TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAWS OF THE WORLD

Australia vs Netherlands



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AUSTRALIA



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OVERVIEW OF LEGAL LANDSCAPE

The Australian telecommunications regulatory landscape and regulatory perimeter is broad and complex.

The primary telecommunications legislation, the 1997 Telecommunications Act, removed barriers to participation and added to earlier legislation which was intended to permit facilities-based competition. The 1997 Telecommunications Act implemented an access regime applicable only to the telecommunications industry and also provided prohibitions against anti-competitive conduct.

The telecoms industry is heavily-regulated and has seen additional complexity arising through a governmental decision to support the construction of a National Broadband Network (NBN) and the incorporation of a wholesale only company to supply broadband services (NBN Co). This has resulted in significant regulatory changes (in particular, to shield NBN Co from certain types of competition). The current government has announced changes to the NBN, in particular potentially removing cross-subsidies between urban and rural areas which were intended to provide for a single, Australiawide access price, as well as adjustments to its facilitybased competition principle (which saw other operators connect fiber-to-the-building (FTTB) infrastructure to high-density, higher use buildings such as apartment blocks).

KEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAWS, REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

As noted above, the Telecommunications Act 1997 is the key legislation which regulates, amongst other things, telecommunications carriers in Australia.

It is supported by a range of other legislation, instruments and codes including the Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999, which provides for the establishment of the universal service

NETHERLANDS



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OVERVIEW OF LEGAL LANDSCAPE

Subject to certain exemptions (mostly concerning the use of the radio spectrum and frequencies), communication providers have general authorisation to operate in the Netherlands and do not require a licence, permit, consent etc. There is, however, an obligation to register with the Dutch telecoms regulator; the Autoriteit Consument & Markt (ACM). Details of this obligation to register are provided under Registration/Licencing.

The concept of general authorisation is derived from the European Authorisation Directive which has been implemented in EU Member States.

The roles and responsibilities of ACM, as well as the obligations of communication providers that operate in the Netherlands are codified in the primary telecoms legislation in the Netherlands, known as the Telecommunicatiewet (the 'Dutch Telecommunications Act').

KEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAWS, REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

The primary legislation governing the telecommunications sector in the Netherlands is the Dutch Telecommunications Act which came into force on 19 October 1998. The Dutch Telecommunications Act has been amended over time in order to implement (successive amendments of) the following European Directives:

obligation with respect to standard telephone services in Australia, the ability of the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) to set performance standards and obligations on carriers, and the requirement for carriage service providers to enter the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman scheme. ACMA has also recently published codes regarding:

- emergencies: The C536:2020 Emergency Call Services Requirements Industry Code (Updated 17 December 2020) requires carriers and carriage service providers to ensure access to emergency call services. Carriers are also required under the Telecommunications Act 1997 to provide help as is reasonably necessary, in the event of a National Emergency Declaration or state of disaster or emergency; and
- scams: Industry Code C661:2022 Reducing Scam Calls and Scam SMS (Updated 12 July 2022) provides for processes for carriers and carriage service providers to disrupt scam calls and SMS. This includes provision for processes that enable carriers to exchange information in relation to spam materials, to facilitate the reduction of spam in telecommunications.

Specific NBN Co Laws, Regulations and **Policies**

The regulatory framework for the NBN was established through the National Broadband Network Companies Act 2011 and the Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network Measures -Access Arrangements) Act 2011 which added to the existing generic telecommunications regulatory framework. In addition:

- Nondiscrimination obligations: The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) must publish guidance on NBN Co's non-discrimination obligations.
- ACCC explanatory material on the Part XIC nondiscrimination provisions: Under the legislation, NBN Co can choose to publish a standard form of access agreement and/or give a special access undertaking to the ACCC in relation to its terms and conditions for the supply of wholesale services. Where an access agreement differs from the standard form of access agreement, NBN Co must provide a

