
 European  
Investment  
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EIB Forum  
Athens, 19-20 October 2006

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South-East Europe - A Region on the Move

## **A region on the move?**

### **EU enlargement and the Western Balkans**

#### **I. Enlargement Fatigue**

1977:

Francois Mitterrand: «Neither Greece nor Spain are in a position to join the Community. Accession is neither in their interest nor is it in our interest. Interim steps are desirable»

#### **II. Lessons of the past decade FYR Macedonia in 1996:**

«Moving toward firmer ground»

Bulgaria in 1996:

«Survives a dire years»

One decade later...

#### **III: Is public opinion the new problem?**

Slovenia:

44 percent support in 1994

FYR Macedonia:

41 percent support in 2005

Bulgaria:

46 percent in favour 1994

48 percent in favour 2005

Austrian opinion polls

2002 Eurobarometer:

27 percent of Austrians support Turkish accession

34 percent support Croatian accession

56 percent opposed Turkey

52 percent opposed Croatia

#### **IV. Elite fatigue**

Is there a credible alternative?

International Balkan (Amato)

Commission: «Empire or Enlargement»

«Permanent pre-accession process»

Kosovo: «Cutting the lifeline»

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## **ΔΙΟΙΚΗΤΙΚΟ ΔΙΚΑΙΟ**

Economic growth 2005: -0.2%

Imports 2005: € 1,161 million

Exports 2005: € 47 million (tradeables)

67 percent of budget revenue at the border

Serbia: Another wasted decade?

Since 2000: No SAA. No PfP. No visa liberalisation in sight. No EU consensus across the political elite.

V. Making the case for enlargement

Success stories need to be told (Bulgaria)

W. Balkan elites need to be proactive.

Explode the myth of popular fatigue.

Show the cost of non-Europe in the Balkans.

Αθήναι, 2006