

**YOUNG
EUROPEAN
AMBASSADORS**



Funded by
the European Union

A larger EU: EU Enlargement for Beginners

Workshop by Young European Ambassadors

StrongerTogether



Have you ever heard about the “EU enlargement process”? Did you ever wonder how a country can join the European Union?

Join the Young European Ambassadors to learn more about this and explore the journeys of Moldova, Georgia, and Ukraine towards EU accession: discover the impactful partnership between the EU and its Eastern neighbours, while learning about the benefits of cooperation and opportunities for collaboration.

During this interactive session, you will work together to understand the steps for EU accession and the challenges, complexities, and prospects of countries that are currently candidates to join the EU.

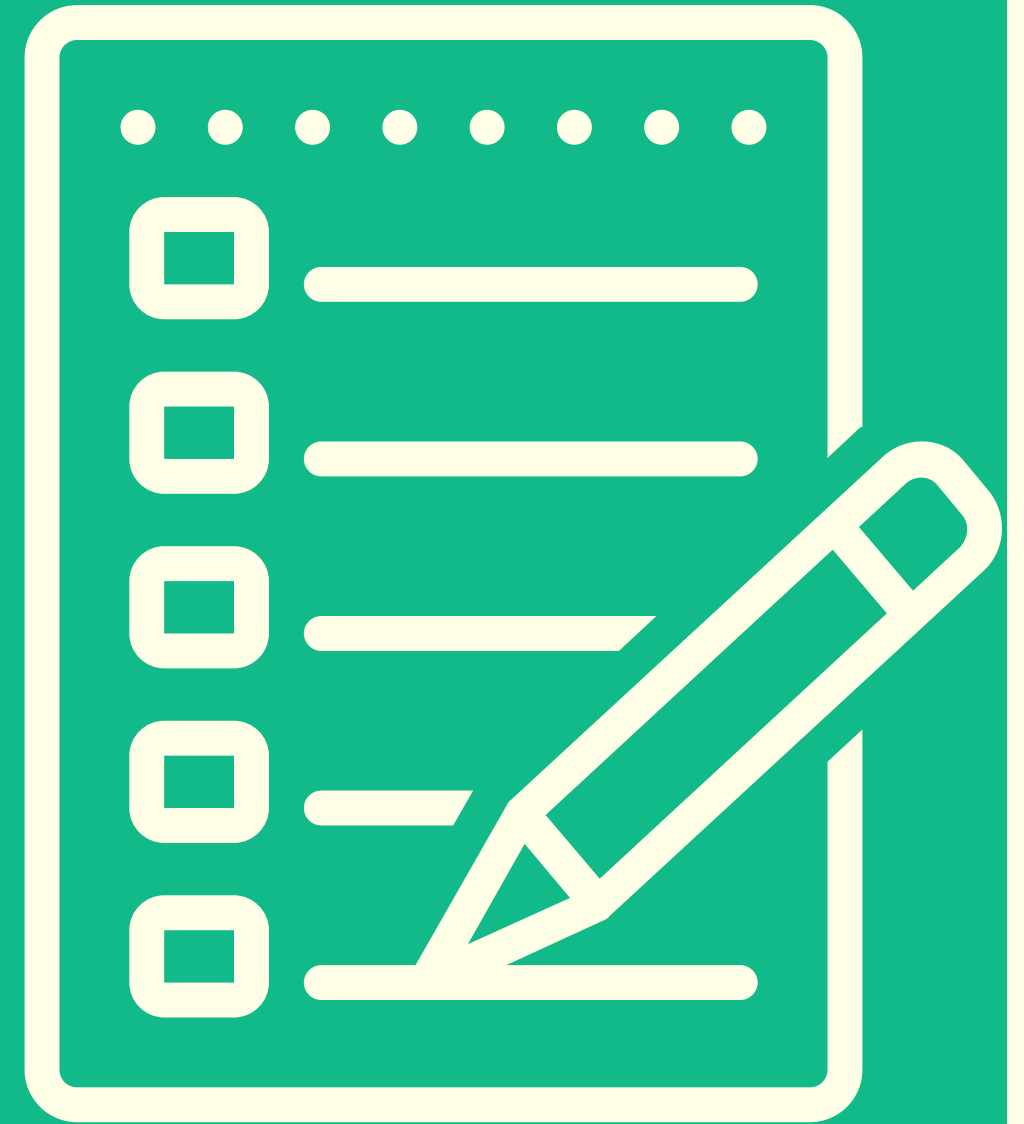
Workshop Agenda



Part 1: Introduction to EU NEIGHBOURS
east & The Young European
Ambassadors (YEAs) Initiative

Part 2: EU Enlargement Activity

Part 3: YEAs Sharing Experiences + Q&A

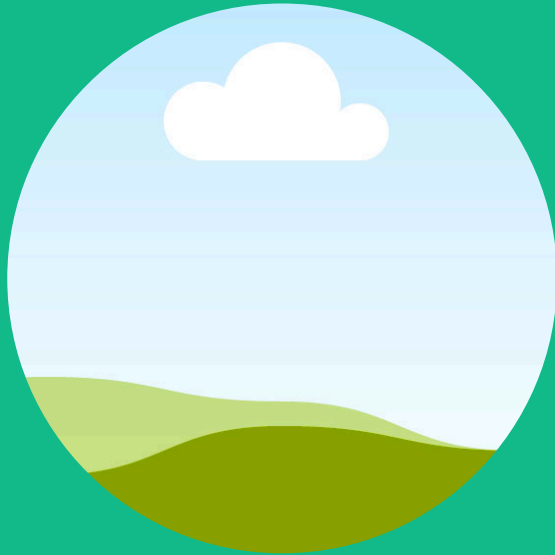


We're your hosts!



Name

YEA From



Name

YEA From



Name

YEA From

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EU NEIGHBOURSEAST

We are the Regional **Communication Programme for Eastern Neighbourhood (EUNEIGHBOURS EAST)**.

