ITU standardisation

Relevance for the EU

Emilio Dávila

Head of ICT Standardisation Sector.

CONNECT University, 12/11/2025

EC views on standardisation activities

Regulatory and urgencies

Annual Union Work Programme (Art. 8 of Reg. 1025/2012)

An annual EC Communication to identify strategic priorities, Standardisation requests to the ESOs to be launched.

Prioritisation. Action Grants

Policy implementation

Rolling Plan for ICT Standardisation

Much more detailed and technical. Wider view on internationally ongoing actions.

Drafted by EC with the Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP).

Policy status, standardisation needs, landscape overview

European Commission

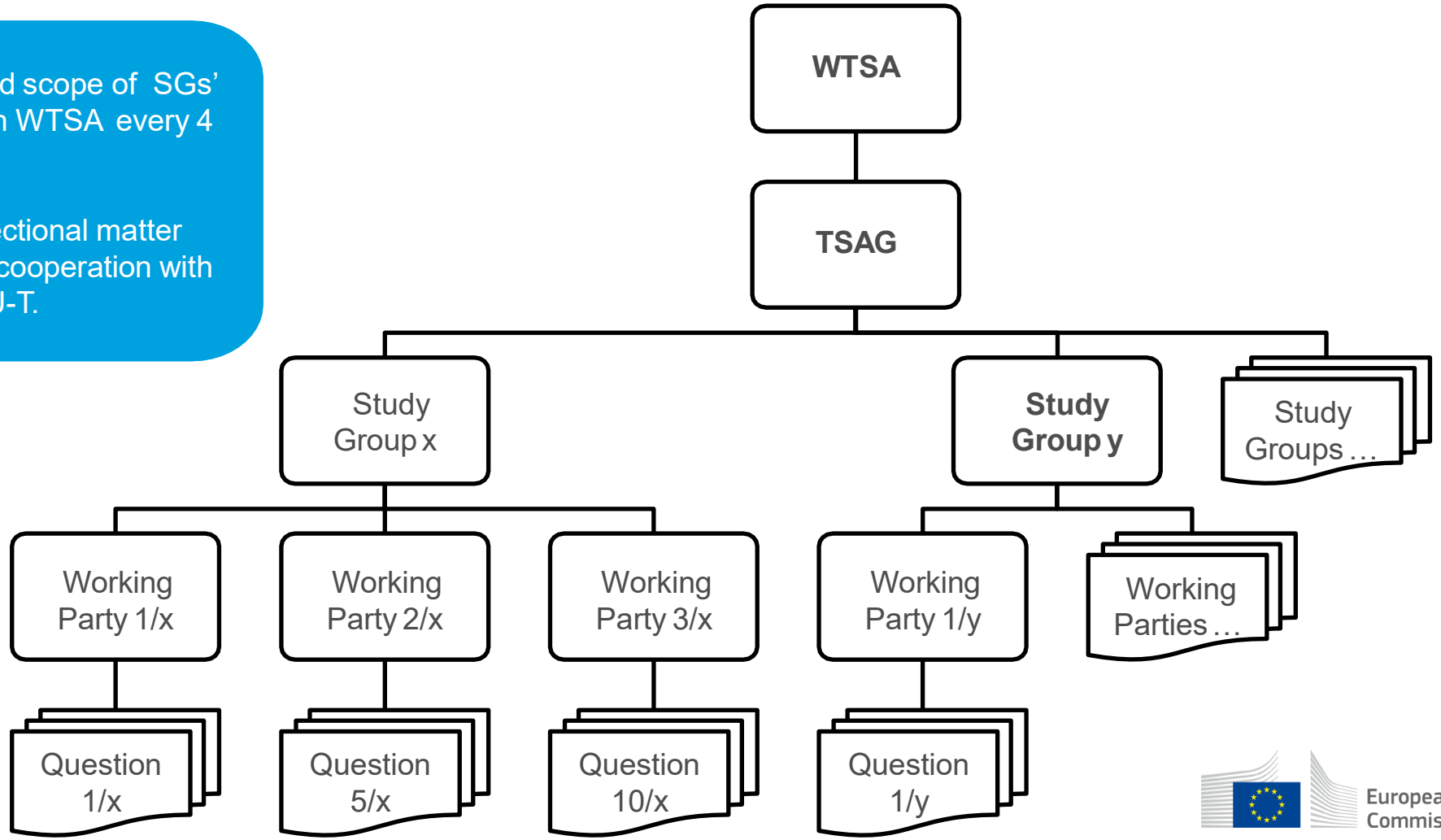
Standardization

- Developing **technical standards** for the interconnection and interoperability of ICT/telecom technologies
- Bridging the **standardisation gap** between developed and developing countries
- Fostering cooperation among national, regional and international **standards bodies**

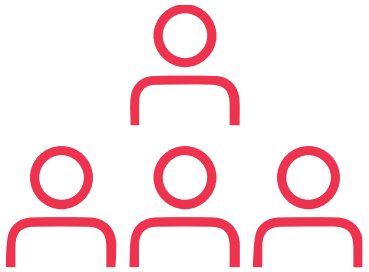
ITU-T: Structure and Organization

Study Group structure and scope of SGs' activities is determined in WTSA every 4 years.

