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Blindspot of NCC's Proposed Draft Communications Act and Regulation Revision to Communications Convergence: A Critique from the Cultural Citizenship/ Communication Rights Perspective

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Abstract

Against the backdrop of convergence and competition, communications regulation in Taiwan has been moving towards a single regulator overseeing both telecommunications and media sectors. To meet the regulatory challenge in the context of communications convergence, the newly established single communications regulator, the National Communications Commission (NCC), has proposed a draft Communications Act. However, the draft Communications Act has its own blindspot, for putting too much weight on the wants of consumers rather than needs of citizens. Taking the perspective of cultural citizenship and communication rights, this article offers a critique of the draft Communications Act and NCC's proposed regulation revision to communications convergence.

Keywords: draft Communications Act, National Communications Commission (NCC), cultural citizenship, communication rights, citizen/consumer