EU Pre-accession of Western Balkans countries

Fidanka Bacheva-McGrath

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Contents

1. Introduction to pre-accession of SEE

2. Instrument for Preaccession Assistance (IPA)

3. Problems and opportunities
“the associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe that so desire, shall become members of the European Union.”

Criteria for candidate EU countries:
- **Political** rule of law, stable institutions, democracy and human rights
- **Economic** functioning market economy
Copenhagen criteria reinforced by the European Council in Madrid in 1995 with

* adoption of the *Acquis Communautaire* and its effective implementation through appropriate administrative and judicial structures.
“The European Council confirms that its objective remains the fullest possible integration of the countries of the [SEE] region into the political and economic mainstream of Europe through the Stabilisation and Association process. All the countries concerned are potential candidates for EU membership.”
Western Balkan candidates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EU Candidate countries:</th>
<th>EU Potential Candidates:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Albania,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macedonia</td>
<td>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kosovo,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Montenegro,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Serbia</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The pre-accession process

**Objective:** Approximation to the EU → → → POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, LEGAL → → →

**Ultimate goal:** EU accession/ membership.

The use of **conditionality** as its legal cornerstone.

EU Pre-accession Funds to further the process: PHARE, SAPARD, CARDS and IPA since 2007.
Pre-Accession assistance 2007-2009 under Multi-annual Institutional Financial Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-acc. Assistance envelopes, in € Million</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>138.5</td>
<td>146.0</td>
<td>151.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia</td>
<td>58.5</td>
<td>70.2</td>
<td>81.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>497.2</td>
<td>538.7</td>
<td>566.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>61.0</td>
<td>70.7</td>
<td>81.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>62.1</td>
<td>74.8</td>
<td>89.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>31.4</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>33.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>186.7</td>
<td>190.9</td>
<td>194.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>63.3</td>
<td>64.7</td>
<td>66.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5 components of IPA:

1. Transition Assistance and Institution Building.
2. Regional and Cross-Border Co-operation.
3. Regional Development
4. Human Resources Development
5. Rural Development

Centralised management or via Delegations.

Decentralised, with or without the ex-ante controls (ownership principle).
Absorption capacity - low

- administrative capacity to plan and design projects

- co-financing: IFIs loans, WBIF
Opportunities

1. Progress reports

2. Representation in Monitoring committees

3. Environmental Forum

4. Energy Treaty and Transport Treaty
Thank you!