

# The Western Balkans in Horizon 2020



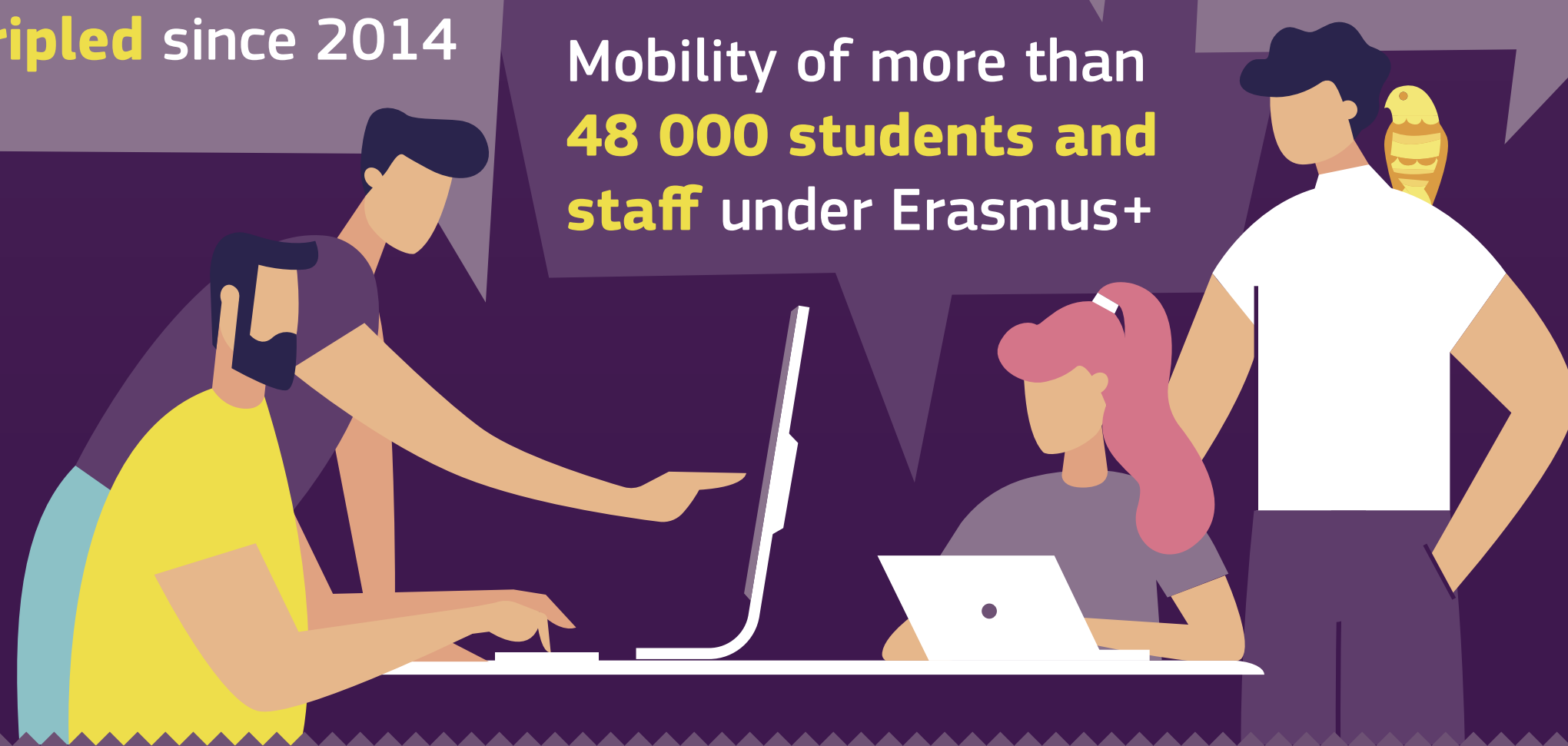
## Horizon 2020: the story so far

Funding of Western Balkan research projects has **tripled** since 2014

**531 projects funded** and participation of **906 beneficiaries**

Participation of Western Balkan researchers has **increased by 50 %** since 2016

