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ANNEXES 1 to 4

**ANNEXES**

**to the**

**Proposal for a**

**REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**

**establishing the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA III)**

## ANNEX I

Albania  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Iceland  
Kosovo\*  
Montenegro  
Serbia  
Turkey  
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

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\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

## ANNEX II

### Thematic priorities for assistance

Assistance may, as appropriate, address the following thematic priorities:

- (a) **Establishing and promoting from an early stage the proper functioning of the institutions necessary in order to secure the rule of law.** Interventions in this area shall aim at: establishing independent, accountable and efficient judicial systems, including transparent and merit-based recruitment and promoting judicial cooperation, evaluation and promotion systems and effective disciplinary procedures in cases of wrongdoing; ensuring the establishment of robust systems to protect the borders, manage migration flows and provide asylum to those in need; developing effective tools to prevent and fight organised crime, trafficking in human beings, migrants smuggling, money laundering/financing of terrorism and corruption; promoting and protecting human rights, rights of persons belonging to minorities including Roma as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons fundamental freedoms, including freedom of the media and data protection.
- (b) **Reforming public administrations in line with the Principles of Public Administration.** Interventions shall aim at: strengthening public administration reform frameworks; improving strategic planning and inclusive and evidence-based policy and legislative development; enhancing professionalisation and de-politicisation of public service by embedding meritocratic principles; promoting transparency and accountability; improving quality and delivery of services, including adequate administrative procedures and the use of citizen centred eGovernment; strengthening public financial management and the production of reliable statistics.
- (c) **Strengthening economic governance:** Interventions shall aim at supporting participation in the economic reform programme (ERP) process and systematic cooperation with international financial institutions on fundamentals of economic policy. Enhancing the capacity to strengthen macroeconomic stability and supporting progress towards becoming a functioning market economy with the capacity to cope with competitive pressures and market forces within the Union;
- (d) **Strengthening the Union and its partners' capacity to prevent conflict, build peace and address pre-and post-crisis** including through early warning and conflict-sensitive risk analysis; promoting people to people networking, reconciliation, peace-building and confidence-building measures, supporting capacity building in support of security and development (CBSD) actions.
- (e) **Strengthening the capacities of civil society organisations** and social partners' organisations, including professional associations, in beneficiaries listed in Annex I and encouraging networking at all levels among Union-based organisations and those of beneficiaries listed in Annex I, enabling them to engage in an effective dialogue with public and private actors.
- (f) **Promoting the alignment of partner countries' rules, standards, policies and practices** to those of the Union, including state aid rules.
- (g) **Strengthening access to and quality of education, training and lifelong learning at all levels, and offering support to cultural and creative sectors.** Interventions in this area shall aim at: promoting equal access to quality early-childhood education and care, primary and secondary education, improving the provision of basic skills;

increasing educational attainment levels, reducing early school-leaving and reinforcing teachers' training. Developing vocational education and training (VET) systems and promoting work-based learning systems to facilitate the transition to the labour market; improving the quality and relevance of higher education; encouraging alumni related activities; enhancing access to lifelong learning and supporting investment in education and training infrastructure particularly with a view to reducing territorial disparities and fostering non-segregated education and including through the use of digital technologies.

- (h) **Fostering quality employment and access to the labour market.** Interventions in this area shall aim at: tackling high unemployment and inactivity by supporting sustainable labour market integration in particular of young people (especially those not in employment, education or training (NEET)), women, long-term unemployed and all under-represented groups. Measures shall stimulate quality job creation and support the effective enforcement of labour rules and standards across the entire territory. Other key areas of intervention shall be to support gender equality, promoting employability and productivity, the adaptation of workers and enterprises to change, the establishment of a sustainable social dialogue and the modernisation and strengthening of labour market institutions such as public employment services and labour inspectorates.
- (i) **Promoting social protection and inclusion and combating poverty.** Interventions in this area shall aim at modernising social protection systems to provide effective, efficient, and adequate protection throughout all stages of a person's life, fostering social inclusion, promoting equal opportunities and addressing inequalities and poverty. Interventions in this area shall also focus on: integrating marginalised communities such as the Roma; combating discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation; enhancing access to affordable, sustainable and high quality services, such as early childhood education and care, housing, healthcare and essential social services and long term care, including through the modernisation of social protection systems.
- (j) **Promoting smart, sustainable, inclusive, safe transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures,** by investing in projects with high EU value-added. The investments should be prioritised according to their relevance to TEN-T connections with the EU, contribution to sustainable mobility, reduced emissions, environmental impact, safe mobility, in synergy with the reforms promoted by the Transport Community Treaty.
- (k) **Improving the private-sector environment and competitiveness of enterprises,** including smart specialisation, as key drivers of growth, job creation and cohesion. Priority shall be given to projects which improve the business environment.
- (l) **Improving access to digital technologies and services and strengthening research, technological development and innovation** by investing in digital connectivity, digital trust and security, digital skills and entrepreneurship as well as research infrastructure and enabling environment and promoting networking and collaboration.
- (m) **Contributing to the security and safety of food supply** and the maintenance of diversified and viable farming systems in vibrant rural communities and the countryside.

