FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT EU-UKRAINE RELATIONS

Ukraine is a priority partner for the European Union (EU). The EU supports Ukraine in ensuring a stable, prosperous and democratic future for its citizens and is unwavering in its support for Ukraine's independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty. The **Association Agreement (AA)**, including its **Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA)** signed in 2014, is the main tool for bringing Ukraine and the EU closer together, promoting deeper political ties, stronger economic links and respect for common values. Ukraine continues an **ambitious reform programme** to accelerate economic growth and improve the livelihoods of its citizens. Priority reforms include the fight against corruption, reform of the judiciary, constitutional and electoral reforms, improvement of the business climate and energy efficiency, as well as reform of public administration and decentralisation. Since 2014, the EU and the Financial Institutions have mobilised more than €15 billion in grants and loans to support the reform process, with strong conditionality on continued progress.

ECONOMY

✓ The Association Agreement (AA), including its Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), entered into force on 1 September 2017. Parts of it had been provisionally applied since 1 November 2014 and the DCFTA since 1 January 2016. **The DCFTA is a major milestone in bilateral trade offering new economic opportunities to both sides**.

✓ The AA triggers reform of Ukraine's legal framework, aiming to align it with that of the EU. These **reforms will improve the overall business climate in Ukraine**, including by curbing corruption.

✓ **Ukrainian businesses receive preferential access** to the largest single market in the world. EU businesses are able to benefit from easier access to the Ukrainian market, building new relationships with suppliers and partners.

✓ The DCFTA has supported the **continuous increase of bilateral trade** between the EU and Ukraine since its provisional application in January 2016. It has reached €44.6 billion in 2019. The EU has reinforced its position as Ukraine's **number one trading partner**. 42% of Ukraine's trade is now with the EU.

✓ Support for private sector development, especially **SMEs supported through dedicated programmes** and the EU4Business initiative.

✓ Over €205 million channelled since 2014 for **investments in transport, municipal infrastructure and energy efficiency**; lending to small and medium sized enterprises, particularly in local currency.

SOCIETY

✓ **Visa-free travel for Ukrainian citizens** with biometric passports entered into force on 11 June 2017. Since then, Ukrainians have made almost 3 million visa-free visits to the EU using biometric passports.

✓ Ukraine is one of the largest beneficiaries of the Erasmus+ programme in the Eastern Partnership region, with more than 9,000 Ukrainian and nearly 4,000 European **students and academic staff benefitting from Erasmus** academic exchange opportunities.

✓ Professional, cultural and **youth exchanges, artistic cooperation** and Ukraine's participation in EU programmes is supported through the "House of Europe" programme (€18 million). The EU is also providing €53 million to support the **modernisation of the vocational education** and **training system and secondary education**, as well as displaced universities in eastern Ukraine.

✓ Since 2014, more than €40 million have been committed in **support to Ukraine's civil society**.

✓ Ukraine participates in the Horizon 2020 Programme, the Euratom Research and Training programme and the Creative Europe Programme and has signed the Copernicus Cooperation Arrangement.

GOVERNANCE

✓ **Large-scale support to Ukraine's governance reform** since 2014 via programmes on decentralisation (U-LEAD with Europe), anti-corruption (EUACI), the rule of law (PRAVO), public administration reform (EU4PAR) and public finance management (EU4PFM) - together worth over €300 million.

✓ Support to the decentralisation reform **improving transparency and accountability of local and regional authorities** as well as their capacity to offer better services with an overall €130 million to the U-LEAD with Europe programme.

✓ The EU continues **to support anti-corruption institutions** in Ukraine with an overall commitment of €30 million to the fight against corruption.

✓ The EU supports **digital transformation** of Ukraine including more accessible electronic services to Ukrainian citizens like the e-baby, which allows parents to register their new-born baby electronically in 10 minutes.

✓ The EU Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform in Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine) supports **reform of the civilian security sector**.

ENVIRONMENT AND CONNECTIVITY

✓ The EU contributes substantially to the **Ukrainian Energy Efficiency Fund** (€104 million) and supports raising awareness and public support for energy efficiency investments.

✓ The EU continues to support gas and electricity market reform in Ukraine. With a view to a **progressive integration with the EU energy market**, the EU and Ukraine have updated the energy annex of the Association Agreement.

