



# 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

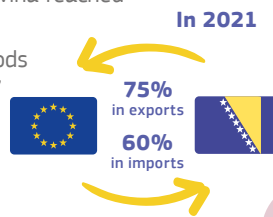
### MAY / DECEMBER 2019

Commission Opinion on EU membership application: 14 key priorities, endorsed by the EU Council conclusions



## 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 whole enlargement region is €14.162 billion
- €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
- In October 2020, the EU mobilised an up to €30 billion package through the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans. In 2022 the following projects were endorsed: Sustainable transport: Šamac – Doboj – Rječica railway section

- Rule of Law, fundamental rights and democracy
- Good governance and neighbourly relations
- Green agenda and sustainable connectivity
- Competitiveness and inclusive growth
- Territorial and cross-border cooperation



## Mobility & empowerment

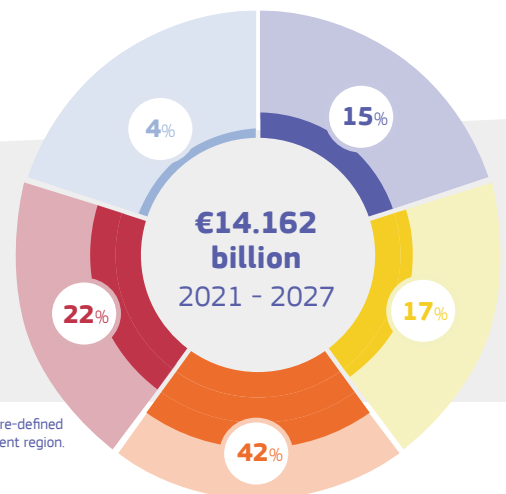
- Visa-free travel to the EU since December 2010
- Over 12,169 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina in student, academic and youth exchanges under ERASMUS+ (2014-2020)
- €35.15 million in support to civil society (2014-2020)



## 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 for the whole enlargement region by sector for 2021-2027 period\*



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



## 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, the Western Balkans have received more than 8 million doses of vaccines via Team Europe and 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.

Last updated: 07/2022