



SERBIA

on its European path

#EUenlargement

Key milestones

DECEMBER 2009

Application for EU membership

MARCH 2011

EU-facilitated dialogue between Belgrade-Pristina started

MARCH 2012

EU Candidate country status granted

JUNE 2013

EU decides to open accession negotiations

SEPTEMBER 2013

Entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement

JUNE 2021

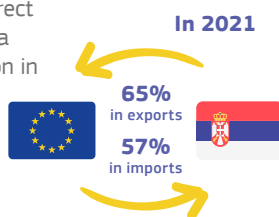
Political Intergovernmental Conference under the revised enlargement methodology provides political steer to the accession process

DECEMBER 2021

Opening of cluster 4 on Green agenda and sustainable connectivity, bringing the number of opened chapters to 22 out of 35, two of which are provisionally closed

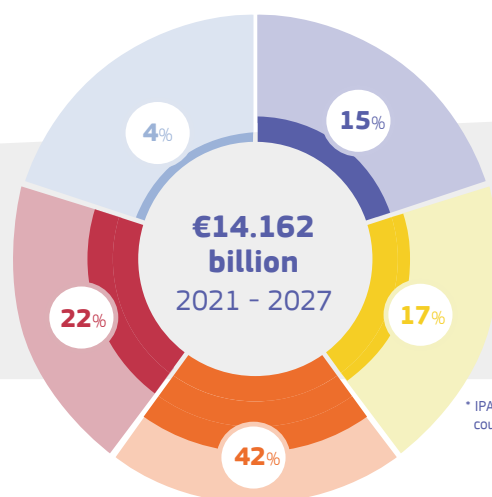
Trade & investment

- The EU is Serbia's biggest trading partner
- The EU's Foreign Direct Investment in Serbia reached €1.85 billion in 2021
- Volume of trade in goods with the EU was €32.3 billion in 2021



EU funding

- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Serbia
- The EU is supporting the socioeconomic development and reforms in the enlargement region, including in Serbia, with financial and technical assistance through the **Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)**
- For 2021-2027, IPA III funding for the whole enlargement region is **€14.162 billion***. It responds to thematic priorities



* IPA assistance is based on EU thematic priorities rather than pre-defined country allocations, hence the global amount for the enlargement region.

Economic & Investment Plan

Over the next seven years, the EU will mobilise up to **€30 billion** in cooperation with international financial institutions through the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans launched in 2020. The following EIP projects for Serbia were endorsed in 2022:

- **Sustainable transport:** Removal of WWII German sunken vessels from the Danube, Prahovo sector; Niš railroad bypass; Stalać – Đunis railway section
- **Clean Energy:** Trans-Balkan electricity corridor; Advanced system for remote meter reading in Kraljevo, Čačak and Niš
- **Digital Future:** Rural broadband rollout
- **Human Capital:** University Children's Hospital Tiršova 2 in Belgrade

- The Annual Action Plan 2021 for Serbia foresees a budget of **€122.14 million** supporting actions in the areas of EU integration; connectivity and green agenda; sustainable economy, agriculture and rural development; enabling a more responsive healthcare system
- For 2014 - 2020, IPA II funding allocated for Serbia amounted to **€1.404 billion**
- Over €6.3 billion provided in European Investment Bank loans since 1999

Human capital & innovation

- The EU pays special attention to youth, education and innovation and is helping the Western Balkans implementing Youth Guarantee schemes to support youth employment
- Around 12,400 participants from Serbia in higher education, vocational education and training, school education, adult learning and youth under ERASMUS+ (2014-2020) (Serbia is a programme country in Erasmus+ since 2019)
- €33 million in support to civil society (2014-2020)

Last updated: 10/2022