TSAG discusses cross-sectional matter over SGs and promotes cooperation with organizations outside ITU-T.



ITU-T standards community



Study Groups

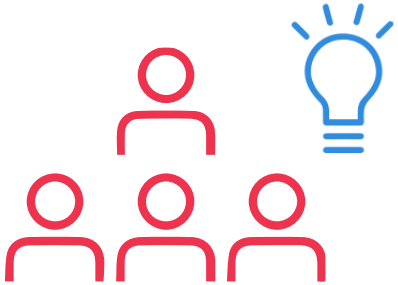
Membership-driven Study Groups develop international standards.

Focus Groups

Open to all interested parties, Focus Groups define new directions in ITU standardization.

Other groups

JCAs, IRGs, Collaborations and Initiatives provide open platforms with features tailored to further coordinate work and collaborate with other organizations in specific areas.



Workshops and symposia

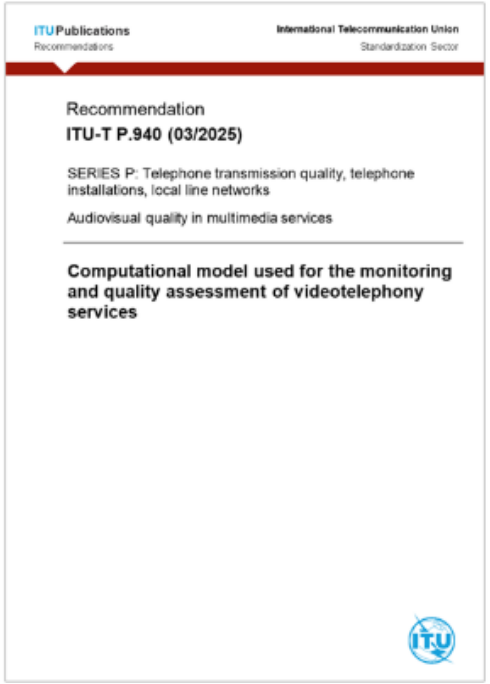
Open-to-all events analyze emerging trends and encourage peer-learning

Lifecycle

Contribution Based

WTO principles:

- Transparency
- Openness
- **Consensus**
- Independence
- Efficiency
- Coherence


ITU Publications
Recommendations

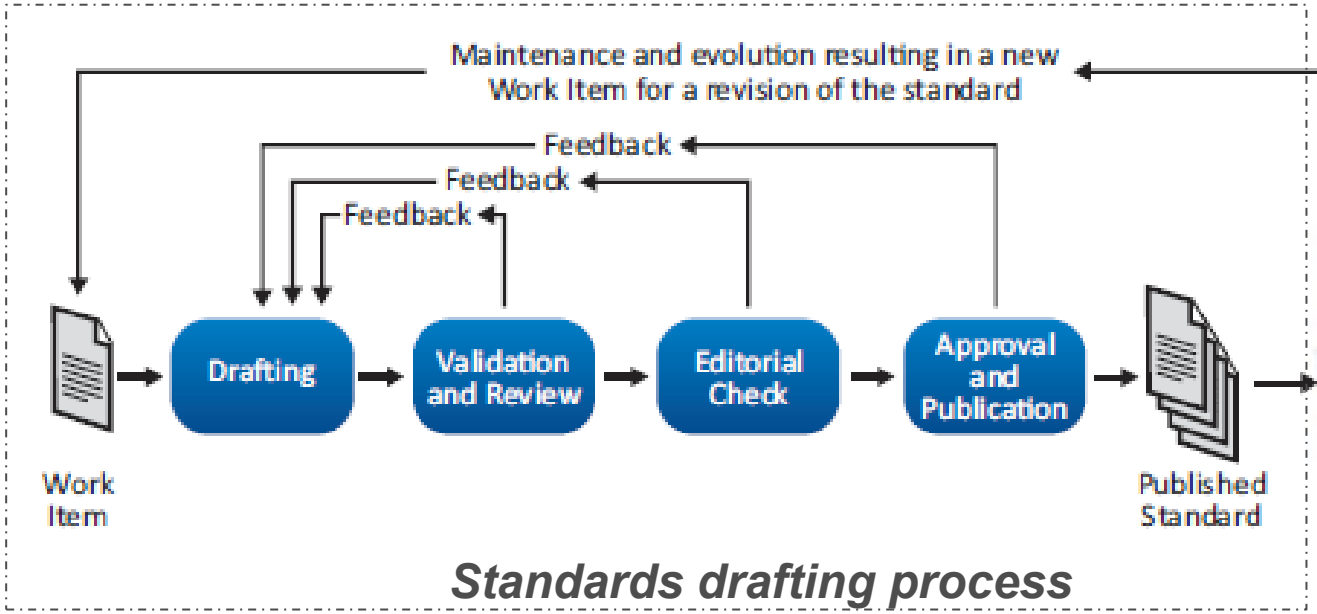
International Telecommunication Union
Standardization Sector

