



# NEWS

**Federal Communications Commission**  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500  
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>  
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

---

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
July 11, 2002

News Media contact:  
Audrey Spivack 202-418-0512

## **FCC RELEASES ANALYSIS OF EMERGING EUROPEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

Study Evaluates Potential Relevance to Telecommunications Regulatory  
Practice in the U.S.

Washington, D.C. - The Federal Communications Commission's Office of Plans and Policy (OPP) today released [OPP Working Paper No. 36, "The Potential Relevance to the United States of the European Union's Newly Adopted Regulatory Framework for Telecommunications,"](#) by J. Scott Marcus.

OPP periodically issues working papers on emerging issues in communications in order to stimulate debate. These papers represent the individual views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the FCC, any FCC commissioner, or other staff.

The European Union's telecommunications regulatory framework adopted in March 2002 represents a bold and innovative response to the challenges of technological and market convergence in the area of telecommunications. It recognizes that much of telecommunications regulation exists as a means of addressing potential and actual abuses of market power. With that in mind, the EU attempts a comprehensive, technology-neutral approach to regulation, which borrows concepts of market definition and of market power from competition law.

This paper assesses potential strengths and weaknesses of the EU approach, draws parallels to regulatory practice in the United States, and considers the possible relevance of the new EU methodology to the very different legal and regulatory framework in the United States.

The full text of the paper is available at either [www.fcc.gov/opp](http://www.fcc.gov/opp). OPP contact: J. Scott Marcus (202) 418-0611.

-FCC-