



# KOSOVO\*

on its European path

#EUenlargement



## Key milestones

### MARCH 2011

EU-facilitated dialogue between Belgrade-Pristina started

### APRIL 2013

'Brussels Agreement' between Belgrade and Pristina concluded

### APRIL 2016

Entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement

### MAY 2016

The European Commission proposes visa-free travel for the people of Kosovo

### OCTOBER 2016

First meeting of the EU-Kosovo Stabilisation and Association Council

### JULY 2018

Commission confirms that Kosovo has fulfilled all outstanding visa liberalisation benchmarks

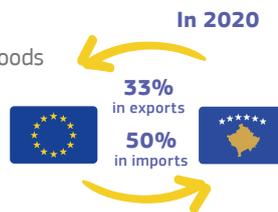
### OCTOBER 2020

Commission proposes Economic & Investment Plan to support and bring the Western Balkans closer to the EU



## Trade & investment

- The EU is Kosovo's biggest trading partner
- The EU's Foreign Direct Investment in Kosovo reached €151.6 million in 2020
- Volume of trade in goods with the EU was €1.3 billion in 2020



## EU funding

- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Kosovo
- €1.21 billion in EU assistance funds (2007-2020)
- €280 million provided in European Investment Bank loans since 1999
- €198.7 million provided since 2009 in Western Balkans Investment Framework grants, to leverage investments of estimated €1.8 billion



## Mobility & empowerment

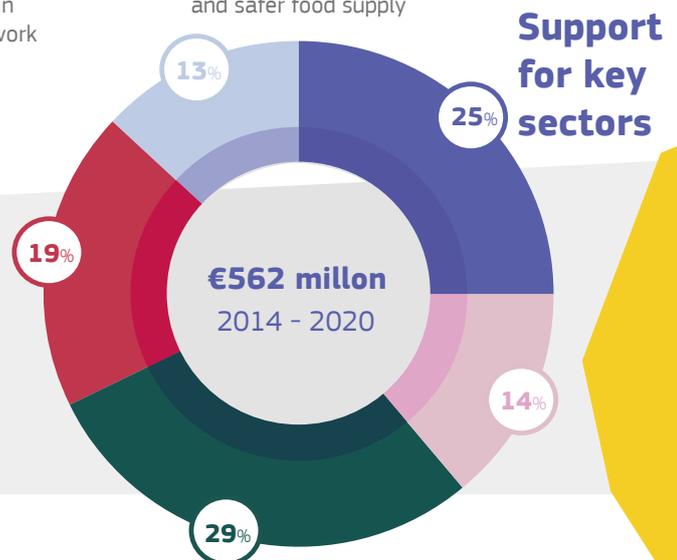
- Over 3,412 participants from Kosovo in student, academic and youth exchanges under ERASMUS+ (2014-2020)
- 364 'Young Cells Scheme' grants have been awarded to public administration scholars
- 4,000+ young and disadvantaged people received employment and entrepreneurship training
- €18.5 million in support to civil society (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

- Democracy and governance
- Rule of law and fundamental rights
- Environment, climate action and energy
- Competitiveness, innovation, agriculture and rural development
- Education, employment and social policies



## COVID-19 response

In December 2020, the Commission adopted a **€70 million** package of grants to help fund the access of Western Balkans partners to COVID-19 vaccines. A part of these grants covered the delivery of 650,000 doses of BioNTech/ Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines to all the Western Balkans - funded by the EU and facilitated by Austria - between May and August 2021. In February 2021, the Commission launched a project of over €7 million jointly with WHO, to support readiness for vaccination efforts and resilient health systems in the Western Balkans.

\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence