



# THE EU AND GEORGIA

Membership status: potential candidate

#StrongerTogether  
#EUEnlargement



November 2023

On 3 March 2022, Georgia applied for EU membership. On 17 June 2022, the European Commission presented its Opinion on the application. Based on the Commission's Opinion, the European Council acknowledged the European perspective for Georgia on 23 June 2022 and expressed readiness to grant the country candidate status.

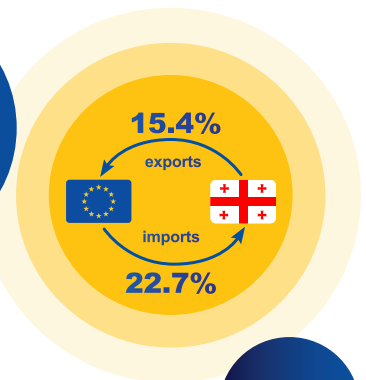


## EU FUNDING

The EU is the largest provider of financial assistance to Georgia. The EU supports socio-economic development and reforms in Georgia, with financial and technical assistance through the **Neighbourhood Development and Cooperation Instrument (NDICI)**.

For 2021-2024, the funding for Georgia is expected to amount to **€340 million**. The priority areas cover economy, institutions, rule of law, security, environment and climate resilience, digital transformation, gender equality and inclusive society.

The EU is Georgia's biggest trade partner



in 2022

Source: Eurostat



## TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Total EU Foreign Direct Investment in Georgia reached €819 million in 2022.

Total volume of trade in goods with the EU was €4.2 billion in 2022.

## KEY MILESTONES

**JUNE 2014**

Signature of the Association Agreement and Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA)

**JULY 2016**

Association Agreement and DCFTA enter into force

**MARCH 2022**

Application for EU membership

**JUNE 2022**

Commission Opinion recommends candidate status and outlines 12 key priorities to be addressed

**JUNE 2022**

12 key priorities endorsed by the European Council

**JUNE 2023**

Commission oral update to the Council on the progress in the 12 key priorities

**NOVEMBER 2023**

Commission recommends candidate status on the understanding a number of steps are taken



## HUMAN CAPITAL AND INNOVATION

11,000+ participants took part in exchanges between the EU and Georgia in the areas of education, training, youth, and sport under ERASMUS+ (2014-2020).

The EU has provided €22.5 million specifically in support to civil society (2015-2022).

The EU and Georgia are piloting solutions to increase cross-border e-commerce with the EU by 50%.



## ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT PLAN

Launched in 2021, the Economic and Investment Plan (EIP) for the Eastern Partnership aims to mobilise up to €17 billion in cooperation with international financial institutions until 2027. Under the EIP for Georgia, the EU has already mobilised **€1.7 billion** in investments, out of which €194 million in grants.

For instance, the flagship investments help:

- support for 80,000 Georgian SMEs
- place submarine fibre optic and electricity cables in the Black Sea
- set up a regular ferry line across the Black Sea to connect the EU and Georgia
- renovate public and residential buildings to make them more energy efficient
- develop high-speed broadband infrastructure in rural areas

The EU helped build the Qartli wind farm in Georgia, first in the Caucasus region, through specialised Green for Growth Fund aimed at mitigating **climate change** and promoting **sustainable economic growth**.



## SECURITY AND RESILIENCE

Between 2021 and 2023, a total of **€62.75 million were mobilised under the European Peace Facility** to help strengthen the Georgian Defence Force's medical, engineering and logistics units.

The EU continues to support Georgia through the European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM) as well.

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