

Common Regional Market

July 2025

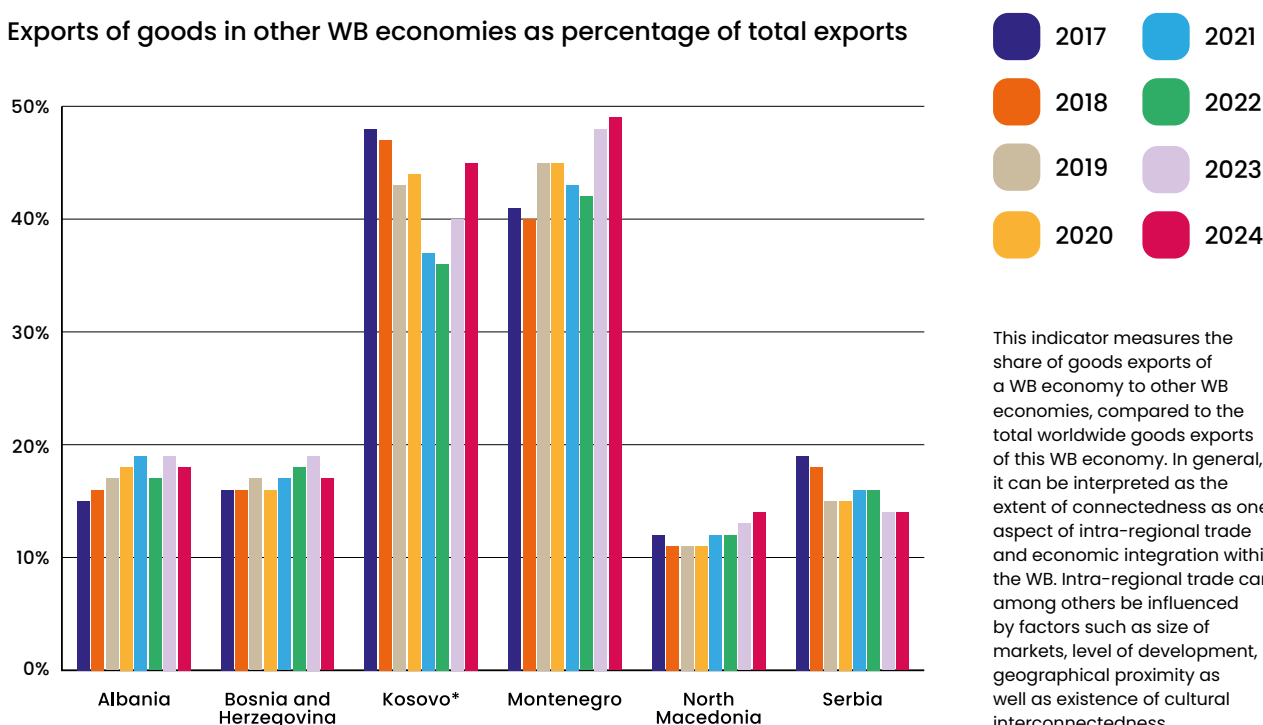
The **Western Balkans Agenda on Innovation, Research, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport** is a long-term strategy from the EU and the Western Balkans (WB) for cooperation with the region. It will contribute to the region's economic and societal development and builds on three main pillars: Political,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

The project POLICY ANSWERS monitors the implementation of the Western Balkans Agenda, and the broader context, progress and achievements are summarised in regular reports. In this Monitoring Card, you find the results of the third round of data collection during 2024 and the first months of 2025 in comparison to the data collected in the previous second monitoring round.

In terms of Common Regional Market, the monitoring focuses on the context indicator "Exports of goods in other WB economies as percentage of total exports" and various achievements outlined in the WB Agenda (see next page).

Achievements in a wider context of the Western Balkans Agenda
















































































Exports of goods in other WB economies as percentage of total exports



Source

Authors' calculation based on <https://data.wiiw.ac.at/annual-database.html> (accessed 1 July 2025).

* 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.

	Preparation of S3 and support of their implementation						Increased investment in SMEs			Linking Western Balkans education and innovation activities												
Indicator and overall assessment of the region	S3 milestones	Local S3 Support		S3 dialogue		Access to Finance (A2F) perception by Balkan Barometer	Macro Regional Strategies		Western Balkans Innovation Vouchers (WBIV)		Enterprise Europe Network and Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs	Western Balkans in COST & EUREKA		Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) support	Infrastructure support	Reform Agenda milestones						
																						
Albania	First S3 adopted		Increased number of events and publications		Increased number of events and participants		Moderate-level constraint		No new programmes joined		One Innovation Voucher awarded		No EIC events organised by EEN, beneficiaries not specified		Increased participation in COST, no EUREKA projects		Increased number of events, no information on publications provided		Increased number of R&I facilities, infrastructure support scheme in place		Green energy and business environment milestones partially achieved	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	S3 not adopted yet		Increased number of events and publications		No information provided		Moderate-level constraint		No new programmes joined		Three Innovation Vouchers awarded		EIC event organised, increased number of programmes' beneficiaries		Increased participation in COST, no information on EUREKA provided		Increased number of events and publications		Increased number of R&I facilities, infrastructure support scheme not in place		Not applicable for Bosnia and Herzegovina yet	
Kosovo	S3 not adopted yet		No information provided		No information provided		Moderate-level constraint		No new programmes joined		One Innovation Voucher awarded		EIC event organised, increased number of programmes' beneficiaries		Increased participation in COST, no participation in EUREKA		Increased number of events and publications		No new R&I facilities, infrastructure support scheme not yet in place		Business environment milestone partially achieved	
Montenegro	Second S3 under preparation		Increased number of events and publications		Increased number of events and participants		Moderate-level constraint		No new programmes joined		Eight Innovation Vouchers awarded		EIC event organised, increased number of programmes' beneficiaries		Increased participation in COST and EUREKA		No information provided		Increased number of R&I facilities, infrastructure support scheme not in place		No information provided	
North Macedonia	First S3 under implementation		Increased number of events and publications		In process of adoption of governance structure		Moderate-level constraint		No new programmes joined		Six Innovation Vouchers awarded		EIC events organised, increased number of programmes' beneficiaries		Increased participation in COST, no EUREKA projects		Increased number of events and publications		No new R&I facilities, infrastructure support scheme not yet in place		Green energy milestone achieved	
Serbia	First S3 under implementation		No new events reported, increased number of publications		Increased number of events and participants		Moderate-level constraint		No new programmes joined		Six Innovation Vouchers awarded		EIC events organised, increased number of programmes' beneficiaries		Increased participation in COST and EUREKA		Increased number of events and publications		Increased number of R&I facilities, infrastructure support scheme in place		Milestones not achieved	

Legend:



On track or maintaining achievement



Moderately improving, Challenges remain



Stagnating, Significant challenges



Decreasing, Major challenges



Information not available

Highlights

Three regions from the Western Balkans selected as Regional Innovation Valleys: Tuzla Kanton in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and North Macedonia

Collaborative grants for innovation managed by the Innovation Fund of Montenegro certified for the Plug-In scheme to the EIC Accelerator

New phase of the Common Regional Market Action Plan 2025–2028 signed by Western Balkans leaders

