

MONTENEGRO'S PATH TOWARDS THE EU

2006

- **May 21st** – At a public referendum Montenegro voted for independence.
- **June** – Recognition of the country's independence by EU member states.
- **July 24th** – EU Council approved the mandate for the beginning of negotiations about a Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA).
- **September 26th** – Negotiations about SAA with Montenegro started.
- **December 1st** - Technical part of talks on the SAA completed.

2007

- **January 22nd** – The EU Council passed a Decision on the adoption of a new European Partnership with Montenegro.
- **April** – The second meeting of the Enhanced Permanent Dialogue with EU.
- **May** – The priorities set forth in this document were incorporated into the Action Plan for Implementation of the Recommendations from the European Partnership adopted by the GoM.
- **May 17th** – The Interim Agreement allows Montenegro and the EU to benefit from the trade parts of the SAA while the agreement itself is still being ratified. The Montenegrin government adopted an Action Plan for its implementation.
- **September** - Signed agreements on visa liberalization and readmission in Brussels.
- **October 15th** – SAA signed between Montenegro and the EU in Luxembourg.
- **November 13th** – SAA ratified in the Parliament of Montenegro.
- **November 26th** – The third meeting of the Enhanced Permanent Dialogue with EU.
- **December 13th** – Ratified SAA submitted to the European Parliament.

2008

- **January 1st** – The Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related issues, agreement on visa facilitation and readmission agreement entered into force.
- **Jun 5th** – GoM adopted the National Program for Integration.
- **November 5th** – The EC delivered its Report on Montenegrin progress in 2008.
- **December 15th** – Montenegro submitted its application for EU membership.

2009

- **July 22nd** – European Commissioner for Enlargement, Olli Rehn, handed over to the Montenegrin authorities a Questionnaire to help prepare assessment of the country's readiness to fulfill EU membership obligations.
- **December 1st** - Lisbon Treaty entered into force
- **December 9th** – Montenegro's Prime Minister Milo Djukanovic delivered the answers to the EC's questionnaire.
- **December 19th** – Montenegro was granted visa-free access to 25 Schengen states.

2010

- **March 1st** - EU Enlargement Directorate submitted a new set of 673 additional questions in the questionnaire responses from the EC.
- **May 1st** – The SAA entered into force.
- **October 19th** – Montenegro was visited by European Council President Herman van Rompuy.
- **November 9th** – The EU issued its recommendation for Montenegro's candidate status.
- **December 17th** – The EU Council granted Montenegro the official status of Candidate Country.

2011

- **February 17th** – GoM adopted the Action plan for monitoring implementation of recommendations from the European Commission.
- **April 8th** - European Commission President Jose Manuel Barros paid an official visit to Montenegro.
- **March 17th – July 25th** – GoM adopted the five monthly reports on implementation of commitments under the Action Plan for monitoring the implementation of recommendations from the European Commission.
- **October 13th** – European Commission called Montenegro to start negotiations for full membership status.