Recommendation
ITU-T P.940 (03/2025)

SERIES P: Telephone transmission quality, telephone installations, local line networks

Audiovisual quality in multimedia services

Computational model used for the monitoring and quality assessment of videotelephony services



Standards drafting process

Source: ETSI & own elaboration

European Commission

Membership

Member States: Governments and regulatory bodies

Sector Members: Private sector and regional / international organizations

Associates (including SMEs): Private sector (focus on one study group)

Academia: Universities and research establishments

Invited experts: Very limited role – on exceptional basis, by invitation of the chairman

New ITU-T Study Groups structure

SG2 - Operational aspects
SG3 - Economic & policy issues
SG5 - Environment, EMF, climate action & circular economy
SG11 - Protocols, testing & combating counterfeiting
SG12 - Performance, QoS & QoE
SG13 - Future networks
SG15 - Transport, access & home
SG17 - Security
SG20 - IoT, digital twins & smart cities
SG21 - Multimedia, content delivery & cable TV

Source: C Buetti (ITU TSB)

Europe region - participation in 2024

Meetings	No. of participants from the Europe region
ITU-T SG2 meeting (Virtual, 11 March 2024)	13
ITU-T SG2 meeting (Geneva, 19-28 June 2024)	27
ITU-T SG3 meeting (Geneva, 9-18 July 2024)	10
ITU-T SG5 meeting (Wroclaw, 17-21 June 2024)	43
* ITU-T SG9 meeting (Virtual, 9-17 May 2024)	6
* ITU-T SG9 meeting (Virtual, Tokyo, 2-10 September 2024)	1
ITU-T SG11 meeting (Geneva, 1-10 May 2024)	10
ITU-T SG12 meeting (Geneva, 16-25 April 2024)	56
ITU-T SG13 meeting (Geneva, 4-15 March 2024)	27
ITU-T SG13 meeting (Geneva, 15-26 July 2024)	28
ITU-T SG15 meeting (Montreal, 1-12 July 2024)	48
* ITU-T SG16 meeting (Rennes, 15-26 April 2024)	31
ITU-T SG17 meeting (Online, 11-12 July 2024)	15
ITU-T SG17 meeting (Geneva, 2-6 September 2024)	22
ITU-T SG20 meeting (Geneva, 9-18 July 2024)	31

* *NOTE: ITU-T SG21 is a new group in 2025, resulted from consolidation of SG9 and SG16*

Thank you!

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European Commission

ITU-T Study Group 2 - “Operational aspects of telecommunications and ICTs”

ITU-T Study Group 2 (SG2) is responsible for:

studies relating to operational aspects of telecommunications and ICTs, which include studies related to procedures, actions or processes to manage telecommunication/ICT services and networks.

SG2 Chair: Ena Dekanic (USA)

SG2 is the lead study group on:

- numbering, naming, addressing and identification
- administration of international numbering, naming, addressing & identification resources
- routing and interworking
- number portability and carrier switching
- operational aspects of telecommunication/ICT capabilities and applications
- telecommunication/ICT service definition
- telecommunications/ICTs for disaster relief/early warning, network resilience & recovery
- emergency services provision, definition and deployment
- telecommunication/ICT management
- operational aspects of identity management
- operational aspects of Internet of Things identification

Next meeting: Geneva, 2-11 February 2026
SG2 Plenary - Geneva, 5 September 2026

European Commission

ITU-T Study Group 3 - “Tariff and accounting principles and international telecommunication/ICT economic and policy issues”

ITU-T Study Group 3 (SG3) is responsible for:

studying international telecommunication/ICT policy and economic issues and tariff and accounting matters (including costing principles and methodologies), with a view to informing the timely development of enabling regulatory models and frameworks for universal connectivity and sustainable digital transformation.