Mobility of more than **48 000 students and staff** under Erasmus+

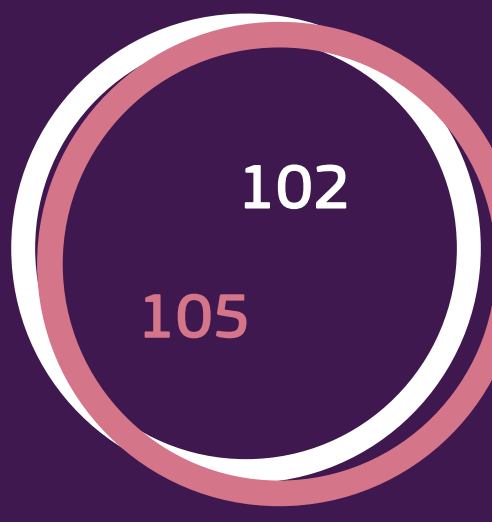


Serbia



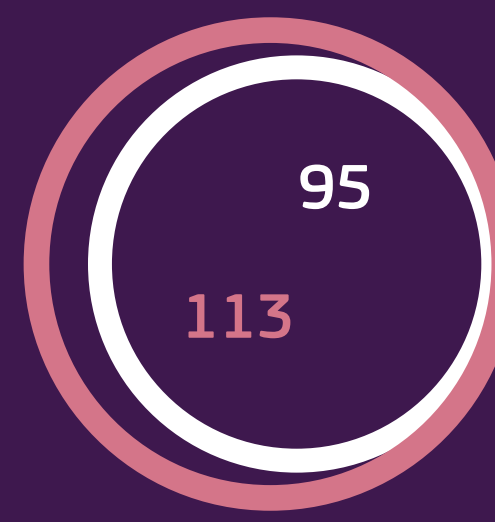
€126.8 million

North Macedonia



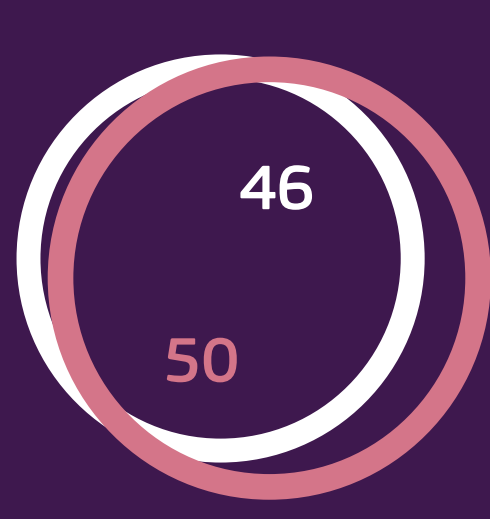
€13.2 million

Bosnia and Herzegovina



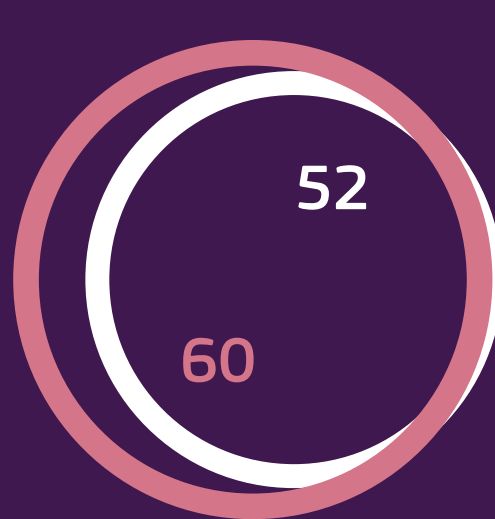
€8.6 million

Albania



