



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

on its European path

#EUenlargement



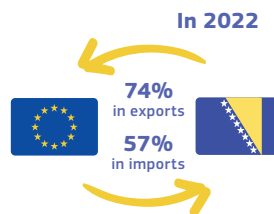
Key milestones

- FEBRUARY 2016**
Application for EU membership
- MAY 2019**
Commission Opinion on EU membership application
- DECEMBER 2019**
14 key priorities, endorsed by European Council
- OCTOBER 2022**
Commission recommends candidate status, on the understanding that a number of steps are taken
- DECEMBER 2022**
European Council grants candidate status
- NOVEMBER 2023**
Commission recommends opening negotiations, once the necessary degree of compliance with the membership criteria is achieved
- DECEMBER 2023**
European Council decides it will open accession negotiations, once the necessary degree of compliance with the membership criteria is achieved

Source: EU Data

Trade & investment

- The EU is Bosnia and Herzegovina's biggest trading partner.
- The EU Foreign Direct Investment in Bosnia and Herzegovina reached €371 million in 2022.
- Volume of trade in goods with the EU was almost €15.1 billion in 2022.



Source: Eurostat

EU funding

- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- The EU is supporting the socio-economic development and reforms in the enlargement region, including in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 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 over €256 million for Bosnia and Herzegovina. This includes the dedicated €70 million from the 2023 Energy Support Package immediate measures,

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 Bosnia and Herzegovina, the EU has already mobilised **€3 billion** in investments, out of which €934 million in grants. For instance, the investments help:

- construct motorway sections and subsections of Corridor Vc
- renovate and modernise Čapljina pump storage hydropower plant.

the 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 **€3.2 billion** in loans to Bosnia and Herzegovina 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.
- 15,300+ participants took part in exchanges between the EU and Bosnia and Herzegovina in the areas of education, training, youth, and sport under ERASMUS+ (2014-2020).
- The EU has provided €45 million in support to civil society (2014-2023).

Last updated: 12/2023