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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulations (EU) No 1316/2013 and (EU) No 283/2014 as regards the promotion of internet connectivity in local communities (first reading) - Adoption of the legislative act = Statements

Joint statement by Sweden, Spain and the Netherlands

Sweden, Spain and The Netherlands consider access to electronic communication to be important, but the lack of an impact assessment of the long-term effects of the proposal on competition and willingness to invest is problematic. In particular considering the substantial investments needed to create conditions for future 5G-coverage in Europe. Sweden, Spain and The Netherlands are also of the opinion that this type of regulation and financing should be handled at a national level and can therefore not support the proposal.

Statement of the Czech Republic

The Czech Republic supports the overall objective of the WiFi4EU initiative and in this respect invites the Commission to avoid any duplication with other private or public offers provided on commercial bases while implementing the promotion of internet connectivity in local communities.