

Spectrum Management and 6G Midband Technology

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Shima Mashhadi

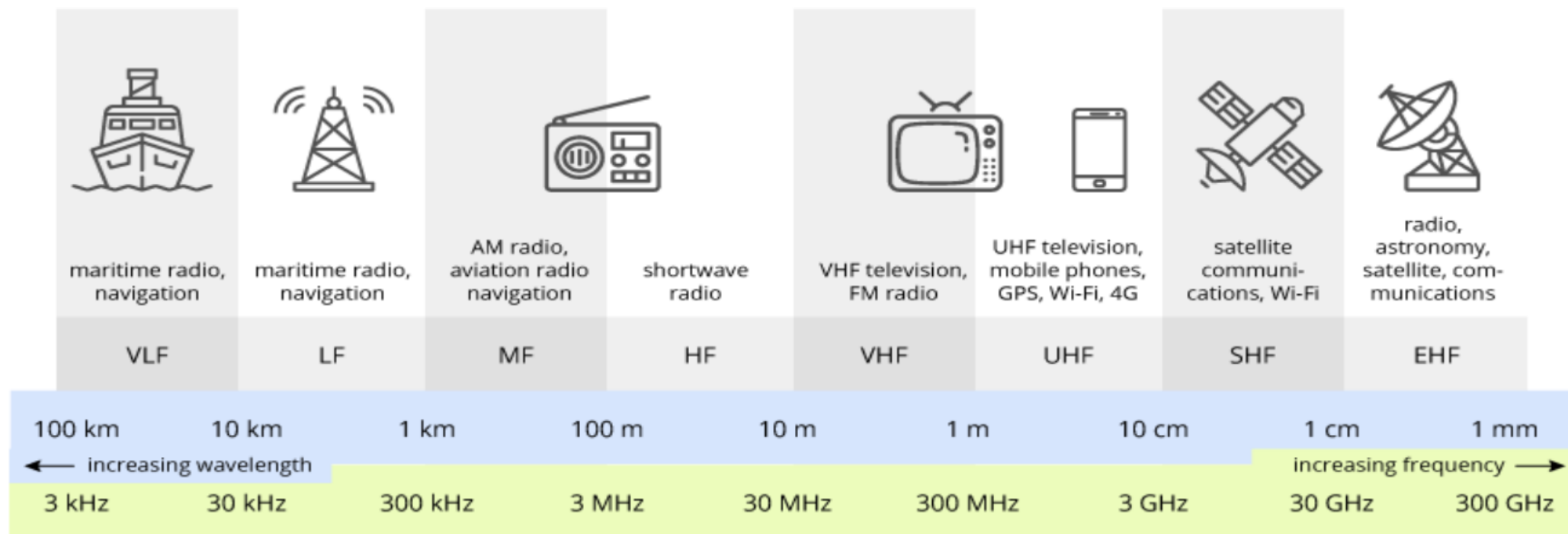
Jan 2025

Topics To Covers

- Spectrum Management
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
 - ITU-D
 - ITU-T
 - ITU-R
- U.S. Spectrum Management
 - NTFA
 - NFAC
- 6G Technology
 - 6G usage and capabilities
 - 6G spectrum

Spectrum management

- **Spectrum management** is the process of regulating the use of radio frequencies.
- frequency range from **10 kHz to 300 GHz**.

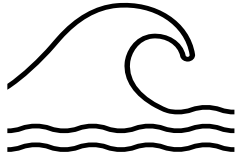


Spectrum management

- Spectrum is **reusable but finite resource**.
- The purpose of spectrum management is to mitigate radio **spectrum pollution**, and maximize the benefit of usable radio spectrum.
- Governments around the world regulate who can use what part of the spectrum in what locations.



Electromagnetic Spectrum



Water



Land



Natural Resource

Mineral



Gas





International Telecommunication Union (ITU)



About ITU

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Who They are

- ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs).
- ITU is the oldest agency in the UN family.

What they do

- They allocate global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies connect seamlessly.

Why they matter

- Networks and devices everywhere rely on ITU's work.

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Formation

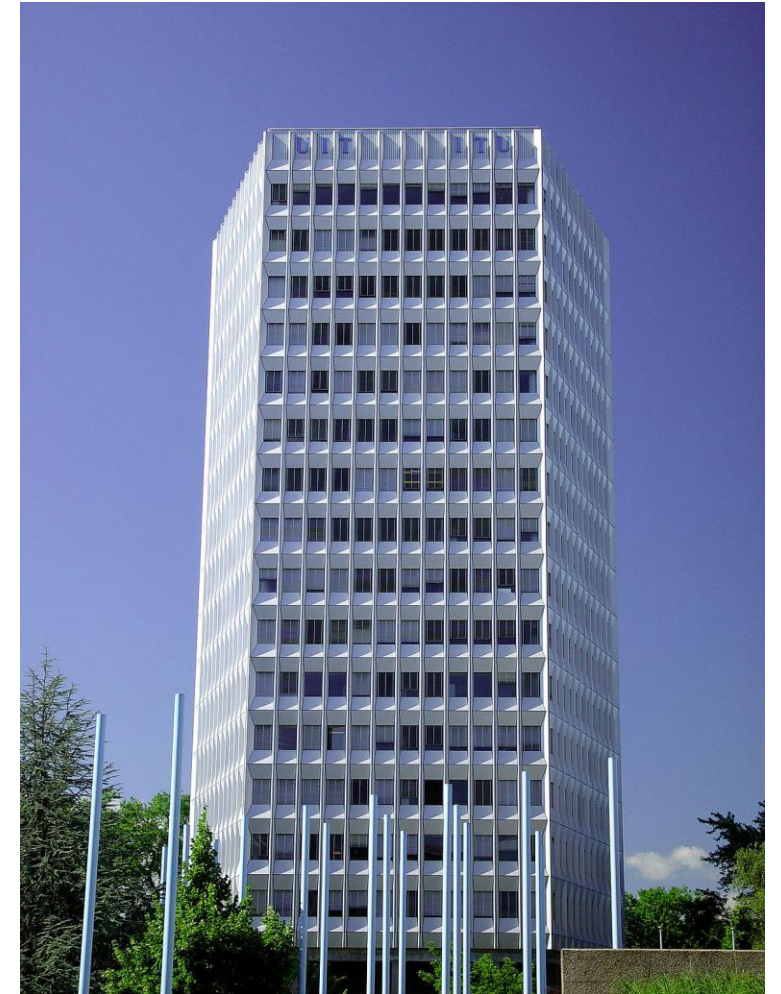
The ITU was established in **1865** by the name of International Telegraph Union. In **1934**, it adopted its current name.

