

One Region, Two Frameworks: Shaping the Future of RLAH between the EU and the Western Balkans

Marija Lukić
Suzana Duvnjak Dragaš

International
Regulatory Conference
May 2026 Ohrid



Table of Contents

Regional Roaming Agreement - A Regional Success Story

Evolution of the EU Roaming Regulation

A Structural Shift in Integration

Legal Pathways for Alignment with the EU Roaming Acquis

Serbia in Practice

Key Takeaway



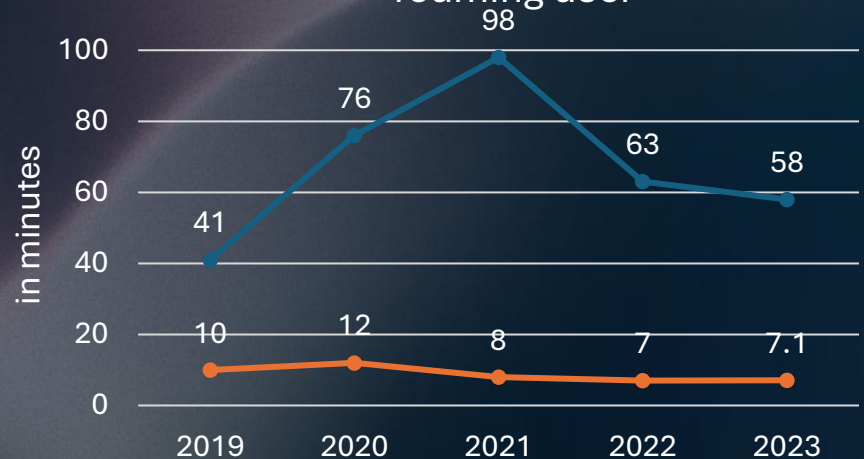
Regional Roaming Agreement – A Regional Success Story

Roam Like at Home (RLAH) regime in WB6 since 1 July 2021

Based on the following EU roaming framework:

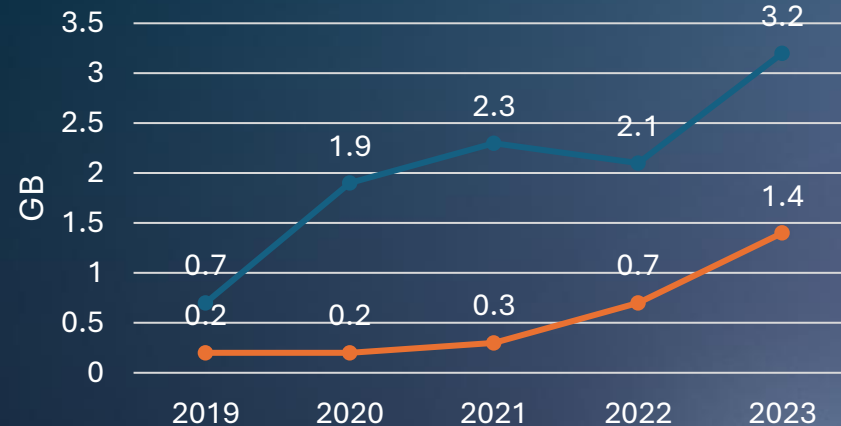
- Roaming Regulation (EU) 531/2012 with amendments from 2015 and 2017
- Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/2286 on fair use policy
- Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1979 setting the weighted average of maximum mobile termination rates across the Union

