

## Research and Innovation

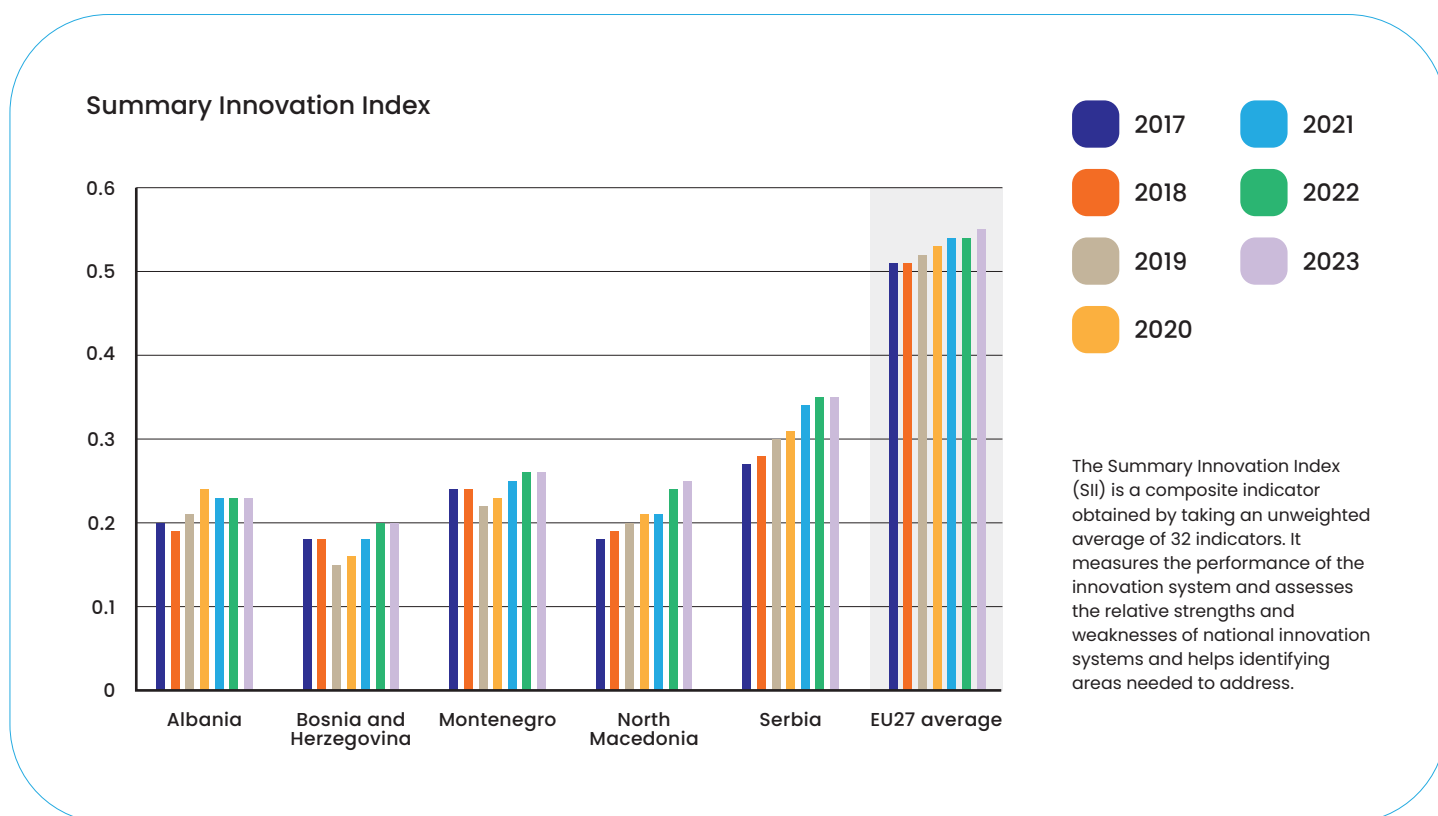
July 2024

The Western Balkans Agenda on Innovation, Research, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport is a long-term strategy from the EU and the Western Balkans (WB) for cooperation with the region. It will contribute to the region's economic and societal development and builds on three main pillars: Political, Thematic, and Regional.