Headquarters

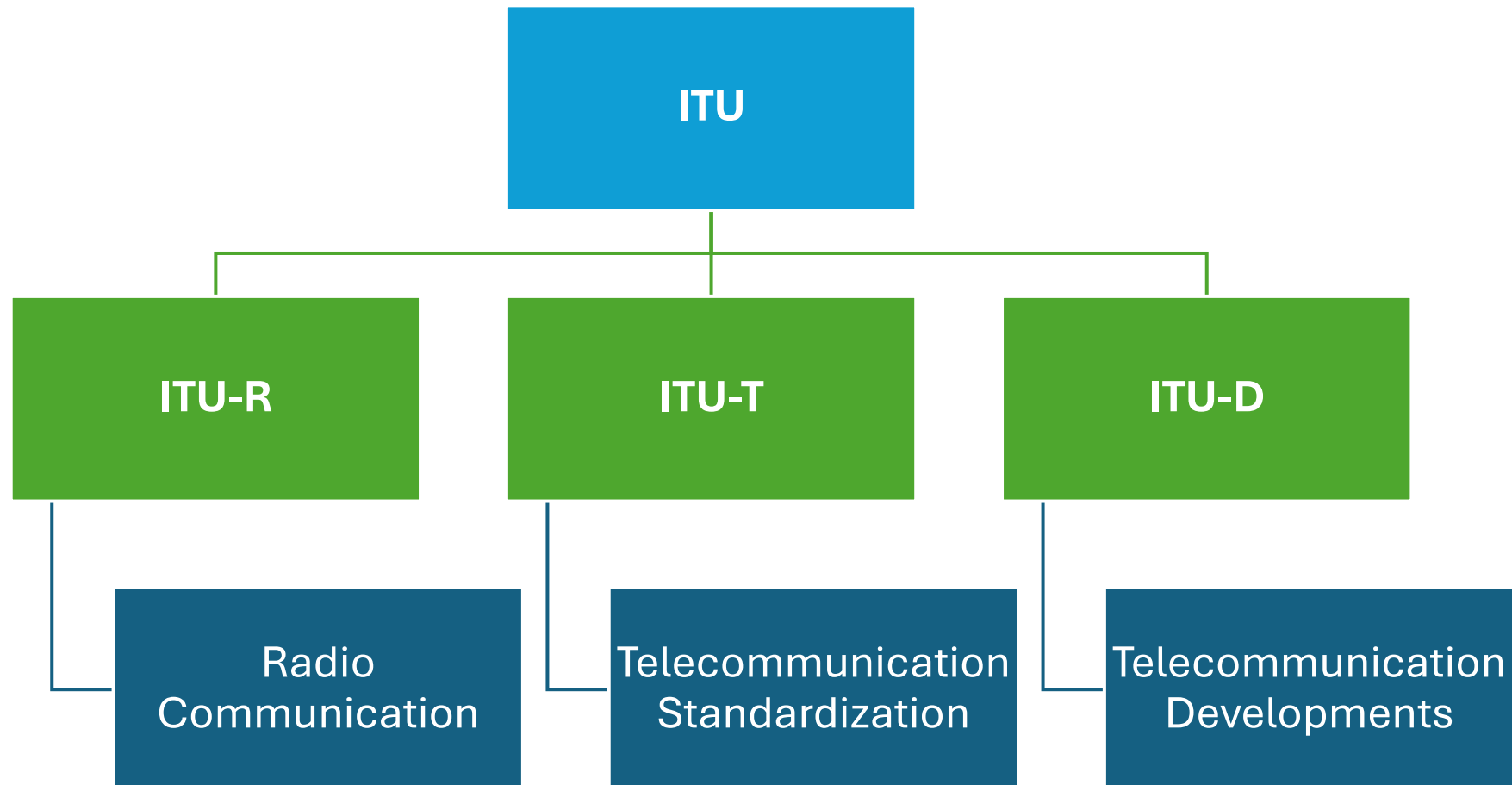
The headquarters of the ITU is situated in **Geneva, Switzerland.**

Members

The ITU has **194 member states, including all the member states of the United Nations.**



International Telecommunication Union (ITU)



ITU-D Telecommunication Development

- Equitable, sustainable and **affordable** access to information and communication technologies (ICT).
- Creating **policies, regulation** and providing **training programs** and **financial strategies** in developing countries.
- The ITU-D hosts the **World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC)** every four years.
- Two Study Groups: Enabling Environment for Meaningful connectivity, Digital Transformation.



<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Pages/About.aspx>

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Study-Groups/2022-2025/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://www.gp-digital.org/the-itu-a-brief-explainer/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ITU-D>

ITU-T Telecommunication Standardization

- It is responsible for coordinating standards for telecommunication and ICT, Known as ITU-Recommendations.
- The ITU-D host the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly.
- The technical work, the development of Recommendations, of ITU-T is managed by Study Groups (SGs). There are currently **11 SGs**.
 - [SG11 - Protocols, testing & combating counterfeiting](#)
 - [SG12 - Performance, QoS & QoE](#)
 - [SG13 - Future networks](#)
 - [SG17 - Security](#)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ITU-T#cite_note-4

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/about/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://www.itu.int/wtsa/2024/>

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/studygroups/2025-2028/Pages/default.aspx>



ITU-R Radio Communication

- ITU-R defines and manages the international regulatory framework for the **use of spectrum and satellite orbits**.
- Develop standards for **radiocommunication systems**.(ITU-R recommendations)
- Each member country submits its proposal of spectrum allocation to ITU. After deliberate discussions on the received proposal in the meeting of all country members, decision are taken for opening of bands.
- 6 Study groups:
 - **SG1: Spectrum management**
 - **SG4: Satellite Services**
 - **SG5: Terrestrial Services**



World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC)

- The WRC is organized by ITU-R and held typically every 3 to 4 years in Geneva.
- It allocates frequency bands to different applications, including mobile cellular communication (the business of 3GPP), which is called **International Mobile Telecommunication (IMT)** by ITU.
- The **Radio Regulations (RR)** incorporate the decisions of the WRCs.