Average duration of outgoing calls per roaming user



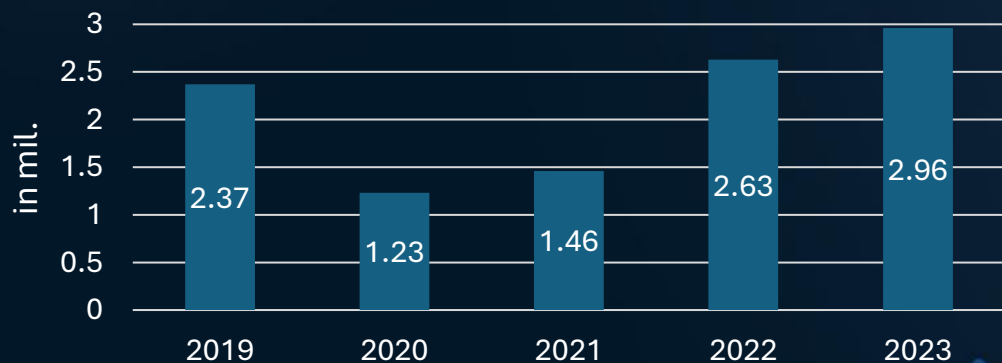
● Outgoing voice minutes per roaming user in WB6
 ● Outgoing voice minutes per roaming user in EEA

Average data consumption per roaming user



● GB per roaming user in the WB6
 ● GB per roaming user in the EEA

Total number of roaming users in WB6



Impact of the Regional Roaming Agreement

Source: the latest RCC's WB6 Roaming Report from 2024

Evolution of the EU Roaming Regulation

Regulation (EU) 2022/612 on roaming on public mobile communications networks within the Union adopted on 6 April 2022

Main developments

Lower wholesale
roaming charges

Same quality of
service as at
home

Stronger
transparency
obligations

A Structural Shift in Integration

Voluntary agreements between the EU and the WB6 operators signed in December 2022 to reduce retail data roaming charges

EU started exploring legal instruments to integrate WB6 into the EU RLAH regime

Example of Moldova and Ukraine – joined the EU RLAH regime on 1 January 2026

European Commission proposed opening negotiations on the bilateral agreements with the WB6 partners

Council decision expected in June 2026



A Structural Shift in Integration

Essential requirements for joining the EU RLAH regime

Alignment with
the EU roaming acquis



Effective
administrative capacity



REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
RATEL
REGULATORY AUTHORITY FOR
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS
AND POSTAL SERVICES

A Structural Shift in Integration

WB6 reality

The Regional Roaming Agreement remains in force

Further updates are required

Not an obstacle to the introduction of EU RLAH regime

Strong foundation for future integration

Updated Regional Roaming Agreement planned to be signed by the end of 2026

Legal Pathways for Alignment with the EU Roaming Acquis

The EU Roaming Acquis

EECC Directive (EU) 2018/1972
(certain provisions)

Roaming Regulation (EU) 2022/612

Implementing Regulation (EU)
2016/2286 (fair use policy rules)

Delegated Regulation (EU)
2021/654 (termination rates)

Regulation (EU) 2018/1971
(BEREC)

Legal Pathways for Alignment with the EU Roaming Acquis



How can WB6 apply the EU roaming acquis?



Serbia in Practice

Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Electronic Communications

Public consultations held from 19 March to 7 April 2026

Submitted to the European Commission for review

Two Groups of Amendments

Amendments directly related to the EU RLAH regime

Provisions transposing Roaming Regulation (EU) 2022/612

Amendments based on the broader EU acquis

Provisions on:

- termination rates
- participation in the work of BEREC
- independence of RATEL
- general authorization regime
- professional and inspection supervision

Serbia in Practice

Secondary legislation

Draft Rulebook on Fair Use Policy

Draft Decision on Wholesale Roaming Charges with the EU

Draft Decision on Termination Rates for Calls Originating and Terminating to Serbian Number

Draft Decision on Termination Rates for Calls Originating from EU Number and Terminating to Serbian Number



Key Takeaway

WB6 is moving towards deeper roaming integration with the EU

Regional cooperation has proven to be a strong foundation for further integration

Roaming integration with the EU will bring tangible benefits for citizens, businesses, and the development of a more coherent digital market

Thank you for your attention

Get in touch with us for more
information

marija.lukic@ratel.rs
suzana.dragas@ratel.rs