



PRESS RELEASE

10 July 2025

Slovenia joins EU initiative to bolster trade with Ukraine by offering export guarantees

- Slovenia becomes one of ten EU countries participating in European push to support trade with Ukraine.
- Slovenian export credit agency SID Banka joins the InvestEU Ukraine Export Credit Guarantee Facility.
- It is projected to benefit more than 550 EU exporters.

A European Union initiative to facilitate exports to Ukraine gained momentum today when Slovenia joined. Slovenian export credit agency SID Banka signed up to the InvestEU [Ukraine Export Credit Guarantee Facility](#) – a joint initiative of the European Commission and the European Investment Fund (EIF).

Under the facility, national export credit agencies in the EU offer guarantees to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and Mid-Caps exporting to Ukraine. The national guarantees are in turn backed by the EIF, which is part of the European Investment Bank (EIB) Group.

Slovenia is participating in the initiative along with nine other EU countries: Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia and Spain. The goal is to encourage EU exports to Ukraine of goods such as machinery, construction materials and advanced technologies as well as services and other goods that are critical for the country's economy and reconstruction amid Russia's war.

"This is a real boost for Ukraine's recovery, a win-win solution for its recovery and functioning of its economy. It enables EU companies to keep trading and investing in Ukraine when it matters most," said **EIB Group President Nadia Calviño**.

The Ukraine Export Credit Guarantee Facility is providing a total of €300 million in EIF guarantees for the participating national export credit agencies. SID Banka is receiving €24 million of the total.

In addition to the ten participating EU countries, a further three Member States that have yet to be announced are scheduled to join the facility. It is projected to benefit more than 550 EU exporters.

"By joining this initiative, SID Banka reaffirms its commitment to supporting Slovenian exporters in challenging environments. We aim to strengthen economic ties and contribute to Ukraine's recovery, while helping Slovenian companies seize new opportunities in a strategically important market." said **Borut Jamnik, President of the Management Board, SID Banka**.

The Ukraine Export Credit Guarantee Facility advances Ukrainian efforts to integrate into the European single market and to become a member of the EU.

“Backed by the EU budget, the facility supports EU businesses to continue and step up trade with Ukraine,” said **European Commissioner for Economy and Productivity, Implementation and Simplification Valdis Dombrovskis**. “It represents a significant step forward in further integrating the EU and Ukrainian economies, which is a crucial element of Ukraine’s accession process.”

Started in mid-2024, the facility generated immediate interest from EU businesses, ensuring demand for the full €300 million in EIF backing. The EIF support helps businesses to maintain existing exports to Ukraine and encourages new EU trade ties with the country.

“Ukraine’s recovery depends not only on international aid, but on restoring and expanding real economic partnerships — partnerships based on trade, industrial cooperation, and shared long-term interests,” said **Yulia Svyrydenko, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy of Ukraine**. “That’s why we welcome the strong commitment of EU Member States to support their exporters working with Ukraine. The Ukraine Export Credit Guarantee Facility is a strategic tool that helps businesses on both sides mitigate risks, unlock opportunities, and build confidence in Ukraine as a market that is open, resilient, and future-oriented.”

Background information

The European Investment Fund (EIF): The EIF is part of the EIB Group. It supports Europe’s SMEs by improving their access to finance through a wide range of selected financial intermediaries. The EIF designs, promotes and implements equity and debt financing instruments targeting SMEs. In this role, EIF fosters EU objectives in support of entrepreneurship, growth, innovation, research and development, the green and digital transitions and employment.

The InvestEU programme provides the European Union with crucial long-term funding by leveraging substantial private and public funds in support of a sustainable recovery. It also helps mobilise private investments for EU policy priorities, such as the European Green Deal and the digital transition. The InvestEU programme brings together under one roof the multitude of EU financial instruments currently available to support investment in the European Union, making funding for investment projects in Europe simpler, more efficient and more flexible. The programme consists of three components: the InvestEU Fund, the InvestEU Advisory Hub, and the InvestEU Portal. The InvestEU Fund is implemented through financial partners who will invest in projects using the EU budget guarantee of €26.2 billion. With the InvestEU mandate, European institutions – led by European Commission and EIB Group – aim to mobilise more than €372 billion of public and private investments to finance sustainable investment, innovation and job creation throughout Europe over the period 2021-2027.

SID Banka is a promotional development and export Bank which is 100% owned by the Republic of Slovenia with a primary aim to promote economic and social development. Pursuant to the law, SID banka supports economic, structural, social and other policies by offering financial and insurance services, while serving long-term benefit to society. SID Banka’s products effectively supplement a range of services provided by commercial banks and thus eliminate market deficiencies arising whenever there is an insufficient supply of financial services by private sector (especially in respect of supporting competitive economy, development of knowledge society and innovative entrepreneurship, development of an environmentally friendly society and production, and regional economic and social development).

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