Master International Frequency Register (MIFR)

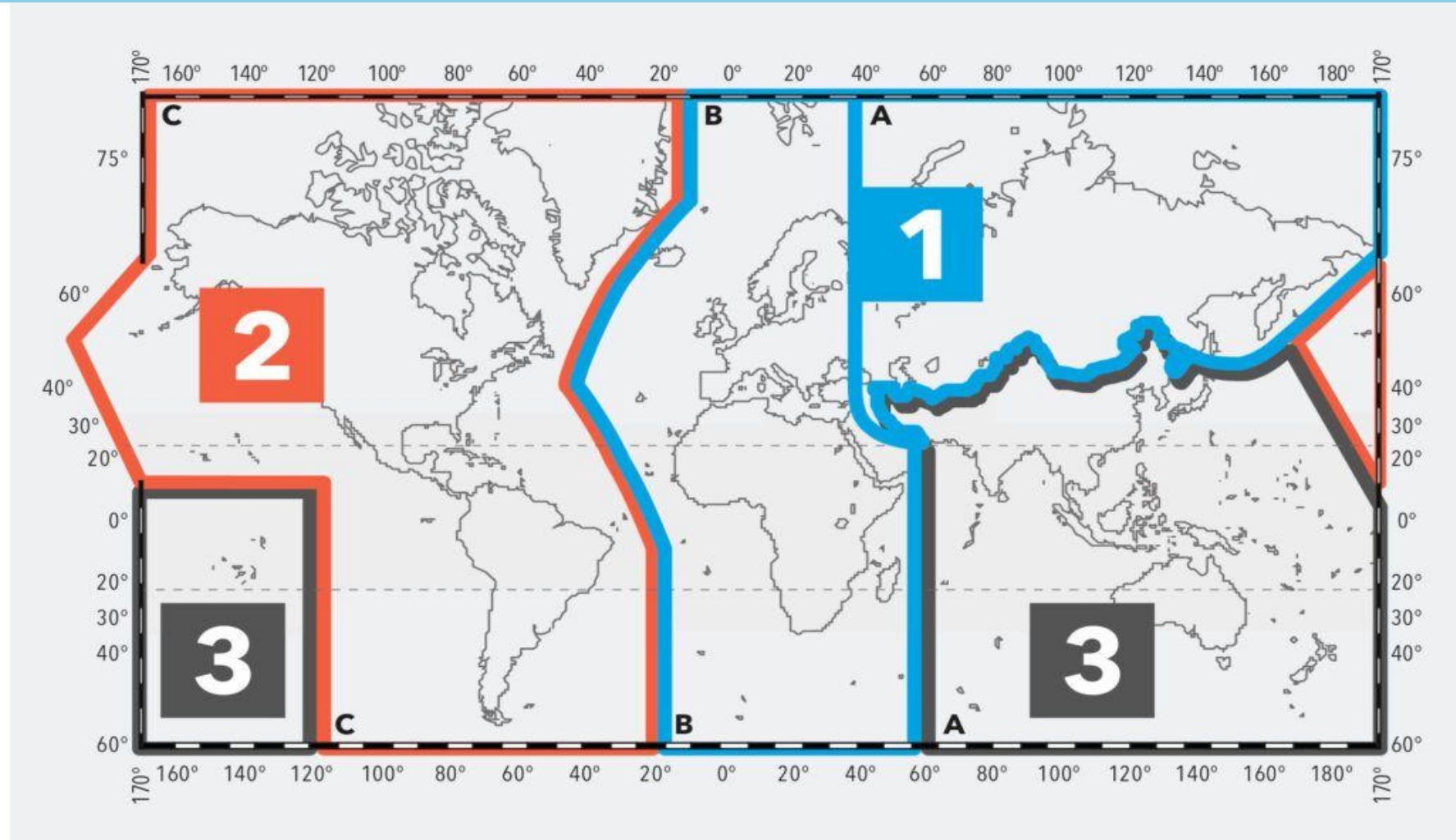
- Containing all **registered frequency assignments**.
- Contains database of **satellite and terrestrial** frequency assignments.
- Recording in the MIFR is the final stage of the frequency coordination process.
- Confers international recognition and **protection from interference**.



