BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
on its European path
#EUenlargement

Key milestones

**JULY 2008**
Signature of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement & entry into force of the Interim Agreement on trade

**JUNE 2015**
Entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement

**FEBRUARY 2016**
Bosnia and Herzegovina submits EU membership application

**MAY / DECEMBER 2019**
Commission Opinion on EU membership application: 14 key priorities, endorsed by the EU Council conclusions

**OCTOBER 2020**
Commission proposes Economic & Investment Plan to support and bring the Western Balkans closer to the EU

Trade & investment

- The EU is Bosnia and Herzegovina’s biggest trading partner
- The EU’s Foreign Direct Investment in Bosnia and Herzegovina reached €228 million in 2020
- Volume of trade in goods with the EU was €12.7 billion in 2021

EU funding

- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina
- The EU has been supporting reforms in the enlargement region, including in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with financial and technical assistance through the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) since 2007. For 2021-2027, IPA III funding for the enlargement region is €14.162 billion
- €1.19 billion in EU pre-accession funds (2007-2020)
- €3.2 billion in loans from European Investment Bank since 1999
- €726 million provided since 2009 in Western Balkans Investment Framework grants, to leverage investments of estimated €4.7 billion

Mobility & empowerment

- Visa-free travel to the EU since December 2010
- Over 12,169 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina in student, academic and youth exchanges under ERASMUS+ (2014-2020)
- €35.15 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

Total IPA support by sector in the enlargement region*

- Rule of Law, fundamental rights and democracy: 15%
- Competitiveness and inclusive growth: 42%
- Good governance and neighbourly relations: 22%
- Territorial and cross-border cooperation: 4%
- Green agenda and sustainable connectivity: 17%

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. To date over 4.7 million doses of vaccines have been donated by EU Member States or financed by this grant, which by Summer 2021 had 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. In addition, COVAX has provided almost 2.8 million doses, making a total of almost 8 million doses of vaccines received via Team Europe and via COVAX. The Commission also has a project of over €7 million jointly with WHO, which has helped to support readiness for vaccination efforts and resilient health systems in the Western Balkans.

Source: EU Data

ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement  |  facebook.com/EUnear  |  twitter.com/eu_near

* IPA assistance is based on EU thematic priorities rather than pre-defined country allocations, hence the global amount for the enlargement region.