

Together they had the chance to exchange views on challenges and steps in accelerating digitalization in the Western Balkans. This session topics were as below:

- Private sector and state need to work closely together to facilitate 5G and NGA deployment, as well as to elevate the resources available for digital education at all levels;
- the region needs to move at “pandemic speeds” in order to catch up with the EU that has a clearer plan on digitization with substantial state investment as part of the Economic Recovery;
- there are three bases for successful implementation of 5G: (1) coordination of all countries in the region in terms of the use of 5G radio frequency bands; (2) simplification of the network complexity; and (3) the challenge of financing these investments, which can be overcome only with the help of governments and regulatory bodies;
- 5G networks will affect the interaction between people, as well as will increase productivity through interaction between machines;
- New business models can be applied through the application of the 5G network;
- A very important aspect of network 5G is security, for which the EU has published a Toolbox, which contains strategic and regulatory measures in the framework of network security;
- Broadband mapping: a project for South-eastern Europe and in particular for the countries of the Western Balkans, has been launched, in order to provide support to these countries for the construction of broadband infrastructure, for the provision of high speed internet service;
- Full support for the Regional Connectivity Agenda, with a special focus on cooperation for broadcasting, spectrum management and broadband development.