



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

on its European path

#EUenlargement



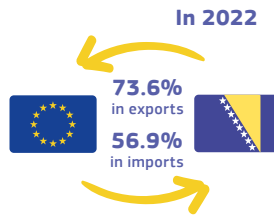
Key milestones

- 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 2019**
Commission Opinion on EU membership application
- DECEMBER 2019**
14 key priorities, endorsed by the EU Council conclusions
- OCTOBER 2022**
Commission recommendation to the Council to grant Bosnia and Herzegovina candidate status, on the understanding that a number of steps are taken
- DECEMBER 2022**
European Council grants status of candidate country to Bosnia and Herzegovina



Trade & investment

- The EU is Bosnia and Herzegovina's biggest trading partner
- The EU's Foreign Direct Investment in Bosnia and Herzegovina reached €230 million in 2020
- Volume of trade in goods with the EU was almost €15.1 billion in 2022



EU funding

- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina
- The EU is supporting the socioeconomic 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 2021-2027, IPA III funding for the whole enlargement region is **€14.162 billion**.

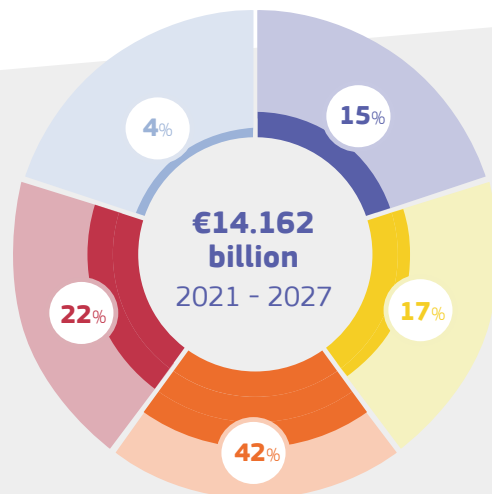


Economic & Investment Plan

Launched in 2020, the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans will mobilise up to **€30 billion** in cooperation with international financial institutions until 2027. The following EIP projects for Bosnia and Herzegovina were endorsed by 2023 included:

- Sustainable transport:** Demining the Right Bank of the Sava River; Corridor Vc Mostar North – Mostar South and Johovac Interchange – Vukosavlje Interchange Motorway Section, Mostar South – Kvanj Tunnel, Medakovo – Ozimice, Ozimice – Poprikuše and Kvanj Tunnel – Buna Motorway Subsections; Šamac – Dobož – Rječica Railway Section

- The **Annual Action Plan 2023** is part of the **Energy Support Package for the Western Balkans**. From the dedicated €70 million, already 90% have been disbursed to support vulnerable families and SMEs in facing the rising energy prices, as well as foster the transition to renewable energy sources, in line with the priorities of the EU's Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans
- The **Annual Action Plans 2021** and **2022** for Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted budgets of **€73 million** and **€45,5 million**, respectively.
- Since 1999 the EU provided **€3.2 billion** loans through the European Investment Bank.



The objective of IPA III is to **support the beneficiaries implementing the political, institutional, legal, administrative, social and economic reforms required to comply with Union values** and to progressively align to Union rules, standards, policies and practices ('acquis') with a view to future Union membership, thereby contributing to mutual stability, security, peace and prosperity.

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

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

Last updated: 07/2023