



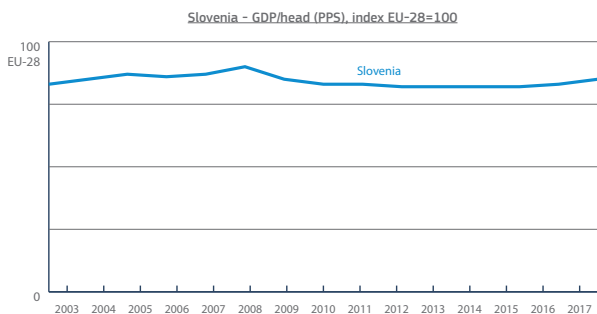
Slovenia was among the 10 countries to accede to the European Union on 1 May 2004. For these Member States to catch up with the EU average in terms of growth and income, the EU invested massively via its Cohesion Policy and, since 2014, via the Investment Plan for Europe, the Juncker Plan. These investments have had very positive results on the ground, not only thanks to EU funding but also to the efforts of these Member States to reform and become attractive places for investors and for businesses to settle and thrive.



“The decision in 2004 to embrace 10 European countries was a great moment for our continent and a great moment in history. The accession of the Central and Eastern European countries, and the courage of their people in preparing for that accession, is what allowed us to reconcile our continent’s geography with its history. I remain an ardent fan of enlargement today.”

President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker, 29 April 2019

Convergence: since 2003, Slovenia’s GDP per capita has grown by **2** percentage points compared to the EU average



Growth: Slovenia’s GDP per capita grew by **41%** over the period 2003-2017



€9.2 billion invested in Slovenia over 2004-2020 under the European Structural and Investment Funds

€924 million of additional investments mobilised in Slovenia under the Juncker Plan since 2014

Since the beginning of the Juncker Commission in 2014, the European Structural and Investment Funds and the Juncker Plan have supported **7,385** Slovenian small and medium businesses.

Since 2014, the EU has been providing structural funding equivalent to **29%** of all public investment in Slovenia.

The EU invests the equivalent of **€1,880** per Slovenian citizen in structural funding

The EU finances cohesion projects in Slovenia to **80%** of their value



11,600 new jobs



352,910 people with access to better waste water networks



73,316 people with access to broadband



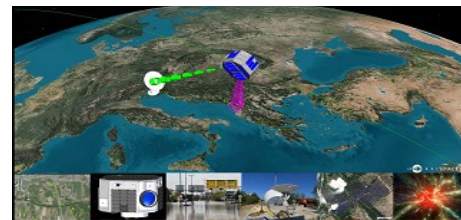
278 megawatts of additional capacity in renewable energy production



Slovenian company Fortis Maribor specialises in cutting-edge metal processing. To upgrade their machinery and purchase new equipment, Fortis Maribor secured an EU loan. It helped the company hire more engineers, developers and production workers for the machines.



With EU funding, the MAK application (Mobile Application for Farming) was developed in Slovenia. It helps farmers in their daily work, by offering a user-friendly one-stop-shop for accounting, reporting and monitoring of farm activities.



SPACE-SI, a space science centre in Slovenia supported by the EU, is leading the way in using satellite data for earth monitoring. R&D activities are focused on interactive remote sensing technology.



BUILDING EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Slovenia received €224.7 million under the EU research and innovation programme **Horizon 2020**. Within Horizon 2020, a programme called 'Spreading Excellence and Widening' is dedicated to capacity building in universities and research organisations. All Member States that joined the EU after 2004 can get financial support, create partnerships across Europe and build research centres under this programme. Slovenia received €18.2 million in this context.

Enlargement benefits all. By extending the Single Market, it opens new markets to companies in the EU and in the incoming countries. With higher income in these Member States thanks to EU investments, trade and investment opportunities increase everywhere in the EU. EU investments in these countries can contribute to jobs and growth in other Member States even more directly, when a company works as a subcontractor in an EU-funded project across the border.

For example, it is estimated that almost a third of the impact of Cohesion Policy on Germany's GDP comes from the funding programmes implemented in other Member States.

Finally, a larger Single Market is more attractive to investors worldwide: Foreign Direct Investment to the EU has more than doubled as a percentage of GDP since accession – from 15.2% of GDP in 2004 to 40.9% of GDP in 2017.