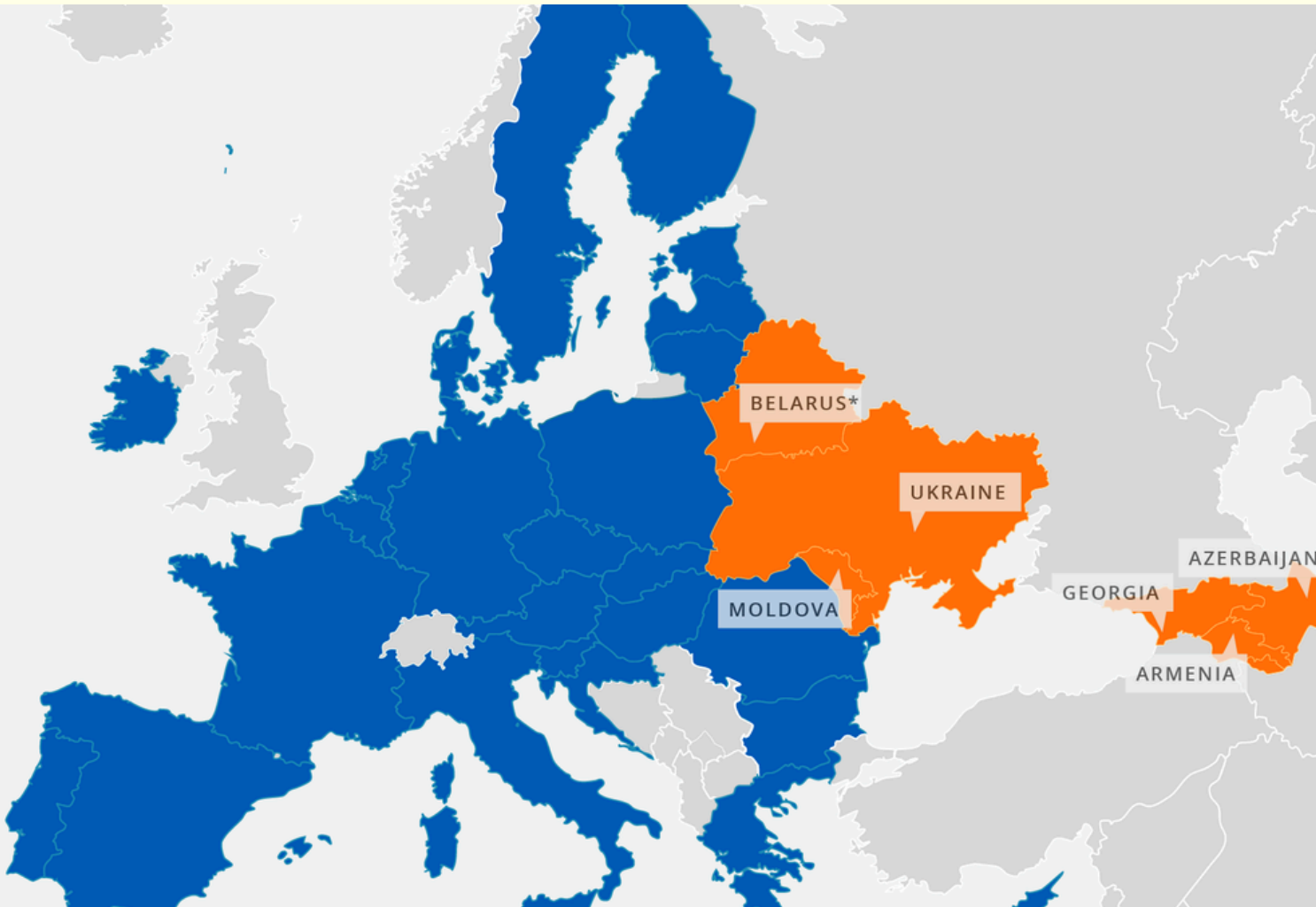
We support EU's communications in the Eastern neighbourhood, working closely with EU Delegations in the countries and **DG NEAR** – European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations.

The programme is carried out by GOPA PACE.

Similar projects: 'EU NEIGHBOURS south' & WeBalkans are separate projects, both also guided by DG NEAR.

Can you name a
country in the EU's
Eastern Neighbourhood?

(Hint: There's 6)



Eastern Partnership (EaP)

Where it all started – The Eastern Partnership (EaP) founded in 2009 is a joint initiative involving the EU, its Member States, and six Eastern European Partner countries: **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine.**

As a specific Eastern dimension of the European Neighbourhood Policy, the Eastern Partnership combines **bilateral and multilateral tracks.**

Objectives:

- Resilient, sustainable and **integrated economies**
- Accountable institutions, the rule of law, and security
- Environmental and **climate resilience**
- Resilient digital transformation
- Resilient, **gender-equal, fair, and inclusive societies.**

Eastern Partnership (EaP)

Good to know

Belarus: The EU does not recognise the results of Belarus' presidential elections of August 2020 and condemns them as neither free nor fair. It considers that Aleksandr Lukashenko lacks any democratic legitimacy.

The EU's policy towards Belarus is guided by the Council conclusions of 19 February 2024, in which the EU reaffirmed its unwavering support for the Belarusian people's quest for a free, democratic, sovereign and independent Belarus as part of a peaceful and prosperous Europe.

More information:

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/eastern-partnership/belarus/>



**YOUNG
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The Young European Ambassadors (YEAs) initiative is a non-political, voluntary, vibrant network **connecting and building bridges of friendship among young people from the EU, UK, and EaP Countries**

The aim of the network is to raise awareness about the EU's cooperation with its EaP, showcase the tangible results of this cooperation, contribute to policy dialogue on various topics, and help increase civic activism by empowering youth participation.



900+
YEAs

30+
Nationalities

Jan-Jun 2023



Almost 500
LOCAL ACTIVITIES

36.500+
PEOPLE REACHED

2.200.000+
*SOCIAL MEDIA
REACH*

90+
BLOG POSTS



What YEAs do

- **Disseminate correct information** about the EU & and EaP in our countries
- Inform our communities about the EU and the opportunities it offers
- Increase the visibility and awareness of the EU and Partner countries relations and showcase the impact of the EU assistance on the daily life of citizens
- Support the EU's flagship **EUvsDisinfo** campaign
- Encourage **civic activism, engagement and youth participation** at community level
- Connect and engage with all YEAs
- Build connections and develop joint activities to promote the **Eastern partner countries' culture** in our countries



EU Enlargement: whaaaaat?

We're going to try to put in order the different steps that a country needs to go through to become a member of the European Union.