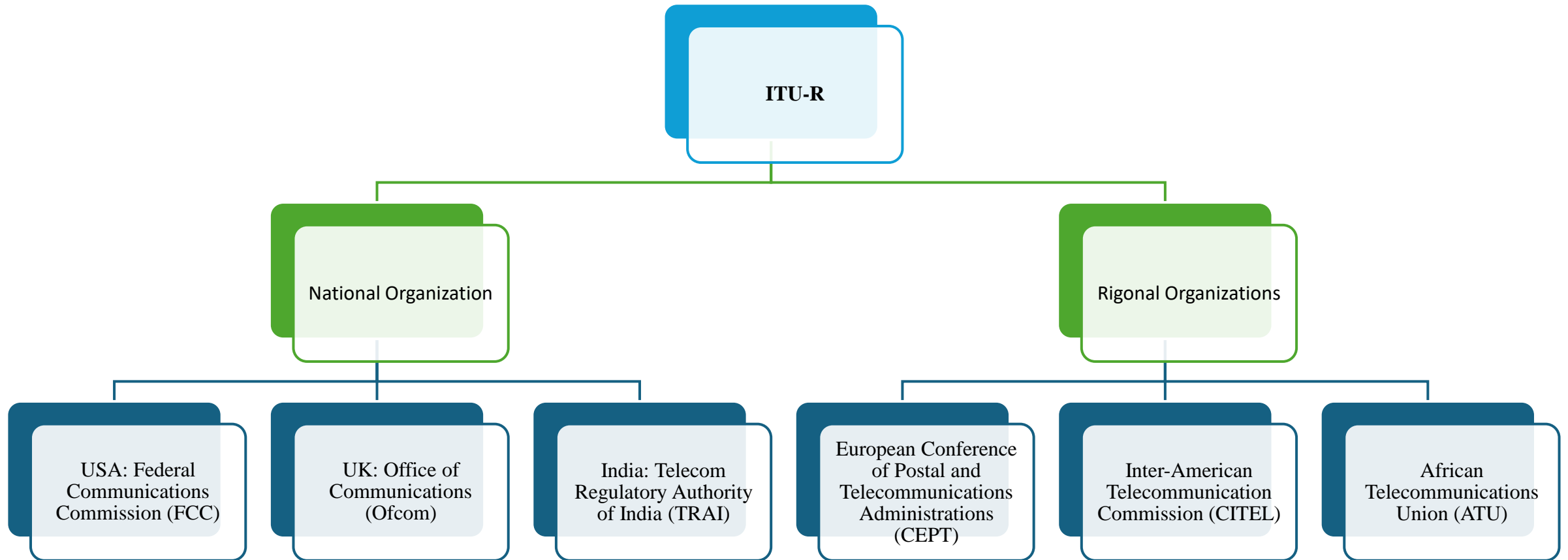
<https://www.itu.int/hub/2023/07/keeping-interference-in-check-seven-decades-of-itus-radio-frequency-circular/>

ITU-R Regions

- The Radio Regulations, divides the world into three ITU regions for the purposes of managing the global radio spectrum.



ITU-R Radio Communication



U.S. Spectrum Management

- NTIA and FCC Jointly Manage Radio Spectrum in the U.S.

FCC = Federal Communications Commission

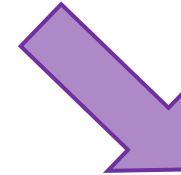
NTIA = National Telecommunications and Information Administration

National Spectrum Management

Communication ACT OF 1934



The Congress



FCC

Non-Federal Users

Business
State & Local Government
Commercial and Entertainment
Private

Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC)

Chaired by NTIA. Representative from 19 federal Agencies

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National Spectrum Management

The President



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The Congress

NTIA

Federal Users

National Defense
Law Enforcement & Security
Transportation
Resource Mgmt. & Control
Emergencies

FCC

Non-Federal Users

Business
State & Local Government
Commercial
Private

Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC)

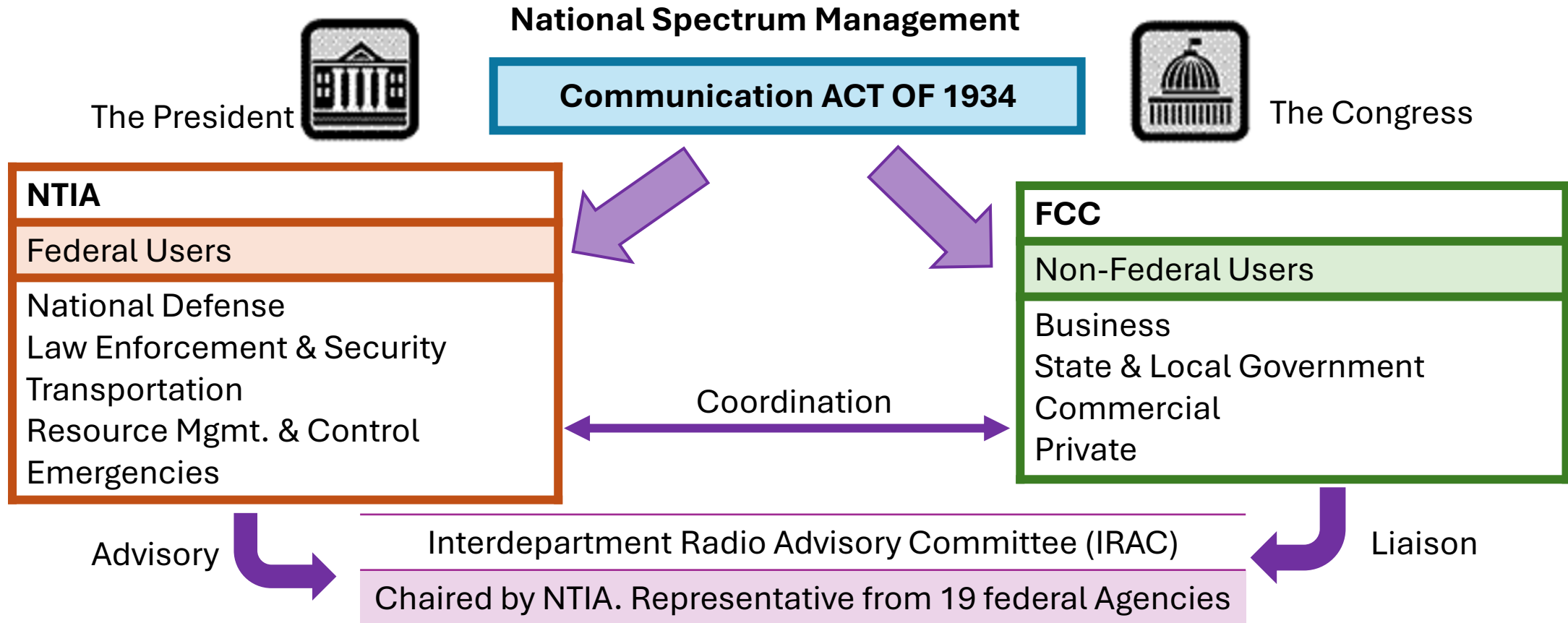
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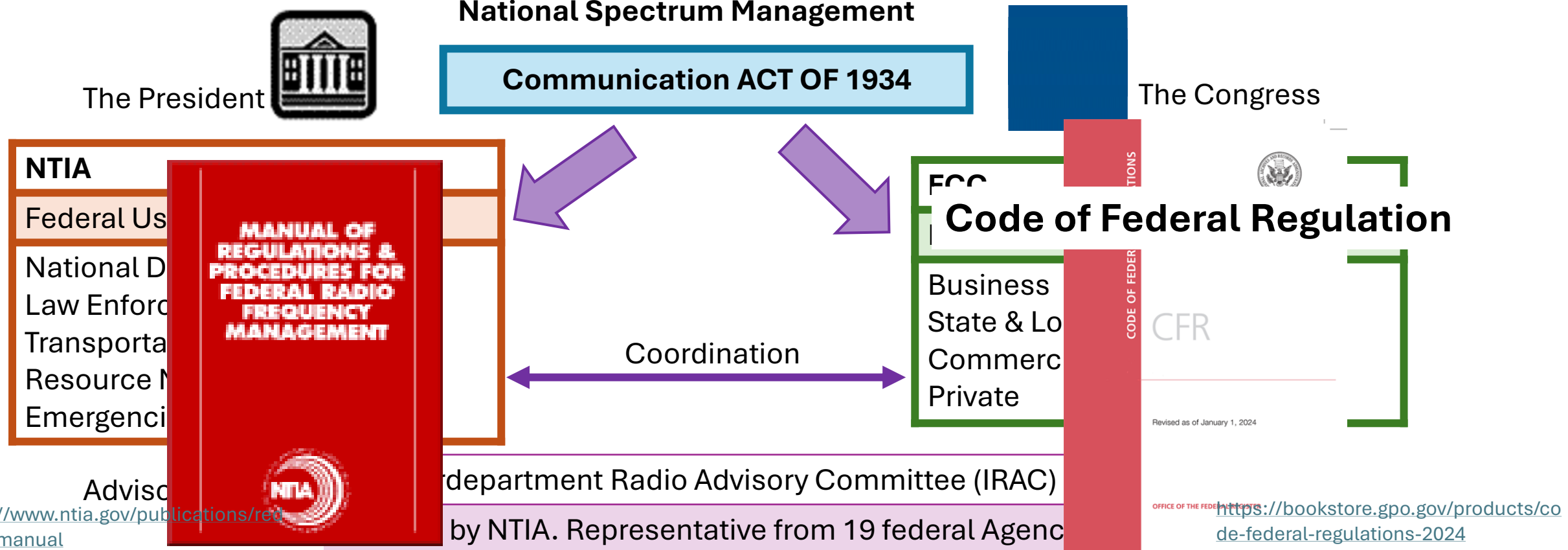
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National Spectrum Management



