

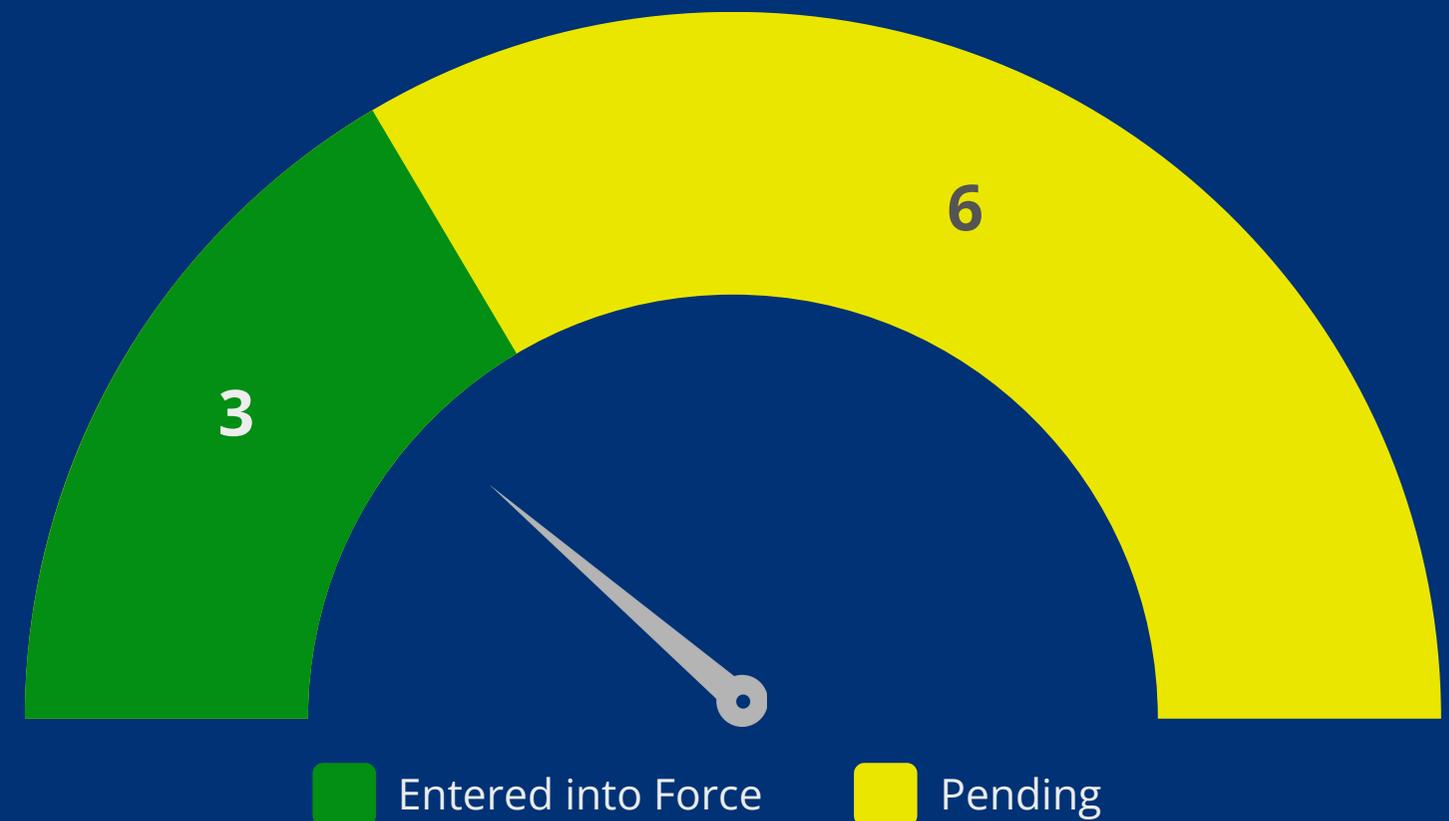
CEFTA Agreements signed in October 2024

Entry into Force vs. Pending Agreements (April 2025)*



Key agreements entered into force in **ALL SEE6** countries
(as of April 2025)