Don't be scared of saying something which might be wrong – we are all **here to learn!**

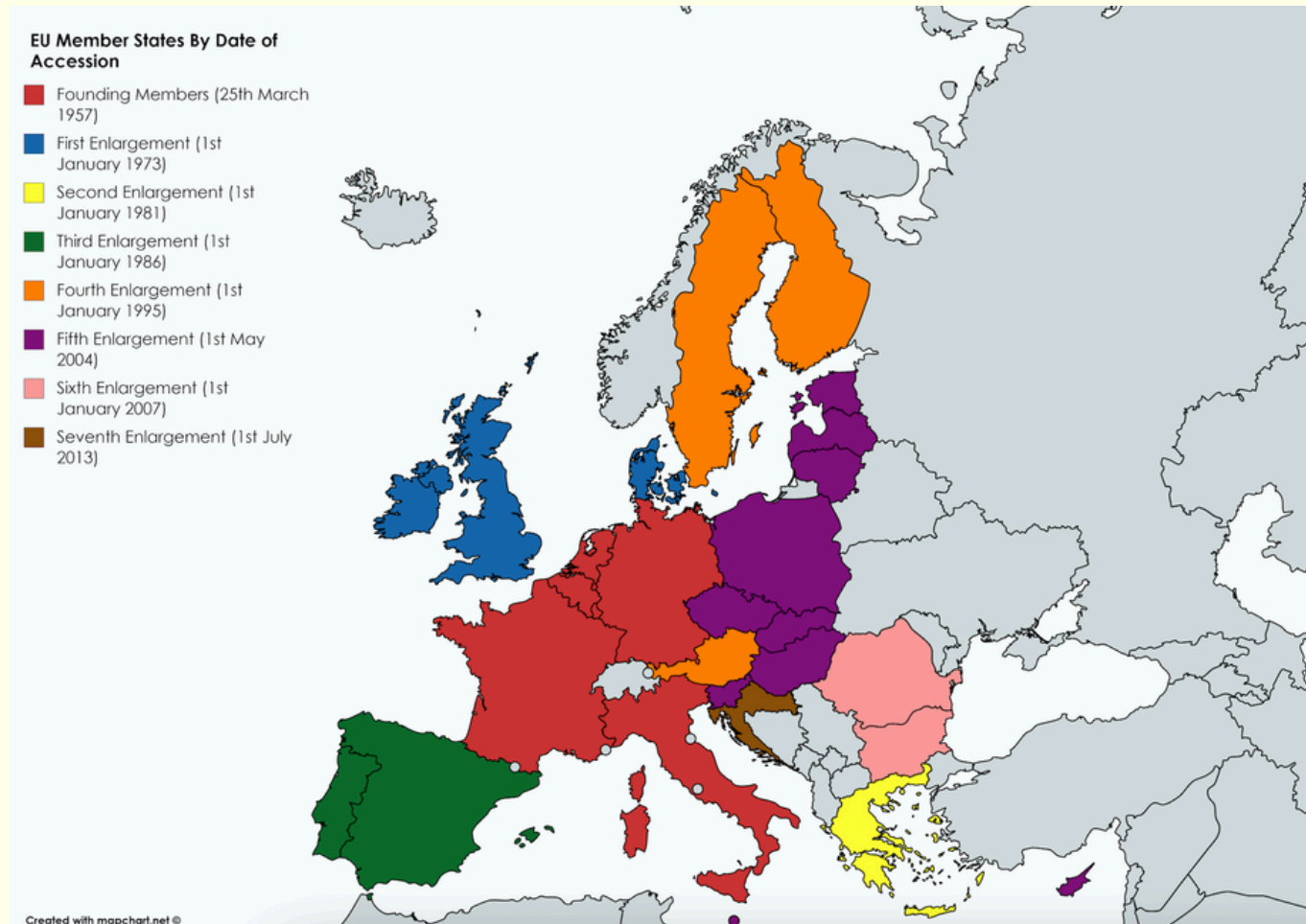
What is Enlargement?

Enlargement happens when **new countries join the European Union.**

This has taken place several times in the EU's history, each time transforming both the EU and the countries that join.

The enlargement of the EU has contributed significantly to the spread of stability, peace and prosperity across the continent.

Can anyone name any
EU Enlargements in the
21st Century?



2004: 10 New Countries! The largest single enlargement. (Czechia, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia).

2007: Romania & Bulgaria

2013: Croatia

21st Century Enlargements

Activity Instructions

- Step 1: Divided into groups of 6 people
- Step 2: Look at the cards given to your group and try to put them in the right order, you have up to ten minutes for that
- Step 3: One member from your group shares which order you've given to the different steps
- Step 4: YEAs will guide you through the process and their personal experiences and perspective on the topic
- Step 5: Q&A

Let's start!

You have received nine pieces of a legislative puzzle.

Together with your team members, read carefully each piece and put them in order.

The different pieces compose the entire timeline of a country's accession path to the European Union.



Let's share!

Share your findings with everyone: what's the correct order for the different steps?



Let's have a look together!



1 Country submits an application to the Council (EU Member States).



2 Commission submits an Opinion on the application.



3 EU Member States decide unanimously to grant the country candidate status.

Let's have a look together!



4 After conditions are met, the accession negotiations are opened with the agreement of all Member States.

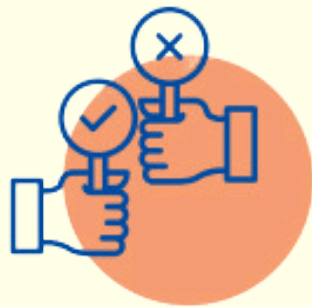


5 Commission proposes a draft negotiating framework as a basis for the talks. Accession negotiations formally start once Member States agree on the negotiating framework.



6 During negotiations, which are structured according to clusters and chapters, the country prepares to implement EU laws and standards. All EU Member States must agree that all requirements are met in each case.

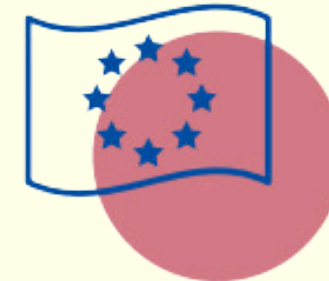
Let's have a look together!



7 Once negotiations on all areas are finalised, Commission gives its Opinion on the readiness of the country to become a Member State.



