



# 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

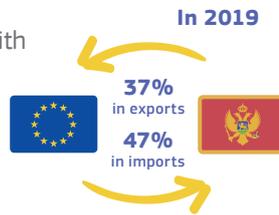
### JUNE 2020

After eight years of accession negotiations all the 33 screened chapters have been opened, of which 3 are provisionally closed



## Trade & investment

- The EU is Montenegro's biggest trading partner
- The EU's Foreign Direct Investment in Montenegro reached €55.3 million in 2018
- Volume of trade with the EU was €1.38 billion in 2019



## EU funding

- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Montenegro
- €504.9 million in EU pre-accession funds 2007-2020
- €804 million provided in European Investment Bank loans since 1999
- €172.9 million provided since 2009 in Western Balkans Investment Framework grants, to leverage investments of estimated €1.7 billion



## Mobility & empowerment

- Visa-free travel to the EU since December 2009
- In 2015-2020: over 4,153 participants from Montenegro in student, academic and youth exchanges under ERASMUS+
- Reforms of the social welfare and child-care systems implemented with EU support

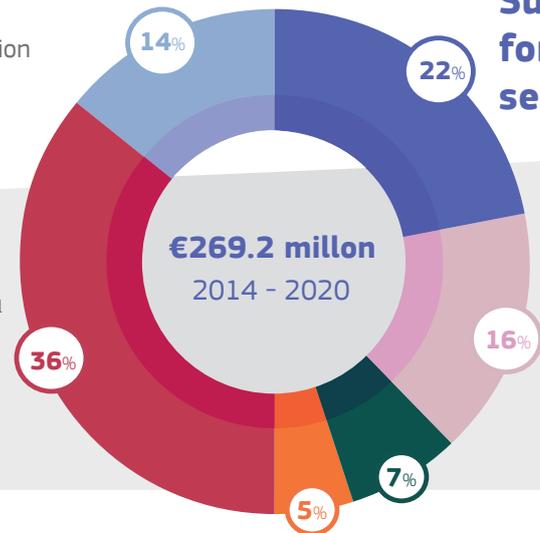


## Supporting transformation

- 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

## Support for key sectors

- Democracy and governance
- Rule of law and fundamental rights
- Environment, climate action and energy
- Transport
- Competitiveness, innovation, agriculture and rural development
- Education, employment and social policies



## COVID-19 response

From IPA 2014-2020, €53 million in bilateral assistance for Montenegro to cover urgent health needs and economic and social recovery, and €455 million for regional economic reactivation package. In addition, €60 million was approved by the EU in Macro-Financial Assistance for Montenegro and the European Investment Bank is providing €1.7 billion to the region. In December 2020 the Commission adopted a €70 million package to help fund the access of Western Balkans partners to COVID-19 vaccines.

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