Regulatory reset for the Digital Economy

CANTO

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The transformation

THEN

Information, communications & media organized and regulated by **technology** (radio, television, telephone, print etc.), which imposed clear boundaries.

NOW

From: multiple, independent networks for each service

To: unbundled services across common broadband networks

CONVERGENCE

Content flows across different networks and technologies; multiple services on same or competing networks using different technology platforms (e.g. wired/wireless). All services are data streams. Voice, video etc. are just particular streams among many.

Issues: trying to regulate 1 stream in the river – other data streams not subject to regulation. Traditional 'trusted' media losing market share to unregulated social media (social media is news source for 62% of US adults, primary news source for 18%.)

GEOGRAPHY

Transactions take place across borders, creating problems of regulation, taxation etc.

Can provide media services without any local presence or infrastructure – just need internet access.



BCJ: the direction of travel

- Support Jamaica's transition to digital society. Ensure media services available to all, with seamless access to diverse content across platforms.
- Facilitate positive change, mitigate harms.
- Detect and act against abuses organized crime, gangs, terrorist recruitment, fake news, false advertising, political manipulation, grooming, bullying etc.
- Need to protect data security, prevent legitimate privacy being compromised.
- Ensure people can have confidence in information sources.
- A media and technology-literate society.
- Need modern policy, legal, regulatory framework. Regulatory approach: lean, transparent, efficient and effective. Content-focused, technology-agnostic. Need mix of educational and advisory interventions, legal and economic tools, sanctions and positive incentives.



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