# Article 1: Hungary eyes end of Croatia-EU accession talks by June 2011

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Brussels - Croatia's accession negotiations with the [European Union](http://www.earthtimes.org/tag/European-Union.html) should be completed by June, Hungary's ambassador to the bloc said on Friday, announcing one of the key priorities for his country's upcoming EU presidency.

"(We) want to conclude accession negotiations with [Croatia](http://www.earthtimes.org/tag/Croatia.html) before the end of our presidency," Peter Gyorkos said at an event in Brussels.

Gyorkos acknowledged there was unease in some EU states over integrating poorer countries, given the crime and corruption challenges posed in 2007 by the entry of [Bulgaria](http://www.earthtimes.org/tag/Bulgaria.html) and Romania, and the bloc's current difficulties in solving its internal problems.

"Our task is to prove to them that enlargement is an asset for Europe, even if newcomers have some problems ... if you look at the global output of enlargement, everybody is a winner," Gyorkos, who previously served as ambassador to Croatia. Diplomats estimate that if Hungary's timetable was respected, Croatia could become the EU's 28th state by 2013, considering the time needed to ratify its accession treaty in the national parliaments of the bloc's existing 27 members.

Gyorkos said it was important to prove to Western Balkans states that "the door is open," while he was less specific about Turkey, another EU-hopeful whose bid is plagued by opposition from [France](http://www.earthtimes.org/tag/France.html) and Germany.

He said the Hungarian EU presidency would "continue negotiations in a very correct way" with Turkey, "trying to convince our Turkish partners to meet the requirements" set for continuing accession talks.

Gyorkos also said Hungary would be "happy" to begin detailed negotiations with Iceland, whose EU bid was accepted earlier this year.

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/news/355300,accession-talks-june-2011.html>