



# News Release

## Parliament “out of step” with consumer needs says Cable Europe

Brussels, 21 November 2017: Cable Europe has today levelled criticism at the European Parliament following a vote on the Copyright Regulation taken in the JURI Committee.

The vote effectively excludes some technological platforms such as mobile and the Internet from the scope of the retransmission framework – a move which the industry body describes as “out of step” with both technological developments and consumer behaviour. The vote also excludes functionalities closely connected to the linear retransmission (Catch Up and Restart TV) from this framework.

The clearing of rights is a difficult and complex process. As the Copyright Regulation is crafted, Europe had an opportunity to make the process more straightforward, and therefore improve the availability of content in a given Member State.

Said Caroline van Weede, Managing Director of Cable Europe, “This is a deeply disappointing outcome. The Parliament has done consumers a disservice by failing to be more progressive. The current licensing structure for cable retransmission of linear TV programmes should also apply to mobile and the internet. The exclusion of time-shifted services from the EP text is another missed opportunity.

“Conversely, a technology neutral approach would have served consumers well, supporting investment in new services and the availability of content anytime, any place, anywhere.

“This decision is out of step both with today’s environment, and with our aspirations to serve the digital consumer of tomorrow.”

Note to Editors

The Copyright Regulation (also referred to as the “SatCab Regulation”), lays down the rules on the exercise of copyright and related rights applicable to online transmissions of broadcasters, and the retransmissions of television and radio programmes.

\*\*\*



## **About Cable Europe**

Cable Europe is the trade association that connects leading broadband cable TV operators and their national trade associations throughout the European Union. The regulatory and public policy activities of Cable Europe aim to promote and defend the industry's policies and business interests at European and international level. The European cable industry provides high speed broadband internet, TV services, and telephony to more than 63 million homes in the European Union. [www.cable-europe.eu](http://www.cable-europe.eu)

*This statement represents the views of the full members of Cable Europe, and not necessarily those of our associate members, partners or affiliates.*

### **For more information please contact:**

Virginia Lee  
Director of Communications  
Cable Europe  
[virginia.lee@cable-europe.eu](mailto:virginia.lee@cable-europe.eu)  
+32 2 556 21 02