ALBANIA ON ITS EUROPEAN PATH

TRADE & INVESTMENT
- The EU is Albania’s biggest trading partner
- The EU’s contribution to total Foreign Direct Investment in Albania was 432 million in 2018
- Volume of trade with the EU was €4.9 billion in 2018

MOBILITY & EMPOWERMENT
- Visa-free travel to the EU since December 2010
- In 2015 - 2018 5439 participants in student, academics and youth exchanges under Erasmus+
- €25 million in support to the civil society for 2014 – 2020

SUPPORT FOR KEY SECTORS 2014-2020
(€649.4 MILLION)

EU FUNDING
The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Albania
- €1.24 billion in EU pre-accession funds 2007-2020
- €135 million for sector budget support programmes
- €464 million provided in European Investment Bank loans since 1999
- €124.8 million in Western Balkans Investment Framework grants since 2009, leveraging investments estimated of €2 billion
- €14.9 million in disaster relief after the 2015 floods

SUPPORTING TRANSFORMATION
- Strengthening democracy: rule of law, justice and fundamental rights
- Reforming public administration
- Strengthening competitiveness and supporting business development
- Working towards a cleaner environment and safer food

KEY MILESTONES

APRIL 2009
1. Application for EU membership
2. Entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement

DECEMBER 2010
- Entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement

JUNE 2014
- EU candidate country status granted

APRIL 2018
- Commission recommends the opening of accession negotiations

JUNE 2018
- The Council sets out the path towards opening accession negotiations in June 2019

MAY 2019
- Commission recommends opening of accession negotiations

SOURCE: EU data