



# NEWSLETTER

March 2024

Digital Sector Committee

Issue no 1

CHAIRMEN'S MESSAGES

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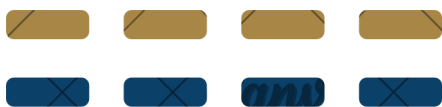
KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM  
Q4.2023

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ACTIVITIES IN Q1.2024

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ADVOCACY UPDATES



# CHAIRMEN'S MESSAGES FOR 2024



Dear Members, Stakeholders, and Friends,

As we step into the auspicious year of the Dragon, we extend our warmest greetings to each and every one of you on behalf of the Digital Sector Committee at EuroCham Vietnam.

Reflecting on our journey through the challenges and triumphs of the past years, particularly the significant strides made in 2022 and 2023, we are immensely proud of what we have achieved together. Our collective dedication and relentless pursuit of excellence have propelled the Digital Sector Committee to new heights, reinforcing our position as a driving force in shaping Vietnam's digital landscape.

Looking ahead, as we embark on the year of the Dragon, we invite each of you to join us in this enriching venture. Together, let us seize the opportunities that lie ahead, harnessing the collective wisdom and expertise of our diverse membership to drive innovation, foster collaboration, and create a future where technology serves as a catalyst for positive change.

In closing, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our members, stakeholders, and partners for your unwavering support. It is through our shared commitment and collaboration that we will continue to lead and inspire in the digital era.

Wishing you all a prosperous and transformative year ahead.

***Mr. Bruno Sivanandan & Mr. Pavel Poskakukhin***  
***Co-Chairmen of Digital Sector Committee***







On 27 November, 2023, Co-Chair Pavel Poskakukhin represented the European Chamber of Commerce Digital Sector Committee (DSC) at the Vietnam – EU Trade Forum held at the Rex Hotel.

The forum provided valuable insights into the interconnectedness of topics with the challenges faced by the manufacturing and agricultural industries.

## Key Highlights of Q4. 2023



### Significant shift in Vietnam's telecoms landscape to begin

December 18, 2023 | 09:00 ★★★★★ (0) user say

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**Vietnam's telecommunications landscape is experiencing rapid evolution, marked by a surge in innovative services such as over-the-top (OTT) telecom, cloud computing, and internet data centre (IDC) services.**

During the sixth session of the 15th National Assembly, the amended Law on Telecommunications was approved, with the aim of striking a delicate balance between regulating these emerging services and fostering their growth.

The amended law will come into effect in 2025 for the provisions regulating OTT telecommunications services, cloud computing, and IDC services. For the remaining provisions, it will take effect in July 2024.

In the draft stage of the amended law, concerns have emerged regarding the potential integration of new services and the necessity for clear and distinct regulations due to their unique characteristics. However, during the drafting process, some of the concerns mentioned above have been partially addressed.



*Pavel Poskakukhin, co-chairman,  
Digital Sector Committee,*

On 18 December, 2023, Co-Chair Pavel Poskakukhin wrote an article named "Significant shift in Vietnam's telecoms landscape to begin" on the amended Telecommunications Law and published by Vietnam Investment Review.

More details: <https://vir.com.vn/significant-shift-in-vietnams-telecoms-landscape-to-begin-107703.html>



Join us? Please contact:

[danh.nguyen@eurochamvn.org](mailto:danh.nguyen@eurochamvn.org)



# First Quarter of 2024 Highlights

## Whitebook Launch 2024

On January 16, EuroCham hosted a business-to-government dialogue forum in Hanoi that brought together business and political leaders to discuss the key findings from the Whitebook.

Mr. Bruno Sivanandan delivered a speech on behalf of Digital SC at Whitebook Launch

His speech focused on:

1. Personal Data Protection Decree (PDPD)
2. Telecommunications Regulations
3. Semi-conductors Industry



## AusCham's Webinar on PDPD

On January 24, 2024, AusCham hosted a webinar focused on Decree 13, inviting members from DSC to speak.

Among the speakers were Christophe Poisson and Bruno Sivanandan.

