Steptoe’s highly regarded Internet, Telecom & Media practice represents some of the world’s leading and most innovative corporations and organizations in the internet, telecommunications, and media sectors on a wide array of matters.

Our team understands not just how to navigate the maze of laws and regulations affecting our clients, but we also have a deep understanding of how they were developed, how they can be applied—and sometimes changed—to meet our clients’ needs.

We often engage in high-profile, complex regulatory, litigation, and investigative proceedings before federal agencies, state tribunals, and federal courts. Our team is also at the forefront of developments and laws affecting client initiatives not only through our offices in London and Brussels, but also with seasoned partners who have developed a network of local counsel in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Noteworthy

US and International Regulatory

Steptoe is widely recognized for our experience in a wide array of federal regulatory matters before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the US Departments of State, Commerce, Justice, Treasury, and Defense, the US Trade Representative, and the US Congress. We are also globally recognized for our work before European and international regulators, including the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrators (CEPT), and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

- **Satellite Communications.** Steptoe boasts a long and storied history in domestic and international regulation of satellite communications. Whether transferring authorizations, prosecuting satellite and earth-station applications, or pressing for reform of related FCC processes, we provide our clients with extensive experience, timely strategic advice, and practical knowledge.

- **Video Programming.** Steptoe has been at the forefront of counseling clients in the video programming space — both on traditional cable television platforms and through so-called over-the-top distribution on the Internet. We have advised the largest video programming entities in the world on regulatory, litigation, and investigative proceedings. And, through this work, we have developed a deep understanding and expertise of the myriad issues affecting video programmers.

- **Telecommunications.** Our telecommunications clients rely on us to provide them with timely and sage advice on a variety of topics from general licensing matters, prosecuting transactions involving FCC licenses, and developing and implementing long-term strategies for changing FCC policy.

- **Internet.** Steptoe advises some of the world’s largest Internet platforms, as well as start-up firms, on all aspects of Internet law. We have been the leading law firm representing the commercial Internet sector on network neutrality matters since the inception of proceedings at the FCC. And, we assist clients on all aspects of e-commerce and content-related issues, including the privacy, potential liability for third-party content, copyright, accessibility, encryption, digital signatures, domain names, and taxation.

- **Wiretapping and Data Security.** Steptoe is at the cutting edge of law and regulations in this area, boasting some of the leading legal minds. Whether assessing internal procedures in the event of a data breach, responding to FTC investigations on privacy issues, coordinating cybersecurity operations with Homeland Security, or pressing for legislative changes on the Hill, Steptoe has expertise that cannot be found elsewhere.

- **Export Control.** For our international clients, Steptoe handles numerous export control matters. Blending legal and practical advice, Steptoe provides its clients with counseling on licensing issues, making jurisdictional assessments, responding to investigations and enforcement actions, and developing and implementing internal corporate compliance regimes.

Litigation

Working hand-in-hand with our Litigation Group, we have deep district and appellate court litigation experience to bring to bear on behalf of our clients.

- **Appellate Litigation.** When the regulatory machine breaks down, the litigators need to step in, and Steptoe has extensive appellate litigation expertise in regulatory matters and regularly appears before the Supreme Court and circuit courts on behalf of our clients.

- **Media.** Steptoe represents individuals and entities engaged in national, state, and local media in defending against defamation, invasion of privacy, and related claims; prosecutes public records litigation under the Freedom of Information Act; responds to civil, criminal, and grand jury subpoenas seeking testimony from reporters; and reviews content to minimize the likelihood of any successful defamation, privacy, or other action against the media company.

Transactional

We advise clients on a wide variety of telecommunications transactional matters, from mergers and acquisitions to service agreements and equipment contracts.

- We have counseled clients on, and prosecuted applications for, transactions involving the sale of both foreign and domestic satellite systems and authorizations, as well as a variety of telecommunications service and infrastructure companies.

- Our expertise includes corporate, tax, securities, intellectual property, antitrust, bankruptcy, and related issues.

