



The EU's place in an online-driven world

NMHH High-Level conference, 3 March 2011

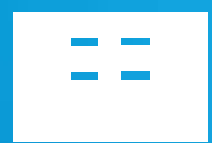
Jean-Jacques Sahel



Evolution of the Internet



Mainframe



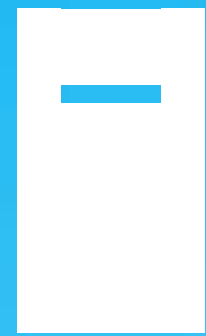
1M

Minicomputer



10M

PC



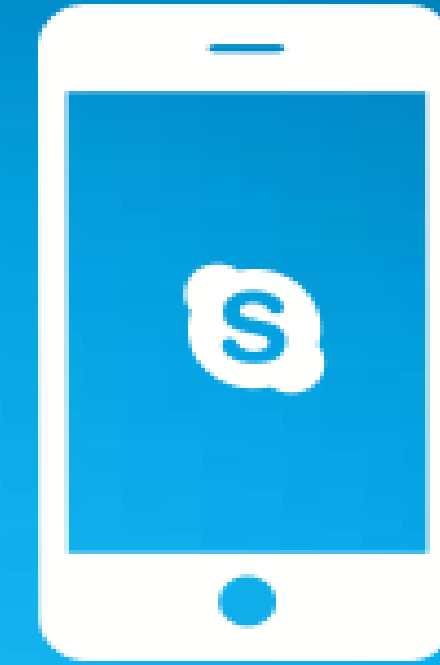
100M

Mobile + Desktop
Internet



1B

Mobile Consumer /
Citizen

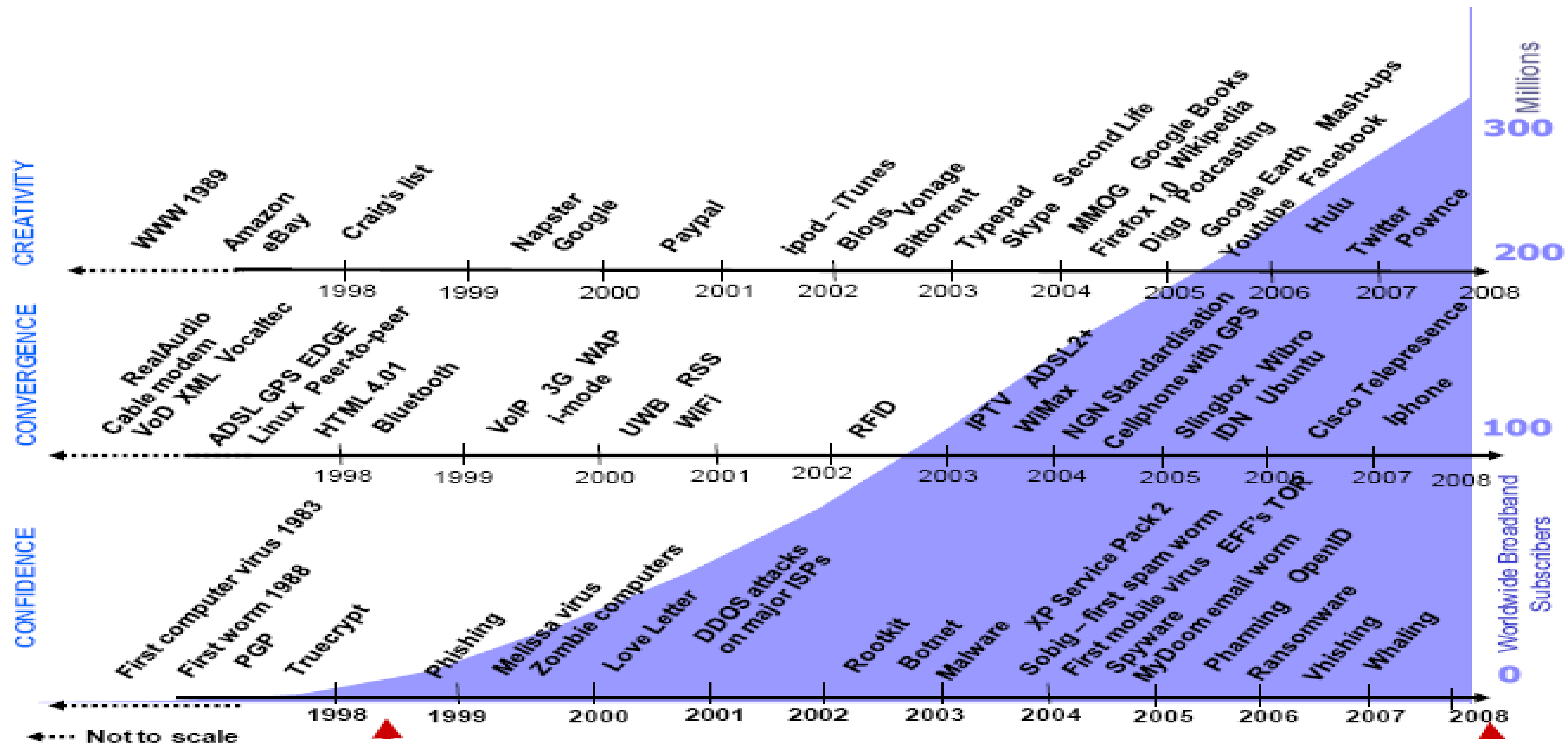


10B

hardware

software

ICT-driven Innovation : 40% productivity growth in EU and can continue to drive demand, productivity and economic growth in time of economic crisis



