

# Commitments

made at the hearing of

## ANDRUS ANSIP

**Vice-President for the Digital Single Market**



In his answers to the questionnaire and during the hearing on 6 October 2014 before the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection, the commissioner-designate Andrus Ansip made a number of commitments.

Commitments relevant to the Committee on Internal market and Consumer Protection are highlighted in this document<sup>1</sup>.

## Digital Single Market

### Addressing fragmentation of the Single Market

"We need to remove **obstacles**, tackle **fragmentation**, **technical standards** and **interoperability**, and sometimes heavy bureaucracy [...]."

"Dealing with **fragmented markets** [...] is my top priority [...] and will get my attention from day one."

"We have to **create a real digital single market**."

"Within the first 6 months I will build support amongst EU institutions, stakeholders and public opinion and ensure the design of an ambitious programme and clear delivery dates."

### Access to content

"One of my priorities will be to make sure consumers have access to content across borders."

The commissioner-designate made a commitment "to prepare a targeted proposal on the **reform of copyright**, taking into account new technologies, new uses and new market conditions, supporting innovation, fair remuneration for creators and better consumer choice beyond national borders."

"I will work to abolish **geoblocking**."

### Digital government and public e-services

"Digital government and public e-services [...] has always been important for me."

"I will make sure that the Commission accepts **e-invoices** and **e-procurement** by 2015 and **e-signatures** [...]."

"The **e-Call** system is a top priority."

"The European Commission has to support the usage of **open source** software."

We need to tackle [...] vested interests in e-health.

### Universal services

"We have to look very carefully at the scope of the **Universal Services Directive**: we have to frame regulations so that people will be treated equally [...]"

### Text and data mining

"We have to find solutions, which will allow our research institutes and universities to deal with **text mining and data mining**..."

### Consumer trust

The commissioner-designate made a commitment "to **modernise consumer rules** for digital purchases, ensuring that consumers are equally well protected online and offline and that they can easily shop online without borders; to **address unfair commercial practices** and to ensure adequate levels of data protection within the online market place as a basis of trust in the digital economy."

### Cybersecurity

"I will look at closely are **cyber-security and cyber-crime** [...] I will promote initiatives to strengthen Europe's capacity to respond to this worldwide threat."

The commissioner-designate made a commitment "to foster trust of consumers and citizens and **strengthen security and protection from cyber-threats**; to strengthen the EU's capacity to respond to such threats; and to such end work towards the swift adoption of the proposed Directive on Network and Information security;"

### Data protection

"During the first six months of the Commission's mandate, I will support Commissioner designate Jourová and work with you and the Council to finalise the reform of **data protection** rules."

"We have to be absolutely sure that the **National Security Exception** will be used as an exception, not on a regular basis or scaling for all the data."

"We have to make **safe harbour** really safe."

### Net neutrality

"I intend to work [...] to enshrine the all-important principle of **net neutrality** into legislation."

## Internet rights and governance

"There is a need to have **a charter of Internet rights in Europe** [...]"

"The role of the European Union [in **Internet governance**] needs to be bigger."

## Internet access

"We need to make sure that Europe will have the **infrastructure** that it needs to benefit from the digital economy."

"We have to give people the opportunity to have really good **access to high-speed Internet**, including in rural areas and areas where the population density is low."

"We have to support, to build up, this last mile to create a really good **broadband** network also in rural areas."

"With regards to **spectrum allocation**, of course maximum harmonisation is needed."

## Financial package

"We can use our **multiannual financial framework monitor** to support development of new IT solutions."

"I hope we will get approximately **EUR 35 billion from that package for digital purposes**.[...] With leverage it is possible to increase this amount of money to **EUR 130 billion**."

## Cooperation with the European Parliament

### Interinstitutional programming

"I value the role that the European Parliament plays in delivering results that are akin to what the people expect. I will therefore maintain, and where possible enhance, a constructive and open dialogue with the European Parliament. "

### Follow up to legislative initiative reports

"I will ensure that this is the case within the areas of my responsibility, including paying particular attention to those requests made by the Parliament

under Article 225 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. I will also ensure that Resolutions of the Parliament falling within my area of responsibility will be responded to within the timeframe foreseen in the Framework Agreement."

## Equal treatment of co-legislators

"The European Parliament can count on my support and commitment to fully implement the principle of equal treatment for the European Parliament and the Council regarding [...] the flow of information in accordance with the provisions of the Framework Agreement."

"I want to work closely, openly and in a climate of trust with this Parliament so that we can achieve these ambitions that I know you share with me. I will work together with all political groups."

## Access to information on negotiations of international agreements

"We have to learn from this ACTA case. We have to act in a much more inclusive way."

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<sup>1</sup> Quotes are either taken from the commissioner-designate's answers to the questionnaire or from the hearing held on 6 October 2014. In case of multiple quotes on the same issue, only one is reported here to enhance legibility. Some quotes may be free translations of the original language spoken.



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