- Directive 2002/21/EC on a common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services
- Directive 2002/20/EC on the authorisation of electronic communications networks and services
- Directive 2002/19/EC on access to and interconnection of electronic networks and associated facilities
- Directive 2002/22/EC on universal service and user rights
- Directive 2014/61/EU on measures to reduce the cost of deploying high-speed electronic communications networks
- Directive 2018/1972 establishing the European Electronic Communications Code

In addition to the Dutch Telecommunications Act the following legislation may also impact the provision of communication services and the operation of communication networks in the Netherlands:

- Competition Law (both the Dutch Competition Act (Mededingingswet) and EU Competition Law)
- Data Protection Law (primarily the Dutch Personal Data Protection Act (Wet Bescherming Persoonsgegevens)) which governs the processing of personal data
- Universal Service Decree of 13 June 2014 (Regeling Universele Dienstverlening en Eindgebruikersbelangen)

The key features of the Dutch Telecommunications Act are:

- The obligation for communication providers to register with ACM (paragraph 2)
- A regulatory framework for use and leasing of radio spectrum (paragraph 3)
- The regulation and allocation of telephone numbers and the regulation of number retention (paragraph 4)

statement of the differences to the ACCC.

- Special Access Undertaking (SAU): In
 December 2013, the ACCC accepted an SAU lodged by NBN Co, in accordance with section 152CBA of Part XIC of the Competition and Consumer Act. The SAU specifies basic terms and conditions under which NBN Co will provide its wholesale services.
- Authorised conduct: The NBN Access Act introduced Division 16 into Part XIB of the Competition and Consumer Act, which authorises, for the purposes of the Act, certain conduct by NBN Co that is reasonably necessary for it to achieve uniform national wholesale pricing. This conduct relates to refusal to interconnect other than at listed points of interconnection, the bundling of services and cross-subsidising in charging for services. However, current Government policy on the issue of uniform pricing may result in differential charging between urban, rural and remote locations.
- Telecommunications Act: The NBN Access
 Act applies to fixed-line local access networks, or
 parts of such networks, that are built, upgraded,
 altered or extended after I January 2011 so that
 they are capable of providing a carriage service
 where the download transmission speed is
 normally more than 25 megabits per second to
 residential or small business owners.

- A regulatory framework for laying network cables in public grounds (paragraph 5)
- A regulatory framework for access to physical infrastructure (paragraph 5a)
- An obligation for communication providers who control the connectivity to end users to negotiate in good faith with other communication providers (i.e. the principle of interoperability, paragraph 6)
- The power of ACM to set specific conditions relating to interoperability, interconnectivity, universal services, access, privileged suppliers and most notably 'significant market power' (SMP). In accordance with the EU directives mentioned above, ACM has a duty to periodically review the telecoms markets recommended for review by the European Commission and where it finds that one or more of the operators have SMP it must impose such a condition on the SMP operator(s) (paragraphs 6a and 6b)
- An obligation to provide end users with clear information on the nature of the services, the most advantageous prices and clear contractual terms as well as several mandatory provisions in relation to consumers such as the right to compensation in case of an outage and the right to terminate a contract after the initial term with a maximum notice period of one month (paragraph 7)
- The principle of universal service; that affordable basic telephony services should be available to everyone (paragraph 9)
- Rules on protecting the end user's privacy and personal data (paragraph 11)
- The ACM's power to hear disputes between communication providers (although referral to ACM does not preclude the bringing of court proceedings), and the access for consumers to a dispute resolution committee (paragraph 12)
- The obligation for communication providers to ensure that the telecommunications services that are offered to end users can be intercepted upon request by the competent authority (paragraph 13)

• The obligation to notify an acquisition of predominant control in a Dutch telecommunications provider which gives rise to relevant influence in the telecommunications sector to the Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate (paragraph 14a)

REGULATORY BODIES OR AUTHORITIES

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's main responsibilities include:

- The promotion of competition within the Australian telecommunications industry and to ensure that consumers' interests are protected
- Overseeing the telecommunications access regime provisions for controlling anti-competitive conduct and price control arrangements
- Focussing on access determinations to bottleneck services

The Australian Communications and Media Authority's main responsibilities include:

