



## Telecom

Communications plays a critical role in the economies of all countries around the world, and its importance is only increasing with the rapid development of new technologies and products that revolutionize how people – and devices – communicate. DLA Piper's Telecom practice is built on in-depth knowledge of the commercial, transactional, technical, legal and regulatory issues associated with providing telecommunications services and products, including emerging IoT devices and capabilities.

With telecom lawyers around the globe, our team is well positioned to assist clients with multi-country and global deals as well as with regional and global strategies for product development and market entry. Our experience covers the full spectrum of developed and emerging markets and the complete range of technologies, including wireless, telephony, broadband, Internet, satellite and submarine cables. We also have engineers integrated into our team to enable us to more fully understand the details of complex and/or novel technologies and their impact on the business and regulatory issues of our clients. And the fact that we have offices in over 40 countries throughout the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia Pacific – as well as affiliated firms in many regions – means we know the unique regulatory, legal, political and “doing business” issues in each jurisdiction.

Clients turn to us for our decades of telecom industry and regulatory experience helping them to tackle the licensing, regulatory and operational issues important to their current business and future success. We have advised a broad cross-section of the telecommunications and technology sectors on an array of regulatory and business issues, from compliance with traditional telecommunications regulation to securing spectrum and regulatory approvals for emerging technologies. We also are well versed in the full range of industry contracts and agreements and are experienced in crafting novel leasing or sharing arrangements. Finally, our team has substantial experience in securing regulatory approvals for some of the largest industry mergers and acquisitions as well as much smaller spectrum transactions.

Our core areas include:

- Telecom transactions, including mergers and acquisitions
- Spectrum access and use
- Authorizations and licensing
- Foreign ownership approvals

### KEY CONTACTS

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### RELATED SECTORS

- Technology

- Regulatory compliance/enforcement defense
- RF equipment certification
- Content provision/usage
- Satellite/earth station authorizations
- Infrastructure deployment, including tower deals and submarine cables
- Network sharing
- Mobile Virtual Network Operator (MVNO) launches
- Outsourcing of mobile network management
- Procuring IPTV platforms for telecommunications operators

## INSIGHTS

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### Publications

#### Episode 8: Crackdown on infringing China apps

13 November 2019

##### [NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY](#)

China's authorities have launched a crackdown against non-compliant mobile apps. The crackdown is taking place during November and December 2019, so businesses operating apps in China must take urgent action or else face sanctions.

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#### Hong Kong's SFC introduces strict conditions on cloud data storage

8 November 2019

All entities licensed by the Hong Kong SFC and storing data in the cloud must urgently review their data storage arrangements in light of a new circular from the SFC on "Use of external electronic data storage". This circular introduces strict new conditions on both cloud users and cloud vendors.

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#### Episode 7: New China encryption law passed

6 November 2019

##### [NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY](#)

The new PRC Encryption Law will come into force on 1 January 2020. It will bring fundamental changes to the sale, import and use of encryption technologies in China by foreign and domestic organizations.

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#### Episode 6: Further developments in PRC data privacy regulations

1 November 2019

##### [NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY](#)

An updated draft of China's Amended Personal Information Security Specification (Amended PIS Specification) and proposed new amendments to the privacy specification for mobile apps (App Privacy Specification) were published this week, alongside brand new draft regulations for the banking sector.

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#### Hikvision and other Chinese companies added to the Entity List

10 October 2019

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The list includes Chinese companies in the video surveillance, artificial intelligence, voice recognition, deep learning and other technology fields.

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### **Treasury Department proposes regulations comprehensively implementing FIRRMA and reforming CFIUS national security review**

19 September 2019

The proposed regulations affect non-controlling investments involving critical technologies, critical infrastructure, and sensitive personal data; and transactions involving real estate near sensitive national security facilities.

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### **US Trade Representative publishes fourth list of Chinese products subject to Section 301 tariffs**

19 August 2019

Yet more Chinese products will be subject to an additional 10 percent tariff.

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### **Episode 5: Apps are being shut down in China - will yours be next?**

12 July 2019

#### **[NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY](#)**

While apps are incredibly popular in China, in recent months some have been disappearing from app stores in the country because they do not comply with recent apps regulations. Indeed many companies are not even aware of the comprehensive new privacy compliance obligations for apps in China.

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### **Ethiopian Communications Service Proclamation**

3 July 2019

The Communications Service Proclamation, which was adopted by the Ethiopian Parliament recently, introduces a number of major changes into the Ethiopian telecom sector. A brief explanation of the major changes is provided below together with some commentary from DLA Piper's telecoms team.

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### **Deadlines approaching fast for fourth set of Section 301 tariffs**

4 JUN 2019

Companies have the opportunity to present their views on specific products before the list is finalized but there is less than one month before the window closes.

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## Episode 2: New stringent cyber security rules announced in China, what will your business need to do?

29 May 2019

### [NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY](#)

Organisations with operations in China must prepare now for new comprehensive cybersecurity rules. The Chinese authorities have announced MLPS "version 2.0", which will come into force on 1 December 2019, and have potential significant impact to businesses' infrastructure and operations in China.