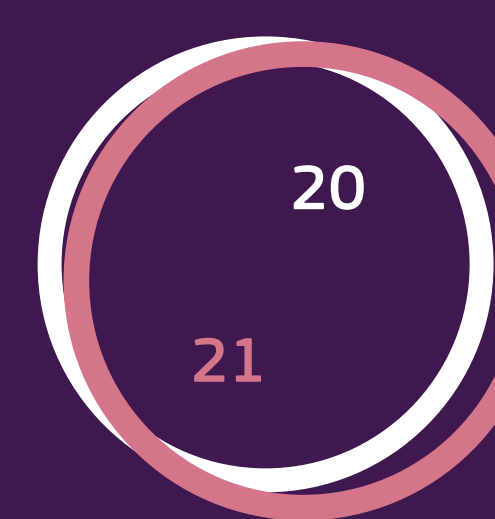
€5.3 million

Montenegro



€4.6 million

Kosovo\*\*



€2.6 million

Total **906 participations** **€161.1 million EU contribution**

Projects\*

Participations

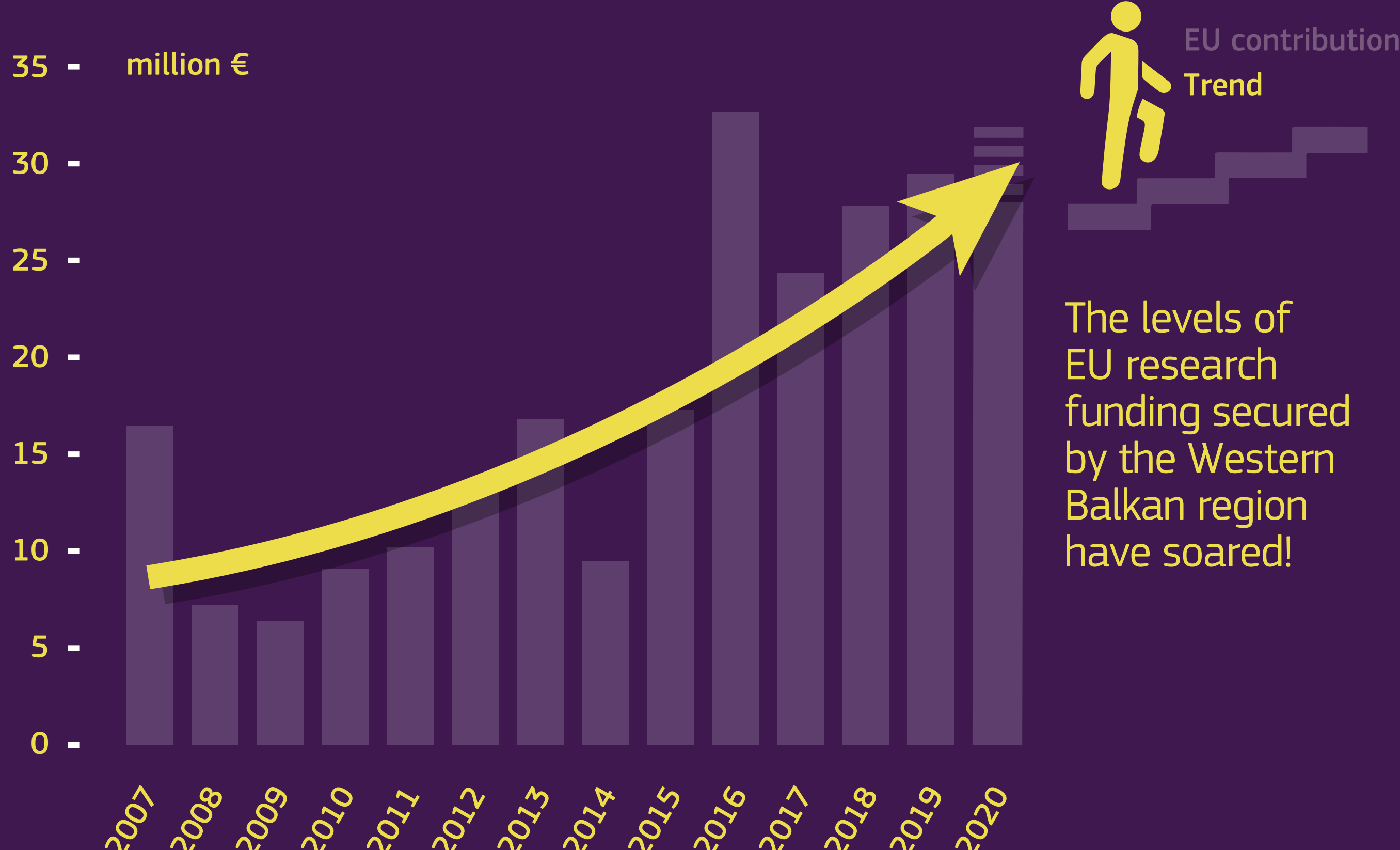
EU contribution

Figures as of 19/03/2021

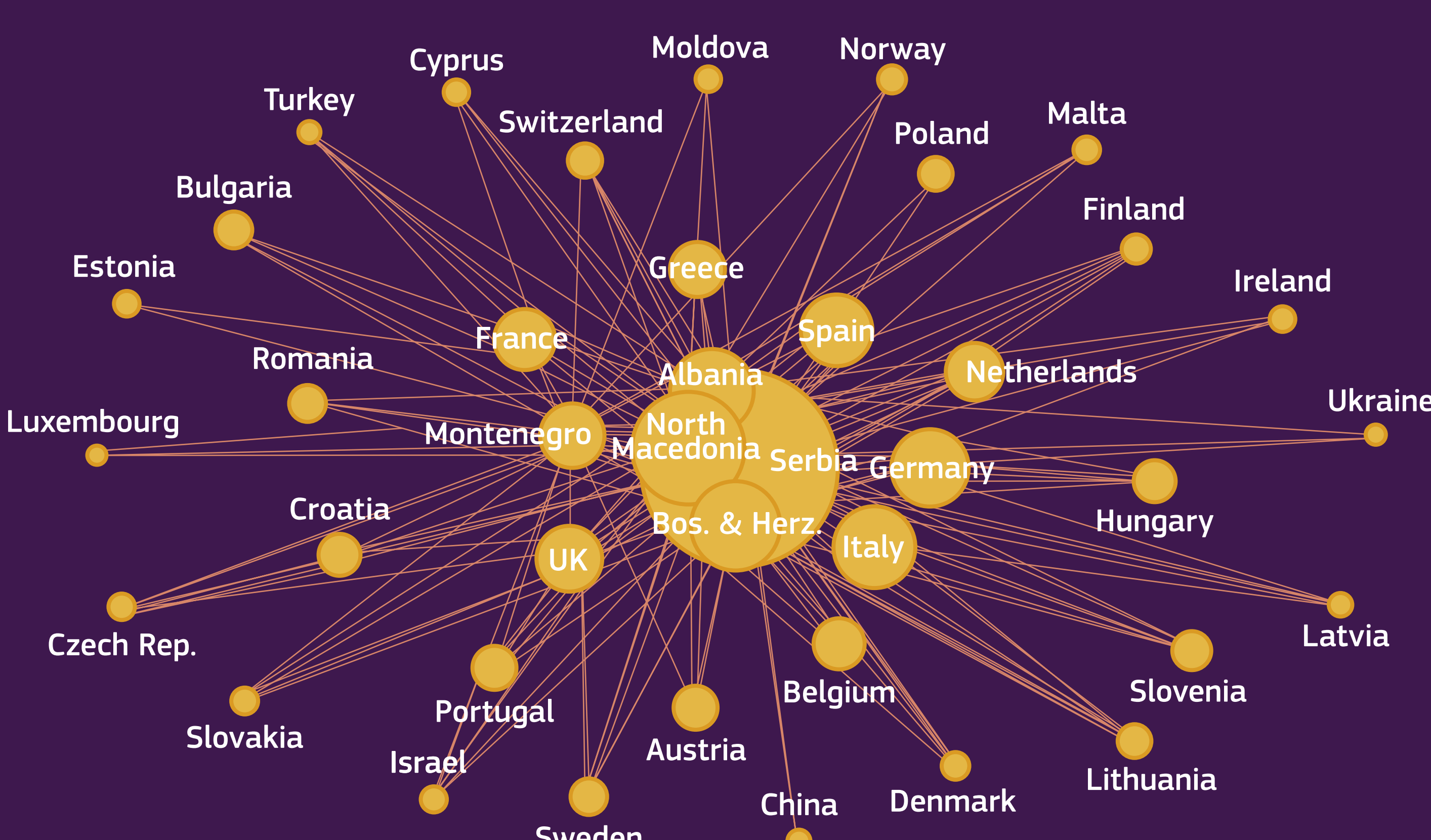
\*Individual projects may include participants from more than one of the countries.

\*\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

## Increasing cooperation with the Western Balkans



## Highly connected



Through their involvement in Horizon 2020 collaborative projects, researchers in the Western Balkans are cooperating with partners across Europe and beyond.



