



# EU ENLARGEMENT FACTSHEET

<http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement>

## CLOSE-UP ON ENLARGEMENT COUNTRIES: CROATIA

- **Full name:** Republic of Croatia
- **Capital and largest city:** Zagreb
- **Official language:** Croatian
- **Ethnic groups:** 90.4% Croats  
4.4% Serbs  
5.2% others/ unspecified
- **Population:** 4.3 million
- **Currency:** Kuna (HRK)
- **GDP per capita PPP:** EUR 14,000 (2012 est.)
- **Accession status:** Acceding on 1 July 2013



### CURRENT STATUS

- All **35 negotiation chapters** were **closed successfully** on 30 June 2011.
- On 9 December 2011 Croatia and the EU signed the **Accession Treaty**.
- At the **EU accession referendum** in 2012, 2/3 of Croatian citizens voted in favour of the EU.
- Croatia completed the **ten priority actions identified in the Commission's Comprehensive Monitoring Report of October 2012**. These included commitments in the area of competition, the judiciary and fundamental rights and justice, freedom and security. At the same time, Croatia is generally meeting the conditions and requirements arising from the accession negotiations in all chapters.
- Croatian citizens have elected their representatives at the European Parliament.
- Croatia joins the EU on **1 July 2013**.

### ECONOMIC COOPERATION

- Croatia signed a **Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA)** with the EU on 29 October 2001. The agreement liberalised trade in almost all goods and contributed substantially to increased trade between the EU and Croatia.
- In 2012, **EU imports** from Croatia amounted to **EUR 5.5 billion** while **EU exports** to Croatia reached **EUR 11.2 billion**.
- The main sources of export to the EU in 2012 were industrial products (60%), followed by commodities (20%) and agriculture (10%).
- Similarly, the Croatian imports from the EU in 2012 were mainly in these three sectors with the emphasis on processed food and manufacturing, with commodities making up less of the trade.
- In 2012 the **EU was Croatia's main trading partner** (62% of external trade). The second most important markets for Croatia were its southern neighbours Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia. The EU stock in foreign investment to Croatia was 92%.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

**EUR 1 billion** has been invested under the EU's **Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA)** for the period 2007 – 2013 to support the country's social, economic and political development. This amounted to a total of **85%** of each of the project's total investment. IPA consists of **five components**:

No	Component	2007-2013 (million EUR)
I	Assistance in transition and building of institutions Transportation Operational Programme (TOP)	277.3
II	Cross-border cooperation	99.6
III	Regional development	347.6
IV	Human resources development	95.0
V	Rural development (IPARD)	184.4

The IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building component directly supports the strengthening of

justice and home affairs and fundamental rights in Croatia. In 2011 **EUR 19.2 million** were allotted to projects of this nature, including for **support of the rationalisation of the Croatian court network, supporting an active civil society in Croatia** so as to ensure the durability of policy reforms after the accession, and **strengthening the capacities of the Croatian Ministry of the Interior to combat computer crime**.

Through the **IPA Environmental Operational Programme**, the EU contributes to the environmental maintenance of the patrimony of Croatia. By 2011, **EUR 95 million** had been invested in development projects for **waste management infrastructures** and the **protection of Croatia's water resources through improved water supply and waste water integrated management systems**.

## TIMELINE OF CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN CROATIA AND THE EU

