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*Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
and European Integration  
of Montenegro*

# MONTENEGRO & EU





## KEY FACTS

There is a broad national and political consensus on EU integration as Montenegro's strategic foreign policy priority.

Accession negotiations between Montenegro and the European Union officially begun on 29 June 2012 at the Inter-governmental Conference in Brussels.

### **Negotiation structure is composed of:**

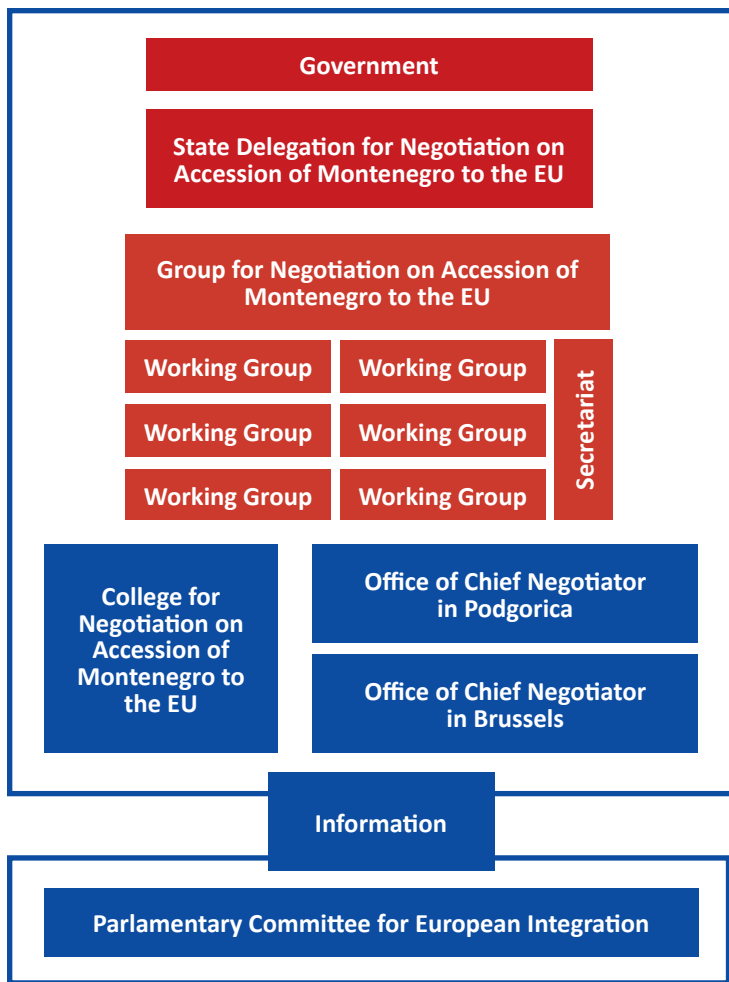
- 1) College for Negotiations on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union;
- 2) State Delegation of Montenegro for Negotiations on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union;
- 3) Negotiating Group for Negotiations on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union;
- 4) Working Groups for Preparation of Negotiations on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union on Individual Negotiating Chapters – chapters of the EU acquis;
- 5) Office of the Chief Negotiator for Negotiations on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union;
- 6) Secretariat of the Negotiating Group.

**Parliament of Montenegro** is following the EU integration process through the Committee for European Integration.

**Current status:** Candidate Country.



## NEGOTIATION STRUCTURE







## EU INTEGRATION MILESTONES

### 2006

**21 May 2006** – The Montenegrin independence referendum takes place – 55.5% of votes cast in favour of independence.

### 2007

**15 October 2007** – The Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) signed in Luxembourg.

**1 November 2007** – The European Commission Delegation in Podgorica set up.

**13 November 2007** – The Parliament of Montenegro ratifies the SAA, the Interim Agreement and Agreements on Visa Facilitation and Readmission.

**1 January 2008** – Interim Agreement on Trade and Trade-related Issues and Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements enter into force.

### 2008

**15 December 2008** – Montenegro submits its application for EU membership.

**23 April 2009** – The Council invites the Commission to submit its opinion on Montenegro's application.

### 2009

**22 July 2009** – The European Commission delivers the Questionnaire to the Government of Montenegro. Montenegro submits its answers and additional answers to the Questionnaire on 9 December 2009 and 12 April 2010.

**30 November 2009** – The European Council grants visa-free travel for Montenegrin citizens.

### 2010

**1 May 2010** – The Stabilisation and Association Agreement enters into force, after being ratified by all 27 Member States.

**9 November 2010** – European Commission presents positive Opinion on Montenegro's EU membership application.

**17 December 2010** – European Council grants Candidate Status to Montenegro

### 2011

**12 October 2011** – In the Progress Report, the European Commission recommends the opening of accession negotiations with the EU.

**9 December 2011** – The European Council welcomes the European Commission's assessment on the good progress made by Montenegro.

**29 December 2011** – Chief Negotiator is appointed by the Government of Montenegro.









## EU INTEGRATION MILESTONES

### 2012

**2 February 2012** – The Government of Montenegro adopts the Decision Establishing the Negotiating Structure for the Accession of Montenegro to the European Union.

**23 May 2012** – The European Commission publishes the Report on Montenegro's Progress in the Implementation of Reforms and recommends the EU member states to open the negotiations on accession of Montenegro in June 2012.

**26 June 2012** – European General Affairs Council in Luxembourg decided to recommend initiation of accession negotiations between Montenegro and EU to the European Commission

**29 June 2012** – Official beginning of the negotiation process between Montenegro and European Union.

**18 December 2012** – Chapter 25 – Science and Research opened and provisionally closed at the Intergovernmental conference in Brussels.

### 2013

**15 April 2013** – Chapter 26 – Education and Culture opened and provisionally closed at the Intergovernmental conference in Brussels.

**27 June 2013** – Adopted Action plan for Chapter 23 Judiciary and Fundamental Rights, and Chapter 24 Justice, freedom and security

**27 June 2013** – Complete the screening process for the 33 negotiating chapters.

**18 December 2013** – Officially open negotiation chapters: Chapter 5 – Public Procurement, Chapter 6 – Company Law, Chapter 20 – Enterprise and Industrial Policy, Chapter 23 – Judiciary and Fundamental Rights, Chapter 24 – Justice, Freedom, and Security.

**26 December 2013** – the Government of Montenegro adopts Montenegro's Programme of Accession to the EU for the period 2014-2018.

### 2014...