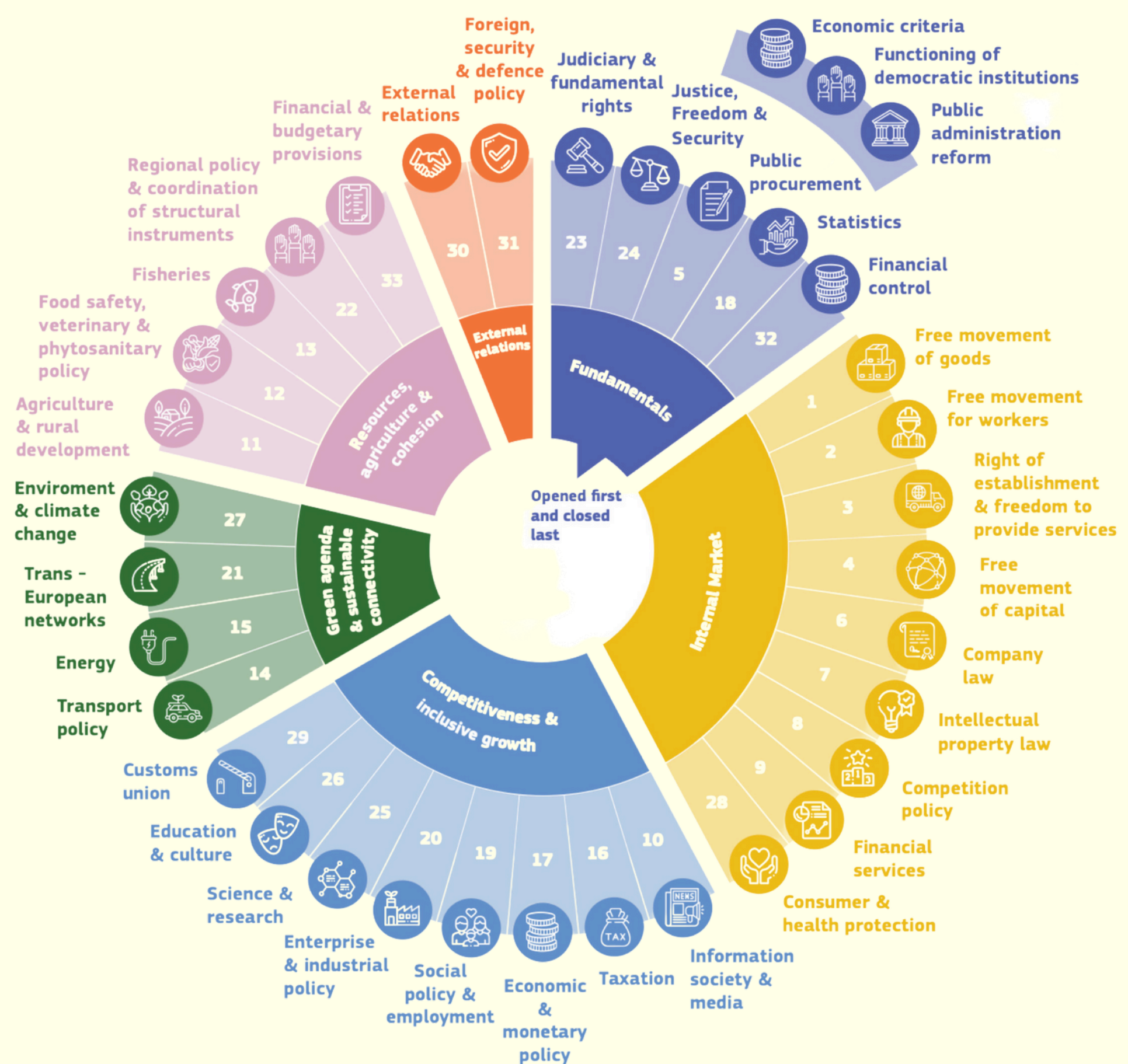
8 Based on this Opinion, EU Member States decide unanimously to close the negotiation process. The European Parliament must also give its consent.



9 All EU Member States and the candidate country sign and ratify an Accession Treaty which enables the country to become an EU Member State.

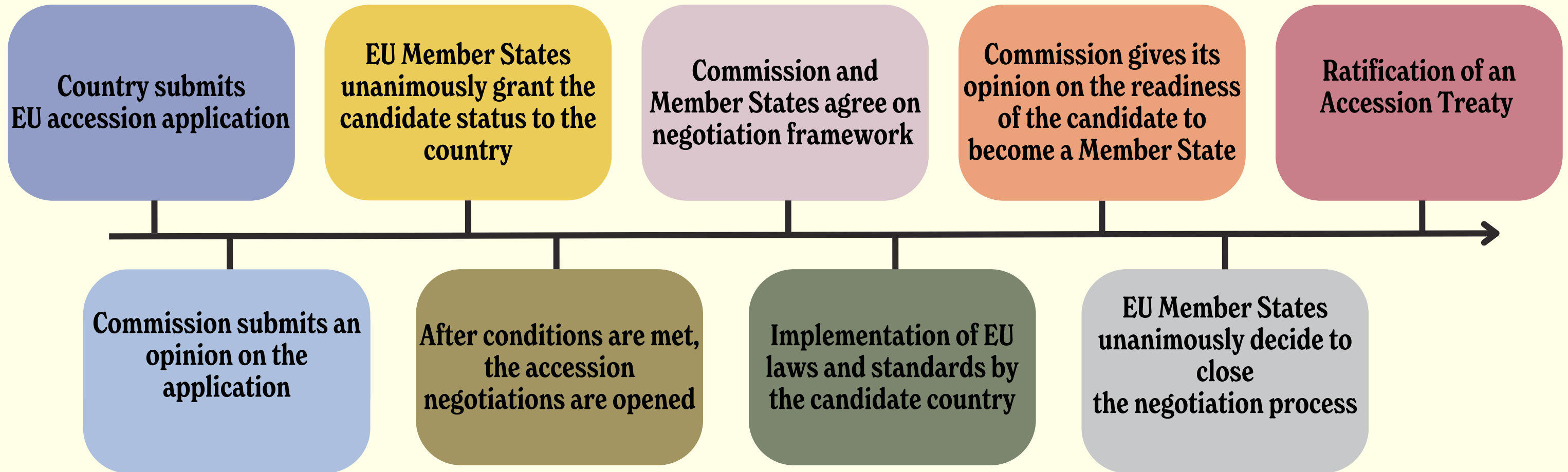


EU Accession Process at a glance



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EU Accession Process at a glance



