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| **European Commission - Press release** |

**IPA: €2 billion package to support reforms in the Western Balkans and Turkey in 2014**

Brussels, 17 December 2014

The European Commission has today finalised its 2014 package of pre-accession assistance programmes to support reforms in countries wishing to join the EU. The funding, totalling EUR 2 billion, comes under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA), and will be available to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo and Turkey. The package also includes multi-annual programmes to support specific sectors over the next three years in Turkey and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

"These funds will support concrete democratic and economic reforms: from modernisation of the judiciary and public administration, to investments in infrastructure and connectivity between the enlargement countries and with the EU Member States. This will further strengthen the region's stability, its economy and its investment potential", said Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations.

This year's funding will provide for a stronger ownership by the beneficiaries through integrating their own reform and development agendas.It will notably include a budget support programme to reform the system of public finance management in Albania, the first of its kind in the Western Balkans.

The programmes will focus on better governance, with projects aiming at reforming public administration, using EU assistance more efficiently, adopting and enforcing EU standards, as well as implementing more reforms in the judiciary and fundamental rights and further supporting the fight against organised crime and corruption.

**Details per country:**

| **Country** | **Amount in EUR** | **Main sectors financed** |
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| Albania | 66,746,389.00 | Democracy and Governance, Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 22,581,834.00 | Democracy and Governance, Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights, Competitiveness and Innovation: Local Development Strategies, Education, Employment and Social Policies |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 2014 national programme  2014 – 2016 multi-annual action programme |     52,717,811.25  81,271,609.70 |     Democracy and Governance, Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights, Competitiveness and Innovation Environment and Climate Action, Transport  |
| Kosovo | 66,050,000.00  | Democracy and governance, Rule of Law and Fundamental rights, Energy, Competitiveness and Innovation, Agriculture and Rural Development |
| Montenegro | 35,707,300.00 | Democracy and Governance, Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights, Environment and Climate Action, Transport, Competitiveness and Innovation, Agriculture and Rural Development |
| Serbia | 115,090,000.00 | Democracy and Governance, Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights, Energy, Competitiveness and innovation; and Education, employment and social policies. |
| Turkey2014 national programme   2014-2016 multi-annual action programmes |  366,040,000.00   793,090,000.00 |  Democracy and Governance, Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights, Energy, Agriculture and Rural Development Employment, Education and Social policies, Competiveness and Innovation, Transport, and Environment and Climate Action |
| Cross border programmes | 11,400,000.00 | Tourism, Cultural and Natural Heritage,  Environmental protection, Employment, Mobility, Social Inclusion, Competitiveness, SMEs, trade and investments, Youth, education and skills |
| Civil Society Facility 2014 – 2015 | 68,700,000.00 | Civil society empowerment, media freedom |
| Multi-Country | 152,600,000.00 | Horizontal support, regional structures and networks, regional investment support, territorial cooperation |
| Special measure for flood recovery and flood risk management | 127,000,000.00 | Flood recovery and prevention for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia |
| Support measures | 21,082,478.00 | Audit, Evaluation, Monitoring, Information and Communication, support to OHR in Bosnia and Herzegovina |

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