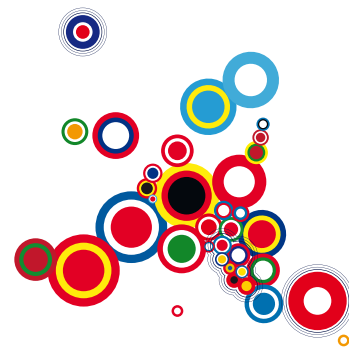


EU ENLARGEMENT FACTSHEET

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



HOW DOES THE EU ACCESSION PROCESS WORK?

■ What is currently the EU began in **1957** as the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community with **6** members: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxemburg and the Netherlands

• **5** waves of enlargement rounds have increased the number of Member States to its current number of **27**



■ **1973:** Denmark, Ireland, United Kingdom

■ **1981:** Greece

■ **1986:** Spain, Portugal

■ **1995:** Austria, Finland, Sweden

■ **2004 and** ■ **2007:** Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Romania

• Any European State which respects the values referred to in Article 2 and is committed to promoting them may apply to become a member of the Union (Excerpt from Article 49 of the Treaty on European Union)

• Values listed in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union: respect for human dignity; freedom; democracy; equality; the rule of law; respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities.

• The following **9** countries are currently in the accession process:

■ **1** acceding country (EU membership terms have been agreed; waiting for ratification by all Member States to join): Croatia is expected to become the **28th Member State** on **1 July 2013**

■ **5** candidate countries (still in the negotiation process or waiting to start): the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey

■ **3** potential candidates (countries promised the prospect of joining when they are ready): Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*

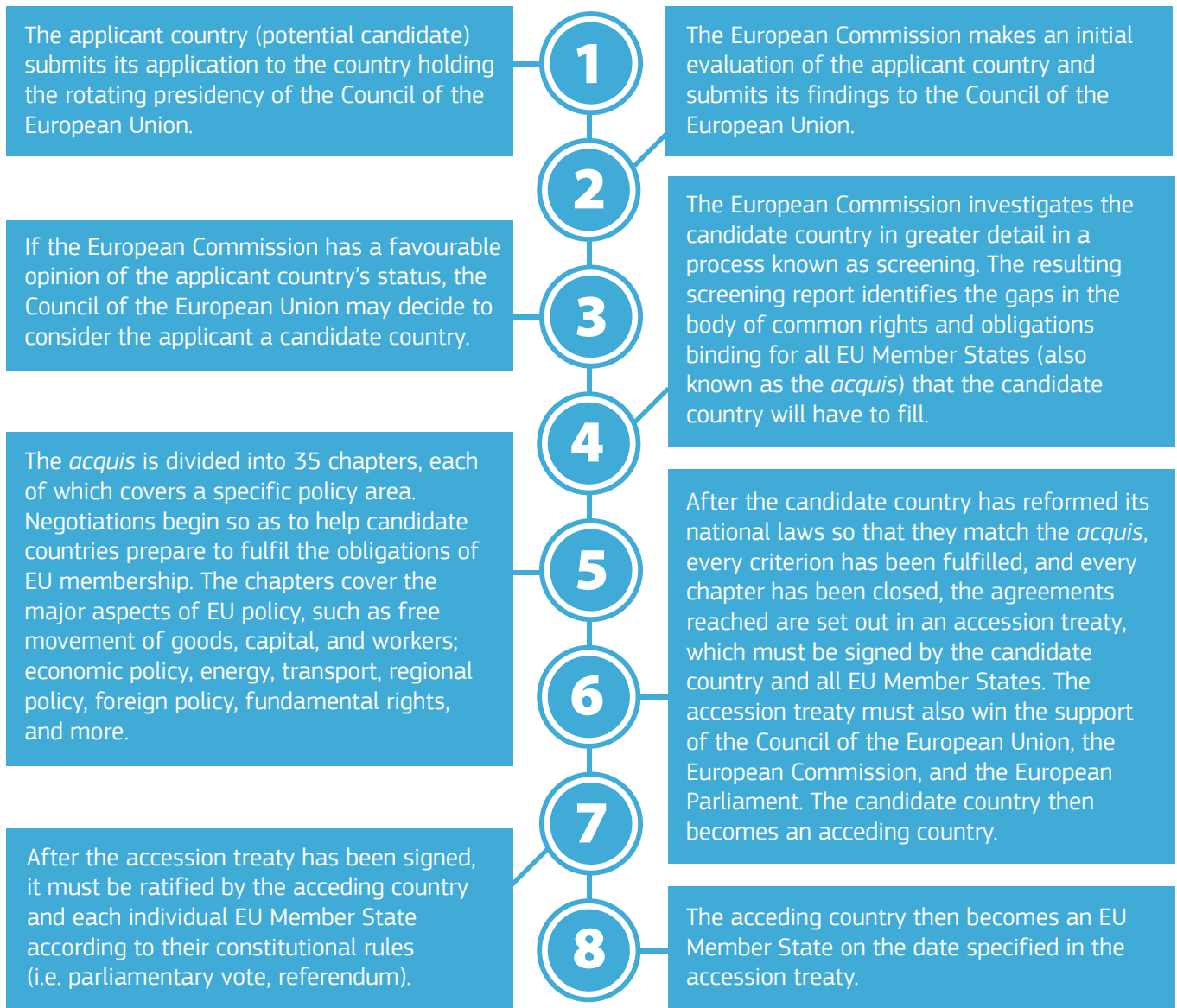
* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.



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MAIN STEPS TO ACCESSION



SUPPORTING EU ENLARGEMENT

- The European Commission has provided nearly **11.5 billion EUR** to support enlargement countries in their reforms through the instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) over the period **2007-2013**
- IPA consists of **5** components:
 - Transition assistance and institution building
 - Cross-border cooperation
 - Regional development
 - Human resources development
 - Rural development