- Forming part of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
- As a converged telecommunications regulator, overseeing the broadcasting, internet, radio communications and telecommunications industries
- Regulating technical and non-competition aspects of the industry, licensing telecommunications carriers, regulating fixed-line and mobile telecommunications, developing codes of practice for the industry and monitoring compliance, monitoring the performance of carriage service providers, setting and enforcing industry and technical standards and monitoring industry performance numbering, advising consumers on their rights and safeguards and managing the delivery of services to people with communication impairment

The Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman's main responsibilities include:

• The provision of a fast, free and fair dispute resolution service for small businesses and

REGULATORY BODIES OR AUTHORITIES

ACM

Physical Address: Muzenstraat 41, 2511 WB Den Haag

Postal Address: PO Box 16326, 2500 BH Den Haag

Telephone: +31 70 7222 000

Website: www.acm.nl

Telecoms Department (Agentschap Telecom) of the Ministry of Economic **Affairs**

Physical Address: Emmasingel 1, 9726 AH, Groningen

Postal Address: PO Box 450 9700 AL, Groningen

Telephone: +31 50 5877 444

Website: www.agentschaptelecom.nl

- residential consumers who have a complaint about their telephone or internet service
- Being an independent body that complies with the Commonwealth's Benchmarks for Industry-Based Customer Dispute Resolution Services here

The Communications Alliance's main responsibilities include:

- Being an industry body for the communications
- Promoting the growth of the communications industry and the protection of consumer interests by fostering the highest standards of business ethics and behaviour through industry self-governance that uses practical, self-imposed solutions that are developed co-operative processes

The Communications Compliance's main responsibilities include being an independent monitoring body that oversees conduct of the Telecommunications Consumer Protections Code Compliance Framework, providing guidance on how to comply with the code and providing an overview of industry compliance. It should be noted that the Communications Compliance does not actually enforce compliance (ACMA is, in most cases, the key enforcement body).

The Attorney General's Department's main responsibilities include administering the Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979 and the Surveillances Devices Act 2004. However, the department does not investigate crimes (relevant police enforcement agencies investigate and potentially prosecute).

TYPES OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES AND/OR PERSONS WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

Installing Facilities

The Telecommunications Act 1997 restricts carriers in their installation of telecommunications facilities. Primarily only low-impact facilities, which are designed to be unobtrusive and to be installed in line with the legislation, are permitted. Superfast network obligations also arise

TYPES OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES AND/OR PERSONS WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

There are two main categories of communication providers for the purposes of the Dutch Telecommunication Act; providers of electronic communication networks (ECNs) and providers of electronic communication services (ECS). The categories are then further sub-divided into public and private providers.

under the same legislation which limit the installation of superfast networks (in connection with the rollout of the NBN).

Approval of telecommunications facilities is the responsibility of the local government authority in the area.

Service Providers

Service providers including Carriage Service Providers (CSP), that use, but do not own, a telecommunications network unit to provide carriage services to the public (including Internet Service Providers and Internet Access Providers, as they fall within the category of a CSP), and content service providers that supply content services to the public must comply with obligations imposed by the telecommunications access regime, in addition to the following regulations:

- The Telecommunications Act 1997
- The Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999
- The Competition and Consumer Act 2010
- The Telecommunications Consumer Protections Code

The definitions of electronic communications network and electronic communications service in the Dutch Telecommunications Act are fully in line with the EU Framework Directive (2002/21/EC):

- Electronic communications network: transmission systems and, where applicable, switching or routing equipment and other resources which permits the conveyance of signals by wire, by radio, by optical or by other electromagnetic means, including satellite networks, fixed and mobile terrestrial networks, electricity cable systems, to the extent that they are used for the purpose of transmitting signals, and networks used for radio and television broadcasting, and cable television networks, irrespective of the type of information conveyed
- Electronic communications service: a service normally provided for remuneration which consists wholly or mainly in the conveyance of signals on electronic communications networks, including telecommunications services, interpersonal communications services (e.g. applications like Gmail, Skype and Whatsapp) and transmission services in networks used for broadcasting, but exclude services providing, or exercising editorial control over, content transmitted using electronic communications networks and services; it does not include information society services, as defined in article I of the Notification Directive which do not consist wholly or mainly in the conveyance of signals on electronic communications networks

In relation to qualification of a service as an ECS, one of the decisive elements is whether the provider's (contractual) responsibility towards the user is mainly to bring about the transmission of a signal. Merely providing a connection to an ECS in itself is insufficient when the responsibility for bringing about the actual transmission is not a main element of the service for which the provider is contractually responsible towards the user. In this respect, Dutch practice seems is in line with the European Court of Justice's judgements in cases C-142/18 (Skype/IBPT) and C-193/18 (Google/Germany).

