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- UPU issues statement on membership application from State of Palestine (18/09/2019)
- PostEurop Manifesto with priorities for the new EU legislative term (2019-2024).
German postal law reform plans win broad support.

Deutsche Post and private competitors have welcomed German government proposals to reform the country's 20-year-old postal law, including one less delivery day for letters and more consumer rights, but unions are warning of a major threat to jobs.

Economics minister Peter Altmaier last week published various key points to be covered in a revision to the current postal law, which dates back to 1997. He wants the amended law to reflect how digitalisation has dramatically changed the postal market over the last two decades, with a long-term continuous decline in traditional mail volumes but growth in parcel volumes due to e-commerce.

Altmaier said: "With these key points, we are taking the first step towards amending the Postal Act. We want to ensure that postal services in cities and rural areas continue to be well supplied even in times of digitalization. In addition, we want to strengthen consumer rights and improve the quality of postal services."

He will now hold consultation discussions with other ministries and public authorities as well as industry and consumer representatives over the next few months. It plans to present a draft law by the end of this year and hopes to have it passed through parliament by autumn 2020.

07/08/2019
CEP Research
To get the news, please, send an email to cerp.secretariat@fomento.es

Commission approves €171.7 million compensation to Postal Italiane for distributing newspapers at reduced tariffs.

The Commission has approved under EU State aid rules a €171.74 million public service compensation granted by Italy to Poste Italiane for distributing, at reduced tariffs, newspapers and publications of book publishers and non-profit organisations in the period 2017-2019.

Italy entrusted Poste Italiane with the obligation of providing this service of general economic interest ("SGEI"), which aims at preserving and fostering media plurality and diversity of views by charging reduced rates to publishers and newspapers for the distribution of certain categories of press.

The Commission assessed the measure under the EU State aid rules on public service compensation. These rules enable Member States, subject to certain conditions, to compensate companies that have been entrusted with public service obligations for the extra cost of providing these services.

The Commission found that the level of compensation did not exceed the amount needed to cover the net cost borne by Poste Italiane for providing the service. As a result, it concluded that the measure was proportionate and did not lead to overcompensation.

22/07/2019
European Commission
Announcement of Competition Authority about issue of UPS authorisation and comments of Eesti Post.

On 9 September 2019 the Competition Authority decided to issue the authorisation for provision of universal postal services in the next five years to AS Eesti Post.

This authorisation and the requirements of the Postal Act stipulate the postal service commissioned by the state: It must be provided to all residents throughout the territory of Estonia and for an affordable fee, reorganised according to the use of the services by people and negotiated with the local government.

The universal postal service and the accompanying periodicals services brought a loss in the amount of 4.9 million euros to Eesti Post in 2018.

09/09/2019
OMNIVA

CERP activity

CERP Participation in the Copenhagen Economics Annual Conference.

Dr. Nikola Trubint, Vice Chairman of CERP, attended, as panellist, the Copenhagen Economics Annual Conference entitled “Postal & Delivery at the crossroad of nations and industries”; held on 3 May 2019 in Copenhagen.

More than 100 participants attended this event where panellists from UPU, EC, CERP, NRA’s from Germany, Norway and Portugal as well as designated operators from France, Switzerland and Belgium discussed topics in the field of Cross-border e-commerce, UPU remuneration, Evolution of postal service and its regulatory framework and Impact of the digitalization on the future of Universal service obligation.

More detailed Conference information including the program and all presentations are available at the following link: https://www.copenhageneconomics.com/postal-delivery-conference-2019/

21/08/2019
CERP News

CERP participation in the 23rd East African Communication Organization Congress.

Dr. Nikola Trubint, as CERP Vice-Chairman, attended the 23rd East African Communication Organization Congress in Tanzania from the 30th June to 3rd of July.

The East African Communication Organization – EACO (http://www.eaco.int/) is regional organization of Goverments Regulators, Operators and other stakeholders from the field of Electronic Communication and Postal Services from Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. Mr. Trubint participated in the “Strategy for positioning and Transforming Postal sector” workshop and made a presentation on “The main challenges on postal market in next decade”.
He also held a meeting with Mr. Younouss Djibrine, Secretary General of PAPU, and his team in Arusa on the 2nd of July. During this meeting the views about current situation on global postal market as well as initial positions linked to the next UPU extraordinary Congress were shared. The conclusion was that CERP and PAPU need to continue and improve coordination and cooperation within UPU bodies.

26/08/2019
CERP News

**WG Policy and WG UPU meeting in Warsaw (September 4, 5 and 6).**

More than 40 representatives from 22 CERP member countries attended the 14th WG Policy and the 24th WG UPU joint meeting in Warsaw on September 4th and 5th. The European Commission and the International Bureau were present and Mr. Stephen Anderson, from the US Department of State, participated in remote.

The remuneration system was deeply discussed trying to find a common position that could be approved by all the CERP countries. Other UPU topics were discussed as the provident scheme or the reform of the contribution system.

On Friday 6th took place a CERP-PostEurop meeting with more than 75 participants with the aim to prepare the UPU III Extraordinary Congress.

30/09/2019
CERP News

**EU and International Organizations**

**UPU member countries reach unanimous agreement on postal remuneration rates.**

The decision, which took place during the second day of the Geneva meeting, will see the UPU accelerate rate increases to the system used to remunerate the delivery of inbound international bulky letters and small packets, phasing in self-declared rates starting as soon as 2020. The Extraordinary Congress approved the proposal, known as “Option V,” by acclamation.

25/09/2019
UPU News

**UPU issues statement on membership application from State of Palestine.**

The State of Palestine has not been admitted to the Universal Postal Union (UPU) after a postal ballot of the organization’s member countries.

According to the UPU Constitution, countries which are not already member states of the United Nations may only be admitted to the UPU with the support of at least two-thirds of the UPU’s member countries.

18/09/2019
UPU News
PostEurop Manifesto.

Following the 2019 European Parliament Elections, PostEurop has published its manifesto with priorities for the new EU legislative term (2019-2024).

The manifesto stresses its commitment to offering a sustainable, efficient and innovative postal service across the EU and beyond to support a stronger and competitive EU economy.

The full manifesto detailing the sector’s ambitions and demands can be viewed here.

The Newsletter has been worked by the CERP Secretariat and approved by the Steering Group. All CERP member countries are requested to send news or suggestions on topics to be published to the following address cerp.secretariat@fomento.es