



SERBIA

on its European path

#EUenlargement

Key milestones

DECEMBER 2009

Application for EU membership

MARCH 2011

EU-facilitated dialogue between Belgrade-Pristina starts

MARCH 2012

European Council grants candidate status

JUNE 2013

European Council decides to open accession negotiations

SEPTEMBER 2013

Stabilisation and Association Agreement enters into force

JUNE 2021

Political Intergovernmental Conference under the revised enlargement methodology

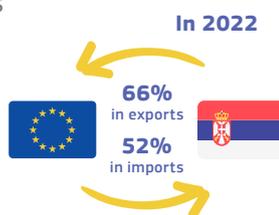
DECEMBER 2021

22 out of 35 screened chapters have been opened, two of which are provisionally closed



Trade & investment

- The EU is Serbia's biggest trading partner.
- The EU Foreign Direct Investment in Serbia reached €1.5 billion in 2022.
- Volume of trade in goods with the EU was €36.5 billion in 2022.



Source: Eurostat



Economic & Investment Plan

Launched in 2020, the Economic and Investment Plan (EIP) for the Western Balkans aims to mobilise up to €30 billion in cooperation with international financial institutions until 2027. Under the EIP for Serbia, the EU has already mobilised **€5.7 billion** in investments, out of which €1.1 billion in grants. For instance, the investments help:

- reconstruct the rail Corridor X sections on Belgrade-Niš railway line
- construct Kostolac wind farm.



EU funding

- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Serbia.
- The EU is supporting the socio-economic development and reforms in the enlargement region, including in Serbia, with financial and technical assistance through the **Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)**.
- For 2021-2023, the IPA III funding for national programmes amounts to **€571 million** for Serbia. This includes the dedicated **€165 million from**

the 2023 Energy Support Package

immediate measures, 90% of which have already been disbursed to support vulnerable families and SMEs facing the rising energy prices. The actions are also aimed at supporting policy measures to accelerate the energy transition.

- Since 1999, the EU has provided **€6.3 billion** in loans to Serbia through the European Investment Bank.



Human capital & innovation

- The EU pays special attention to youth, education, and innovation. It helps the Western Balkans in implementing Youth Guarantee schemes to support youth employment.
- 28,400+ participants took part in exchanges between the EU and Serbia in the areas of education, training, youth, and sport under ERASMUS+ (2014-2020).
- The EU has provided €33 million in support to civil society (2014-2023).

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