The webinar delved into key talking points including an overview of the Personal Data Protection (PDP) Decree and its significant provisions, highlighting its impact on organizations and associated compliance challenges. Additionally, speakers discussed a roadmap to achieve compliance, providing insights and best practices for navigating the regulatory landscape effectively.



Webinar

## PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION DECREE

*A guide to compliance in Vietnam*

Online via Zoom  
Language: English

Wednesday, 24 January 2024 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM



## EuroCham Cambodia's Digital Future Forum

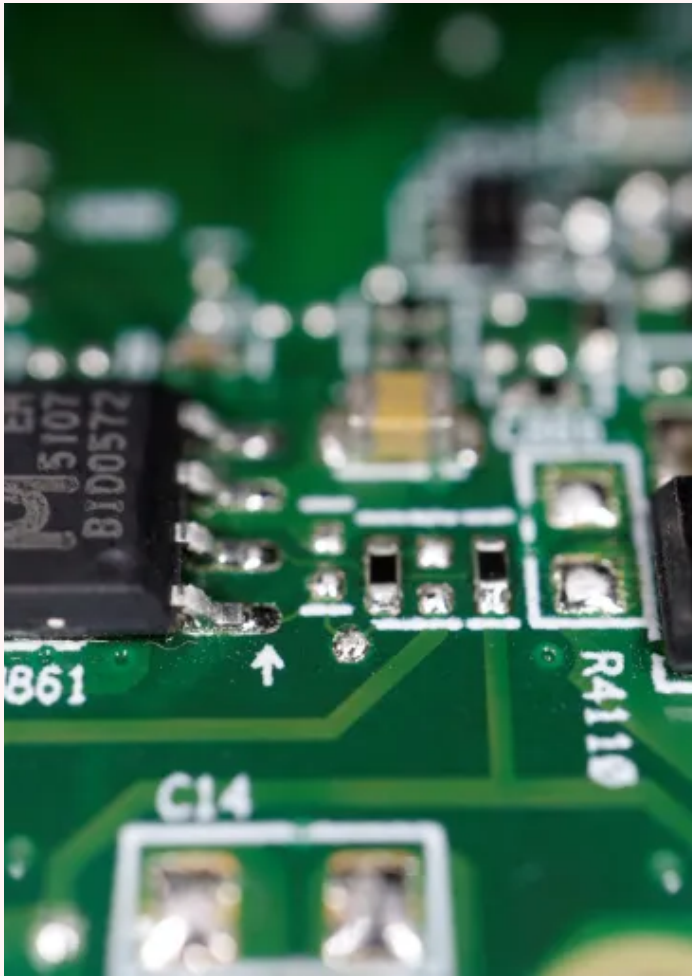
On Tuesday 30th January, EuroCham Cambodia's Digital & Technology Committees held its first-ever Digital Future Forum titled "Building Tomorrow's Digital Foundation".

Mr. Bruno Sivanandan represented EuroCham Vietnam's Digital SC to share his expertise and insights on the challenges and opportunities ahead for Cambodia's digital landscape.



# FIRST QUARTER OF 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

ABOUT US: [HTTPS://EUROCHAMVN.ORG/VI/DIGITAL-SECTOR-COMMITTEE/](https://eurochamvn.org/vi/digital-sector-committee/)



In a recent article on Al Jazeera, co-chairman Bruno Sivanandan highlighted Vietnam's potential in the semiconductor industry amidst US-China chip tensions. He discussed potential collaborations with European academies to enhance Vietnamese workers' education and the importance of meeting European standards on carbon emissions for business partnerships, suggesting it could pose a barrier in the semiconductor industry. Read full article here: <https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2024/3/4/as-vietnam-bids-to-become-chip-leader-energy-and-labour-woes-stand-in-the-way>

On January, Co-Chairman Bruno Sivanandan joined in an interview with the Hanoi TV. He outlined strategic initiatives for boosting Vietnam's position and growth in the sector, while also addressing the development of human resources in Hanoi and across the country to cultivate expertise. More information: <https://shorturl.at/myCFO>



On 5 February, on an interview with VTV4, Co-Chairman Bruno Sivanandan highlighted Vietnam's strides in semiconductor development, underscoring investments from industry giants like Samsung, Intel, and Foxconn.

