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**NOTE**

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| From:    | General Secretariat of the Council                                                                         |
| To:      | Delegations                                                                                                |
| Subject: | Roaming with Ukraine, Moldova and the Western Balkans - State of Play<br>- Information from the Presidency |

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**Roaming with Ukraine, Moldova and the Western Balkans - State of Play**

*For discussion at the Telecommunications Council 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2025*

**Ukraine and Moldova**

The processes for integrating Ukraine and Moldova into the EU roam like at home (RLAH) area began following their respective notifications in late 2024 and spring 2025, displaying that they had aligned their national legislation with the EU roaming acquis. Under the framework of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement (the ‘EU-UA AA’) the EU and Ukraine may grant mutual internal market treatment in various sector areas, including roaming. In the framework of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement (the ‘EU-MD AA’), the EU and Moldova may agree on further market opening, including with respect to roaming.

For **Ukraine**, the Council approved the decision on 14 July 2025, enabling Ukrainians to use mobile services across all 27 EU Member States without additional roaming charges from 1 January 2026, with reciprocal treatment for EU citizens in Ukraine. To ensure continuity during the transition, the voluntary arrangement between EU and Ukrainian operators on affordable roaming has been extended until 31 December 2025.

For **Moldova**, the Council approved accession to RLAH on 25 July 2025, granting Moldovans the same ability to use call, text and mobile data throughout the EU from 1 January 2026, with reciprocal benefits for EU citizens in Moldova.

Both countries are set to join the RLAH area on a coordinated timeline, marking a significant step in strengthening their digital and economic integration with the EU and supporting greater connectivity and affordability for citizens on both sides.

### **Western Balkans**

The initiative to extend the RLAH area to include the Western Balkans builds on earlier steps, in particular the reduction of data roaming costs based on the voluntary agreement between EU and operators in the Western Balkans as introduced in October 2023, which initiated a gradual alignment with key elements of the EU Single Market. To advance the objective of introducing the Western Balkans into the RLAH area, the Presidency stands ready to advance work on the Western Balkans as soon as the Commission is prepared to proceed, recognising its importance for enhancing connectivity, improving affordability, and deepening economic and digital integration across the wider European region.

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