Source: OECD Ministerial Conference on the Future of the Internet, June 2008



Regulation fostering innovation (1/2)

★
Need to maintain a high standard of regulation,
but lower the burden of regulation

... and improve its relevance and efficiency, with a bias towards innovation
and a focus on fundamental consumer protection and competition principles



POR

IRISH
REPUBLIC



DENMARK

ETHERLANDS

GIUM



LUXEMBO



GERMANY

CZECH
REPUBLIC

SLOVAKIA

AUSTRIA HUNGARY

SLOVENIA

FINLAND

ESTONIA

LATVIA

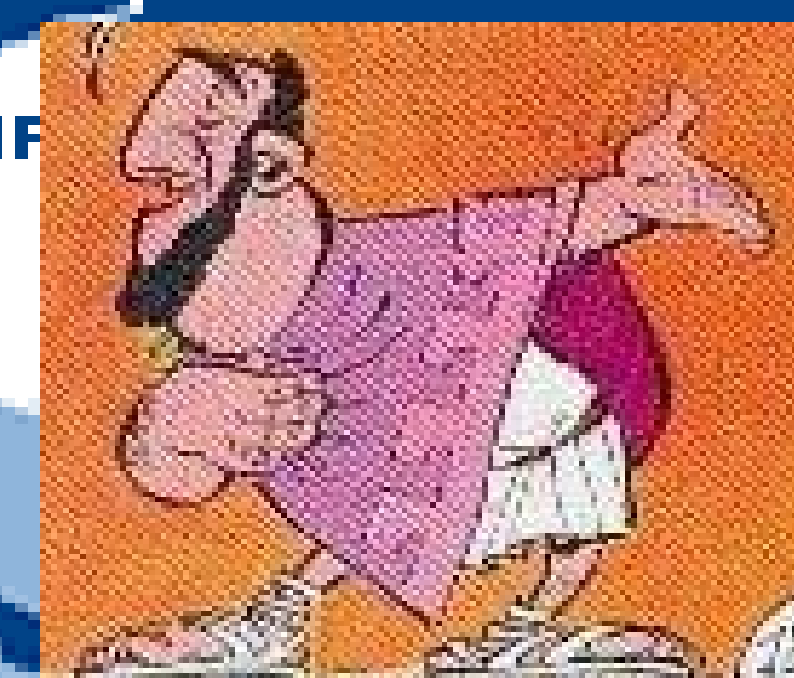
LITHUANIA

POLAND

IA

ARIA

SPAIN



Regulation fostering innovation (2/2)



Working towards introducing a single market (mutual recognition) for electronic communications:

500 million European consumers of telecoms are still divided into 27 markets - either blocks or kills a start-up

Need to work towards achieving a real Single Market for electronic communications services

Working towards the Internal Market through the Commission and 'BEREC':

enabling cross-border / pan-European innovation, involving all stakeholders in policy process, and with innovation front of mind

Across all areas, from spectrum to numbering to competition







Regulation protecting innovation (1/2):

Importance of Open Internet

★ **NGNs will only be adopted if citizens find (and can access) what they want on the Net**

Google, eBay, Facebook, Skype, Wikipedia and other world changers wouldn't be there if their founders had needed a permission to exist

Today, we see routine and widespread discrimination against Internet services and apps in Europe

Not about profits and losses of a corporation but about EU's global competitiveness, thriving innovation scene, full participation in the Information Society and overall economic growth of the region in the long run.

Regulation protecting innovation (2/2):

Protecting innovators and individual & business users against arbitrary blocking and degradation of access to content and services



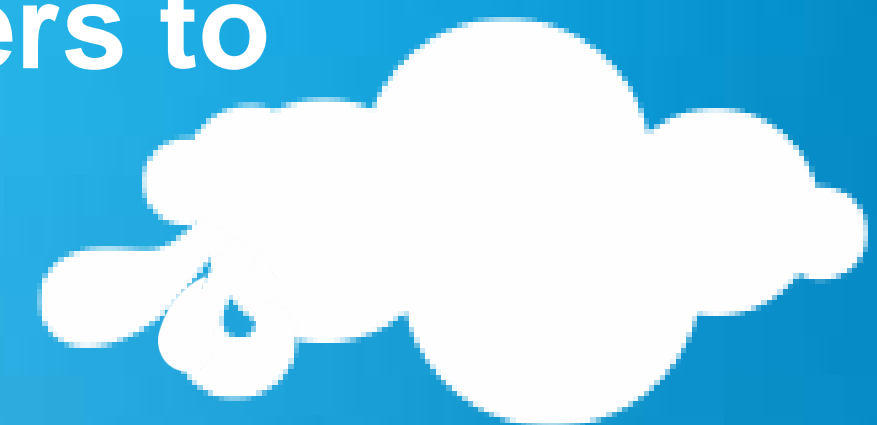
Need to enable and reinforce the competitiveness of the industry

