

EU–Ukraine Association Agreement

“What does the Agreement offer?”

Basic principles:

From the outset, it was agreed that **the Agreement should take an ambitious innovative approach, include a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), and go qualitatively beyond the previous Partnership and Co-operation Agreement.** It reflects the strategic importance of EU-Ukraine relations. It provides for political association and economic integration.

It contains **binding, rules-based provisions** and cooperation arrangements developed further than in traditional agreements. And it **is comprehensive, covering all areas of interest.**

The Agreement provides **a long-term basis for future EU-Ukraine relations** without prejudging any possible future developments in line with the European Union Treaty.

Special attention has been given to **implementation and subsequent enforcement issues**, including clear timelines and the establishment of an **appropriate administrative and institutional infrastructure, so as to create the necessary predictability for economic operators.**

Key elements:

This ambitious Agreement is a concrete way to exploit the dynamics in EU-Ukraine relations, focusing on support to core reforms, on economic recovery and growth, governance and sector co-operation in areas such as, for example, energy, transport, environment protection, industrial and small and medium enterprise cooperation, social development and protection, equal rights, consumer protection, education, training and youth as well as cultural cooperation.

- **Values and Principles:** common values, notably democracy and rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, good governance, a market economy and sustainable development;
- Enhanced cooperation in **foreign and security policy**, with the focus on regional issues, weapons of mass destruction WMD, non-proliferation and disarmament, conflict prevention, and crisis management;
- **A DCFTA**, which goes much further than classic free trade areas, foreseeing not only the mutual opening of markets for most goods and services, but also binding provisions on gradual approximation with EU norms and standards in trade and trade-related areas, such as standards and conformity assessment rules, sanitary and phytosanitary rules, intellectual property rights, trade facilitation, public procurement, and competition; strong binding provisions on trade-related energy aspects, including on investment, transit and transport;
- **Justice, Freedom and Security**, based on the Visa Liberalisation Action Plan, covering the rule of law, data protection, migration, the fight against money laundering and financing of terrorism, illicit drugs, fight against organised crime, and counter-terrorism;
- **Energy** with particular focus on issues concerning security of supply, the gradual integration of energy markets, energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and nuclear safety;
- **Enhanced cooperation in some 28 key sector policy areas**, including transport, environment, cooperation on industrial and enterprise policy, public finance, macroeconomic stability, company law, banking, insurance and other financial services, information society, information technology and telecommunications, tourism, agriculture and rural development, fisheries and maritime governance, mining, cooperation in science and technology, space cooperation, consumer protection, social cooperation, public health, education, training and youth, cooperation in the cultural and audio-visual field, civil society cooperation, cross-border and regional level cooperation etc. **based on**

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gradual approximation with EU acquis and where relevant also with international norms and standards.

Signature and content of the Association Agreement:

After signing the political chapters of the EU-Ukraine Agreement at the EU Summit of 21 March 2014, both parties signed the remaining sections of the Agreement on 27 June 2014. The Agreement will enter into force once all EU Member States, in addition to Ukraine, have ratified it.

Provisional application of important parts of the Association Agreement began on 1 November 2014: on the respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and rule of law; political dialogue and reform; justice, freedom and security; economic and financial cooperation.

The EU-Ukraine Association Agreement counts in total over 1200 pages and comprises of:

- A **Preamble** as an introductory statement of the Agreement, setting out the Agreement's purpose and underlying philosophy;
- **Seven Titles** which concern General Principles; Political Cooperation and Foreign and Security Policy; Justice Freedom and Security; Trade and Trade related matters (DCFTA); Economic and Sector Cooperation; Financial Cooperation with Anti-Fraud Provisions, as well as Institutional, General and Final Provisions;
- 43 **Annexes** setting out EU legislation to be taken over by a specific date and
- Three **Protocols**.