

# Thirteenth meeting of the Accession Conference with Montenegro at Ministerial level



EU-Montenegro Intergovernmental Accession Conference Highlights

The thirteenth meeting of the Accession Conference with Montenegro at Ministerial level was held today in Luxembourg. The meeting marks a milestone in the evolution of the accession negotiations, since it is the first to have taken place since the Council approved the revised enlargement methodology, which also applies to the accession process of Montenegro.

The European Union delegation was led by Ms Ana Paula Zacarias, Secretary of State for European Affairs, on behalf of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union. The Montenegrin delegation was led by the Prime Minister of Montenegro, Mr Zdravko Krivokapić.

The revised enlargement methodology aims to reinvigorate the accession process. It includes: a stronger focus on fundamental reforms; a stronger political steer; increased dynamism; and a more predictable process, based on objective criteria and rigorous positive and negative conditionality.

Providing the accession process with a stronger political steer from the Intergovernmental Conferences is one of the key elements of the revised enlargement methodology. The meeting therefore served to strengthen the dialogue between the Member States and Montenegro, with the aim of helping to focus efforts on key reforms that should allow for progress in the accession process.

The EU welcomed Montenegro's efforts in this regard and noted that the advancement of the negotiations will continue to be guided by Montenegro's progress in preparing for accession, as established in the Negotiation Framework.

[Visit the meeting page](#)