EU Accession for Ukraine, Moldova, & Georgia

Step 1

Country submits EU accession application

Moldova officially applies for EU membership

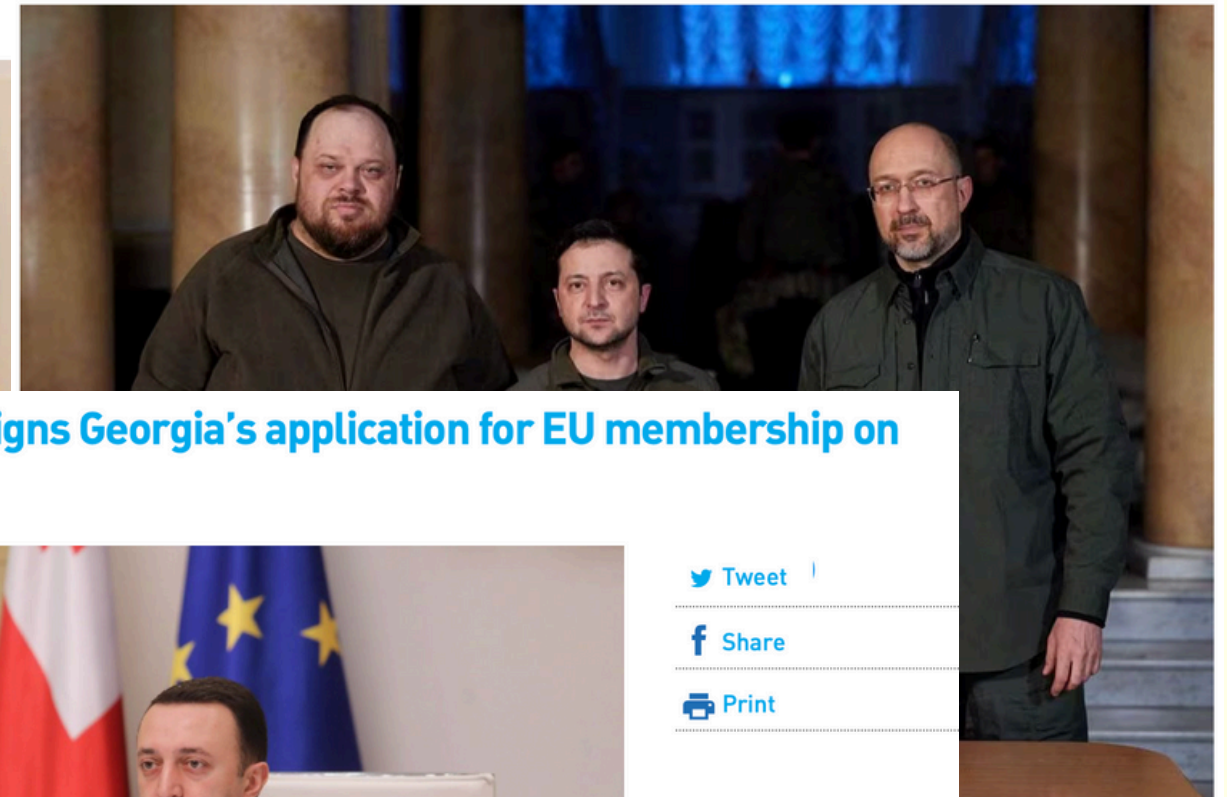
Russia's invasion of Ukraine has triggered fears among ex-
countries that they may be next.



Ukrainian president signs formal request to join the European Union

Reuters

February 28, 2022 6:35 PM GMT+2 · Updated 2 years ago



PM Garibashvili signs Georgia's application for EU membership on "historic day"



Tweet

Share

Print

EU Accession for Ukraine, Moldova, & Georgia

**Country submits
EU accession
application**

**Commission
submits an opinion
on the application**

Step 2

UKRAINE

1. Constitutional court reform
2. Judicial governance reform
3. Fight against corruption
4. Fight against money laundering
5. De-oligarchisation
6. Media legislation
7. Protection of national minorities

