

CONCLUSION

In exercising its powers, the Communications Regulation Commission is guided by the requirements and principles set out in the applicable European regulations which were introduced to the Bulgarian legislation with the Law on Electronic Communications (LEC), the Postal Services Act (PSA) and the Law on Electronic Document and Electronic Signature (LEDES). The Commission takes into account the best European and world practices and insists on their application by all participants on the electronic communications and postal services market.

CRC will continue to use the tools envisaged in LEC to ensure conditions for the development of an effective competition. In this regard, one of the main tasks in the regulator's future work will continue to be the completion of the next round of market analyses, the determining of specific obligations, as well as the control on the execution of measures already imposed.

In compliance with the European trends, the Commission will work for the introduction and implementation of rules that will enhance the efficient expansion of high-speed infrastructure for electronic communications, taking into account the existing best practices. The goal is to improve the conditions for building and functioning of the electronic communications market that practically supports the development of all sectors of the country's economy.

Another priority in the Commission's work remains the completion of the transition from analogue to digital broadcasting. In 2012, CRC performed a part of the tasks determined in the "Plan for introduction of terrestrial digital television broadcasting" (the Plan) adopted by the Council of Ministers, as the smooth start of the period of simultaneous broadcasting via analogue and digital broadcasting network ("simulcast") was ensured. In the following year, the Commission will continue to fulfil the liabilities, as prescribed by the Plan, with a view to comply with the deadline for final cessation of the terrestrial analogue broadcasting as of 1 September 2013. In this regard, CRC will continue to carry out control measurements of the coverage achieved by undertakings that are building the networks for terrestrial digital broadcasting. By running a tender procedure for issuance of authorization to one more multiplex operator, a new participant joins the process of broadcasting digitization. In this way, the regulator stimulates competition, which in turn will ensure a better quality and program diversity, as well as the provision of additional services for the consumers.

One of the main goals laid down in the regulator's strategy is the protection of consumers' interests. In the past years, the Commission has been working for stimulating the dialogue with the undertakings, civil and consumer organizations, as a form of solving the problems of the electronic communication services users and enhancing the consumer culture. The receptions opened by the regulator became a tradition which will continue in the following year.

With its work in the past year, CRC created a sustainable and secure environment for development of the sector. This is confirmed by the increased interest observed in the past years on part of foreign strategic investors to be present on the Bulgarian market. In 2013, CRC's actions will be focused on achieving a level of competition that will bring the regulatory interference to a minimum, stimulating investments in the sector, and guaranteeing the users' rights.