



ABC membership

The Association of Balkan Chambers (ABC) has come a long way. It started back in 1994, September 20-21, in Mangalia, Romania, having seven chambers of commerce as founders, coming from Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, F.Y.R. Macedonia, Romania, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

Presently, ABC counts ten important chambers of commerce from the Balkans region as shown in the table below.

ABC membership

Country	CCI (ABC member)
Albania	Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Albania
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Foreign Trade Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria	Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Cyprus	Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Greece	Union of Hellenic Chamber of Commerce
Macedonia	Economic Chamber of Macedonia
Montenegro	Chamber of Economy of Montenegro
Romania	Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania and Bucharest
Serbia	Serbian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Turkey	Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchange of Turkey

The Association has no permanent office but is chaired by every member country for one year. Until now, the presidency has been held by Serbia, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Romania, Turkey, Cyprus and, in 2002, Albania. In 2003, the presidency shall be in Serbia, and in 2004 – in Bulgaria.

For achieving of these ambitious goals, ABC has set up the following working groups: trade and industrial co-operation; transport; infrastructure; informatics working group; finance, banking and insurance; tourism; business legislation; information and marketing; e-commerce

ABC short history

The most important moments during ABC evolution (1994-2004)

Date	Location	Description of the event
1994, Sept. 20-21	Mangalia, ROMANIA	Foundation of ABC
1994, Dec. 1-2	Belgrade, YUGOSLAVIA	First General Assembly
1995, May 30 – Jun 4	Belgrade, SERBIA	First Balkan fair
1996, Apr. 22	Sofia, BULGARIA	Address of the Chambers of Commerce, members of ABC, to their governments
1999, Mar	ABC	Launching http://www.abcinfos.com
1999, May 25-27	Bucharest, ROMANIA	First Balkan Parteneriat
2000, Nov. 24	Istanbul, TURKEY	Partnership project between ABC and DIHK 2000-2003
2001, Jun. 21		Memorandum for understanding on trade liberalization and promotion
2003, Feb. 29	Bucharest, ROMANIA	Transforming ABC site into a portal
2003, Oct. 30-31	Podgorica, MONTENEGRO	The chambers of commerce of Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina become ABC full members. Croatia is elected as an observer.
2004, Jan. 29-30	Istanbul, TURKEY	Extending the ABC-DIHK partnership project until 2006
2004, May 20	Sofia, BULGARIA	Agreement for cooperation between ABC and Eurochambres

Source: ABC chambers, ABC 10 years catalogue