# What next?

**Increased participation!**  
Horizon Europe – same eligibility for funding as EU Member States

As Accession Countries, the Western Balkans will be further integrated into the new European Research Area which aims to:

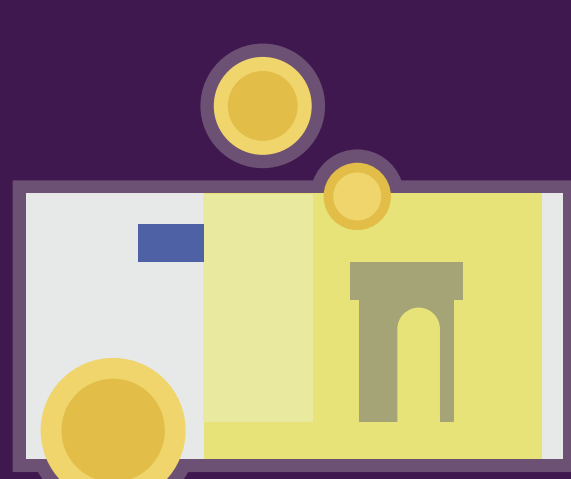
**Prioritise investments and reforms in research and innovation** towards the green and digital transition, to support Europe's recovery and increase competitiveness.

**Strengthen mobility of researchers and free flow of knowledge and technology** through greater cooperation among Member States.

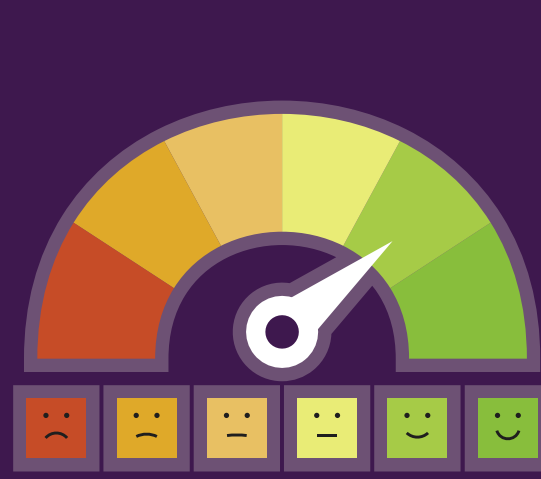
**Boost market uptake** of research and innovation results.

**Improve access to excellence** for researchers across the EU.

## Roadmap for EU-Enlargement Countries: S&T cooperation



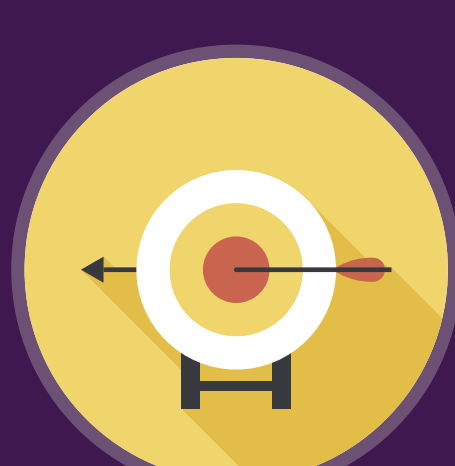
Higher investment in R&D



Enhanced R&I capacity



Greater synergies



Smart specialisation strategies



More attention to open science skills

## Leading EU-Western Balkans R&I Projects

### Antares

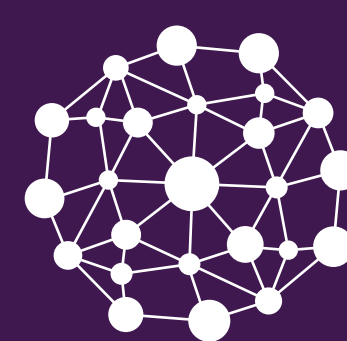
**ANTARES** is building a Centre of Excellence for advanced technologies in sustainable agriculture and food security in Serbia.



**SEEIIST** is developing a green research facility for cancer therapy by promoting scientific and technical cooperation in the Western Balkans.



**IMARECULTURE** uses immersive technologies such as augmented and virtual reality to make Europe's underwater cultural heritage more accessible.



**EU4TECH** offers support to 40+ promising technology based projects from the region. It assists with validating and protecting technology, developing a robust business model and moving local projects closer to the market.