GEORGIA

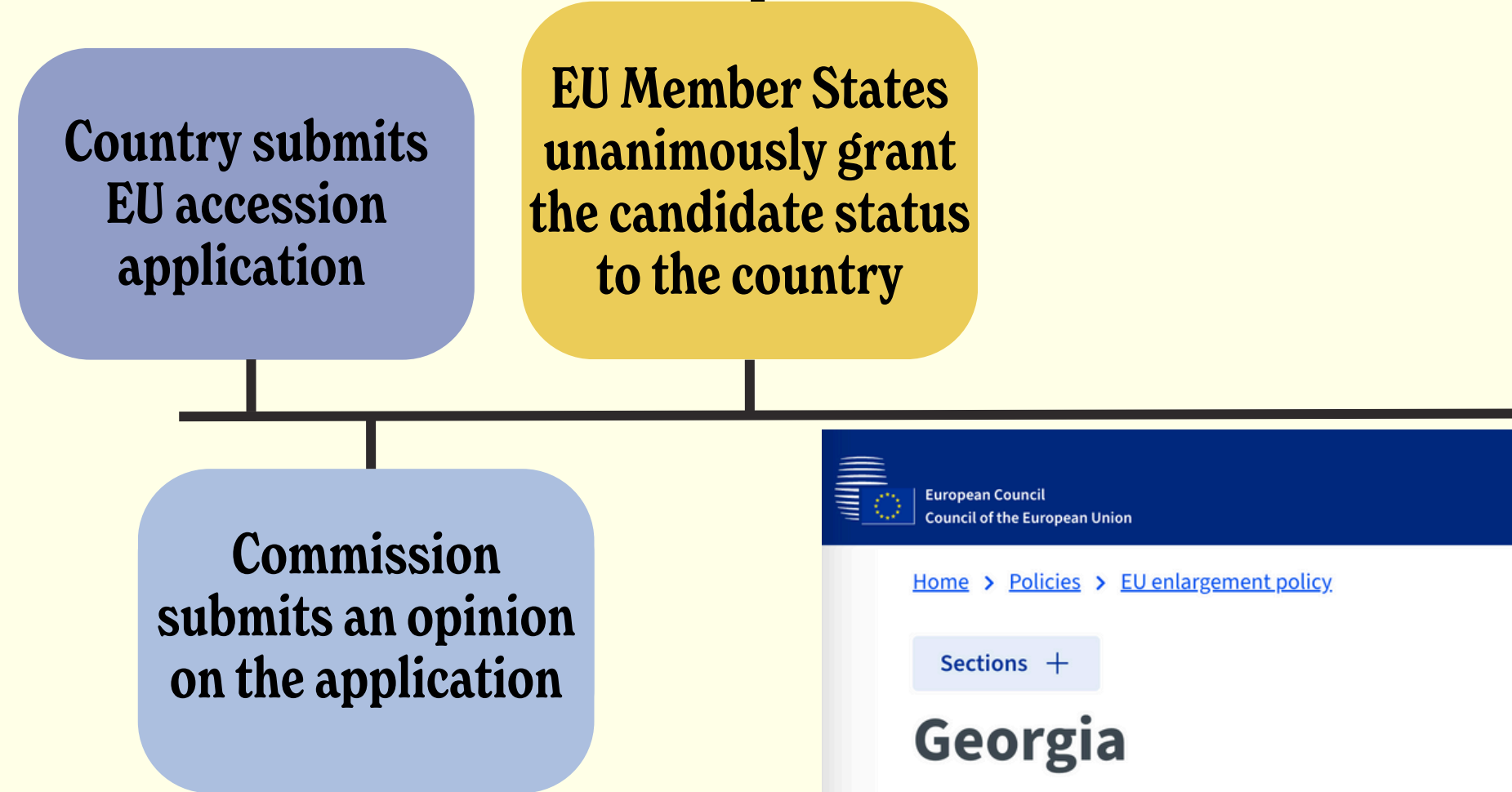
1. Address political polarisation issue
2. Full functioning of all state institutions
3. Judicial reform strategy
4. Independent anti-corruption agency
5. De-oligarchisation
6. Fight against organised crime
7. Strengthen media environment
8. Protection of human rights
9. Gender equality and fight violence against women
10. Involvement of civil society in decision-making processes
11. Alignment of European Court of Human Rights decisions
12. Transparent public defender nomination

MOLDOVA

1. Justice reform
2. Electoral legislation amendment
3. Fight against corruption
4. De-oligarchisation
5. Fight against organized crime
6. Public administration reform
7. Public finance management reform
8. Involving civil society in the decision-making process
9. Protection of human rights

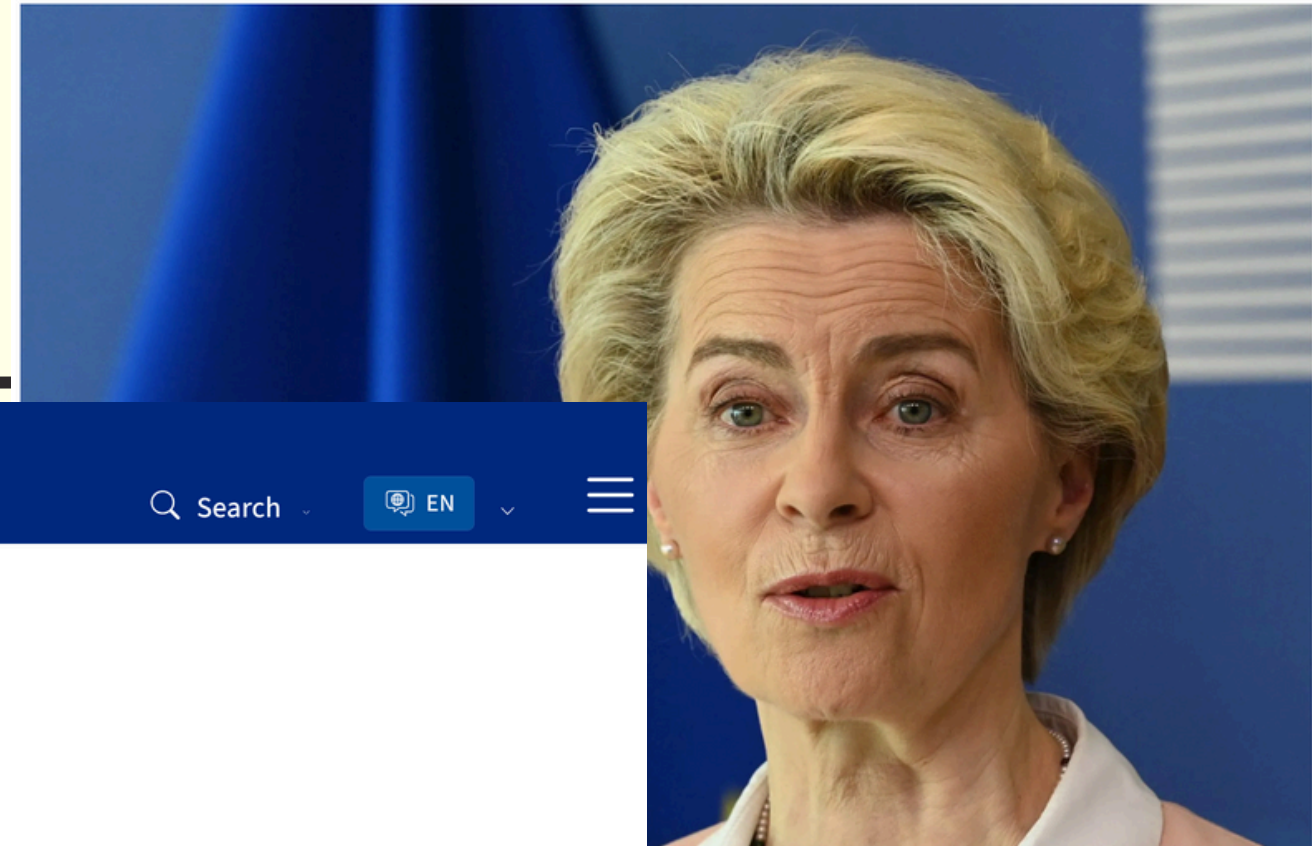
EU Accession for Ukraine, Moldova, & Georgia

Step 3



EU leaders grant Ukraine and Moldova candidate status

The decision marks a key point on the countries' journeys to possible EU membership.



