

5 THINGS TO KNOW

about the UPU

EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS



SOME BACKGROUND

In April, the **Universal Postal Union (UPU)** agreed to hold a postal ballot on whether to convene an **Extraordinary Congress** on the UPU **terminal dues system**. Two-thirds of UPU member countries would need to vote in favor of the Extraordinary Congress in order for it to be held. On June 6, UPU announced it had received **sufficient support** – 128 valid postal ballots from member countries – for convening an Extraordinary Congress.



[Click to read the UPU press release](#)



WHERE & WHEN

An Extraordinary Congress is set for **September 24-25** in **Geneva**.



OPTIONS A, B & C ARE STILL IN PLAY

Option A - accelerates changes in the terminal dues schedule agreed upon at Istanbul Congress.

Option B - countries charge self-declared rates on in-bound packets, with rates not higher than domestic rate.

Option C - convergence option that adopts self-declared rates as its basis, but with elements aimed at mitigating undue price impacts, including a phasing-in period at a maximum of 70 percent of domestic tariffs.



HOW VOTING WORKS

A **simple majority** of voting countries is needed for a **proposal to pass**.

**50%
+ 1**

Amendments can be offered and voted upon.



THE SEQUENCE

Proposal furthest from the status quo is considered first (**Option B**).

If **approved**, all other proposals are set aside.

If **rejected**, next proposal furthest away from the status quo is considered (**Option C**).

If **approved**, remaining proposal (Option A) is set aside.

If **rejected**, then **Option A** is considered.



U.S. Postal Regulatory Commission has posted a document with all the proposals. [Click here to read.](#)



NEGOTIATIONS ONGOING

Countries are working to **line up support** for their preferred option and considering possible amendments.

This is only the third Extraordinary Congress in UPU's history.