

Information sheet on the telecom operators' rights when rolling out on façades

Telecom operators are **entitled to roll out cables and equipment on façades**. The owner of the building may not refuse this roll-out.

(Act of 21 March 1991 on the reform of certain economic public companies, Article 99).

This applies to all operators registered with the BIPT. The list can be found here:
<https://www.bipt.be/operators/publication/list-of-telecom-operators>

Procedure

1. Operators have to inform the owner beforehand about where and how the work will be carried out.

If not OK

The owner can request more information or protest about the execution method to the operator.

2. Upon protest by the owner, the operator has to try and come to an agreement.

If not OK

Informal procedure: operator and owner have to try and come to an agreement among themselves first.

3. Formal procedure before the BIPT:

If no agreement is reached, the operator sends a registered letter clearly describing the location and manner of execution of the work.

The owner can lodge a **motivated** complaint with the BIPT within 8 working days.

The BIPT has the work suspended pending a decision.

! All operators enjoy this right, even when a cable is already present on the façade or when there is a front garden. However, the operator has to comply with urban planning obligations etc. (e.g. in the case of protected façades), see competent bodies.

! During the formal procedure, the BIPT takes into account different factors. The alternative technical solutions the BIPT examines are mainly façade-oriented. Only in exceptional cases an underground roll-out can be considered a valid alternative.

! Owners can still carry out work that requires the cables to be moved (although the work must not be solely for that purpose). The operator must be notified by registered letter two months prior to the start of the work, and pays the moving costs.

! Article 99 also entitles operators to make use of open, unbuilt grounds, and to cross or enter properties without attachment or contact. The same procedure applies.

For more information, see <https://fibreinfo.be/en/rights-and-duties/right-use-facades>

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