The implementation of the Western Balkans Agenda is monitored by the project POLICY ANSWERS, and the wider context, progress and achievements are summarised in regular reports. In this brief report card, you find the results of the second round of data collection during 2023 and the first months of 2024 and a comparison with the baseline data collected in the previous round.

In terms of Research and Innovation, the monitoring focuses on the context indicator "Summary Innovation Index" and on a variety of achievements outlined in the WB Agenda (see next page).

### Achievements in a wider context of the Western Balkans Agenda



**Note**  
Data for Kosovo\* not available

**Source**  
European Innovation Scoreboard 2022. EU countries and neighbouring countries database  
[https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/statistics/performance-indicators/european-innovation-scoreboard\\_en#eis-interactive-tool](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/statistics/performance-indicators/european-innovation-scoreboard_en#eis-interactive-tool)  
(accessed 21 February 2024).

\* 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.

## Regional Indicators

WB Steering Platform meetings 	Evidence based policy courses 	POLICY ANSWERS project 
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## Western Balkans Economy Indicators

### Supporting Western Balkans reforms for science & research alignment with EU acquis Participation in European programmes, initiatives and schemes

	Technical assistance (TA) to Chapter 25 (Science and Research) reforms 	Governments to increase GDP allocations to R&I 	Investment in R&I and education infrastructure 	Integration in the new ERA 	Participation in the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) higher education institutions (HEI) initiative 
<b>Albania</b>	Low level of bilateral TA projects and Twinning projects Low uptake of TAIEX missions 	No new funding schemes reported % of GDP dedicated to R&I remains low 	No new governmental funding schemes reported 	No new joint projects and/or mobilities with EU MS reported 	Participation with 2 full partners 
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	Bilateral TA projects increased Twinning projects and TAIEX missions remain a challenge 	Increased number of funding schemes % of GDP dedicated to R&I remains low 	New funding schemes introduced 	Increased number of joint projects and mobilities with EU MS 	Participation with 5 full and 2 associated partners 
<b>Kosovo*</b>	Low level of bilateral TA projects and Twinning projects Low uptake of TAIEX missions 	Increased number of funding schemes % of GDP dedicated to R&I remains low 	No new governmental funding schemes reported 	Increased number of joint projects and mobilities with EU MS 	Participation with 1 associated partner 
<b>Montenegro</b>	Low level of bilateral TA projects and Twinning projects Low uptake of TAIEX missions 	No new funding schemes reported % of GDP dedicated to R&I has increased 	New funding schemes introduced 	Increased number of joint projects and mobilities with EU MS 	Participation with 1 full partner 
<b>North Macedonia</b>	Low level of Twinning projects and bilateral TA projects No new TAIEX missions taken up 	No new funding schemes reported % of GDP dedicated to R&I remains low 	No new governmental funding schemes reported 	Increased number of joint projects and mobilities with EU MS 	Participation with 2 full partners 
<b>Serbia</b>	No new Twinning or bilateral TA projects reported Low level of TAIEX missions uptake remains a challenge 	No new funding schemes reported % of GDP dedicated to R&I remains low 	New funding scheme introduced 	Increased number of joint projects and mobilities with EU MS 	Participation with 6 full and 2 associated partners 

**Legend:**  On track or maintaining achievement |  Moderately improving. Challenges remain |  Stagnating. Significant challenges |  Decreasing. Major challenges |  Information not available

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## Highlights

Western Balkans partners successful in the 2023 EIT HEI Initiative

Further ERA integration by increased number of joint projects and mobilities with EU Member States