The Telecommunications Act's provisions relating to use of the radio spectrum and frequencies in principle apply to all ECN and ECS providers, but most other provisions only apply to providers of public ECNs or ECS. An ECS is 'public' when the services provided are available to the

public, while an ECN is 'public' when it is only or mostly used for providing public electronic communications services.

Note I: Services which enable interpersonal and interactive communication merely as a minor ancillary feature being intrinsically linked to another service shall not qualify as an Interpersonal Communication Service in terms of the Telecommunications Act (e.g. a chat function in an application for the lease of cars).

OVERVIEW OF CONSENTS, LICENCES AND AUTHORISATIONS REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF **TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES**

In addition to the registration of a business name with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, the following registration and licensing requirements must be adhered to:

- Telecommunications licence: Except in limited circumstances, the owner of a network unit (cable, wireless, or satellite) used to supply carriage services to the public must hold a Carrier Licence. Carriage Service Providers do not need a licence but must comply with the codes set out in the "Carriers and Carriage Service Providers" section.
- Content Service Providers: If a company uses, or proposes to use, any point-to-point carriage service to supply an online service to any other person that is not an officer of the company or a related body corporate then the company is a Content Service Provider under the Telecommunications Act 1997. A Content Service Provider is a general classification of industry participants supplying content services to the public. There is no licence required, however the company will need to comply with the content rules determined by ACMA.
- Installation Services: If a company provides installation services for customers that involve customer cabling then they must register with ACMA and comply with the Telecommunications Cabling Provider Rules 2000 issued by ACMA.

OVERVIEW OF CONSENTS, LICENCES AND AUTHORISATIONS REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF **TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES**

Communication providers have general authorisation to operate in the Netherlands and do not require a licence, permit, consent etc. In the Netherlands, all providers of public electronic communications services and all operators of public electronic communications networks must register with the regulatory authority (ACM) prior to the start of their operations in the Netherlands. In order to register, information must be provided on the provider's corporate structure, its turnover and the services provided in the Netherlands.

Once the registration is effective, the provider will be listed in the public register of communication companies and will receive a registration number. In case of a subsequent change of activities, the registration must be updated by notifying the change to ACM. All registered communication companies must annually report the turnover they achieved by providing communication services in the Netherlands to ACM. On this basis, ACM levies an annual fee (called 'contribution in the costs of regulation'), the amount of which depends on the turnover achieved. No fee is due if the turnover amounts to EUR 2 million or less.

Mobile operators (and other users of spectrum) do require a licence in order to install or operate certain mobile network equipment.

• Radiocommunications Equipment: A CSP that operates radiocommunications equipment for the purpose of supplying carriage or content services may need to be licensed under the Radio Communications Act 1992. If a radio transmitter or receiver is required to provide services, the company will require a Spectrum, Class or Apparatus Licence.

There may also be local council planning regulations relating to the location of certain infrastructure (base stations, transmitters etc). The nature of these regulations differ between different council areas.

DOMICILE RESTRICTIONS PREVENTING THE OPERATION OF **CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES BY NON-DOMICILED ENTITIES**

No domicile requirements apply for carrier licences, provided that the applicant is a 'constitutional corporation', an 'eligible partnership' or a public body.

EXISTENCE OF RELEVANT INTERCONNECTION/ROAMING **REGULATIONS**

Domestic inter-carrier roaming

Domestic inter-carrier roaming is not a declared service (although it has been the subject of a regulatory enquiry to determine whether it should be) and is regulated through commercial agreements reached between the relevant carriers.

