

Radio Frequency Regulation 4

Background and legal basis of the regulation

The regulation concerns the use of radio frequencies. Its objective is to guarantee a fair availability of radio frequencies and efficient, appropriate and sufficiently interference-free use of frequencies.

The Regulation is issued under sections 96(1) and 97(2) of the Act on Electronic Communications Services (917/2014).

The Radio Frequency Regulation concerns the 100 Hz–400 GHz radio frequency spectrum. The Frequency Allocation Table appended to the Regulation contains provisions on the allocation of different radio frequencies, frequency bands and sub-bands for different purposes of use. The table also contains the requirements for transmitting and receiving frequencies and the used channel spacing. The Table also contains provisions on radio transmitters' bandwidth of transmission, duplex separation, transmitted powers and other corresponding radio characteristics. The Frequency Allocation Table annexed to the Regulation applies also to electrical equipment that are used for scientific, industrial, medical or other similar purposes and designated to generate radio frequency energy (ISM equipment).

The Frequency Allocation Table also takes into consideration the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), which have been implemented in Finland by Decree 12/2000.

The Regulation requires regular updates, which are based on international frequency rules and recommendations as well as currently planned changes to the utilisation of frequency bands. Government Decree on Radio Spectrum Usage and the Frequency Allocation Plan (1246/2014).

Objectives of the Regulation

The objective of the Radio Frequency Regulation and the radio frequency utilisation plan is to safeguard the efficient use of the radio frequency spectrum. The radio frequency utilisation plan is published with the aim of supplying equipment manufacturers and users with information on the use of radio frequencies and on the protection against interference provided for radio networks by means of frequency planning. In addition to equipment design applications, manufacturers need this information in order to fulfil their obligations under Article 10 of Directive 2014/53/EU regarding the information to be included in user instruction manuals.

The content of the Radio Frequency Regulation will be specified in accordance with the amendments in the Government Decree regarding the use of the 2300–2320 MHz and 24.25–25.1 GHz frequency ranges.

Drafting process

Stakeholder consultations was carried out in March–April 2021 via the Lausuntopalvelu.fi service. Information on the request for opinions was available on the agency's website and via an email sent to stakeholders.

Comments received through consultation

Comments were received from Digita Oy and the Finnish Amateur Radio League (SRAL). The comments are available via the [Lausuntopalvelu.fi](https://lausuntopalvelu.fi) service.

Digita Oy expressed support for the changes put forward, but proposed that a larger number of frequencies be allocated for local networks. In its response to Digita, the Finnish Transport and

Communications Agency stated that it monitors the demand for and frequency needs of local networks, and aims to ensure that a sufficient number of frequencies are available.

SRAL remarked that the content and application of the Radio Frequency Regulation must, in particular, safeguard the right of current users (including radio amateurs) to continue using the frequencies in question in the future. In its response to SRAL, the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency pointed out that radio amateurs may continue to use the frequency band while paying due attention to Regulations 4 (Radio Frequency Regulation) and 6 (Amateur Radio Regulation) of the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency.

Changes and impact assessment

The changes being made to the Regulation now aim to promote the construction of local wireless broadband networks.

Amending the Regulation would take into account the amendments in the Government Frequency Decree regarding the 2300–2320 MHz and 24.25–25.1 GHz frequency ranges. The Regulation also contains provisions on the other use of these frequency ranges.

The new version of the Regulation, version 4 AB /2021, contains the following amendments:

- The 2300–2320 MHz frequency range allocated for local radio networks based on mobile technology
- The 24.25–25.1 GHz frequency range allocated for local terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services.

All amendments made to this version are listed in an annex to the Regulation.

Entry into force

The amended Regulation enters into force in April 2021.