

The impact of the proposal on the information society

The proposal is not assessed as having an impact on the information society under normal conditions. The purpose of the Emergency Powers Act is, among other things, to maintain activities that are essential for the functioning of society, such as information society services. The proposal also contains certain provisions on powers, the purpose of which is precisely to ensure the provision of essential communications services in exceptional circumstances. Such provisions are included in particular in Chapter 18 of the proposed Act, but also, for example, the additional powers aimed at safeguarding the availability of labour could indirectly ensure the maintenance of essential information and communications services. On the other hand, the obligation of a telecommunications operator referred to in section 134 of the draft Act to give priority to certain service users could also lead to a deterioration in the availability or functioning of the service subject to the power, from the perspective of other users. Ultimately, this would involve a balancing of interests in emergency conditions, which could therefore also result in a temporary deterioration of information society services. In addition, the crisis itself leading to emergency conditions may significantly affect the availability of information society services, for example if essential information and communications networks are damaged.