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**EU regulation on Access Providers: Is there enough room for the accommodation of non-profit self-sustainable networks?**

**Abstract**

The article will try to address the question, whether the current EU regulation on Access Providers supports the introduction, functioning and development of non profit self-sustainable networks, which are open and decentralised and usually carried, on a non-profit base, by communities, regional bodies and groups of individuals, instead of commercial enterprises.

For the purposes of the article, two examples will be presented: For networks operated by communities: the guifi.net in Spain and its latest initiative FFTF (Fiber from the Farms) and the Athens Wireless Metropolitan Network (AWMN), a large wirelessly interconnected community in Athens, Greece. For networks operated by regional bodies: the WiFi Network of the city of Malaga and its legal dispute with the Spanish CMT.