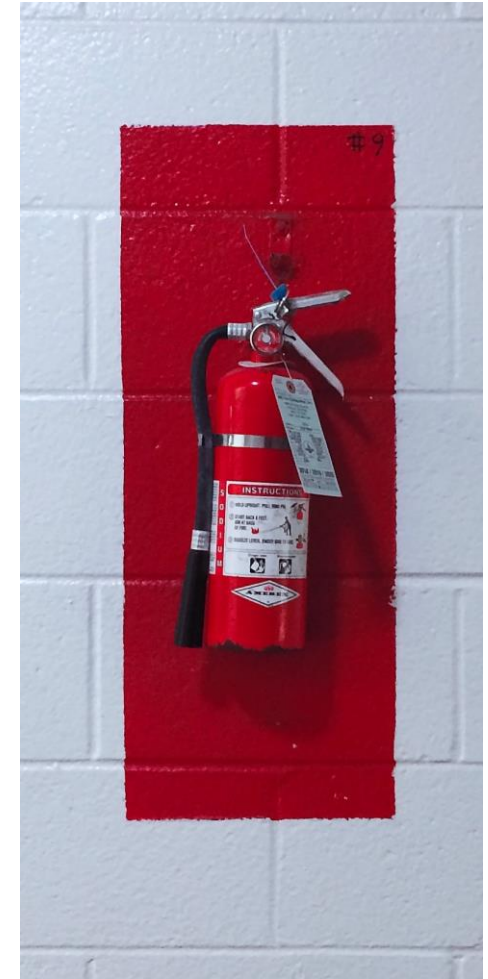
- Benefits

- **Citizen centric**
- **Fair competition**
- **For European businesses**
- **Platform for European culture**
- **Accountability for healthy democracy**
- **Public service for all Europeans**
- **Supporting European content**
- **European sovereignty**
- **Spectral efficiency**
- **Green future for Europe**



Broadcasting and Mobile co-primary in the UHF band - Risks

- **Broadcast services cannot continue**
- **Oligopoly and exclusion**
- **Industry destruction**
- **Forced hardware transition with no value**
- **Weakening European identity**
- **No direct access to audiences**
- **Negative environmental impact**
- **Poorer access to trustworthy information**
- **Loss of spectrum for PMSE and the Creative sector**



Agenda point 1.5 – UHF – at WRC 23 – Our view

- 470-694 MHz retained for broadcasting, PMSE and downlink only media services
- “No change” of allocation of the band at WRC 23
- DTT foreseen to be attractive and remain
- 5G Broadcast introduced as a new complementary service to reach mainly mobile phones, tablets and cars
- Continued sharing with PMSE, Radio Astronomy and White Spaces.
- Other services and uses already possible within the GE06 framework
- DTT and broadcast is energy efficient and green
- The 470-694 MHz remains instrumental for the broadcasting, cultural, content production and media sectors

DTT is a primary source
of trusted information
and quality content,
today and for the
foreseeable future

5G Broadcast may
become a new complement
to reach mobile phones
tablets and cars

Continued
availability of sub
700 MHz for the
broadcasting service
well beyond 2030

No change of current
allocation of the 470-
694 MHz band

Instrumental for the
cultural, content
production and
media sectors and a
trusted source

Environmentally
friendly

WRC-23

250 million viewers
2000 TV channels
300 million receivers