

Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements

| TABLE C1 | | Euro-mediterranean association agreements | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|---|----------------------|------------------|
| Country | Start of negotiations | Conclusion of Agreement | Signing of Agreement | 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 1996 | February 1997 | July 1997(*) |
| Jordan | July 1995 | April 1997 | November 1997 | May 2002 |
| Egypt | March 1995 | June 1999 | June 2001 | |
| Algeria | June 1997 | December 2001 | April 2002 | |
| Lebanon | November 1995 | January 2002 | June 2002 | |
| Syria | March 1998 | | | |

Own production. Source: http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations. (*) Interim agreement signed between the EU and the PLO (to the benefit of the Palestinian National Authority)

- For the Association Agreements to come into force they must be approved by the European Parliament, the Parliament of the partner country and the parliaments of the member states of the European Union.
- The EU-Algeria Association Agreement was approved in January 2003 by the European Parliament and by the Algerian Parliament. In July 2002, the intermediate trade agreement with Lebanon was signed, allowing the application of the commercial clauses of the Association Agreement without waiting for its ratification. This Interim agreement was brought into force in March 2003.
- Cyprus and Malta are governed by the first generation agreements (1972 and 1970 respectively) until their complete accession to the EU in May 2004.
- Turkey is governed by the customs union that was brought into force in January 1996, based on the 1963 first generation agreement, until its accession to the EU.
- Libya could in time become a partner of the Barcelona Process, following the lifting of the UN sanctions currently imposed on it and after the country's acceptance of the terms of the Barcelona Declaration and the actions related to it. Since its participation in the 1999 Stuttgart Conference as special guest country of the EU Presidency, Libya is permitted to take part as an observer in certain meetings of the Barcelona Process.

| TABLE C2 | | Stabilisation and association agreements with the countries of the Western Balkans | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| Country | Start of negotiations | Signing of Agreement | Brought into force (interim agreement) | |
| Albania | January 2003 | - | - | |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | - | - | - | |
| Croatia | November 2000 | October 2001 | March 2002 | |
| Macedonia | March 2000 | April 2001 | June 2001 | |
| Serbia and Montenegro | - | - | - | |

Own production. Source: http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations

- EU relations with the countries of the Western Balkans are included within the Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP). The SAP is the framework within which diverse instruments are developed, including the CARDS programme. The SAP helps the individual countries to carry out the political and economic transition that will prepare them for a new contractual relation with the EU: the Stabilisation and Association Agreements (SAA) for advancement toward an improved association with the EU. The SAA focus on the respect for democratic principles, and on strengthening the links with the single European market. These agreements pursue the establishment of an area of free trade with the EU. To date, Croatia and Macedonia have signed the SAA with the EU.
- The European Council of Thessaloniki, held in June 2003, reconfirmed the EU perception of the countries of the Western Balkans as potential candidates for integration into the Union. In February 2003 Croatia submitted its request for accession to the EU.