

IGF 2016 Workshop Report Template

Session Title	Workshop 204: Competition in the Digital Age: Between STATUS QUO and Unknown
Date	7 December 2016
Time	3:00-4:30 pm
Session Organizers	Vincenzo Spiezia (OECD), Deepak K. Mishra (World Bank)
Chair/Moderator	Vincenzo Spiezia (OECD)
Rapporteur/Notetaker	Vincenzo Spiezia (OECD)
List of Speakers and their institutional affiliations	Eli Noam, Columbia Business School Megan Richards, DG Connect Sonia Jorge, Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI) Joseph Alhadef, Oracle
Key Issues raised (1 sentence per issue):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation should be forward-looking in order to keep the pace with fast technological changes in the digital economy. • Dynamic regulations, i.e. regulations based on principle rather than on a detailed list of "don't", are better fit to this purpose. • Regulation should be in the public interest: when this is the case, regulatory decisions become easier to take and implement. • It is important to look at the interactions among different sets of regulations, i.e. competition, consumer protections, employment protections, data and privacy. • The level playing field competition is better achieved by lowering the regulatory provisions for all instead of increasing them for new entrants. Unfortunately, in practice it is the opposite. • A structural regulation is becoming increasingly difficult to implement and should be replaced by behavioral regulation.
If there were presentations during the session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each Presentation	
Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session: (3 paragraphs)	The discussion among panelists and with the audience was very lively. Regulatory issues specific to Uber, telecom services and GAFAs were widely debated. The developing perspective was particularly developed.
Please describe any	There was consensus that three features are necessary for effective

Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways: (3 paragraphs)	and fair regulation in the digital economy: 1. frameworks and institutions should encourage learning processes about new forms of regulations; 2. Participation of all stakeholder is essential in both the design and the implementation of regulations; 3. Multistakeholder fora like IGF provide a great environment for enhancing the participation of all stakeholders and their mutual learning.
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