



SERBIA

on its European path

#EUenlargement

Key milestones

DECEMBER 2009

Application for EU membership

MARCH 2011

EU-facilitated dialogue between Belgrade-Pristina started

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

OCTOBER 2020

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



Trade & investment

- The EU is Serbia's biggest trading partner
- The EU's Foreign Direct Investment in Serbia reached €2.1 billion in 2020
- Volume of trade in goods with the EU was €25.4 billion in 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



Mobility & empowerment

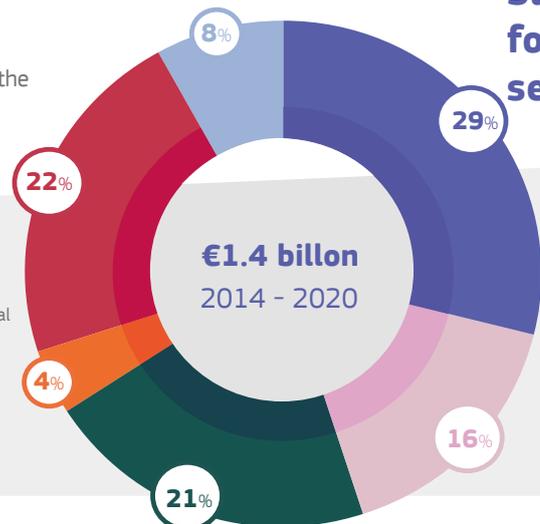
- Visa-free travel to the EU since December 2009
- Around 12,400 participants from Serbia in higher education, vocational education and training, school education, adult learning and youth under ERASMUS+ (2014-2020) (Serbia is a programme country in Erasmus+ since 2019)
- €33 million in support to civil 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

Support for key sectors



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.

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