Serbia on its European path

Key milestones

- December 2009: Application for EU membership
- 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
- December 2019: 18 chapters out of 35 opened of which 2 provisionally closed

Trade & investment

- The EU is Serbia’s biggest trading partner
- The EU’s Foreign Direct Investment in Serbia reached €2 billion in 2019
- Volume of trade with the EU was over €24 billion in 2019

Trade & investment (2019)

- Mobility & empowerment

- Visa-free travel to the EU since December 2009
- In 2015-2019: over 12,470 participants in academic exchange under Erasmus+
- €33 million in support to civil society from 2014-2020

EU funding

- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Serbia
- €2.79 billion in EU pre-accession funds 2007-2020
- Over €5.5 billion provided in European Investment Bank loans since 1999
- €210.2 million provided since 2009 in Western Balkans Investment Framework grants, to leverage investments of estimated €5.4 billion
- €162.2 million in disaster relief after the floods in 2014

EU funding (2014-2020)

Supporting transformation

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

Support for key sectors

COVID-19 response

From IPA 2014-2020, €93.4 million in bilateral assistance for Serbia to cover urgent health needs and economic and social recovery, and €455 million for regional economic reactivation package. In addition, the European Investment Bank is providing €1.7 billion to the region.

Source: EU Data