National Table of Frequency Allocations (NTFA)

Table of Frequency Allocations			941-1525 MHz (UHF)		Page 31
International Table			United States Table		FCC Rule Part(s)
Region 1 Table	Region 2 Table	Region 3 Table	Federal Table	Non-Federal Table	
(See previous page)	(See previous page)	(See previous page)	941-944 FIXED	941-944 FIXED	Public Mobile (22) Aural Broadcast Auxiliary (74E) Fixed Microwave (101)
942-960 FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile 5.317A BROADCASTING 5.322	942-960 FIXED MOBILE 5.317A	942-960 FIXED MOBILE 5.317A BROADCASTING	US268 US301 G2 944-960	US268 US301 NG30 NG120 944-960 FIXED	Public Mobile (22) Aural Broadcast Auxiliary (74E) Low Power Auxiliary (74H) Fixed Microwave (101)
5.323		5.320		NG120	
960-1164 AERONAUTICAL MOBILE (R) 5.327A AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION 5.328			960-1164 AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION 5.328 US224 US400		Aviation (87)
1164-1215 AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION 5.328 RADIONAVIGATION-SATELLITE (space-to-Earth) (space-to-space) 5.328B			1164-1215 AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION 5.328 RADIONAVIGATION-SATELLITE (space-to-Earth) (space-to-space)		
5.328A			5.328A US224		
1215-1240 EARTH EXPLORATION-SATELLITE (active) RADIOLOCATION RADIONAVIGATION-SATELLITE (space-to-Earth) (space-to-space) 5.328B 5.329 5.329A SPACE RESEARCH (active)			1215-1240 EARTH EXPLORATION-SATELLITE (active) RADIOLOCATION G56 RADIONAVIGATION-SATELLITE (space-to-Earth) (space-to-space) G132 SPACE RESEARCH (active)	1215-1240 Earth exploration-satellite (active) Space research (active)	
5.330 5.331 5.332			5.332		
1240-1300 EARTH EXPLORATION-SATELLITE (active) RADIOLOCATION RADIONAVIGATION-SATELLITE (space-to-Earth) (space-to-space) 5.328B 5.329 5.329A SPACE RESEARCH (active) Amateur			1240-1300 EARTH EXPLORATION-SATELLITE (active) RADIOLOCATION G56 SPACE RESEARCH (active) AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION	1240-1300 AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION Amateur Earth exploration-satellite (active) Space research (active)	Amateur Radio (97)
5.282 5.330 5.331 5.332 5.335 5.335A			5.332 5.335	5.282	
1300-1350 RADIOLOCATION AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION 5.337 RADIONAVIGATION-SATELLITE (Earth-to-space)			1300-1350 AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION 5.337 Radiolocation G2	1300-1350 AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION 5.337	Aviation (87)
5.149 5.337A			US342	US342	
1350-1400 FIXED MOBILE RADIOLOCATION	1350-1400 RADIOLOCATION 5.338A		1350-1390 FIXED MOBILE RADIOLOCATION G2	1350-1390	
			5.334 5.339 US342 US385 G27 G114	5.334 5.339 US342 US385	https://transition.fcc.gov/oet/spectrum/table/fcctable.pdf

National Table of Frequency Allocations (NTFA)

