



Factsheet 15 December 2023

Swiss contribution to selected EU member states

What is it about?

Stability and cohesion are important prerequisites for the proper functioning of an internal market. As Switzerland takes part in the EU's single market on a sectoral basis, it also has an interest in ensuring that the single market functions well. Since 2007, Switzerland has participated in the efforts to reduce economic and social disparities in the EU and to manage migration flows. This is an investment in security and prosperity in Europe.

To this end, Switzerland has provided two financial contributions known as the enlargement contribution (from 2007) and the second Swiss contribution (from 2019). These contributions have been used to implement projects and programmes in selected EU member states directly. The Federal Council is prepared to negotiate the specifics of Switzerland's future contributions with the EU.

Outcome of exploratory talks and outlook for negotiations

The solution put forward during the exploratory talks envisages the negotiation of a legally binding mechanism for regular contributions. The exact features of this mechanism were not defined however, nor the specifics of the next Swiss contribution i.e. duration, amount, partner countries or thematic priorities. All of these issues will therefore be addressed during the negotiations. It is however expected that the next planned contribution will take into account Swiss-EU cooperation as a one-off before the establishment of the new mechanism.

In order for Switzerland to make regular contributions to selected EU member states in future, a new legal basis is required. This will also be prepared in parallel with the negotiations.