

Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements

TABLE D1		Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements		
Country	Start of Negotiations	Conclusion of Agreement	Signing of Agreement	Coming into Force
Tunisia	December 1994	June 1995	July 1995	December 1997
Israel	December 1993	September 1995	November 1995	June 2000
Morocco	December 1993	November 1995	February 1996	March 2000
Palestine	May 1996	December 1996	February 1997	July 1997*
Jordan	July 1995	April 1997	November 1997	May 2002
Egypt	March 1995	June 1999	June 2001	June 2004
Algeria	June 1997	December 2001	April 2002	September 2005
Lebanon	November 1995	January 2002	June 2002	April 2006
Syria	March 1998	October 2004		

* Interim agreement signed between the EU and the PLO (in benefit of the Palestinian National Authority)

- For the Association Agreements to come into force they must be ratified by the European Parliament, the Parliament of the partner country and by the parliaments of the twenty-five member states of the European Union.
- Turkey is governed by the customs union which came into force in January 1996, based on the first generation agreement 1963, until its accession to the EU.

TABLE D2		Stabilisation and Association Agreements with Western Balkan Countries		
Country	Start of Negotiations	Conclusion of Agreement	Signing of Agreement	Coming into Force
Albania	January 2003	June 2006	December 2006	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	November 2005			
Croatia	November 2000	October 2001	March 2002	February 2005
Macedonia	March 2000	April 2001	June 2001	April 2004
Serbia	October 2005			
Montenegro	October 2005 - July 2006*	October 2007		

*A referendum was held on 21st May, 2006 that approved the independence of Montenegro from the Federation it formed with Serbia

- The relations of the EU with the countries of the Western Balkans take place within the Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP). The SAP is the framework in which several instruments are developed and it assists countries to implement the political and economic transition that prepares them for a new contractual relation with the EU: the Stabilisation and Association Agreements (SAA) to advance towards a stronger association with the EU.
- The negotiations with Serbia were interrupted in May 2006 due to lack of advances in cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). In early 2007 the new Belgrade gov-

ernment implemented a plan and a National Council for Cooperation with the ICTY, which opened the door to resumption of negotiations on 13 June 2007.

- After its declaration and recognition as a sovereign and independent state, the EU has developed relations with Montenegro as an independent state. Once the negotiation guidelines for a SAA with Montenegro were approved in July 2006, the negotiations were concluded in April and signed on 15 October 2007. Completion of the national ratification procedures is pending.
- In October 2005, the European Council approved the start of negotiations for the accession of Croatia to the EU. Croatia adopted its national programme for adhesion to the EU in January 2007, and ministerial meetings took place in June and July 2007 to continue the political and economic dialogue.

Country	Israel	Jordan	Tunisia	Palestinian Territories	Morocco	Egypt	Lebanon	Algeria	Libya
Adoption by the country	April 2005	June 2005	July 2005	May 2005	July 2005	March 2007	January 2007		

- The action plans allow the European Union to have a progressive and differentiated policy towards its neighbouring countries, through the different levels of cooperation they permit.
- The plan, prepared after the signing of Association Agreements, establishes the priorities of the political and economic reforms and a calendar. The action plans are the operational tools of the legal framework represented by the Association Agreements.
- Annually, assessment reports analyse the progress made. In function of the advances, expansion of cooperation and greater access to the European market will be decided upon.