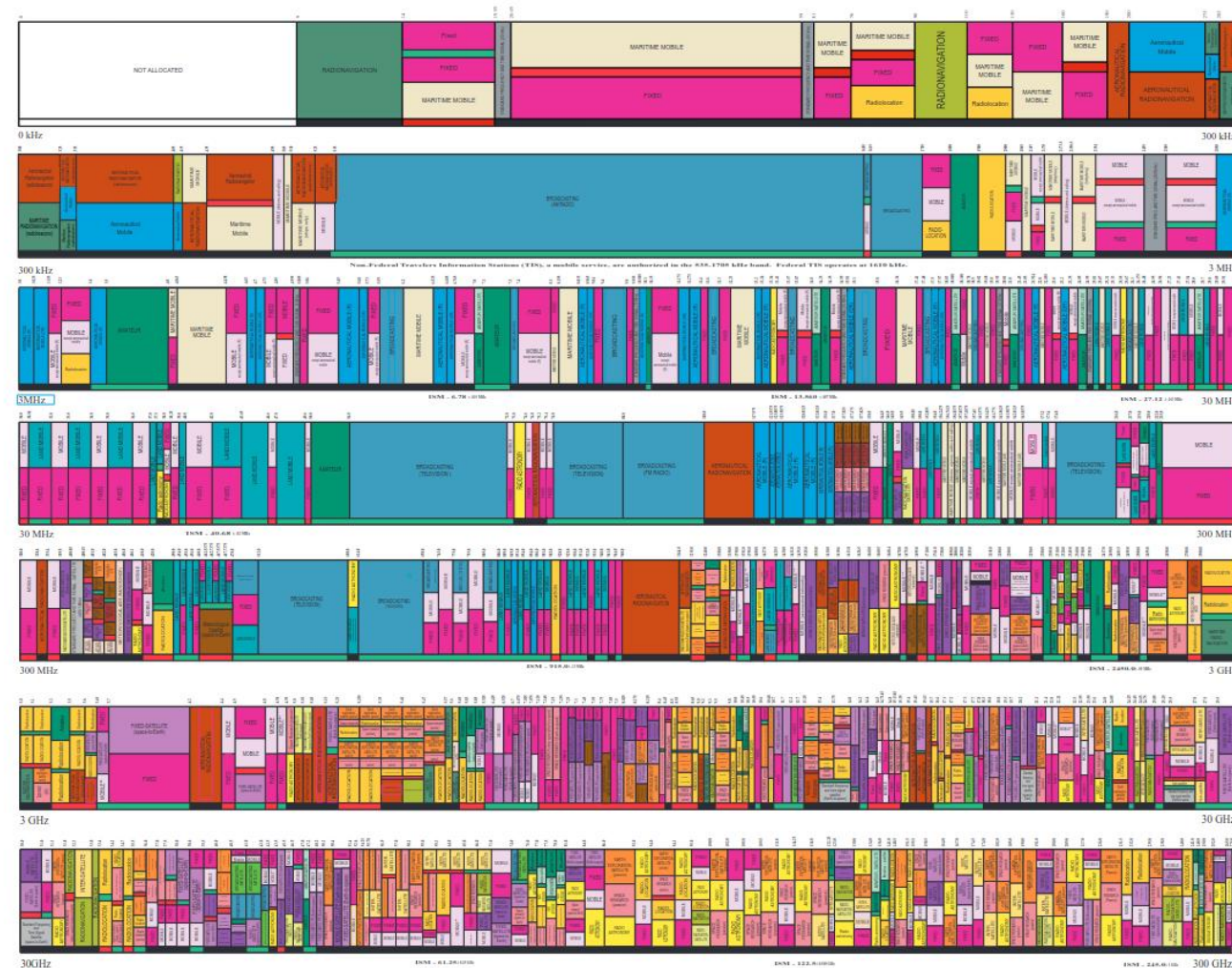
- National tables should be updated within the same cycle as WRC.
- They are key for spectrum management at the national level and should be updated regularly to align with the latest version of the Radio Regulations.
- includes frequency allocations at global and regional levels

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5.323		5.320		NG120

National Frequency Allocation Chart (NFAC)

UNITED
STATES
FREQUENCY
ALLOCATIONS

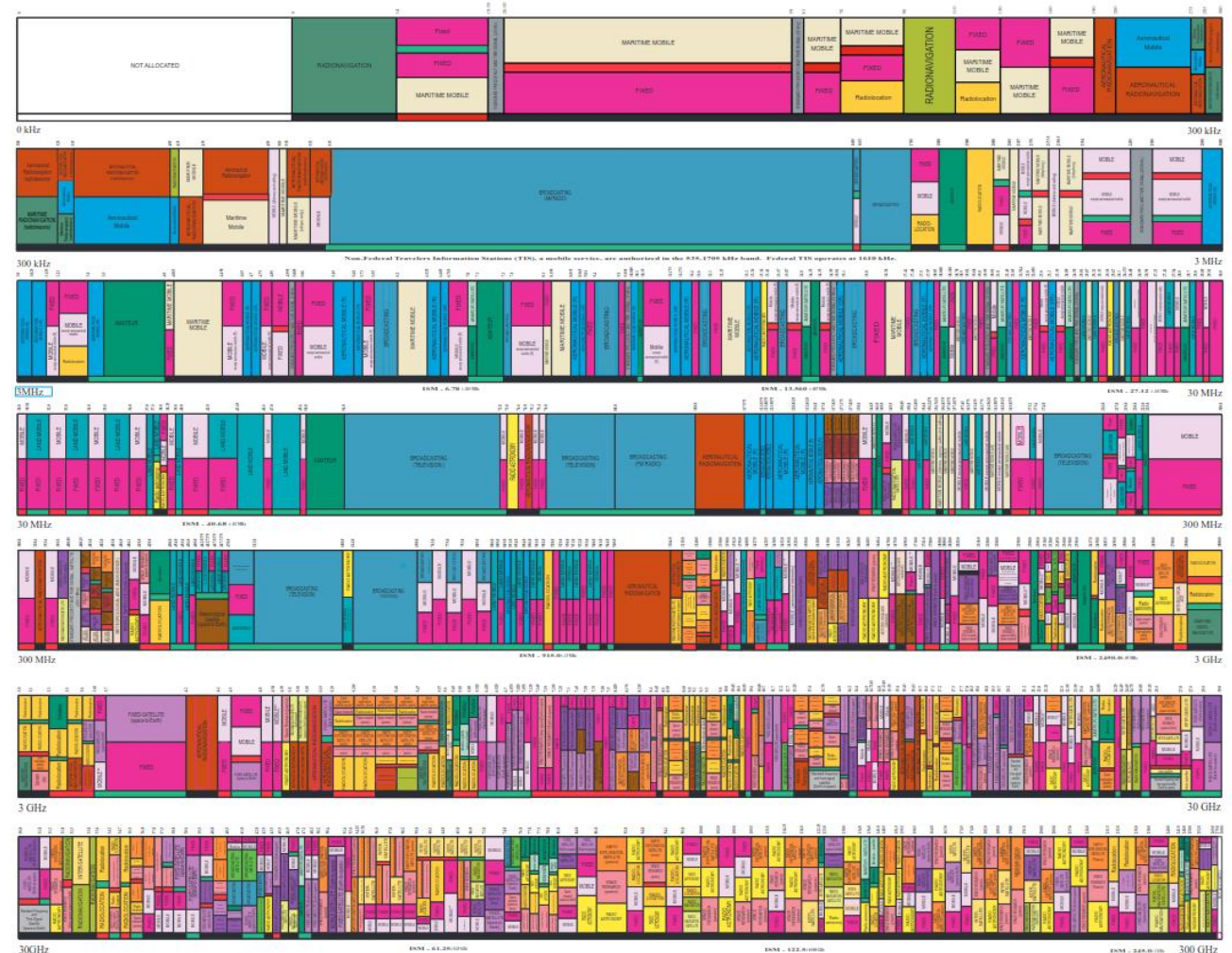
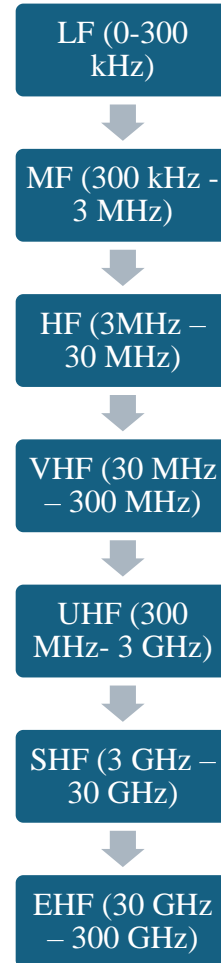
THE RADIO SPECTRUM