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## Commerce issues Temporary General License for Huawei

22 MAY 2019

The Temporary General License is a brief reprieve.

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## Trump issues Executive Order on securing information and communications technology and services – key points

16 MAY 2019

The order is issued pursuant to the National Emergencies Act and the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, the latter creating potential civil and criminal liability for those violating EOs and regulations issued under its authority - liabilities that can expand to include those who facilitate a violation.

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## eSignature and ePayment News and Trends

30 NOV 2018

### [ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

In this issue, a fintech Q&A with the team, plus the latest developments from the legislatures, the regulators and the courts

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## May a power of attorney be electronically executed?

24 MAY 2018

Exploring the relationship between a power of attorney and the state and federal laws governing the use of electronic records and signatures.

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## eSignature and ePayment News and Trends

24 MAY 2018

### [ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

In this issue, can a power of attorney be electronically signed? Plus news on federal and state law, federal and state regulatory activities, fresh judicial precedent and more.

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## A short primer on applicable US eSignature laws

2 MAY 2018

Two bodies of law in the US govern the legality of electronic signatures and electronic records: ESIGN and UETA. Here is a quick look

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at each of them, plus notes on other selected laws governing digital transactions.

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### **In long-awaited TCPA case, DC appellate panel vacates material sections of FCC's 2015 TCPA order**

2 MAY 2018

Because of the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (ESIGN) and equivalent state laws, companies are delivering important disclosures and other information that traditionally needed to be presented "in writing" electronically instead. In addition, the medium of choice for communicating with consumers electronically is rapidly migrating from email to text messaging. As a result, understanding the requirements of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) are a must. This edition's Insight looks at the most recent judicial examination of the FCC's interpretation of the TCPA.

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### **Tax incentives in Puerto Rico: a quick introduction**

13 JUN 2017

Puerto Rico offers a spectrum of economic incentives aiming to promote many key industries. This handbook offers a quick look at ten of the most significant of these incentives.

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## **NEWS**

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### **Financial Times ranks DLA Piper among the most innovative law firms in Europe**

13 September 2019

DLA Piper has been recognised as one of the top 10 most innovative law firms in Europe at the Financial Times' 2019 European Innovative Lawyers report, an annual ranking assessing lawyers on their innovation both for clients and in their own businesses.

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### **DLA Piper advises Tirona on the acquisition of a stake in CashCape**

5 September 2019

DLA Piper has advised Tirona Ltd. on the acquisition of a 25 percent stake in the fintech app CashCape.

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### **DLA Piper continues Irish expansion with appointment of four new partners**

4 September 2019

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of four new partners to its recently opened Dublin office into four key practice areas of Finance and Projects (F&P), Intellectual Property and Technology (IPT), Tax and Real Estate. The new partners will be joined by three legal directors, as part of the firm's ongoing expansion in Ireland.

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### **DLA Piper advises Bauer Media on acquisition of Camilyo Online Ltd.**

5 August 2019

DLA Piper has advised Bauer Media Group on the acquisition of Israeli Camilyo Online Ltd., a provider of online-based white-labeled services for online-service provider and their small and medium businesses-clients. The transaction is the second recent acquisition by Bauer Media Group of a provider of online-based white-labeled services and part of Bauer Media Group's new business growth

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strategy in its business area in SME marketing and sales services.

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### **DLA Piper advises Allianz Real Estate on the acquisition of EDGE Hafencity in Hamburg**

2 August 2019

DLA Piper has advised Allianz Real Estate on its acquisition of the office property EDGE Hafencity as part of an off-market forward deal. EDGE Hafencity Hamburg will be a 15-storey building with a total lettable area of approximately 22,500 sqm.

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### **DLA Piper to advise ITW Global Leaders' Forum on blockchain-based telecoms platform**

2 July 2019

DLA Piper has been appointed to advise the ITW (International Telecoms Week) Global Leaders' Forum (GLF) on the launch of a special purpose vehicle that will develop a live, blockchain-based platform.

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### **DLA Piper advises Rolls-Royce on acquisition of Siemens' eAircraft business**

21 June 2019

DLA Piper has advised Rolls-Royce plc on the acquisition of Siemens' electric and hybrid-electric aerospace propulsion activities, eAircraft. The acquisition will accelerate the delivery of Rolls-Royce's electrification strategy and boost its ambition to play a major role in the "third era" of aviation. The completion of the transaction is expected in late 2019, following a period of employee consultation.

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### **DLA Piper announces launch of Artificial Intelligence practice**

14 MAY 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Artificial Intelligence practice, which will focus on assisting companies as they navigate the legal landscape of emerging and disruptive technologies, while helping them understand the legal and compliance risks arising from the creation and deployment of AI systems.

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### **DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2019**

1 APR 2019

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 77 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2019 in the United States and May 1, 2019 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 43 different offices throughout 20 countries.

