

Dichotomous Thinking About the International Telecommunication Union

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Dichotomous Thinking About the ITU

Stable, essential conflict avoidance and timely conflict resolution	Volatile, increasingly non-essential; prone to “mission creep”
Consensus building reaps ample dividends.	One nation, one vote creates incentives for coalitions not seeking maximum social welfare and efficiency; “consensus by exhaustion.”
Non-partisan, empirically driven and able to undertake essential study and consultation.	Partisan, industrial policies often favor “national heroes.”
Ex ante planning a better and more equitable process.	Pragmatic, market-driven process works better; consider the consequences of a prior satellite orbital slot assignments.
Reasonable for the ITU to transition to broadband, Internet issues including autonomous cars, AI and the IoT.	“Stick to your knitting!”
Sector-specific expertise in spectrum management, standard setting and ICT4D.	ITU structure promotes turf battles and delays.
Recognizes national sovereignty and the value in multi-literalism.	Likely to discount NGOs unless they pay to play.