

# Albania Profile (2018)

## Various statistics (Latest data available: 2018)

Fixed-telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	8.58308
Mobile-cellular subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	94.177
Fixed (wired)-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	12.5145
Mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	62.7873
Households with a computer (%)	21.5774
Households with Internet access at home (%)	30.1906
Individuals using the Internet (%)	71.847

## Regulatory Authority (Latest data available: 2018)

Please provide the name of the Head of the Regulatory Authority	Ilir Zela
Please provide the exact title of the Head of the Regulatory Authority.	Chairman
Name of the telecom/ICT regulator	Electronic and Postal Communications Authority - AKEP

## Policy Maker (Latest data available: 2018)

Please provide the name and contact details of the main Policy-Maker in charge of telecommunications/ICTs	Ministry of infrastructure and energy
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## Level of Competition (Latest data available: 2018)

Cable modem	C
Cable Television	C
Data2014	C
Domestic fixed long distance	C
Fixed Satellite Services (FSS)	C
Fixed Wireless Broadband	C*
GMPCS (FSS/MSS)2006	C
IMT (3G, 4G, etc.)	C*
International Gateways	C*
International Fixed Long Distance	C*
Internet Services	C
Leased Lines	C
Wireless Local Loop	C*
Local Fixed Line Services	C*
Mobile	C*
Mobile Satellite Services (MSS)	C*
Paging2006	C
VSAT	C*
DSL	C

M: Monopoly  
P: Partial competition (year when competition was introduced)  
C: Full competition (year when competition was introduced)  
N: N/A

### Institutional Details (Latest data available: 2018)

Regulator autonomous in decision making	Yes
Who is responsible for approving the budget of the Regulator? [2009]	The Council of Ministers
Legal document creating the regulator	Law no. 8288, dated 18.02.1998, "On TRE"
Sources of regulator's budget and % financed from each source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numbering fees, percentage: 7.8,</li> <li>• Spectrum fees, percentage: 36.7,</li> <li>• Regulated telecom operators • Regulated telecom operators percentage: 45.1, percentage of operator revenue (turnover): 0.37,</li> <li>• Other • Other, Source: Contributions from regulated postal operators based on turnover for market surveillance, revenue from domain.al, some other revenue, percentage: 10.3,</li> </ul>
Regulator also regulates other utilities	• Yes If Yes, specify utilities regulated: Regulatory Authority of Electricity.,
Reporting requirements of the regulator	• Report to Legislature/Parliament
Year separate regulator created	1998

### Structure Regulator (Latest data available: 2018)

Please provide the name of the Head of the Regulatory Authority	Ilir Zela
Please provide the exact title of the Head of the Regulatory Authority.	Chairman
Regulator is a collegial body	Yes
If Yes, please provide the total number of members/commissioners (including the Head). [2009]	5
Is the Head of the Commission also responsible for day-to-day administrative matters?	Yes
What is the normal period of appointment for the members and the Head of the Regulatory Authority? [2009]	5 years
Please provide the total number of staff in the Regulatory Authority.	67

### Regulatory Functions (Latest data available: 2018)

Entity in charge of licensing	R	
Entity in charge of interconnection rates	R	
Entity in charge of price regulation	R	
Entity in charge of technical standards setting	R	
Entity in charge of radio frequency allocation and assignment	R	
Spectrum Monitoring and Enforcement	R	
Entity in charge of numbering	R	
Entity in charge of type approval	R	
Entity in charge of service quality monitoring2009	R	
Entity in charge of universal service/access	S R M*	M: Regulatory Authority designates the US providers after the final approval from the Minister
Quality of service standards setting2009	R	
Entity in charge of enforcement of quality of service obligations	R	
Broadcasting (sound transmission)	O	
Entity in charge of broadcasting content	O	
Entity in charge of Information Technology	O	
Entity in charge of Internet content2009	N	

S: Sector Ministry  
 O: Other Ministry or Government body  
 R: Regulatory Authority  
 Op: Operator  
 N: Not regulated  
 M: If more than one entity or another body is involved in this function, please explain

### Universal Service - services covered and operator obligations (Latest data available: 2018)

<b>Definition of universal service/access exists</b>	Yes
<b>Universal access/service policy adopted</b>	Yes
<b>Voice services included in Universal service/access definition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Voice telephony services</li> <li>• Fixed line private residential service as part of universal service definition</li> <li>• Individual mobile cellular service as part of universal service definition</li> </ul>
<b>Internet services included in Universal service/access definition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadband as part of universal service definition</li> </ul>
<b>Other services included in Universal service/access definition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency services as part of universal service definition</li> <li>• Services for impaired/ elderly</li> <li>• Directory services as part of universal service definition</li> </ul>
<b>Operators under universal access/service obligation</b>	<p>• None of the above, please explain: Based on regulator assessment of US in 2013 (US status and plan 2013-2016 published in AKEP website), the market is already providing affordable access to telephony services (fixed and mobile), which are affordable and available regardless of geographical location (mobile). So there is no need to designate any operators as US providers. Public payphones are no more relevant (because of mobile access). Directory services are not available yet. Regulator is preparing rules of Directory services in order to have a market based provision of these services. Emergency services are provided free of charge from all operators. Special services to disabled people are provided through government subsidy directly to these people.,</p>
<b>Operators/service providers required to offer below-cost prices</b>	No

### Financing of Universal Service activities and/or Universal Service Funds (Latest data available: 2018)

<b>Means of financing operator(s) universal access/service obligations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other Explain: Based on the answer provided for 5.1.3 above, the market is already providing some elements of universal service such as telephony access and calls in the whole territory of Albania (including mobile services) with affordable prices. So there is no compensation mechanism in place as the provision is commercial.,</li> </ul>
<b>Other financing mechanisms for the provision of Universal service</b>	No
<b>If Yes, please explain [2003]</b>	This target is issued in the law Nr. 8618, date 14.6.2000 in the Republic of Albania
<b>Operational Universal Service Fund</b>	No
<b>If Yes, when?</b>	No specific date set yet.
<b>Operators/ service providers required to contribute to USF</b>	
<b>Means of calculating USF contribution amounts</b>	
<b>USF financed by other sources</b>	No
<b>USF budget financing by source (in percentage)</b>	
<b>Regulator administrating USF</b>	No
<b>If No, name the entity responsible</b>	

### Interconnection issues (Latest data available: 2018)

<b>Interconnection charging principle adopted</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Symmetric</li> </ul>
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**If asymmetric charging, how it was decided?**

AKEP has decided that from 1st of January 2016 there will be symmetric termination charges between all MNO-s and between all fixed operators.

### Approach used to regulate interconnection prices (Latest data available: 2014)

**Approach used to regulate fixed termination rates** B

**Approach used to regulate mobile termination rates** LRIC B O: benchmark on EU countries with pure LRIC

LRIC: LRIC cost model

FDC: FDC cost model

B: Benchmarking

O: Other

N: None

### NGN (Latest data available: 2018)

**Stage of introduction of NGN system by operators** • Completed

**Cost model used (or planned) to calculate costs/tariffs of NGN Services** • LRIC model

### NGN - Regulation of IP networks (Latest data available: 2018)

**Regulations that govern the use of IP networks for Data Services** No

**Regulations that govern the use of IP networks for Voice Services** I

USO: Regulatory arrangements subject to universal service obligations

I: Regulatory interconnection arrangements with networks using switching circuits

B: Banning of services based on IP

No: No regulatory arrangements defined at present

O: Other