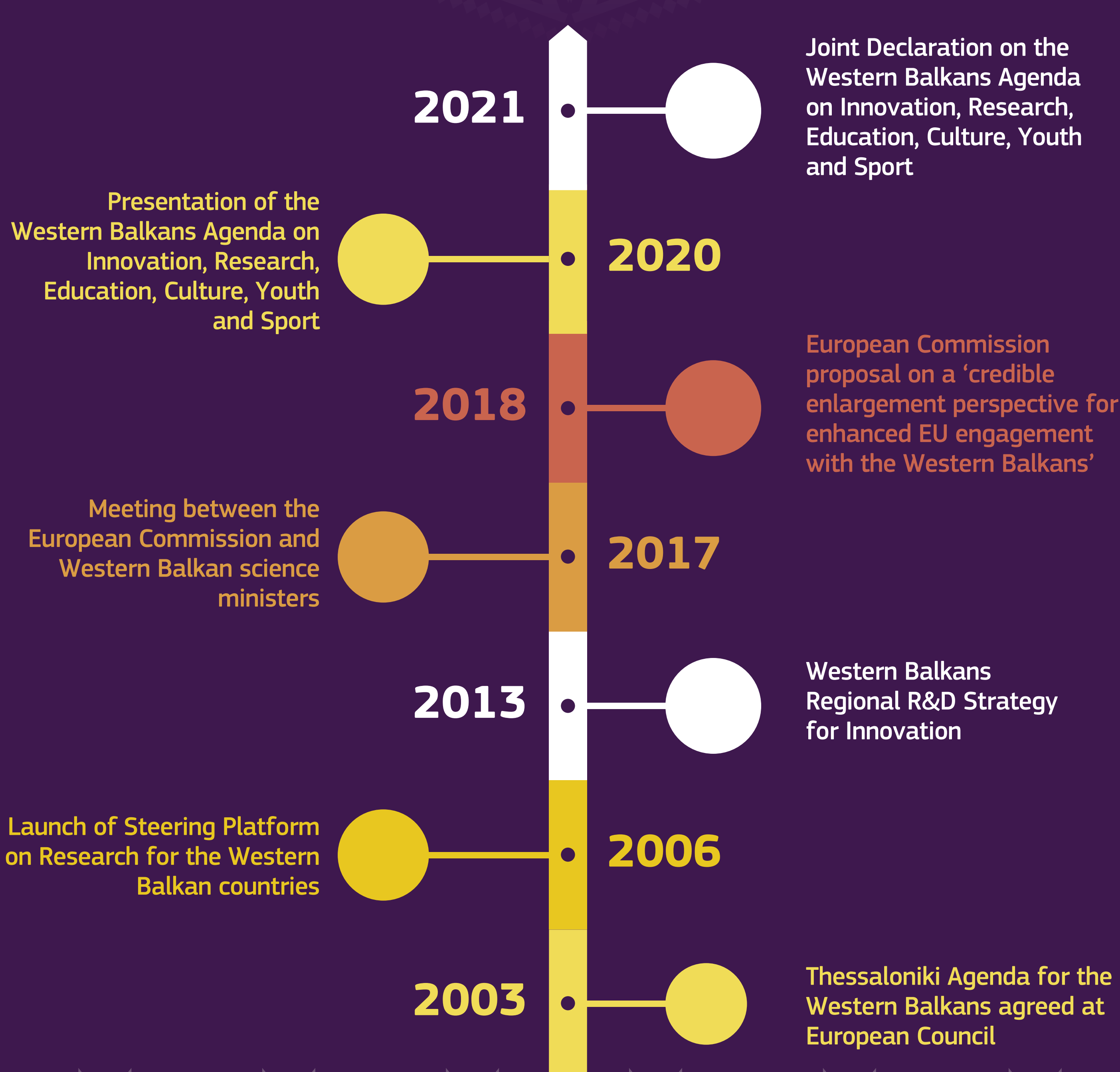
**Add yours!**



Monitor the Funding & Tender Opportunities portal for chances to get involved.

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal>  
#H2020 is #OpenToTheWorld

## Milestones of EU-Western Balkans S&T cooperation



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Further reading <http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp>

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