



# A U S T R A L I A   A N D

# S E R B I A

## Key engagement

Warm bilateral relations underpinned by strong people-to-people links and a growing Australian business and investment footprint in Serbia.

## Bilateral relations

Australia established diplomatic relations with the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in 1966. Australia transferred recognition to Serbia upon the dissolving of the Union of Serbia and Montenegro (the successor to Yugoslavia) in 2006. We share friendly bilateral relations, underpinned by strong people-to-people links. Australia and Serbia engage on issues of mutual interest in international organisations. Both are members of the Global Coalition against Daesh. We have good law enforcement cooperation and work together to address global challenges.

Through the Embassy in Belgrade, Australia supports direct aid projects with developmental benefits for local communities. The projects focus on gender, disability and democratic participation. Australian business presence and investment in Serbia is growing, particularly in the mining and ICT sectors.

## Foreign policy

Serbia's foreign policy priorities include membership of the European Union, strengthening economic ties with major countries and military neutrality.

Serbia is a member of a number of key international organisations, including the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Serbia is a candidate for membership of the European Union. The European Union granted Serbia candidate status in 2012, with formal negotiations opening in 2014. The EU is facilitating the 'Brussels dialogue' between Serbia and Kosovo with the aim of normalising relations between the two countries.

Further details are available at:

[www.mfa.gov.rs/en/](http://www.mfa.gov.rs/en/)



Foreign Policy White Paper:  
<https://www.fpwhitepaper.gov.au>

## FAST FACTS



Serbian visitors to Australia (2018)

**2,900**



Australian visitors to Serbia (2018)

**16,200**



Resident Australian population born in Serbia (2016 census)

**20,024**



Australian residents claiming Serbian ancestry (2016 census)

**73,901**



Serbian students in Australia (2017)

**131**

## High level engagement

- 2017 Then-Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, visited Serbia
- 2017 Then-Minister for International Development and the Pacific, Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, visited Serbia



## Agreements with Serbia (\* treaties with the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia)

Exchange of Official Publications\*

Employment of Yugoslav Citizens in  
Australia\*

Cultural Cooperation\*

Air Services

## Travel

[smartraveller.gov.au](https://smartraveller.gov.au)

EVERY TRAVELLER • EVERY TRIP

See Smartraveller for Information  
on travelling to Serbia

[smartraveller.gov.au](https://smartraveller.gov.au)

## Public diplomacy

The Australian Embassy in Belgrade manages a public diplomacy program focusing on showcasing Australian innovation, education and lifestyle, including arts and culture.

### Australian Embassy in Belgrade

8<sup>th</sup> floor, Vladimira Popovića 38-40,  
11070, New Belgrade

 <https://www.facebook.com/AustralianSerbia/>

## Economic diplomacy

Australia's trade and investment with Serbia is modest but has grown steadily over the last few years. Australian companies and entrepreneurs are showing growing interest in Serbia and the wider region, particularly in services and mining. Dozens of Australian-based firms and Australian entrepreneurs operate in Serbia, including global market leaders. The Australian Serbian Commerce Chamber was launched in 2017, with the aim to strengthen bilateral trade and investment between Australia and Serbia.

The Australian Embassy in Belgrade works jointly with Austrade's Warsaw-based office to pursue Australia's economic diplomacy agenda.

More economic and trade information can be found in the Serbia factsheet:

<https://dfat.gov.au/trade/resources/Documents/serb.pdf>X

### Austrade

<https://www.austrade.gov.au/contact/offices/Poland>