SG3 Chair: Ahmed Said (Egypt)

SG3 is the lead study group on:

- tariff and accounting principles relating to international telecommunication/ICT
- economic issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT
- policy issues relating to international telecommunication/ICT

Next meeting: Geneva, 3-7 November 2025

European Commission

ITU-T Study Group 5 - “Environment, EMF, climate action & circular economy”

ITU-T Study Group 5 (SG5) is responsible for:

the development of standards on the environmental aspects of telecommunications/ICTs (including new and emerging) and protection of the environment, including electromagnetic phenomena and climate change.

SG5 Chair: Dominique Würges (France)

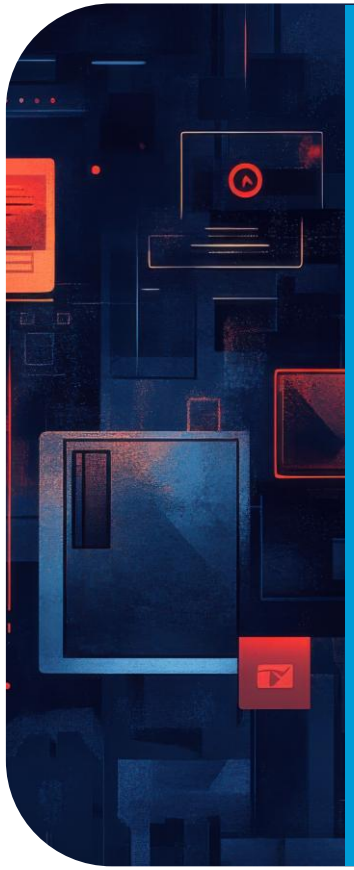
SG5 is the lead study group on:

- Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), resistibility and lightning protection
- Soft error caused by particle radiations
- Human exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF)
- Circular economy and e-waste management
- ICTs related to the environment, energy efficiency, clean energy and sustainable digitalization for climate actions

Next meeting: Geneva, 29-O 6 November 2025

European Commission

ITU-T Study Group 11 - “Signalling requirements, protocols, test specifications and combating counterfeit telecommunication/ICT devices”



ITU-T Study Group 11 (SG11) is responsible for:

studies related to signalling-system architecture, signalling requirements and protocols, for all types of networks such as future networks (FN), cloud-computing networks, VoLTE/ViLTE/VoNR/ViNR based network interconnection, virtual networks, multimedia, next-generation networks (NGNs), signalling for legacy network interworking, satellite-terrestrial networks, software-defined networking (SDN) technologies, network function virtualization (NFV) technologies, International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) systems, including IMT-2030 networks (non-radio part), quantum key distribution network (QKDN) and related technologies, and augmented reality.

SG11 Chair: Tejpal Singh (India)

SG11 is the lead study group on:

- signalling and protocols
- establishing test specifications, conformance and interoperability testing for all types of networks, technologies and services that are the subject of study and standardization by all ITU-T study groups
- combating counterfeiting and tampering of ICT devices
- combating the use of stolen ICT devices

Next meeting: Geneva, 17-26 November 2025

ITU-T Study Group 12 - “Performance, quality of service and quality of experience”

ITU-T Study Group 12 (SG12) is responsible for:

Recommendations on performance, quality of service (QoS) and quality of experience (QoE) for the full spectrum of terminals, networks, services and applications, ranging from speech over fixed circuit-based networks to multimedia applications over networks that are mobile and packet based.

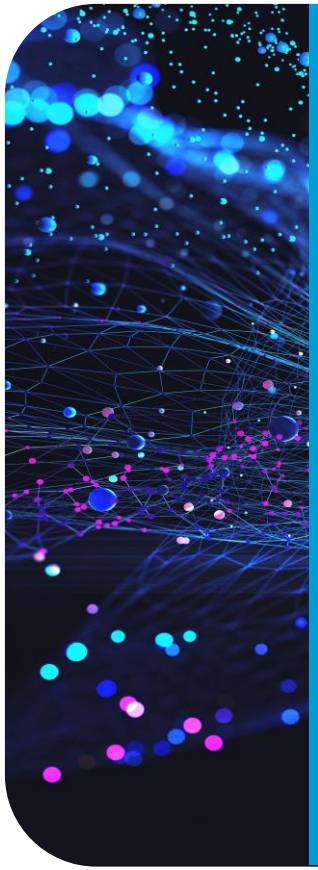
SG12 Chair: Tania Villa Trápala (Mexico)

SG12 is the lead study group on:

- quality of service and quality of experience
- performance and quality assessment of speech and multimedia communication systems, including vehicle communication systems
- video quality assessment of communications, applications and system components

Next meeting: Geneva, 9-17 June 2026

ITU-T Study Group 13 - “Future networks and emerging network technologies”



ITU-T Study Group 13 (SG13) is responsible for:

studies relating to the requirements, architectures, capabilities and application programming interfaces (APIs), softwarization, orchestration, and the use of AI, including machine learning of future networks (FN).

