

Innovation, Convergence and the Role of Regulation in the Netherlands and Beyond

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3. Thought exercise

Policy goal

- Maximize total surplus, in the long run
- subject to constraints
 - Universal service, quality requirements, ...



5. Concluding remarks

- In several countries, facilities-based competition is becoming a viable option
 - Netherlands
 - Local access is no longer an essential facility
- In some countries, access regulation becomes less relevant as instrument to stimulate competition by entrants
 - Has been useful in infant markets
 - But markets have matured
 - Still useful as a threat, to be applied when a new network monopoly prevails



