

Secretary General Majlinda Bregu for RTSQ with Elona Meco

MECO: I would like to ask you about the roaming agreement as one of the most important achievements of the RCC under your leadership. Am I right to consider it so?

BREGU: I would say so, but leaving aside this establishment, important is the awareness rising and the support for CRM, which was a huge political challenge.

MECO: This is a bit abstract, while abolishing of roaming charges is quite tangible.

BREGU: Reduction of roaming prices is also part of the CRM agenda.

MECO: Within our region we don't pay when calling or using the internet while roaming...

BREGU: We do pay, but we pay the exact amount we pay according to the contract we have with the operator in Albania.

MECO: So we pay the same amount that we would pay in Albania.

BREGU: Yes, exactly. This is why it is called Roam Like at Home.

MECO: In the meantime, you have another big project coming up that will start to produce tangible benefits as of this October. The reduction of roaming prices with EU.

BREGU: The project started last December during the Tirana summit, with the signature of WB, EU and 38 telecommunications operators

MECO: It was coordinated by RCC though?

BREGU: Yes, RCC is the institution entrusted to coordinate the process. From December to now, we prepared the Action Plan with the telecommunications operators. If I ever, against all odds, have some free time to write about this period and the disputes surrounding it - some persons are always accompanied by disputes and attacks - I believe it would have to be considered as the most difficult exercise. To understand how to combine the interest of the business - because the operators are private business companies that cannot be obliged to partake in this process - and how to combine the interest of the business with the political priorities and decision-making of the WB and EU leaders and how all this can be translated to a common denominator acceptable for all parties.

MECO: Will we pay less as of October?

BREGU: It will start with 30% reduction of internet data charges. I cannot say more today, but I am certain that it will be a process that will have more tariff reduction than 30% up to gradually reaching the Roam Like at Home between WB and EU in 2027-2028. However, this being a

process, and I am personally not as happy with the fact that it starts with a 30% reduction, I want to reiterate that there will be further important reductions. The good news is that this is a win-win situation for both sides: WB citizens while travelling to EU and our friends and relatives travelling from EU to WB.