

Airwaves belong to everyone. Although transmission is regulated, reception is open and unrestricted. And the only purpose of the regulation is to ensure that the openness of the medium is preserved and the utility of the radio space is not compromised.

This is as it should be. Everybody benefits when the utility of a common resource is preserved. Otherwise, the phenomenon of the "Tragedy of the Commons" rears its ugly head. Here, overly aggressive private consumption of a public resource causes a compromise of the utility of the common resource, to the detriment of all, including the private individuals hogging the resource!

The Internet is, by definition, a shared resource. It's a peering agreement based on communications protocols which enable all of its parts to cooperate together, seamlessly, for the public benefit. Any part can access any other part as though all parts were local. It's the first, truly open, global communications system whose immense potential for benefiting humankind has barely begun.

It is now up to you, here, to declare for our progeny, that this shared, common resource shall remain open and free for the benefit of all, to ensure its use, utility, and power so that everybody can benefit.

Balkanizing this public medium with an "unequal" internet, where the common carriers of the traffic are free to degrade access to portions of the network not in their personal interest, serves only to pillage the utility of the common good. It provides enhanced short-term profits for the pillager, but degrades the overall utility of the network.

Please, please please, follow the forefathers before you who have declared that this land be preserved for the common good, and those who declared that the roads be preserved for the common good, and those who have declared that the nation's power grid and telephone grid be regulated to preserve their utility for the common good.

The utility of the Internet should be preserved. Please, please, keep it neutral.