European Council
Council of the European Union

Search EN

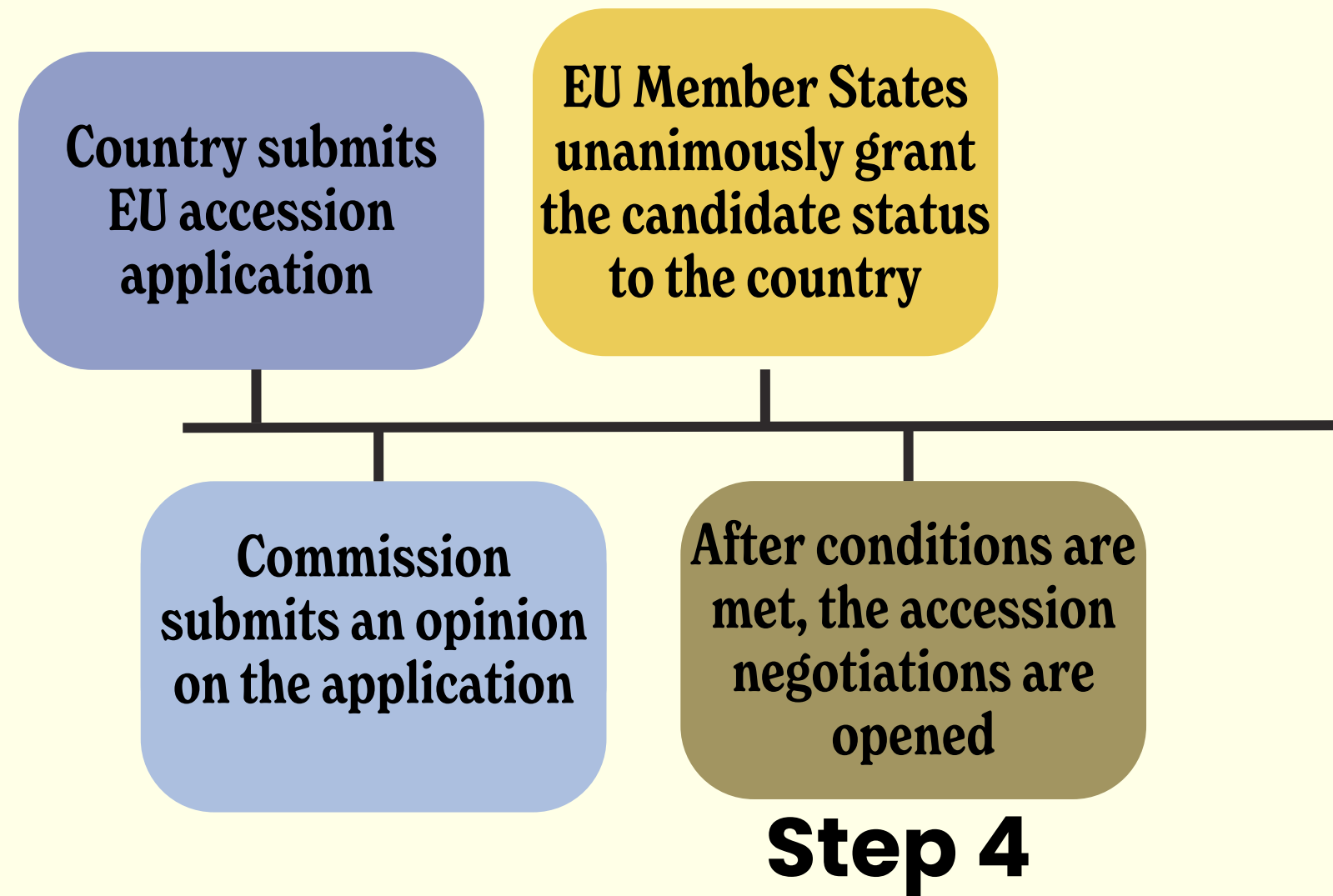
Home > Policies > EU enlargement policy.

Sections +

Georgia

Georgia applied for EU membership in March 2022 and was granted candidate status in December 2023, on the understanding that Georgia takes the relevant steps as set out in a Commission recommendation.

EU Accession for Ukraine, Moldova, & Georgia



European Leaders decide to open accession negotiations with Ukraine and Moldova in a historic summit

