**Montenegro on Its European Path**

**Support for Key Sectors 2014-2020**

€269.2 million

- **Trade & Investment**
  - The EU is Montenegro’s biggest trading partner.
  - The EU’s contribution to total Foreign Direct Investment in Montenegro was €55.3 million in 2018.
  - Volume of trade with the EU was €1.41 billion in 2018.

- **Mobility & Empowerment**
  - Visa-free travel to the EU since December 2009.
  - In 2015 - 2019 over 3183 participants in student, academic and youth exchanges under ERASMUS+.
  - Reforms of the social welfare and child-care systems implemented with EU support.

**EU Funding**

- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Montenegro.
- €504.9 million in EU pre-accession funds 2007-2020.
- €804 million provided in European Investment Bank loans since 1999.
- €172.9 million provided since 2009 in Western Balkans Investment Framework grants, leveraging investments of estimated €1.7 billion.

**Coronavirus Response**

From IPA 2014-2020, €53 million in bilateral assistance for Montenegro to cover urgent health needs and economic and social recovery, and €455 provided regionally for an economic reactivation package. In addition, €60 million was proposed by the Commission in Macro-Financial Assistance for Montenegro and the European Investment Bank is providing a €1.7 billion package of assistance to the region.

**Key Milestones**

- **December 2008**
  - Application for EU Membership

- **May 2010**
  - Entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement

- **December 2010**
  - Candidate country status granted

- **June 2012**
  - EU Accession Negotiations opened

- **December 2019**
  - After seven years of accession negotiations, 32 out of 35 negotiating chapters have been opened, of which 3 are provisionally closed.

**Trade & Investment**

- 48% in exports to the EU
- 48% in imports from the EU

**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

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