Trade & investment
- The EU is Serbia’s biggest trading partner
- The EU’s Foreign Direct Investment in Serbia reached €1.85 billion in 2021
- Volume of trade in goods with the EU was €32.3 billion in 2021

EU funding
- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Serbia
- The EU is supporting the socioeconomic development and reforms in the enlargement region, including in Serbia, with financial and technical assistance through the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)
- For 2021-2027, IPA III funding for the whole enlargement region is €14.162 billion*. It responds to thematic priorities

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 projects for Serbia were endorsed in 2022:
- Sustainable transport: Removal of WWII German sunken vessels from the Danube, Prahovo sector; Niš railroad bypass; Stalač – Dunis railway section
- Clean Energy: Trans-Balkan electricity corridor; Advanced system for remote meter reading in Kraljevo, Cačak and Niš
- Digital Future: Rural broadband rollout
- Human Capital: University Children’s Hospital Tišsova 2 in Belgrade

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
- Around 12,400 participants from Serbia in higher education, vocational education and training, school education, adult learning and youth under ERASMUS+ (2014-2020) (Serbia is a programme country in Erasmus+ since 2019)
- €33 million in support to civil society (2014-2020)

Key milestones
- **DECEMBER 2009** Application for EU membership
- **MARCH 2011** EU-facilitated dialogue between Belgrade–Pristina started
- **MARCH 2012** EU Candidate country status granted
- **JUNE 2013** EU decides to open accession negotiations
- **SEPTEMBER 2013** Entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement
- **JUNE 2021** Political Intergovernmental Conference under the revised enlargement methodology provides political steer to the accession process
- **DECEMBER 2021** Opening of cluster 4 on Green agenda and sustainable connectivity, bringing the number of opened chapters to 22 out of 35, two of which are provisionally closed

Source: EU Data