- Recognition of AEO Programs
- Electronic Risk Management System
- Motor Third-Party Liability Insurance

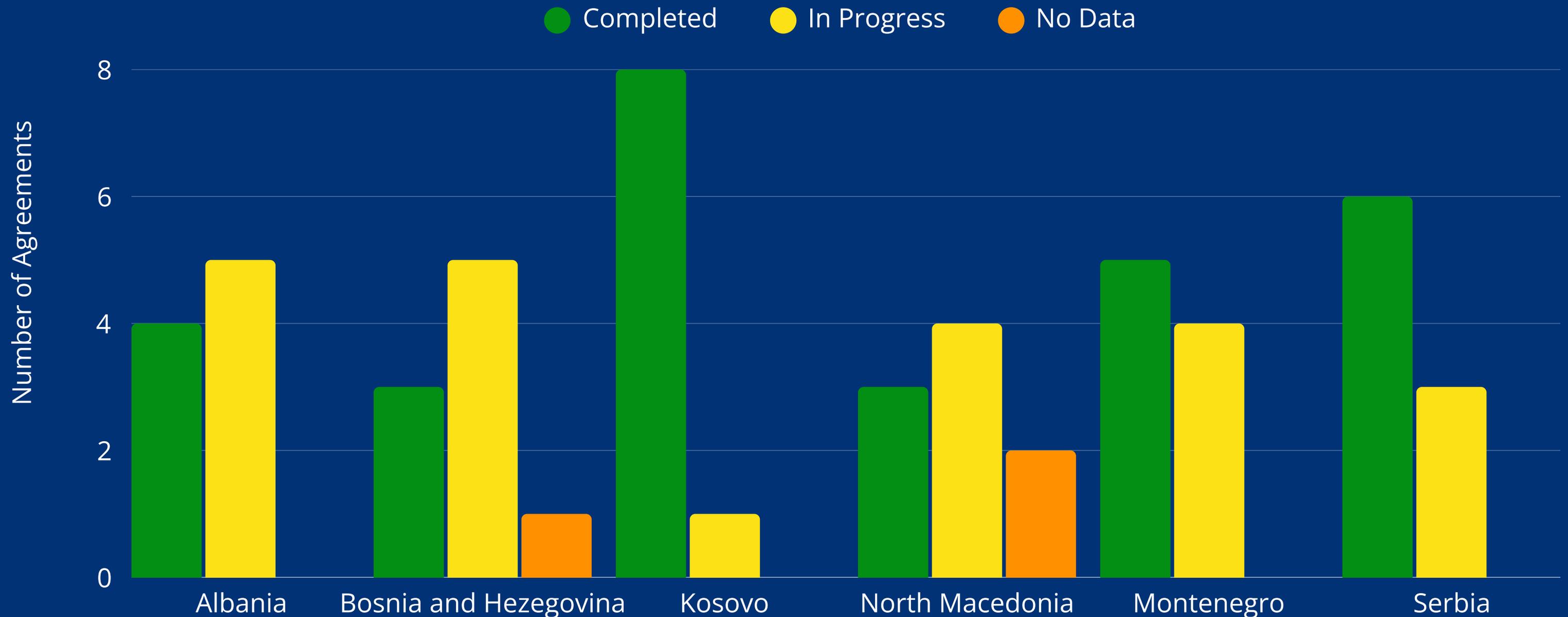


This publication is produced in the frame of “Channeling SEE6 Civil Society contribution to the Common Regional Market and Berlin Process” initiative, implemented by CDI with the support of the German Federal Foreign Office.

The information provided here covers all SEE6 countries. For any discrepancy or update please write to info@cdinstitute.eu

CEFTA Agreements

Entry into Force by Country (as of April 2025)