International roaming

This is governed by the Telecommunications Service Provider (International Mobile Roaming) Determination 2019.

DOMICILE RESTRICTIONS PREVENTING THE OPERATION OF **CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES BY NON-DOMICILED ENTITIES**

From a telecoms regulatory perspective, there are no requirements for a communications provider to be domiciled in the Netherlands prior to or during the provision of services. Advice should however be sought from a tax perspective.

From a foreign direct investment perspective, there is a requirement for investors that intent to acquire predominant control in a Dutch telecommunications provider which gives rise to relevant influence in the telecommunications sector to notify the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

EXISTENCE OF RELEVANT INTERCONNECTION/ROAMING **REGULATIONS**

ACM has certain powers with regards to ex-ante regulations on interconnection and roaming.

Providers of a public ECN or public ECS are under a general obligation to enter into negotiations with other providers in relation to access to end users. Whilst the underlying principle of these negotiations is freedom of contract, the outcome of these negotiations should be aimed at an agreement regarding end-to-end connectivity. Such negotiations are to be conducted objectively, transparently, proportionally, and non-discriminatorily, with a view to reaching agreement on the technical aspects of the connection of the network(s), tariffs, quality of the services, and other relevant conditions.

The Standard focused on four key consumer protection measures:

- A notification via a nominated method of communication to be sent to all consumers on arrival overseas, warning them that significantly higher charges for using roaming services may apply
- Enabling customers to stop international roaming at any time and at the maximum cost of AUD I, including from an overseas location
- A notification to be sent via a nominated method of communication to customers of service providers giving them pricing information for using a range of roaming services. These services include any that would normally be free in the domestic market, such as receiving a call on a mobile device
- Spend management tools, including notifications in AUD 100 increments for data usage and notifications at 50, 85 and 100% of included value, if a customer has purchased an included value travel package from their International Roaming Mobile (IMR) service provider

Providers are to enter into these negotiations 'proactively'.

The obligation to enter into negotiations concerns an obligation to achieve a result. When the desired result is not reached, ACM may be requested to make the provider install the requested end-to-end connectivity on conditions set forth by ACM. These conditions may even relate to subjects such as what tariffs are considered 'reasonable'. ACM may also act on its own discretion, if no request is filed.

TELECOMMUNICATION LAWS AND REGULATIONS AFFECTING CONSUMERS

Differences between provision of services to businesses and provision of services to consumers

Subject to contractual commitments agreed between the service provider and the end customer, and as set out below, there are no significant differences in terms of the regulatory treatment of end users of telecommunications services from a general level.

Requirements for provision of services to consumers

 This is principally governed by the **Telecommunications Consumer Protections** Code, and complaints handling is governed by the Telecommunications (Consumer Complaints Handling) Industry Standard 2018

TELECOMMUNICATION LAWS AND REGULATIONS AFFECTING CONSUMERS

Specific obligations relating to consumers include:

- The requirement to include certain minimum terms in consumer contracts
- Conditions relating to maximum contract duration and maximum notice periods for contract termination
- The requirement to make certain information available to the customer such as a description of the services offered and the standard and the most advantageous tariffs
- Availability of number portability

In addition to specific telecoms regulations, provisions of general consumer law also apply, such as rules concerning unfair contract terms.

- Consumers and small businesses can complain to the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman. Resolutions by the ombudsman are legally binding to the value of AUD 50,000
- If a service is 'declared' by the ACCC, standard access obligations then apply updated consumer protections have been implemented by industry code C628:2019 Incorporating Variation No.1 /2022 Telecommunications Consumer Protections (Updated 16 June 2022), which provides further consumer protection safeguards relating to sales, service and contracts, billing, credit and debt management and changing suppliers. It also sets out a framework of code compliance and monitoring

Prohibition on unfair contract terms in the Australian Consumer Law will likely apply to any standard form contract agreed between a service provider and an individual end user or corporate customer (where certain conditions are met).

