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GAMES CONSOLES VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT (GCVA)

17th STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

17 June 2025, 17:00-17:30 CEST
Online meeting



PARTICIPANTS

European Commission (EC)	1. Ewout Deurwaarder
Independent Inspector (Intertek)	2. Steve Fernandes 3. Jane Lee
Microsoft Corporation	4. Ted Eckert 5. Adriana Mattei, Zetacast, consultant
Nintendo of Europe SE	6. Benjamin Seignovert 7. Calum Robertson 8. Eiichiro Morisaki 9. Emil Schweiger 10. Kenichiro Nishio
Ökopol	11. Till Zimmermann
Sony Interactive Entertainment (SIE)	12. Joshua Aislan 13. Muna Aiden 14. Enya Gomes Lynch
VA Administrator (SEC Newgate EU)	15. Ilaria Graceffa

AGENDA

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approval of minutes of previous Steering Committee meeting
3. Review of actions of previous Steering Committee meeting
4. Annual Compliance Report (ACR) presentation
5. Update from the Signatories
6. Update from the European Commission
7. AOB and date of next Steering Committee meeting
8. End of meeting

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome and introductions

Ilaria Graceffa (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) opened the meeting at 17:00 CET, she welcomed participants and presented the agenda. No AOBs were added.

2. Approval of minutes of previous Steering Committee meeting (21 January 2025)

Ilaria Graceffa (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) confirmed that the minutes were circulated, approved, and uploaded on the Games Consoles Voluntary Agreement (GCVA) [website](#).

3. Review of actions of previous Steering Committee meeting

Ilaria Graceffa (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) noted that the action agreed at the 16th Steering Committee meeting has been completed.

4. Annual Compliance Report (ACR) presentation

Jane Lee (Intertek, Independent Inspector) presented the 2024 Annual Compliance Report (ACR). Both the 2024 ACR and the presentation can be found on the GCVA website.

- The Independent Inspector determined that the Signatories continue to be compliant with all SRI requirements.
- The SRI versions applicable to reporting period 1 January - 31 December 2024 are the SRI 4.1 and 5.0.
- Seven games consoles fall within the scope of the EU SRI for the 2024 reporting period: Xbox Series X (Model: 1882), Xbox Series S (Model: 1883), Nintendo Switch (Model: HAC-001(-01)), Nintendo Switch - OLED Model (Model: HEG-001), PlayStation®5 Digital Edition (Model: CFI-2016), PlayStation®5 (Model: CFI-2016), PlayStation®5 Pro (Model: CFI-7021).
- The investigation reported in the most recent Annual Compliance Report covers consoles with PCRs submitted in February 2025 for the reporting period January through December 2024. The verification testing took place during Summer 2024.
- Only the SIE PlayStation 5 CFI-1216A was selected for testing; the majority of consoles had been previously tested. Testing in preceding years had focused on retests to verify results from manufacturer supplied samples. The PlayStation CFI-1216A had not been tested during this period so was selected to ensure all models on the market had undergone recent verification testing

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- Testing and verification were undertaken by the Consumer Electronics division of Intertek Performance Electrical & Network Assurance test facility in Milton Keynes, UK.
- Energy consumption test results and the non-energy requirements & energy efficiency information were compared to the specifications in version 4.1 of the SRI
- The console tested complied with the requirements

Jane Lee (Intertek, Independent Inspector) concluded the presentation informing participants that, following the 2024 investigation, Intertek did not have any recommendations.

Ewout Deurwaarder (EC) asked why the Nintendo Switch Lite is not falling under the scope of the GCVA. Emil Schweiger (Nintendo) explained that the definition of 'games consoles' falling in the scope of the SRI only includes mains-powered game consoles. As the Switch Lite is a purely handheld console, powered by a battery and does not normally consume electricity from the mains when played, this model does not fall under the scope of the GCVA. Emil also clarified that the Nintendo Switch 2 (recently released) falls under the scope of the GCVA, as it can be connected to a TV and therefore would consume electricity from the mains, although it also contains battery to also allow handheld gaming.

Ted Eckert (Microsoft) added that Microsoft has recently announced a partnership with Asus on a handheld gaming product which is plugged in only to recharge but is not intended to be connected to a TV and does not have a dedicated console operating systems, and therefore it is not considered a console, according to the definition included in the GCVA. However, as this product is running a Windows operating system it would fall under Lot 3, as a gaming computer.

Emil Schweiger (Nintendo) concluded saying that in general portable/handheld games consoles are by definition highly energy efficient as they run on battery, and thanks to their usually smaller size they would use less material, therefore contributing to resource efficiency too. Including these devices in the scope of the GCVA would defeat its purpose, as any improvement would be limited and not resource or cost effective in the long term, with the development cycle to make adjustments to the product consuming a lot of resources with possibly small return in energy or resource efficiency.

Ewout Deurwaarder (EC) thanked the Signatories for the clarification and agreed on the energy efficiency of handheld devices, while questioning to some extent the low impact on the resource efficiency side. Nevertheless, he also understood the potential drawbacks in trying to include the handheld devices.

5. Update from the Signatories

Ted Eckert (Microsoft) provided an overview of the upcoming revision of the SRI v.5.1 and the envisaged next steps.

6. Update from the European Commission

Ewout Deurwaarder (EC) provided an update on the ongoing implementation of the ESPR. In April 2025 the EC presented the ESPR working plan and an accompanying communication, including a small reference to games consoles. Games consoles are not extensively mentioned in the working plan because Signatories of the GCVA do most of the work, and the EC is aware that the GCVA is constantly updated. The EC is still planning to carry out a study in view of the adoption of an implementing act – as foreseen by the ESPR. To this end, Signatories will have to submit several documents and justifications. Ewout reminded Signatories to closely follow the provisions of the ESPR related to SRIs when reviewing the GCVA and submit all the necessary documents. Mr Deurwaarder added that he is still planning

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to appoint an expert to prepare a small study confirming that the GCVA is fully compliant with the ESPR requirements. He clarified that it will not be a parallel study nor as much detailed as the impact assessment prepared in the past. The timing for the preparation of the study will mainly depend on the GCVA review process. Ideally the study would be prepared at the end of the review process. However, Ewout will consider whether it is more appropriate to give the GCVA documents to the expert earlier in the process. Therefore, while he confirmed that the scope of the study will be very small, the length and timeline are still to be confirmed. Ewout will liaise with the Signatories in early 2026, to assess the GCVA review process and agree on next steps.

Benjamin Seignovert asked whether the EC already has indicative timeline for the adoption of the implementing act listing the valid VAs, for instance due to the adoption of other voluntary measures. Mr Deurwaarder indicated that the European Commission does not have any fixed schedule to adopt such implementing act, and that it will mainly depend on the GCVA process. He added he was not aware of any other voluntary measure but indicated that, if other VAs would be proposed, the EC will have to assess such request, and the process may be more complex as it will be a completely new text. Once GCVA review process is about to be finalised, the EC will start its official work, although the internal preparation may start slightly earlier.

6. AOB and date of next Steering Committee meeting

No AOB was raised. Ilaria Graceffa (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) indicated the date of the next EU Steering Committee meeting will be communicated in due time.

The draft minutes of the current meeting will be shared, and participants will have two weeks for comments, as indicated in the SRI. The final version of the minutes will be published on the GCVA website.

7. End of meeting

Ilaria Graceffa (SEC Newgate EU, VA Administrator) thanked participants and closed the meeting at 17:30 CEST.

Actions

- VA Administrator to prepare and distribute the minutes of the current meeting.
- VA Administrator and Signatories to agree on the date for the next SC meeting.