Entry into Force of CEFTA Agreements explained

- 1. Establishment of an Electronic System for Risk Management:** Electronic data exchange will empower customs to target high-risk shipments more effectively, improve trade security and speed up the movement of goods. *Entry in Force (EiF): Art. 7* “on the date of its adoption” – 9 Oct. 2024
- 2. Facilitation of Trade in Services by Travel Agencies and Tour Operators:** Travel agencies and tour operators will gain easier access to all CEFTA markets, creating new opportunities for growth and attracting more tourists to the region. *EiF: Art 26.1* “subject to RAA”
- 3. Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSM):** A new mechanism for resolving trade disputes will guarantee fairness and transparency, boosting business confidence in the implementation of CEFTA’s trade facilitation rules. *EiF: Art 38* “subject to RAA”
- 4. Facilitation of Motor Third-Party Liability Insurance:** Simplified motor insurance processes will allow travelers to drive across CEFTA worry-free, without concerns about insurance coverage. *EiF - This is a recommendation*
- 5. Recognition of AEO Programs:** Businesses with customs benefits in their home markets will now enjoy these privileges across all 7 CEFTA markets. This means faster, more efficient customs procedures, leading to substantial time and cost savings. *EiF: Art. 2* “on the date of its adoption” – 9 Oct. 2024
- 6. Facilitation of e-Commerce:** A unified framework will enable businesses to sell online seamlessly across CEFTA markets, making it easier for consumers to shop without restrictions. Additionally, it sets standards to protect consumers when shopping online. *EiF : Art. 54* “subject to RAA”
- 7. Parcel Delivery:** New rules simplify parcel delivery between CEFTA parties, enhancing regulatory control while introducing EU standards for price transparency and service quality. *EiF: Art. 16* “two years upon its adoption”, i.e. 9 Oct. 2026
- 8. Prevention of Unjustified Geo-Blocking:** These rules ensure that online shops cannot block access to websites, products, or services based on a consumer’s location and origin, allowing for unrestricted shopping across CEFTA markets. *EiF: Art. 11* “two years upon its adoption”, i.e. 9 Oct. 2026
- 9. Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights:** Harmonized IPR standards will protect both businesses and consumers from counterfeit goods, fostering innovation and safeguarding the CEFTA market. *EiF: Art 15.1* “subject to RAA”

CEFTA Agreements Adoption Status

April 2025

Albania



Bosnia & Herzegovina



Kosovo



Montenegro



North Macedonia



Serbia



Recognition of AEO Programs



Facilitation of E-Commerce



Parcel Delivery



Prevention of Unjustified Geo-Blocking



Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights



Establishment of an Electronic System for Risk Management



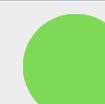
Facilitation of Trade in Services by Travel Agencies & Tour Operators



Dispute Settlement Mechanism – DSM



Facilitation of Motor Third-Party Liability Insurance



● Completed (Full RAA procedures finalized)
 ● In Progress ("Interministerial Consultation" / "Under Preparation")
 ○ No Data (Missing responses from institutions)

The monitoring of CEFTA agreements Ratification / Adoption / Approval (RAA) is very challenging due to the complexity of procedures and low responsiveness of institutions in charge.

1. **Complexity impacting data gathering.** CEFTA agreements' RAA is a very complex process as evidenced by the high number of specific RAA procedures and by the diversity of institutions in charge. *Adopted solution:* We assessed each agreement on its proper RAA procedure (see Entry into Force of CEFTA Agreements).

2. **Complexity impacting visual communication tools.** Diversity of RAA of procedures and their technical complexity, makes it difficult to use colour - coded signaling. *Adopted solution:* We used simplification, and prioritized the process dynamics more than its outcomes.

3. **Diversity of RAA Procedures.** The nine agreements need to be adopted through four different RAA procedures; have different entry-in-

force dates; and different enforcing powers (one is a Recommendation). *Adopted solution:* We came up with the following categories:

- **In progress:** Agreements are under preparation / checked / verified at the line ministry / "Inter-ministerial Consultation" and "Government approval", sent to Parliament / President;
- **Completed:** signed into law
- **No data:** did not receive any data or information on the RAA progress, yet

4. **Responsiveness.** To gather and proceed the information in the RAA table, we have had numerous meetings and exchanges with CEFTA Secretariat in Brussels and with the national institutions in charge. Notwithstanding our insistence and use of Right of Information requests, the replies have not been always satisfactory. *Adopted solution:* We have cross-checked the information from different sources before publishing it. When still unsatisfied by the quality of final data, we have decided to publish it as it stands and encourage stakeholders to provide the corrected information, associated with respective evidence.