



## 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

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- Intellectual Property and Technology
- Data Protection, Privacy and Security
- Cybersecurity
- Technology Transactions and Strategic Sourcing
- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations

- 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

- International Trade, Regulatory and Government Affairs
- Transport
- Corporate

## RELATED SECTORS

- Technology
- Media, Sport and Entertainment
- Infrastructure, Construction and Transport

## INSIGHTS

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### Publications

#### Washington, DC grows telecoms capabilities with a new arrival

30 March 2021

Tony Lin has joined our Washington, DC office and award-winning Telecom group, bringing his vast experience in satellite and communications law.

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#### A new EECC coming into play: Key points for electronic communications service providers

15 September 2020

Entities providing an electronic communication service, such as email or video streamed over the Internet, may need to register as an ECS provider in relevant EU nations.

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#### Navigating China Episode 13: (More) Important Developments in China's Privacy and Cyber Laws

10 June 2020

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

China's privacy and cyber authorities have been busy in the last month enacting substantial enhancements and clarifications to data protection compliance obligations; and even more changes are expected before the end of 2020.

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#### US telehealth update: New federal guidance to state Medicaid agencies suggests more coverage is coming

27 April 2020

A powerful signal that CMS is ready to support targeted interventions in favor of telehealth.

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#### Connected care funding for healthcare providers from the CARES Act

24 April 2020

New funding to promote and support telehealth.

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## Episode 12: More obligations on Chinese mobile app operators to comply with

9 April 2020

### NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY

Following the crackdown by Chinese authorities against non-compliant mobile apps in late 2019 (please see Episode 8 in this series), the authorities have issued a series of app compliance guidelines (including the Guide to Self-Assess Illegal Collection and Use of Personal Information by Apps, Methods for Identifying Unlawful Acts of Apps to Collect and Use Personal Information, and Draft Specification for Collecting Personal Information in Mobile Applications). These guidelines imposed detailed obligations and practical actions to urge mobile app operators to conduct self-assessments and to rectify any non-compliant data processing practices. Organisations may have noted that some of these guidelines contain conflicting requirements.

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## FCC declares COVID-19 communications fall within TCPA emergency exemption

23 March 2020

The FCC issued an order declaring that hospitals, health care providers, state and local health officials, and other government officials may lawfully communicate information about COVID-19 without violating the Telephone Consumer Protection Act.

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## Episode 10: Stricter data localisation and security rules for financial and insurance data in China

06 Mar 2020

### NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY

The People's Bank of China has released new guidelines on the collection and processing of personal financial information (PFI Guidelines), which provide much-needed clarity on how personal financial information in China should be processed, secured, and transferred. While the PFI Guidelines do not impose an outright ban on personal financial information leaving China, mandatory compliance steps (including consent and impact assessments) must be taken.

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## Huawei Temporary General License extended for third time

14 February 2020

The extension applies to Huawei and the 114 other non-US Huawei affiliates on the Entity List.

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## Opportunities arising from Asia's data protection frameworks (AsiaPac)

14 February 2020

The media controversy surrounding China's coronavirus COVID-19 detection app, the "close contact detector," has highlighted a common misapprehension about how data protection law is universally applied around the world.

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## The almost free US-Japan Trade Agreement is now in effect

9 January 2020

This trade agreement reduces or eliminates US customs duties on numerous goods.

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## 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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### **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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## [Events](#)

## [Previous](#)

### **Axis Corporate Edition: Telecom**

8 December 2020

Webinar

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## DLA Piper European Technology Index 2020

31 July 2020  
Webinar

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### Axis Corporate Edition: Telecom

5 December 2019

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## NEWS

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### DLA Piper wins TMT Finance M&A Global Telecom Deal of the Year

8 December 2020

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that they have received the TMT Finance M&A Global Telecom Deal of the Year for their representation of T-Mobile and Deutsche Telekom in the T-Mobile-Sprint merger.

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### Over three-quarters of investors expect Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) investment to increase over next 24 months

3 December 2020

- **Nearly one quarter (23%) of investors believe pandemic has led to a higher FTTP project roll-out**
  - **Germany, the UK and Poland are the most attractive locations for future FTTP investment, with low penetration levels, high end-user demand, and government incentives**
  - **84% of respondents expect infrastructure funds to be most active in acquiring FTTP operators over the next 24 months**
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### DLA Piper advises NEQSOL on USD\$734 million acquisition of Vodafone Ukraine

9 December 2019

DLA Piper has advised NEQSOL on the acquisition of Vodafone Ukraine (VF Ukraine) from Russian telecommunications operator MTS Group for USD\$734 million, including a.c. USD\$84 million of earn-out payment. In addition, the firm advised NEQSOL on the raising of acquisition financing for the deal from a group of international funds and financial inst

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## Recognitions

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- *Law360* named the DLA Piper Telecom group as a 2020 "Practice Group of the Year"
- *Chambers Global* ranks DLA Piper in Band 1 for TMT
- *Chambers USA* ranks the DLA Piper Telecom group in Band 1 in the area of Telecom, Broadcast & Satellite in District of Columbia
- *USLegal 500* ranks the DLA Piper Telecom group in Tier 1 in the areas of Telecoms and Broadcast: Transactional and Regulatory
- *Best Lawyers* ranks DLA Piper in Tier 1 for Communications Law

- *U.S. News and Best Lawyers* named the DLA Piper Telecom group “Communications Law Firm of the Year”
- *TMT Finance* recognized the T-Mobile US' merger with Sprint as their “Telecom Deal of the Year – Global”
- T-Mobile recognized the DLA Piper Telecom group with their “Award for Law Firm Excellence in Diversity”