<https://www.ntia.gov/page/unit-d-states-frequency-allocation-chart>

National Frequency Allocation Chart (NFAC)

- Frequency Bands:** The chart divides the radio spectrum into frequency bands, typically ranging from a few kilohertz (kHz) to terahertz (THz).



National Frequency Allocation Chart (NFAC)

- Allocated Services:** Each frequency band is assigned to specific services or applications.

ACTIVITY CODE



FEDERAL EXCLUSIVE



FEDERAL/NON-FEDERAL SHARED



NON-FEDERAL EXCLUSIVE

ALLOCATION USAGE DESIGNATION

SERVICE	EXAMPLE	DESCRIPTION
Primary	FIXED	Capital Letters
Secondary	Mobile	1st Capital with lower case letters

RADIO SERVICES COLOR LEGEND

AERONAUTICAL
MOBILE

INTER-SATELLITE



RADIO ASTRONOMY

AERONAUTICAL
MOBILE SATELLITE

LAND MOBILE

RADIODETERMINATION
SATELLITEAERONAUTICAL
RADIONAVIGATIONLAND MOBILE
SATELLITE

RADIOLOCATION



AMATEUR



MARITIME MOBILE



RADIOLOCATION SATELLITE



AMATEUR SATELLITE

MARITIME MOBILE
SATELLITE

RADIONAVIGATION



BROADCASTING

MARITIME
RADIONAVIGATION

RADIONAVIGATION SATELLITE

BROADCASTING
SATELLITE

METEOROLOGICAL



SPACE OPERATION

EARTH EXPLORATION
SATELLITEMETEOROLOGICAL
SATELLITE

SPACE RESEARCH



FIXED



MOBILE

STANDARD FREQUENCY
AND TIME SIGNAL

FIXED SATELLITE



MOBILE SATELLITE

STANDARD FREQUENCY AND
TIME SIGNAL SATELLITE

National Frequency Allocation Chart (NFAC)

ACTIVITY CODE

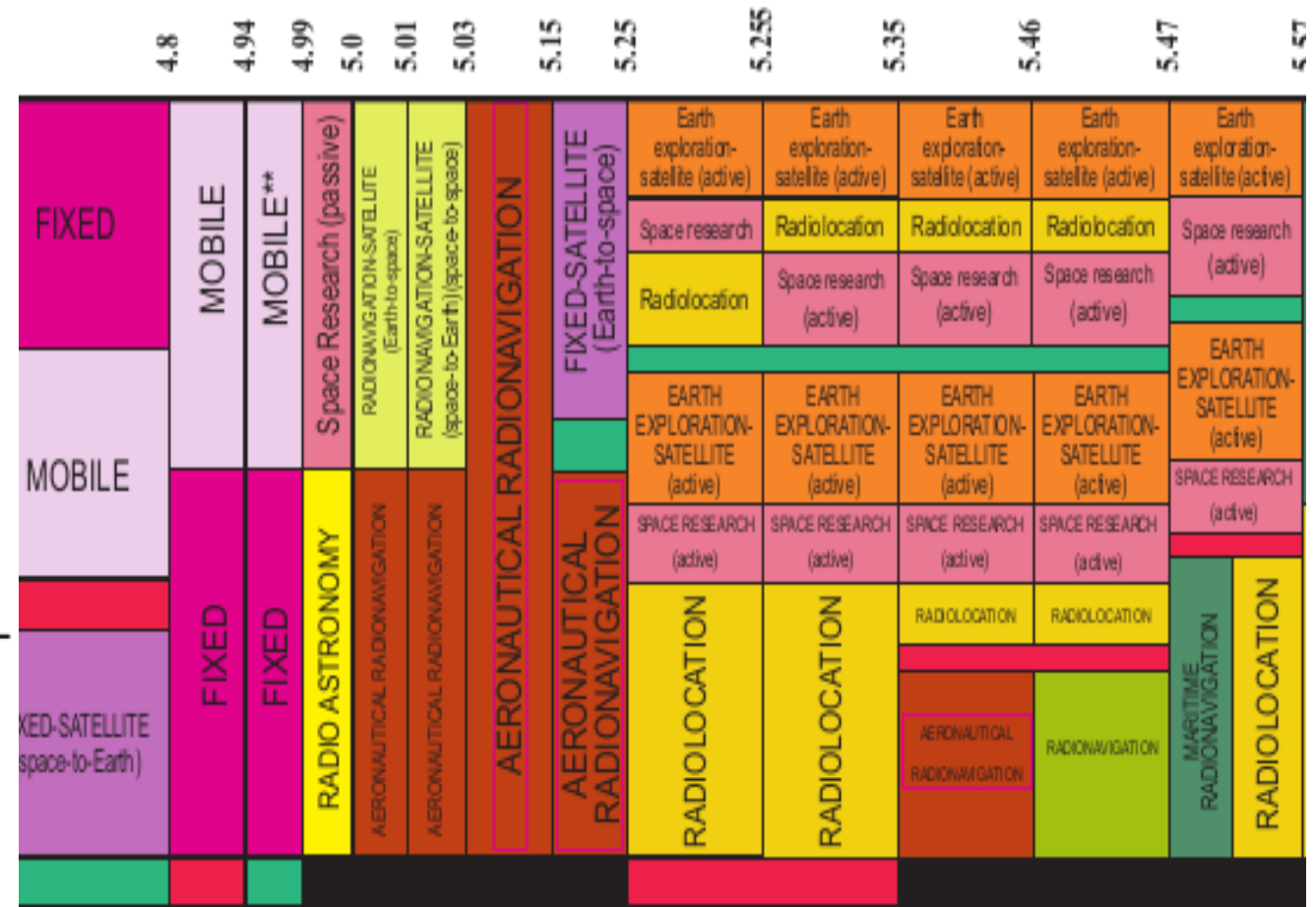
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 NON-FEDERAL EXCLUSIVE

