



# EU - Western Balkans relations

July 2022  
#WesternBalkans

## Recent highlights: EU-Western Balkans relations

**February 2020:** Revised methodology, presented by the Commission and endorsed by the Council (March 2020), to drive forward the enlargement process with a **stronger political steer** and in a more **credible, predictable, dynamic way**

**April 2020:** EU financial support package of **over €3.3 billion** to tackle coronavirus-related health needs & post-pandemic socio-economic recovery

**October 2020:** Commission proposes **Economic & Investment Plan for the Western Balkans** to support socio-economic development through reforms and flagship investments worth up to €30 billion

**July 2021:** **Western Balkans Summit of the Berlin process**

**September 2021:** Adoption of the **IPA III instrument to provide €14.2 billion Pre-accession Assistance** until 2027

**October 2021:** **EU27 – Western Balkans Summit** under the Slovenian Presidency of the EU Council

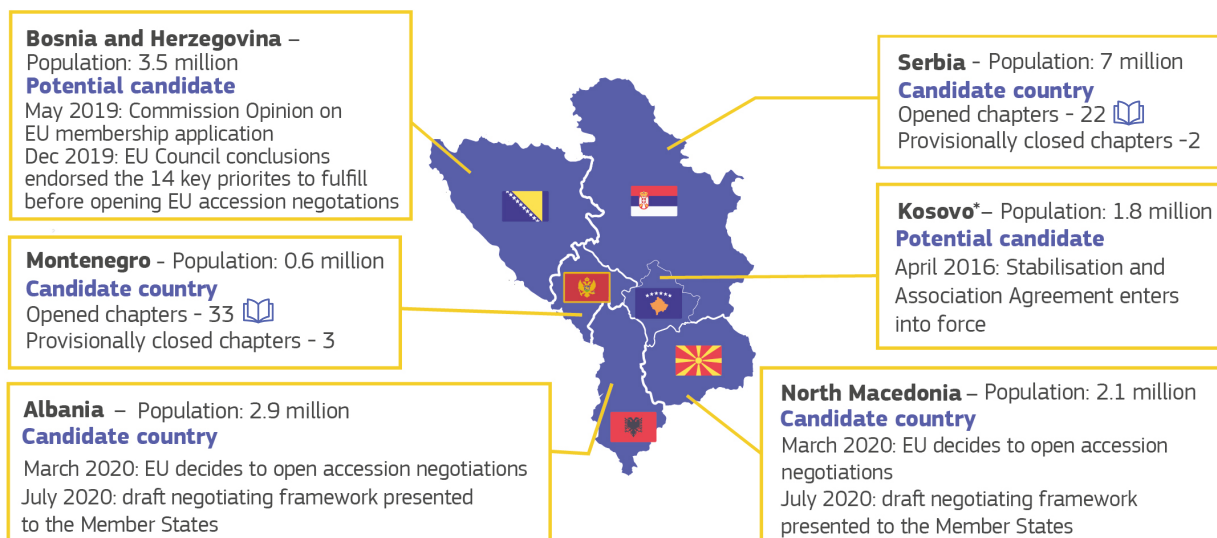
**February 2022:** endorsement of first flagship investments of the **Economic and Investment Plan**, with **€1.1 billion in EU grants**

**23-24 June 2022:** European Council meeting, EU leaders expressed **full support for integrating the Western Balkans** in the EU and called for acceleration of the accession process

**July 2022:** Intergovernmental Conference on accession negotiations with Albania and North Macedonia



## Overview: EU relations with the Western Balkans



## Economic relations between the EU and the Western Balkans



EU companies are by far the **leading investors**, accounting for **over 61% of FDI stock** in the region in 2020



Western Balkans is a market of **18 million consumers**



EU accounts for **almost 70%** of the region's **total trade** in 2021