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### **DLA Piper successfully defends Samsung Electronics against Dyson**

29 MAR 2019

DLA Piper acted on behalf of Samsung Electronics GmbH to lift a temporary injunction obtained by Dyson AG in January 2018 from the District Court of Düsseldorf. The injunction prohibited Samsung from making certain advertising statements for battery-powered vacuum cleaners. As some of the prohibited statements were also on the packaging this led to a de facto ban on the sale for the battery-powered vacuum cleaner.

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## **DLA Piper hosts leading business and diplomacy conference**

14 MAR 2019

DLA Piper's London office has hosted the Annual Conference of the International Diplomatic and Business Exchange (IBDE).

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## **DLA Piper announces launch of Blockchain and Digital Assets practice**

26 FEB 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Blockchain and Digital Assets practice, which will offer strategic advice on a global basis to address the needs of companies implementing blockchain technology solutions and creating and deploying digital assets.

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## **DLA Piper joins Governing Council for Hedera Hashgraph**

20 FEB 2019

DLA Piper has joined the initial group of Governing Council members for Hedera Hashgraph, a next-generation public ledger designed to have highly diversified governance and the most distributed consensus at scale. The announcement was made at Hedera Hashgraph's first annual summit in Seoul, Korea.

As part of the council, DLA Piper will help oversee changes to the software run by millions of Hedera distributed nodes over time. The governing council has been established to ensure stability and guaranteed continued decentralization to the Hedera Hashgraph distributed public ledger.

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## **DLA Piper bolsters Data Protection practice**

4 FEB 2019

DLA Piper in Germany has hired Intellectual Property & Technology of counsel Prof Dr Jürgen Taeger, who joined the firm's Cologne office with effect from 1 February 2019.

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## **DLA Piper expands new Dublin office with four-partner hire**

9 JAN 2019

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of four new partners from highly-regarded Irish firms to its newly opened Dublin office into four key practice areas of Finance and Projects (F&P), Corporate, Intellectual Property and Technology (IPT) and Employment. These hires follow the appointment of Corporate partner David Carthy as Ireland Country Managing Partner in May 2018.

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## **Technology sector poised for big data wave in finance and sales departments – DLA Piper European Tech Index**

12 DEC 2018

Harnessing big data is becoming standard practice for IT and marketing teams in technology, but DLA Piper's 2018 Tech Index reveals that a revolution may now be underway in finance and sales departments as well. Responses from 350 tech sector senior executives in Europe indicate that compared to 2016, organizations are increasingly identifying new opportunities in these additional departments, indicating a move towards widespread adoption of big data in the tech sector.

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## **DLA Piper wins Legal Adviser of the Year and recognized as UK Top Performer 2018 by Global Sourcing Association**

25 MAY 2018

DLA Piper's Global Co-Head of Technology Sector, Kit Burden, was last night named Legal Advisor of the Year at the Global Sourcing Association (GSA) UK Top Performers and Professional Awards, held at the Hilton Manchester Deansgate

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## **DLA Piper partner Edward "Smitty" Smith named to World Economic Forum's 2018 class of Young Global Leaders**

9 MAY 2018

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Edward "Smitty" Smith, a partner in the firm's Washington, DC, office, has been named to World Economic Forum's 2018 class of Young Global Leaders.

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## **DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2018**

3 APR 2018

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 62 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of 1 April 2018 in the United States and 1 May 2018 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 42 different offices throughout 20 countries.

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## **DLA Piper launches Intellectual Property and Technology practice in Luxembourg**

3 APR 2018

DLA Piper Luxembourg is pleased to announce the launch of its Intellectual Property and Technology (IPT) practice, with the appointment of Olivier Reisch as partner and head of the practice.

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## **DLA Piper Romania hosts a GDPR-focussed data protection conference alongside Wolters Kluwer**

28 MAR 2018

On 19 March 2018, DLA Piper in Romania hosted a "Data Protection Conference" in Bucharest, in partnership with Wolters Kluwer. The event focussed on the specific rules and practical aspects of processing personal data of customers and employees, from both a GDPR and ePrivacy perspective.

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## **Businesses still not fully aware of Data Protection issues**

31 JAN 2018

DLA Piper has released its second Data Privacy Snapshot report, finding that once again, company global privacy programs have gaps in meeting increasingly demanding global privacy principles. Significantly, it appears that many companies are falling short of data protection obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which will start to apply from 25 May 2018.

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## **DLA Piper invited to participate in the GDPR conference organised by the National Supervisory Authority for Personal Data Processing in light of the forthcoming European Data Protection Day**

31 JAN 2018

DLA Piper is proud to announce that Head of Intellectual Property & Technology in Bucharest Ana-Maria Andronic, and Intellectual Property & Technology senior associate, Alexandru Campean, were invited to speak at the "General Regulation on Data Protection" conference held on 26th January 2018. The event was held at the Parliament Palace and was organised by the National Supervisory Authority for Personal Data Processing.

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**DLA Piper names new global and US co-chairs for Intellectual Property and Technology practice**

8 JAN 2018

DLA Piper has named Frank Ryan co-chair of the firm's global Intellectual Property and Technology practice and Ann Ford co-chair of its US IPT practice, both effective January 1.

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