



# Confronting the Social Media Regulatory Challenge

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- Social media backgrounder
- How telecom & ICT regulators are using social media
- How stakeholders are using social media
- Legal and regulatory issues
  - > Telecom
  - Privacy
  - Free Speech
  - Advertising/Marketing
  - Access



## Social Media Backgrounder

#### Facebook

- > 750 million users
- > 30 billion pieces of content per month
- > 70 percent of users outside the United States
- > 250 million users access via mobile devices
- Entrepreneurs & developers in 190 countries
- 20 million applications installed every day
- Integration with 2.5 million websites

#### Twitter

- > 200 million users
- Over 200 million "tweets" per day
- > 38 percent of U.S. users connect via mobile device
- More than 1 million registered apps connect to the service



## Social Media Backgrounder

#### Linked In

- 120 million users (half from U.S.)
- Largest top 4: India, UK, Brazil
- > Fastest growth: Latin America, Africa
- > 7.1 billion page views last quarter

#### Other Social Media Sites

- QQ (China)
- Vkontakte (Russia)
- Mixi (Japan)
- Orkut (Brazil, India, and Paraguay)
- Hi5 (Colombia, Ecuador, Peru)
- Friendster (Philippines)
- Iwiw (Hungary)
- Cyworld (South Korea)

- Hyves (the Netherlands)
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## Legal and Regulatory Issues

#### Telecom

- Guidelines for social media use (Bahrain TRA)
- Blocking content
- Blocking social media applications

#### Privacy

- > Facebook actions from Canada, Germany, South Korea
- Google actions from US FTC, coalition of DPAs
- Twitter action by US FTC
- Cloud computing
- Possible changes at EU

#### Free Speech

- Content blocking
- UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression



### Legal and Regulatory Issues

#### Advertising and Marketing

- UK Advertising Standards Agency rules
- Anti-spam legislation applied to social networks Canada's ECPA, US CAN-SPAM
- Organizational liability for postings

#### Securities Regulation

- SEBI monitoring social networks in India
- IIROC established communications rules in Canada
- > FINRA, SEC govern social media communication rules in U.S.

#### Election Regulation

- Mexico Federal Electoral Institute on content
- > Elections Canada on social media disclosure of results

#### Access

- Accessibility for sight impaired
- Access in work environments



## **Looking Ahead**

- 2000s focused on websites, email lists, RSS feeds
- 2010s is about social media Facebook, Twitter, YouTube
- Benefits
  - Broader audience
  - Developing trust and confidence
  - More interactive
- Challenges
  - Consistent attention
  - Language issues
  - Speed
- Substantive Questions
  - Jurisdiction
  - Conflict of Laws
  - Legal Scan



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