✓ The EU has provided support for the establishment of an **independent energy regulatory authority** and new gas and electricity laws to improve efficiency in the energy sector. In close cooperation with partners and financial institutions, the EU continues to support the **modernisation of Ukraine's gas transport system**.

✓ The EU is the largest financial supporter to the new **Safe Confinement of the Chernobyl nuclear** power plant.

✓ The EU supports an ambitious **transport agenda,** contributing to the implementation of the AA/DCFTA.

✓ **To improve transport and logistics** in the EaP region, the EU is implementing the Indicative TEN-T Investment Action Plan. It is used to guide future investments with a view to complete the extended core TEN-T network by 2030, as well as to promote the **digitalisation and the decarbonisation of transport**.

✓ The EU is improving road safety in the EaP, by raising awareness and establishing a Regional Eastern Partnership **Road Safety Observatory**, which supports national road safety policies, strategies and annual action plans.

IN FIGURES

EU-Ukraine bilateral trade has grown by

49%

since January 2016.

More than

€15 billion

mobilised in support of Ukraine's reform process since 2014.

Citizens of Ukraine have made almost

3 million

visa-free visits to the EU since June 2017.

The EU is, along with its member states, the largest donor of humanitarian aid to eastern Ukraine:

€ 141.8 million

in financial assistance to the most vulnerable people affected by the conflict since 2014.

THE EU'S SUPPORT TO UKRAINE'S SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY

The EU remains firm in its commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. The EU strongly condemns the illegal annexation of Crimea and Sevastopol by the Russian Federation and continues to condemn this violation of international law. The EU has adopted a **strict non-recognition policy** that has led to substantive sanctions that include diplomatic measures, asset freezes and travel bans, and substantial restrictions on economic exchanges with the territory.

The EU has been strongly supporting efforts to come to a peaceful and sustainable solution to the conflict in eastern Ukraine. It supports the diplomatic efforts of the Normandy format, Trilateral Contact Group and OSCE. **The EU's approach is to combine pressure through restrictive measures with diplomatic efforts and continuing dialogue**.

Ukraine's sovereignty was further attacked by a Russian decree of April 2019 enabling the simplified issuing of Russian passports to residents of the self-proclaimed separatist entities in eastern Ukraine. This also goes against the objectives and provisions of the Minsk agreements. On 1 October 2019, the EU issued guidelines to its Member States on how to handle visa applications from residents in these areas, including on the non-recognition of passports. The guidance sent provides a set of uniform treatment criteria to help Member States' consulates to establish the actual place of legal residence of Russian passport holders, as well as details on how to process visa applications by residents of the non-Government controlled areas of Ukraine's Donetsk and Luhansk regions holding Russian passports. Diplomatic restrictions against Russia were first imposed by EU leaders in March 2014, when sanctions were also imposed against persons responsible for actions against Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence. Economic sanctions against Russia were announced in July and September 2014. Their duration remains linked to the complete implementation of the Minsk agreements.

EU restrictive measures are kept under constant review. On 15 March 2019, the EU added eight Russian officials to the list of those subject to a travel ban and asset freeze for their role in the seizure of Ukrainian vessels and their crews in November 2018.

The EU has provided humanitarian, early recovery and, increasingly, development assistance in response to the conflict in the east of Ukraine and internal displacement. This includes €141.8 million of humanitarian assistance and projects on humanitarian demining, psychosocial support, and support to the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM). The EU and its Member States are the biggest contributors to the OSCE SMM, which monitors the implementation of the Minsk agreements. The €50 million **"EU Support to the east of Ukraine" programme supports** the implementation of reforms in conflict affected areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

The EU is also stepping up its **support to the Sea of Azov** region to alleviate the impact on the local economy and communities of Russia's destabilising actions in the Sea of Azov and the conflict. This includes: (i) increasing the EU's presence through an EU programme office in Mariupol; (ii) improving connections, including feasibility studies for rail and road rehabilitation projects, in cooperation with international financial institutions; (iii) an additional €10 million to the ongoing "EU Support to the east of Ukraine" programme assists local economic diversification and small businesses, local civil society and citizens' involvement in decision-making. **Additional support** (€6 million) is also envisaged for demining and psychosocial assistance. The European financial institutions also channel investments to conflict-affected areas; the European Investment Bank has provided a package of €200 million for the early recovery of small-scale damaged infrastructure.

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