

Press release

## FREQUENCIES

### Arcep launches a public consultation with a view to the future assignment of frequencies in the 3410 – 3490 MHz and 3.8 – 4.2 GHz bands in Metropolitan France

Paris, 23 July 2024

With a view to future spectrum assignments in two frequency bands in Metropolitan France – namely the 3410 – 3490 MHz and 3.8 – 4.2 GHz bands – Arcep is launching a public consultation whose main purpose is to:

- Identify mobile operators' frequency requirements in the 3410 – 3490 MHz band for the operation of their public network, and gather their feedback on certain conditions of use for this band;
- Gather stakeholders' feedback on the principles governing the assignment of the 3.8 – 4.2 GHz band for the deployment of local private mobile networks. Here, depending on the responses to this public consultation, Arcep plans on implementing a local assignment framework for the 3.8 – 4.2 GHz band for the deployment of local mobile networks for commercial purposes.

#### **The bands in question have been identified to develop 5G coverage and the use of 5G for commercial purposes**

The 3410 – 3490 MHz band, which will become available across the whole of mainland France on 25 July 2026, is part of the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band, which has been harmonised in Europe for mobile use. As a reminder: the remainder of the 3.4 – 3.8 GHz band (i.e. 3490 – 3800 MHz frequencies) was assigned in 2020 in Metropolitan France to the country's four mobile operators, which use it to provide 5G services.

The European Commission considers the 3.8 – 4.2 GHz band adequate to meet verticals' frequency needs. It was the subject of a European harmonisation process to use 5G for low and medium-power applications on a local basis.

**Stakeholders are invited to respond before 4 November 2024.**

#### **Associated document:**

- [Document published for consultation](#)

#### **Arcep at a glance**

The Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications, Postal Affairs and Print Media Distribution (Arcep), a neutral and expert arbitrator with the status of independent administrative authority (IAA), is the architect and guardian of internet, fixed and mobile communications and postal networks in France.