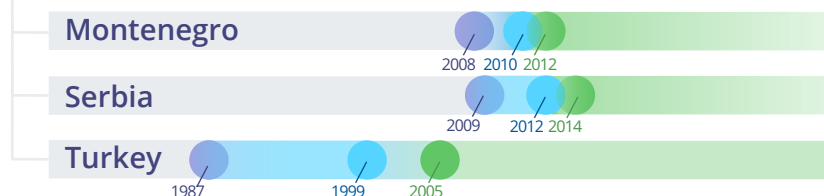


## Overview of countries in the EU accession process

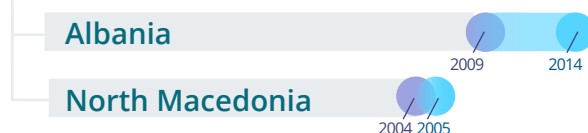


- Application for EU accession
- Granting candidate status for EU accession
- Start of EU accession negotiations

### Candidates in negotiation



### Candidates without ongoing negotiations



### Potential candidates/application submitted



## Who can become an EU member?

Art. 49 TEU: "Any European State which respects the values referred to in Article 2 and is committed to promoting them may apply to become a member of the Union. [...]"

### Decisive for EU accession -> fulfillment of the Copenhagen criteria

- 1 Political criterion:** Institutional stability, democracy and the rule of law, respect for human rights and respect for and protection of minorities
- 2 Economic criterion:** A functioning market economy and the ability to withstand competitive pressure within the EU internal market
- 3 Acquis criterion:** Adoption of the shared legal system, the "acquis communautaire"



EU financial and technical assistance for reforms of (potential) candidates



Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA III):  
**14.162 bn euros**  
for 2021-27

### Important to EM Germany

- Grant Ukraine along with Moldova and Georgia the status of EU accession candidates
- Start immediately accession negotiations with Northern Macedonia and Albania
- In the context of European Public Diplomacy, involve social forces, such as the local offices of the EM Germany members in the countries and its sister movements, in a structured way

\*At least indirectly, Kosovo and Bosnia & Herzegovina have been given the prospect of EU accession. The Thessaloniki Declaration of the 2003 EU-Western Balkans Summit states that the future of the Western Balkans lies in the EU.