- We can also provide our clients with introductions to sources of financing, strategic partners, and content providers.
Representative Matters

Telecom Litigation

- **New York v. Deutsche Telekom, et. al** (Southern District of New York): Represented DISH Network in successfully defending proposed merger of T-Mobile and Sprint as conditioned on entry of DISH as new wireless carrier.
- **US v. AT&T** (DC District Court): Represented third party in trial suing to block the merger of AT&T and Time Warner.
- **Mozilla Corporation v. FCC** (DC Circuit Appellate Court): Represented internet and technology companies challenging rollback of net neutrality rules.

Telecom Regulatory/Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

- Charter Communications & Time Warner Cable merger proceeding: Represented parties opposing merger and successfully convinced regulators to impose key conditions.
- Sinclair Broadcasting & Tribune Media Company proposed merger proceeding: Represented party opposing merger, which was successfully blocked by regulators.
- Comcast Corporation & NBC-Universal merger proceeding: Represented parties opposing merger and successfully convinced regulators to impose key conditions.
- Responded to a congressional investigation into the cable and satellite TV industry.
News & Publications

MEDIA MENTIONS
Law.com International Quotes Diletta De Cicco on EU Digital Services Act
December 15, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Steptoe Wins Global Competition Review 'Matter of the Year' Team Award
November 12, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Global Competition Review Shortlists Steptoe for Three GCR Team Awards
October 30, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Law360 Names Pantelis Michalopoulos an MVP in Telecom
October 21, 2020

MEDIA MENTIONS
Communications Daily Quotes Pantelis Michalopoulos on Net Neutrality Remand Order
October 19, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Law360 Names Four Steptoe Partners to 2020 MVP List
October 5, 2020

MEDIA MENTIONS
Protocol Quotes Pantelis Michalopoulos on Future of Tech with Conservative Supreme Court
October 1, 2020

MEDIA MENTIONS
Law360, Law Street Cover Steptoe's Copyright Victory in Illinois Federal Court
September 17, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
National Law Journal Names Pantelis Michalopoulos a Trailblazer in Washington
September 14, 2020

PRESS RELEASES
Steptoe Adds Privacy & Cybersecurity Lawyer Charles Helleputte in Brussels
September 1, 2020
Events

WEBINARS
2nd Annual Regulatory Symposium: Elections Matter
Potential Impact of the Presidential Election on US Regulatory Agencies and Industries
October 22, 2020
Speakers: Christopher R. Conte, Micah S. Green, Matthew B. Kulkin, Marc L. Spitzer, Lisa M. Zarlienga

WEBINARS
2nd Annual Regulatory Symposium: Mergers in Regulated Industries
October 8, 2020
Speakers: Peter W. Denton, Damon J. Kalt, Brian Egan, Frederick Day (Brookfield Asset Management), Gregory Camet (Entergy), Hadass Kogan (DISH Network)

WEBINARS
2nd Annual Regulatory Symposium: Infrastructure Streamlining and Funding
What's New and What's Next?
September 24, 2020
Speakers: Cynthia L. Taub, James D. Barnette, Morteza Farajian (Build America Bureau at USDOT), David Fotouhi (EPA), Mary Neumayr (CEQ)

WEBINARS
2nd Annual Regulatory Symposium: Carrots Rather than Sticks
2020

WEBINARS
2nd Annual Regulatory Symposium: Opening Plenary Session
September 10, 2020
Speaker: Pantelis Michalopoulos

WEBINARS
The Intersection of Antitrust and Regulation
Continuing Issues in 2018
April 18, 2018
Speakers: Douglas G. Green, Anthony J. LaRocca

SEMINARS & EVENTS
What Comes Next: Net Neutrality, Innovation, and the Future of Competition
A co-sponsored event with Galvanize
May 31, 2017
Galvanize San Francisco
44 Tehama Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

SEMINARS & EVENTS
Open Internet Program
Net Neutrality: Experience It As You've Never Done Before, And As You May Never Get To Do Again
February 7, 2017
Stanford Park Hotel
100 El Camino Real
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Resources

RESOURCES
Public Consultation For Approaches To Managing Personal Data in the Digital Economy
Singapore Personal Data Protection Commission
Client Chat

CLIENT CHAT

Steptoe Spotlights its Client DISH Network’s Signal Achievement in Becoming the Fourth US Mobile Wireless Carrier

August 21, 2020

Explore Related

Primary Contact

Pantelis Michalopoulos

Practices

National Security/CFIUS