

Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements

TABLE D1		Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements			
Country	Negotiations Started	Agreement Concluded	Agreement Signed	Entry 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 - 1994	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 PLO (to the benefit of the Palestinian National Authority)

- The Association Agreements need to be ratified by the European Parliament, the parliament of the member country and the parliaments of the twenty-five EU member states to enter into effect.
- The Association Agreement between Lebanon and the European Union came into force on 1st April 2006, replacing an interim agreement that only dealt with the commercial aspects of the association and had been in effect since 1st March 2003.
- Turkey will be governed by the customs union that came into force in January 1996 and is based on the first generation agreement of 1963, until its accession to the EU.
- Since its participation at the 1999 Stuttgart Conference as the special guest of the EU Presidency, Libya has taken part as an observer at some of the Barcelona Process meetings.

TABLE D2		Stabilisation and Association Agreements with the Western Balkan Countries			
Country	Negotiations Started	Entry into Force Agreement Signed	(Interim Agreement)	Entry into Force	
Albania	January - 2003	June - 2006	December - 2006		
Bosnia 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*				

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

- The EU's relations with Western Balkan countries are located in the Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP). The SAP is the framework for various instruments and helps countries to implement the political and economic transition that prepares them for a new contractual relationship with the EU: the Stabilisation and Association Agreements (SAA) to advance towards a stronger association with the EU.
- On 3rd May 2006, the European Commission decided to suspend the SAA negotiations with Serbia and Montenegro due to their insufficient collaboration with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). On 24th July, the EU Council issued a mandate for the negotiation of a SAA with Montenegro after consolidating its independence, based on the previous mandate issued in relation to the now dissolved federation with Serbia.
- In March 2003, Croatia submitted an application to join the EU. In October 2005, the European Council approved the opening of negotiations. On 8th November 2006, the European Commission published its first assessment report, which valued the progress achieved by Croatia very highly.
- In November 2005, the European Commission gave the go-ahead for the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement negotiations with Albania, which was signed in Luxembourg on 12th June 2006. Since December 2006, an Interim Agreement is in force that only deals with the commercial aspects of the association.