ALLOCATION USAGE DESIGNATION

SERVICE	EXAMPLE	DESCRIPTION
Primary	FIXED	Capital Letters
Secondary	Mobile	1st Capital with lower case letters



Licensed and unlicensed band

Aspect	Licensed Spectrum	Unlicensed Spectrum
Access	Exclusive access granted to specific users	Open for anyone to use
Cost	Requires a fee for rights	No licensing fee, but usage rules apply
Usage Examples	Cellular networks, TV and radio broadcasting	Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, IoT devices
Interference Management	Well-managed with minimal interference	Shared usage, potential for interference

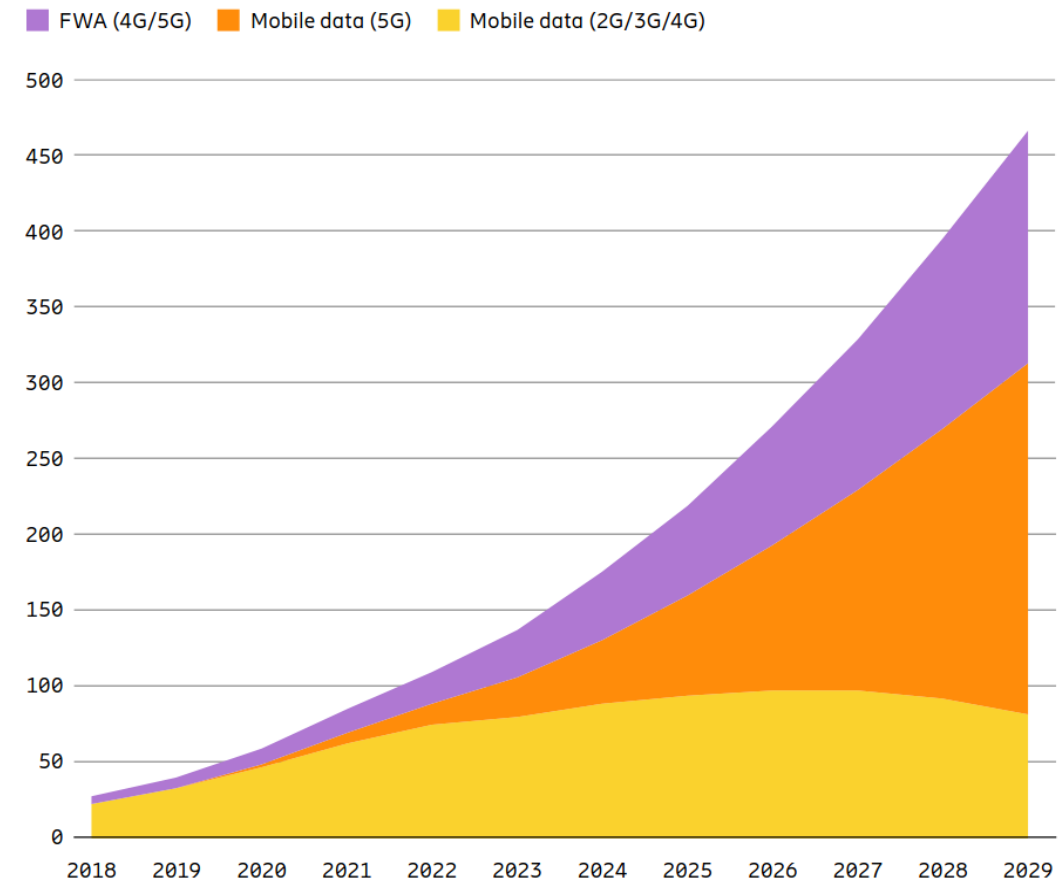
6 Generation Technology



The need for 6G: Network Capacity Growth

- From the latest Ericsson Mobility Report (EMR):
 - Monthly data traffic per smartphone in North America increased: 13Gb to 20Gb (+54%) from 2021 to 2022 and is expected to triple (to 58Gb) by 2028.
 - In those same periods, total monthly mobile traffic (all device types) increased from 4.6 to 6.7 Exabytes (EB) (+46%) and will increase to 21EB (21% CAGR)

Figure 6: Global mobile network data traffic (EB per month)



Ericsson Mobility Report, 2024