



# KOSOVO\*

on its European path

#EUenlargement

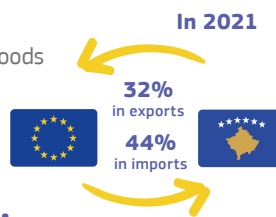


## Key milestones

- MARCH 2011**  
EU-facilitated dialogue between Pristina-Belgrade started
- APRIL 2013**  
'Brussels Agreement' between Belgrade and Pristina concluded
- APRIL 2016**  
Entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement
- MAY 2016**  
The European Commission proposes visa-free travel for the people of Kosovo
- OCTOBER 2016**  
First meeting of the EU-Kosovo Stabilisation and Association Council
- JULY 2018**  
Commission confirms that Kosovo has fulfilled all outstanding visa liberalisation benchmarks

## Trade & investment

- The EU is Kosovo's biggest trading partner
- The EU's Foreign Direct Investment in Kosovo reached €208 million in 2021
- Volume of trade in goods with the EU was €1.8 billion in 2021



## EU funding

- The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Kosovo
- The EU is supporting the socioeconomic development and reforms in the enlargement region, including in Kosovo, 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

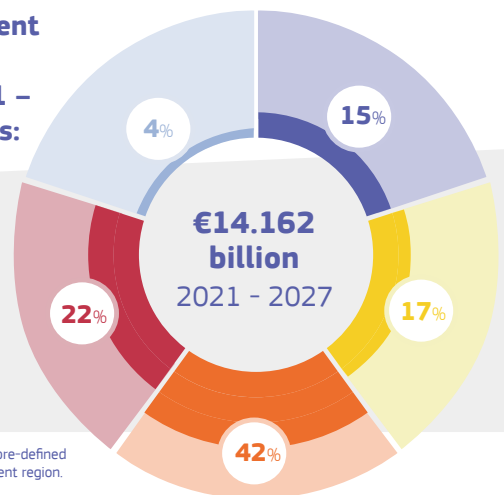
Over the next seven years, the EU will mobilise up to **€30 billion** in cooperation with international financial institutions through the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans launched in 2020. The following EIP project for Kosovo was endorsed in 2022:

- Sustainable transport:** Pristina-Merdare section of the Peace Highway connecting Kosovo to Serbia

- The Annual Action Plan 2021 foresees a budget of **€63.96 million** supporting actions in the areas of governance (local government), demining, environment, economic development, agriculture & rural development
- For 2014 - 2020, IPA II funding allocated for Kosovo amounted to **€573.1 million**
- €300 million provided in European Investment Bank loans since 1999

The EU supports reforms in the enlargement region through the Instrument of Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA). Between 2021 – 2027\*\* the IPA III funding for the region is:

- 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.

## Human capital & innovation

- The EU pays special attention to youth, education and innovation
- Youth Guarantee
- Agenda for Western Balkans on innovation, research, education, culture, youth and sport
- 3,400+ participants from Kosovo in student, academic and youth exchanges under ERASMUS+ (2014-2020)
- 364 'Young Cells Scheme' grants have been awarded to public administration scholars
- 4,000+ young and disadvantaged people received employment and entrepreneurship training
- €18.5 million in support to civil society (2014-2020)

\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence