



EU - Western Balkans Relations

#WesternBalkans

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The EU enlargement policy is a **geo-strategic investment** in Europe's peace, security, stability and prosperity.

Russia's aggression against Ukraine underlines the **need to accelerate the accession process** of the Western Balkans.

The EU will continue its **strong political, technical, and financial support to all six Western Balkan partners**, to help them advance key political, institutional, social and economic reforms that are necessary to progress on their path toward the EU.

The EU is the biggest investor and trading partner in the Western Balkans



No. 1 INVESTOR

EU companies are by far the **leading investors**, accounting for **58% of total FDI** in the region in 2023



No. 1 TRADING PARTNER

EU accounts for **almost 70%** of the region's **total trade** in 2023

With the ambition to mobilise up to

€30 billion

in total public and private investments

including

€9 billion

in EU grants

Under the **Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans**, the EU supports the post pandemic socio-economic recovery of the region and helps the region closing the development gap with the EU.

Since its launch, the EU has approved funding of €5.4 billion in grants and is expected to mobilise €17.2 billion in overall investments. This includes funding for **68 flagship projects** under Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF).

Enlargement Negotiations