



MONTENEGRO

on its European path

#EUenlargement



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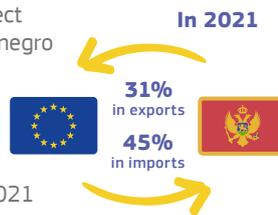
Key milestones

- DECEMBER 2008**
Application for EU Membership
- MAY 2010**
Entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement
- DECEMBER 2010**
EU candidate country status granted
- JUNE 2012**
EU decides to open accession negotiations
- DECEMBER 2013**
'Rule of Law' chapters 23 and 24 are opened for negotiations
- JUNE 2020**
All 33 screened chapters have been opened, three of which are provisionally closed
- JUNE & DECEMBER 2021**
Political Intergovernmental Conferences under the revised enlargement methodology provide political steer to the accession process



Trade & investment

- The EU is Montenegro's biggest trading partner
- The EU's Foreign Direct Investment in Montenegro reached €169.4 million in 2021
- Volume of trade in goods with the EU was €1.5 billion in 2021



Economic & Investment Plan

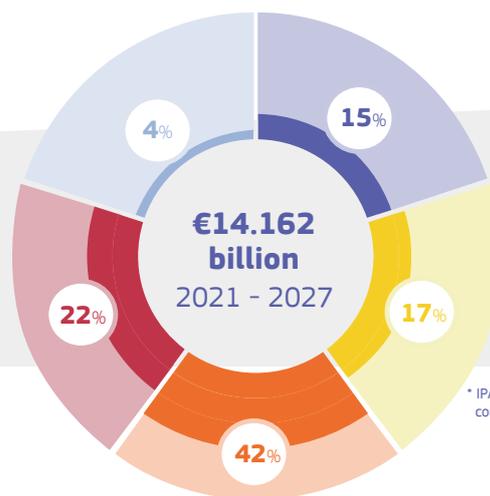
Over the next seven years, the EU will mobilise up to **€30 billion** in cooperation with international financial institutions through the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans launched in 2020. The following EIP project for Montenegro was endorsed in 2022:

- Environment and climate:** Podgorica wastewater treatment plant



EU funding

- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Montenegro
- The EU is supporting the socioeconomic development and reforms in the enlargement region, including in Montenegro, with financial and technical assistance through the **Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)**
- For 2021-2027, IPA III funding for the whole enlargement region is **€14.162 billion***. It responds to thematic priorities
- The Annual Action Plan 2021 for Montenegro adopted a budget of **€32.41 million** supporting actions in the areas of agriculture, environmental and climate action, EU integration, reforms as well as connectivity and green agenda
- For 2014 - 2020, IPA II funding allocated for Montenegro amounted to **€269.2 million**
- €1 billion provided in European Investment Bank loans since 1999



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



Human capital & innovation

- The EU pays special attention to youth, education and innovation and is helping the Western Balkans implementing Youth Guarantee schemes to support youth employment
- 4,000+ participants from Montenegro in student, academic and youth exchanges under ERASMUS+ (2014-2020)
- Reforms of the social welfare and child-care systems implemented with EU support
- €14.4 million in support to civil society (2014-2020)

Last updated: 12/2022