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**Short information regarding the course of negotiations between  
Iceland and the EU**

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## FOREWORD

Iceland submitted its application to the EU membership on 17 July 2009, during Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and accordingly, the Council has sought from the Commission to submit its opinion with regard to the membership application, in line with the procedure envisaged in the Treaty on European Union<sup>1</sup>. Iceland submitted its membership application based on a parliamentary resolution, adopted on 16 July 2009, which authorised the Government to submit the application, and upon terminating the negotiations, to hold a state referendum on Iceland's EU membership. The parliamentary opinion offered to the Government important parameters in terms of preparation and organisation of the accession process. The resolution identified and defined the important interests of Iceland, including fisheries, an important part of Iceland's economy, agriculture and regional affairs, renewable sources of energy, public services and social policy.<sup>2</sup>

In the Opinion on Iceland's application for EU membership, submitted on 24 February 2010, the European Commission analysed Iceland's application in terms of the country's capacity to fulfill the criteria determined in the European Council's meeting held in 1993 in Copenhagen. In this context, the Commission provided an overview of the situation present at the time and Iceland's medium-term membership perspective.

On the basis of the positive opinion, issued by the Commission in February 2010, in June of the same year, the Council agreed to open EU accession negotiations with Iceland. The accession negotiations lasted from June 2011 to June 2013, when Iceland decided to terminate the negotiations. On 12 March 2015, the Iceland's Government has requested the European Union to remove Iceland from the list of candidate countries on the road to the EU membership.

The aim of this research paper is to present short information on Iceland's accession negotiations with the EU, respectively negotiating chapters that have been closed, the one's that have been provisionally opened in the course of negotiations, as well as those which have not been opened, respectively on which negotiating positions have or haven't been submitted, thus, in the context, review the reasons for which the negotiations were suspended in 2013. Furthermore, the research paper narratively presents information regarding the character of relations between the European Union and Iceland prior to submitting the membership application, conclusions and recommendations of the Commission's Opinions on the membership application by Iceland, as well as tabular overview of key dates of accession negotiations between Iceland and the EU.

The information presented in the paper are founded on reliable sources of information on the subject, such as official websites of Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Iceland, European Union, as well as professional associations' publications and academic papers.

The complete document in Montenegrin language can be found at:

<http://www.skupstina.me/images/dokumenti/biblioteka-i-istrazivanje/2015/16.pdf>

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<sup>1</sup> Član 49 Ugovora o Evropskoj uniji predviđa da svaka država koja poštuje vrijednosti propisane članom 2 Ugovora i koja je posvećena njihovoj afirmaciji može podnijeti zahtjev za članstvo u Evropskoj uniji. Evropski parlament i parlamenti država članica moraju biti obaviješteni o tom zahtjevu. Država ponosilac zahtjeva upućuje zahtjev Savjetu koji odlučuje jednoglasno nakon savjetovanja sa Komisijom i nakon dobijanja saglasnosti Evropskog parlamenta koji odlučuje većinom svojih članova. Uzimaju se u obzir kriterijumi pristupanja koje je utvrdio Evropski savjet. *Consolidated version of the Treaty on European Union, OJ C 326, 26.10.2012* <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:12012M/TXT> (accessed on 8 September 2015)

<sup>2</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Iceland's Application for Membership of the EU – Factsheet, July 2010 [http://www.mfa.is/media/MFA\\_pdf/Factsheet---Iceland%27s-Application-to-the-EU---July.pdf](http://www.mfa.is/media/MFA_pdf/Factsheet---Iceland%27s-Application-to-the-EU---July.pdf) (accessed on 8 September 2015)