REGULATORY TAXES AND FEES

Telecommunications carriers who earn AUD 25 million or more in any eligible revenue period are required to pay annual levies and charges including the telecommunications industry levy, and the annual Carrier Licence charge. These are calculated based on their eligible revenue for the previous financial year.

The current fee for an application for a Carrier Licence is AUD2122. This fee covers the cost of processing the application.

Installation services

All individuals performing cabling work, except 'plug and play' cabling of customer equipment (which is not in a wall or ceiling cavity) must be a registered cabler for open cabling work.

Importation of goods for the provision of telecommunication services

Goods imported into Australia with a value above AUD 1000, including commercial quantities, must be cleared by submitting a completed import declaration form and paying duty, GST, and other taxes and charges that apply. The duty rates payable will depend on the

REGULATORY TAXES AND FEES

Registration with ACM itself is free of charge. Once registered, however, all providers that achieve a turnover in excess of EUR 2,000,000 in the Netherlands with the provision of a public ECN or public ECS must pay an annual fee to the regulator as a contribution to the costs of regulation. The fee is annually set at a percentage of the relevant turnover. For 2022, the fee is set at 0.03672% of the relevant turnover achieved in 2020.

tariff classification, the value of the goods in the exporting country and where the goods were manufactured. The Customs Tariff Act 1995 provides the tariff classifications, duty rates, interpretive rates and information on preference schemes, and other concessions and exemptions that may apply.

KEY SANCTIONS AND PENALTIES IN THE CASE OF CONTRAVENTION OF **TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

Infringement Notices

Under the Telecommunications Act 1997, ACMA can, instead of instituting court proceedings, give infringement notices for alleged contraventions of certain civil penalty provisions relating to telecommunications. If the penalty under the infringement notice is paid within the specified time frame (or other period agreed to by ACMA) then civil penalty proceedings cannot be initiated and the matter is disposed of without admission of guilt or a conviction. If the penalty is not paid then court action may be taken for civil penalties in relation to the alleged contravention.

Civil Penalties

The penalty specified in an infringement notice given to a body corporate must be a pecuniary penalty equal to 60 penalty units or, for breaches of the service provider rules or carrier licence conditions, the Minister for the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and The Arts may set a pecuniary penalty amount in a Determination up to 1,800 penalty units.

Privacy Laws

The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner is responsible for breaches of the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth).

Breach of Telecommunications Consumer Protections Code

ACMA enforces the code and it can take the following steps:

 Agree with the telecommunications provider on steps it will take to remedy the breach or improve compliance

KEY SANCTIONS AND PENALTIES IN THE CASE OF CONTRAVENTION OF **TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

Certain provisions of the Dutch Telecommunications Act, including those relating to use of frequencies (Chapter 3) and interception (Chapter 13), are subject to criminal prosecution by the Department of Justice on the basis of the Economic Offences Act. Depending on whether the violation was intentional or non-intentional, providers may be sentenced with a maximum fine of EUR 20,750 or EUR 83,000, respectively. If the infringement resulted in profits exceeding 25% of these amounts, however, the maximum fines are increased to EUR 83,000 or EUR 830,000 respectively. Individuals can receive a jail sentence of up to one year and six years, respectively.

Other violations of the Dutch Telecommunications Act are subject to administrative prosecution by either the Telecoms Department (Agentschap Telecom) of the Ministry of Economic Affairs or by ACM, depending on the subject-matter of the violation. Both authorities have a broad degree of discretion when deciding the measure to be imposed. The maximum penalties are generally set at a percentage of annual turnover, ranging between 1% and 40% depending on the nature, duration and the severity of the infringement.

The Ministry of Economic Affairs can prohibit a transaction if it considers it a threat to the public interest. This is the case if abuse or deliberate failure of the telecommunications party over which "predominant control" is obtained or held can lead to a threat to national security or public order (Chapter 14a).

- Give a formal warning
- Give a Direction to Comply with code provisions

Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman

- Is authorised to investigate complaints by residential and small business users of telecommunications and internet services
- Can enforce resolution of complaints of up to AUD 50,000, and make recommendations for complaints of up to AUD 100,000

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