- (n) **Protecting and improving the quality of the environment**, addressing environmental degradation and halting biodiversity loss, promoting the conservation and sustainable management of terrestrial and marine ecosystems and renewable natural resources, promoting resource efficiency, sustainable consumption and production and supporting the transition to green and circular economies, contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, increasing resilience to climate change and promoting climate action governance and information and energy efficiency. IPA III shall promote policies to support the shift towards a resource-efficient, safe and sustainable low-carbon economy and strengthen disaster resilience as well as disaster prevention, preparedness and response. It shall also promote a high level of nuclear safety, radiation protection, and the application of efficient and effective safeguards of nuclear material in third countries as well as the establishment of frameworks and methodologies for the application of efficient and effective safeguards for nuclear material.
- (o) **Promoting the highest nuclear safety standards**, including nuclear safety culture, emergency preparedness, responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, decommissioning and remediation of former nuclear sites and installations; radiation protection and the accountancy and control of nuclear materials;
- (p) **Increasing the ability of the agri-food and fisheries sectors** to cope with competitive pressure and market forces as well as to progressively align with the Union rules and standards, while pursuing economic, social and environmental goals in balanced territorial development of rural and coastal areas.

## **ANNEX III**

### **Thematic priorities for assistance for cross-border cooperation**

Assistance for cross-border cooperation may, as appropriate, address the following thematic priorities:

- (a) promoting employment, labour mobility and social and cultural inclusion across borders through, inter alia: integrating cross-border labour markets, including cross-border mobility; joint local employment initiatives; information and advisory services and joint training; gender equality; equal opportunities; integration of immigrants' communities and vulnerable groups; investment in public employment services; and supporting investment in public health and social services;
- (b) protecting the environment and promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management through, inter alia: joint actions for environmental protection; promoting sustainable use of natural resources, coordinated maritime spatial planning, resource efficiency and circular economy, renewable energy sources and the shift towards a safe and sustainable low-carbon, green economy; promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and disaster prevention, preparedness and response;
- (c) promoting sustainable transport and improving public infrastructures by, inter alia, reducing isolation through improved access to transport, digital networks and services and investing in cross-border water, waste and energy systems and facilities;
- (d) promoting the digital economy and society by inter alia the deployment of digital connectivity, the development of eGovernment services, digital trust and security as well as digital skills and entrepreneurship;
- (e) encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage;
- (f) investing in youth, education and skills through, inter alia, developing and implementing joint education, vocational training, training schemes and infrastructure supporting joint youth activities;
- (g) promoting local and regional governance and enhancing the planning and administrative capacity of local and regional authorities;
- (h) enhancing competitiveness, the business environment and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, trade and investment through, inter alia, promotion and support to entrepreneurship, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, and development of local cross-border markets and internationalisation;
- (i) strengthening research, technological development, innovation and digital technologies through, inter alia, promoting the sharing of human resources and facilities for research and technology development.

## ANNEX IV

### **List of Key Performance Indicators**

The following list of key performance indicators shall be used to help measure the Union's contribution to the achievement of its specific objectives:

1. Composite indicator<sup>1</sup> on the readiness of enlargement countries on fundamental areas of the political accession criteria (including Democracy, Rule of Law (Judiciary, Fight against corruption and Fight against organised crime) and Human Rights) (source European Commission).
2. Readiness of enlargement countries on public administration reform (source European Commission).
3. Composite indicator on the readiness of candidate countries and potential candidates to the EU acquis (source European Commission).
4. Composite indicator on the readiness of candidate countries and potential candidates on fundamental areas of the economic criteria (functioning market economy and competitiveness) (source European Commission).
5. Public social security expenditure (percentage of GDP) (source ILO) or Employment Rate (source: national statistics)
6. Digital gap between the beneficiaries and the EU average (source: European Commission DESI index)
7. Distance to frontier (Doing Business) score (source WB)
8. Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP (source EUROSTAT)
9. Greenhouse gas emissions reduced or avoided (Ktons CO<sub>2</sub>eq) with EU support
10. Number of cross-border cooperation programmes concluded among IPA beneficiaries and IPA/EU MS (source European Commission)

Indicators will, where relevant, be sex disaggregated.

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<sup>1</sup> The three composite indicators are elaborated by the European Commission on the basis of the reports on Enlargement, which also draw from multiple, independent sources.