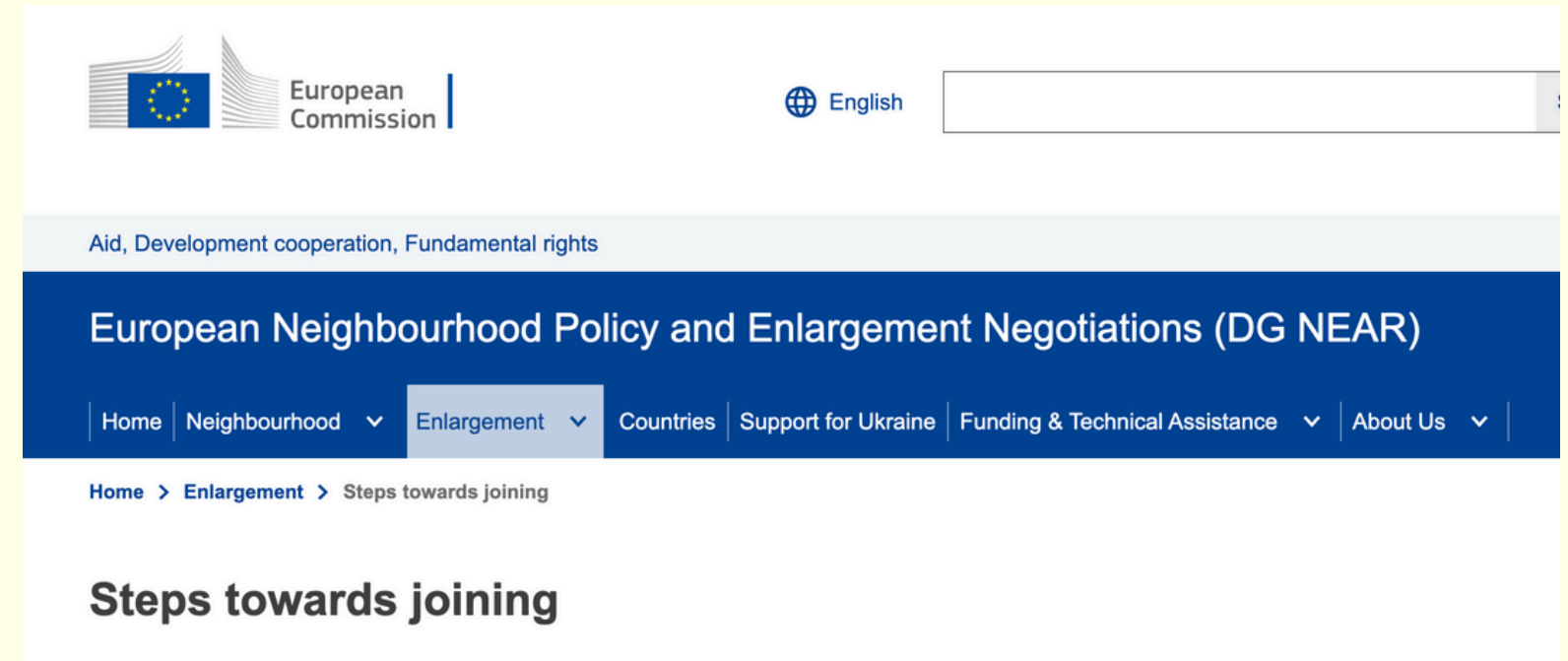
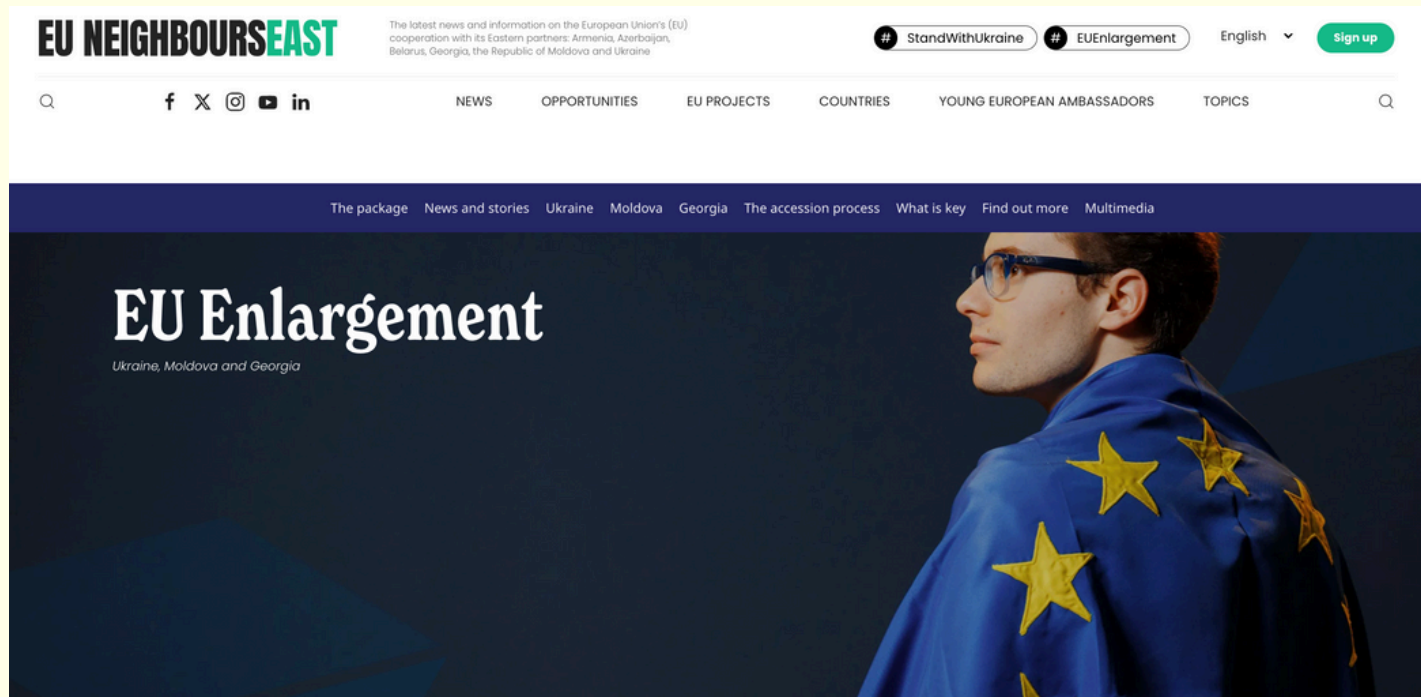
Brussels, 18 December 2023



On 14-15 December, the European Council has decided to **open accession negotiations with Ukraine and Moldova**. It is a landmark moment for the people of both countries, who have consistently **shown their European conviction**, even as Russia continues to wage its war of aggression against Ukraine and undermine democracy in Moldova.



Where to find more information?



YEAs Share:

What does Enlargement mean to me?

Hear more YEAs Stories:

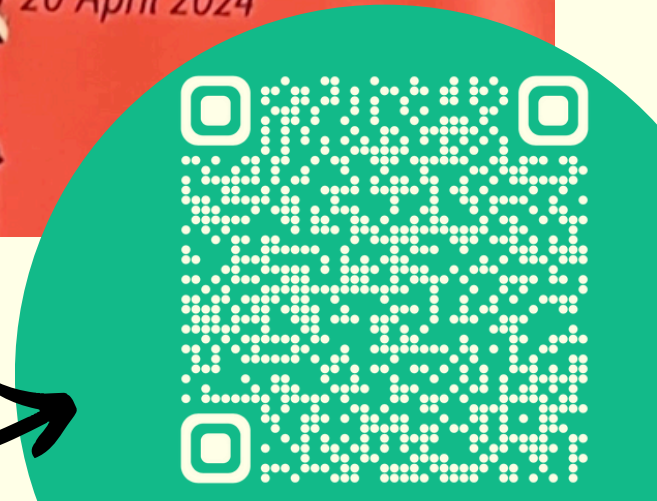
What EU Candidate Status Means to me



Violetta (Ukraine) Story



Dachi (Georgia) Story





Keep in touch!
yeas@euneighbourseast.eu



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