SG13 Chair: Kazunori Tanikawa (NICT, Japan)

SG13 is the lead study group on:

- future networks such as IMT systems, including IMT-2030 networks (non-radio related parts)
- fixed, mobile and satellite convergence
- computing, including cloud computing and data handling
- artificial intelligence, including machine learning for future networks

Next meeting: Geneva, 27 February 2026

ITU-T Study Group 15 - “Networks, technologies and infrastructures for transport, access and home”

ITU-T Study Group 15 (SG15) is responsible for:

the development of standards for the optical transport network, access network, home network and power utility network infrastructures, systems, equipment, optical fibres and cables.

SG15 Chair: Glenn Wilson Parsons (Ericsson, Canada)

SG15 is the lead study group on:

- access network transport
- home networking
- optical technology

Last meeting: Geneva, 13-24 October 2025

European Commission

ITU-T Study Group 17 - “Security”

ITU-T Study Group 17 (SG17) is responsible for:

developing international standards to enhance confidence, security and trust in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, in the context of an ever-growing attack surface and confronted with an unbalanced threat landscape.

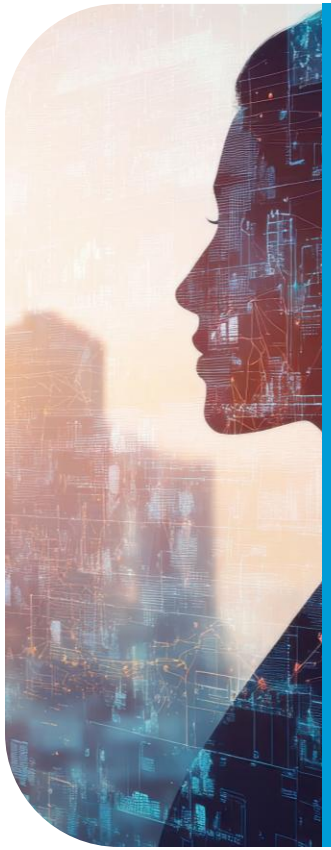
SG17 Chair: Arnaud Taddei (Broadcom Europe Ltd., UK)

SG17 is the lead study group on:

- security
- identity management
- directory, public key infrastructure (PKI), formal languages and object identifiers

Next meeting: Geneva, 8-17 April 2025

ITU-T Study Group 20 - “Internet of Things, digital twins and smart sustainable cities and communities”



ITU-T Study Group 20 (SG20) is responsible for:

the development of innovative standards (called “ITU-T Recommendations”), guidelines, reports, methodologies, and best practices for the Internet of Things (IoT), digital twins, and smart sustainable cities and communities (SSC&C), with the goal of accelerating digital transformation.

SG20 Chair: Hyoung Jun Kim (ETRI, Korea (Rep.of))

SG20 is the lead study group on:

- the Internet of Things and its applications
- smart sustainable cities and communities and related digital services, including effective energy management, digital twins and citiverse
- Internet of Things identification
- digital health related to the Internet of Things and smart sustainable cities and communities

Next meeting: Geneva, 3-11 December 2025

ITU-T Study Group 21 - “Technologies for multimedia, content delivery and cable TV”

ITU-T Study Group 21 (SG21) is responsible for:

studies relating to multimedia technologies, capabilities, systems, applications and services for existing and future networks, including Internet Protocol (IP)-based and cable-based networks.

SG21 Chair: Noah Luo (Huawei Technologies, China)

Last meeting: Geneva, 6-17 October 2025

SG21 is the lead study group on:

- multimedia technologies, applications, systems and services
- integrated broadband cable networks
- audiovisual content processing and delivery over multimedia distribution systems, including cable networks, IP-based television services and digital signage
- human factors and ICT accessibility for digital inclusion
- multimedia aspects of automotive-related intelligent services
- multimedia aspects of digital health
- digital culture
- multimedia aspects of distributed ledger technology (DLT) and its applications
- immersive multimedia technologies, including metaverse