- Genuine competition across the whole ICT value chain is necessary
- Blocking and degradation of web 3.0 / applications by network operators has to be prevented – and competition law and transparency will not be sufficient



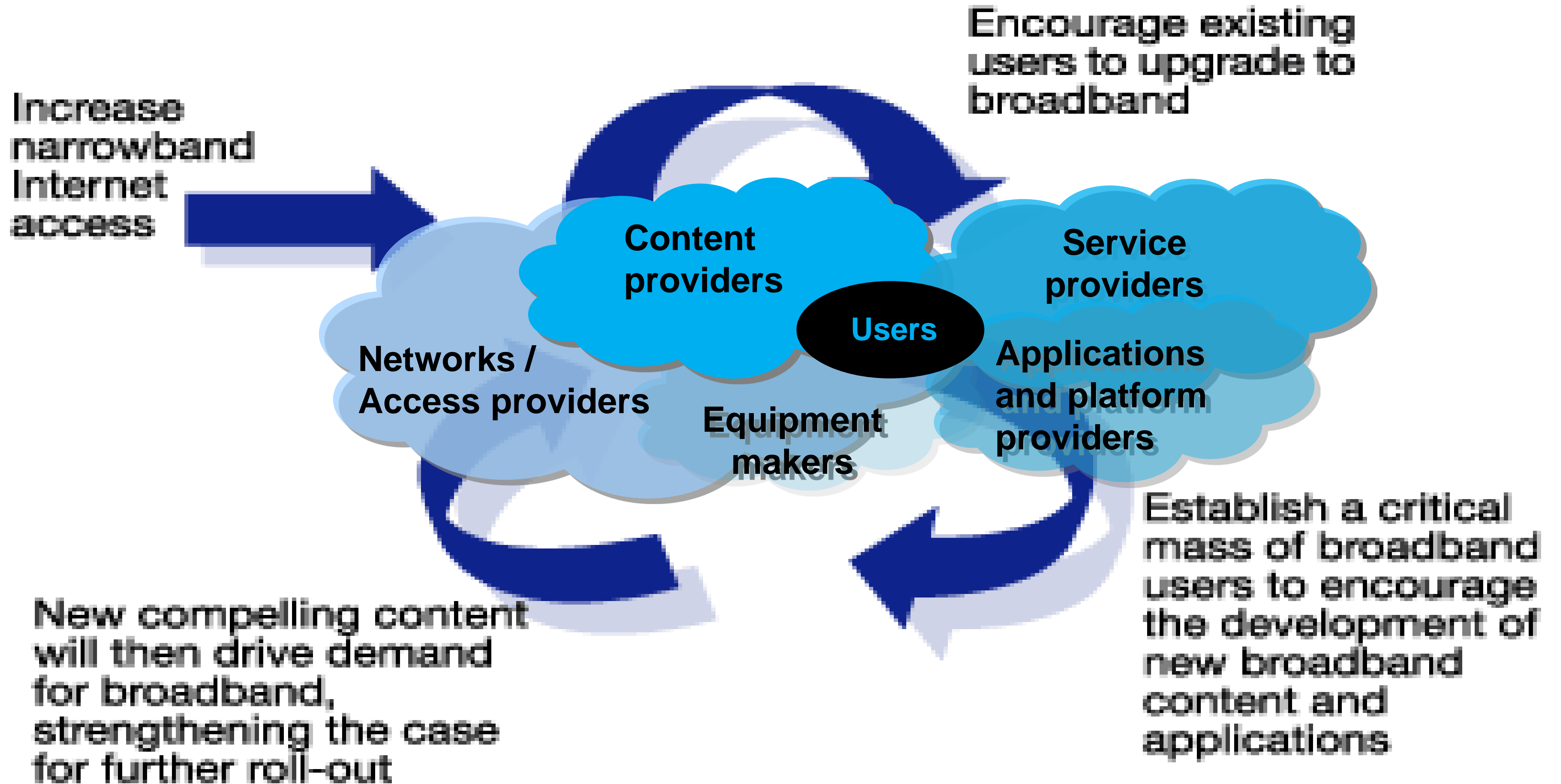
The EC Framework and its implementation into national law should:

- uphold clearly the principle that end-users can access the services and applications of their choice on the Internet,
- with no loophole legitimising arbitrary restrictions by operators
- with NRAs and the Commission having a duty, willingness and powers to prevent abuse



This virtuous cycle of innovation, demand and return on investment has delivered much – and should be preserved

(diagram from UK Cabinet Office, Office of the e-Envoy)



In short, let's enable the future,
★ not delay it :

Develop user- and innovation-centric regulation for the whole of the EU, achieving the Single Market for communications

Focus on what users really want,
and let them access and do what they want

don't let old ways of thinking & antiquated business models stifle innovation



Thank you!