He attributed Vietnam's success in this sector to its well-equipped workforce, specialized industrial zones, and seamless integration into global supply chains.

Link to the interview: <https://youtu.be/hbxMjIDUA0U?t=689>

# Advocacy Updates

## Amended Telecommunications Law

On 24 November 2023, during the 6th session of the 15th National Assembly, the National Assembly approved the amended Telecommunications Law. The amended Telecommunications Law will come into effect on January 1, 2025, for the provisions regulating Over-The-Top (OTT) telecommunications services, cloud computing, and Internet Data Centers (IDC).

The National Assembly the amended Telecommunications Law towards "light touch regulation" for these 3 services such as:

- (i) Providers of these 3 services are exempted from certain obligations, such as not having to contribute to the Public Utility Telecommunication Services Fund and not being required to pay telecommunication operation fees;
- (ii) Providers of these 3 services are not required to obtain a telecommunications license; instead, they only involve the process of registration and notification.



- (iii) All the rights and obligations of providers of these 3 new services are consolidated into a single section (Section 3 - Chapter II) for the convenience and compliance of the businesses
- (iv) Clear provisions regarding the non-restriction of the foreign investment capital

## Advocacy Letter on Draft Decree Guiding Law on Consumer Rights Protection

On December 2023, Digital SC contributes comments and recommendations on the Draft Decree guiding Law on Consumers Protection Rights. The main points are the need for traders to comply with both consumer protection laws and personal data protection regulations, the allowance for contracts in languages other than Vietnamese with preference for consumer-friendly versions, efforts to reduce administrative burdens through database interconnection, and the call for clarification regarding the definition of a consumer in terms of individuals, families, or organizations.



No. 1122023/VCC/SC  
Ho Chi Minh City, 22 November 2023

Respectfully to:  
Vietnam Competition Commission - Ministry of Industry and Trade  
23 Ngõ Ông, Hoàn Kiếm, Hanoi, Vietnam

Regarding: European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam contributes comments and recommendations on the Draft Decree guiding Law on Consumers Protection Rights.

The European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam ("EuroCham") and its relevant Sector Committees ("SCs"), namely, Consumer SC, Digital SC, National Food Groups SC, would like to express our highest courtesy and regards to the honorable leaders and colleagues at the Vietnam Competition Commission ("VCC").

We highly appreciate VCC's sincere efforts and fully support the government's direction in facilitating the development of the legal framework in the field of trade's responsibility to customers, which contributes to promote a sustainable business environment in Vietnam while ensuring compliance with international best practices.

On behalf of the European business members and in keeping with the commitment to constructive participation in the development of legal frameworks under the authority of the VCC, by this letter, we would like to share with you the comments and recommendations of EuroCham on the Draft Decree guiding Law No. 19/2023/QH13 of the National Assembly dated 20 June 2023 on Consumers Protection Rights. The commentary is attached in the Annex (A, B & C).

The European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam would like to reiterate our sincere appreciation for the opportunity to share our perspectives and look forward to receiving your consideration and support. We stand ready not only to contribute and share comments but also to cooperate with the Vietnam Competition Commission and all relevant authorities through many other measures such as seminars, dialogues, and consultation processes.

Respectfully yours,

For and on behalf of  
European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam

Jean Jacques Baudouin  
EuroCham in charge of Advocacy

For more information, please contact Mrs. Trung Ngan Bui, Advocacy Manager, email: [advocacy@eurocham.vn](mailto:advocacy@eurocham.vn), mobile: 0962 360 816 and Mrs. Nguyen Cam Phan, Head of Brand Office and External Relations Manager, email: [brand@eurocham.vn](mailto:brand@eurocham.vn)



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[danh.nguyen@eurochamvn.org](mailto:danh.nguyen@eurochamvn.org)