

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER JESSICA ROSENWORCEL**

Re: *Review of Foreign Ownership Policies for Broadcast, Common Carrier and Aeronautical Radio Licensees under Section 310(b)(4) of the Communications Act of 1934, as Amended*, GN Docket No. 15-236.

Broadcasting has a storied history. For decades, it has been where we turn for local news and entertainment in communities all across the country. But change is in the air. Spectrum used by broadcast stations is now in demand by other services, a new broadcast standard is in the works, and new media platforms are multiplying. To ensure the future of broadcasting is bright, investment is key.

But the laws that govern broadcast investment can get in the way. That's because they have a distinctly vintage quality. In fact, they were put in place to prevent foreign powers from disrupting ship-to-shore governmental communications during warfare. But just as horses and bayonets are not the tools of modern warfare, the cyber threats we face today are not especially well-guarded by these prohibitions. Moreover, these policies can create artificial constraints that make it tough for broadcasters to access funding on a global scale. This is not right—and not fair.

So today we update our policies by extending to broadcast licensees the same streamlined rules and procedures applicable to common carrier licensees under the law. We clarify our rules for foreign investment across the board. We also improve our method for counting foreign ownership in both common carriers and broadcasters. These actions remove barriers for investment and provide clarity for broadcasters seeking support for new technologies and new ways to reach the communities they serve. This effort has my full support.