**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
  - €782 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 €1.6 billion
  - €15.3 million for inclusive quality education and employment 2015-2017

- **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**

- **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

Source: EU data