New Member States are required to adopt in full the whole body of EC law (the acquis communautaire), so transitional measures are strictly limited in scope and duration, subject to negotiation between the EU and the joining Member State and agreed on a case by case basis.

It's also worth flagging that pre-accession assistance that can be available to help a joining country with political and economic reforms to prepare for the rights and obligations that come with EU membership. https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/instruments/overview_en

Here are some recent examples (not a comprehensive list) of transitional provisions/temporary derogations to give you an idea of the sorts of things and duration that have been negotiation for previous accessions. Note the Commission will monitor progress of transition during the period of derogation:

Free movement of people
Restrictions on the free movement of workers may apply to workers from EU member countries for a transitional period of **up to 7 years** after they join the EU. For the moment this concerns workers from: Croatia (joined 1 July 2013). https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=466&langId=en#navItem-1 but also applied to previous EU enlargements including for Greece, Portugal and Spain. Note this does not limit nationals from new Member States from travelling for other purposes (study, retiring etc.).

Free Movement of Goods
Transitional arrangements can only apply where these do not have a significant detrimental impact on the Single Market and in the past have included:

- Malta did not fully open its petroleum market until 2006 (three years after joining) due to the difficulty in transportation and supply to the market;
- Cyprus, Lithuania, Malta, Poland and Slovenia were allowed additional time (up until 2009 in Poland's case) to renew local market authorisations of pharmaceutical products, on account of the bureaucratic burden involved.
- Austria had a four year derogation for the classification, packaging and labelling of certain pesticides and other dangerous substances, the marketing and use of certain chemical products (including cadmium, arsenic, pentachlorophenol) and the composition of fertilisers and batteries. (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:11994N/TXT)

Free Movement of Services
The acquis in this chapter relates to the freedom to provide services across areas such as Banking, Insurance, Investment services and Securities Markets. For several of the 2004 acceding Member States, transitional periods were agreed for up to five years (e.g. for reaching minimum levels of guarantees for banking deposits or investor protection).

Free Movement of Capital
Transitional arrangements as regards the purchase of capital were in place for the 2004 accession countries. Most of the new Member States were allowed to place restrictions on the purchase of agricultural land for up to **seven years**, with a possibility of extending this by a further **three years**, if they can convince the Commission that it is necessitated by the prevailing circumstances at the time. These arrangements were agreed because of fears in the new Member States that nationals of current Member States might buy up good quality agricultural land, pushing prices beyond the means of the local inhabitants. The transition period was therefore to permit a more gradual adjustment in prices. There were also temporary restrictions on the purchase of secondary properties in Cyprus, Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland. Austria was allowed to maintain its existing legislation regarding secondary residences for five years from the date of accession.

Other examples:

- **Schengen** - On 1 May 2004, the new Member States were only required to have in place the basic structures of Schengen external frontier controls, police and judicial cooperation. They were not at that point expected to lift their internal borders nor to participate in the cross-border surveillance and 'hot pursuit' provisions of Schengen. However, they needed to continue preparations for implementing and applying the remainder of the Schengen provisions after accession.
- **Economic and Monetary Union** – new Member States are required to participate in the Economic and Monetary Union from the date of their accession, though they do not need to adopt the Euro at the outset.
- **Finance** - some temporary financial measures, including temporary budgetary compensation, a special cash flow facility and other temporary transition facilities can be put in place for new Member States, especially where new members might not able to make full use of the money allocated.
- **Environmental legislation** – transitional provisions relate mainly to waste water treatment, waste management and industrial pollution (notably the directives on integrated pollution prevention and control and the new large combustion plants directive). They generally include detailed and legally binding intermediate targets and, wherever possible, are made specific to named installations. Very tightly drawn transitional periods on nature protection were granted to Malta and Estonia. Finland and Sweden were allowed to keep their national system for the classification for wood for three years. Another example is in respect of the Directive on integrated pollution and prevention control (IPPC), transitional periods were granted to specific installations in Latvia and Poland (by 2010) and Slovenia and the Slovak Republic (by 2011), while 2007 was the deadline for the other Member States. In addition, a transitional period was granted to a few new Member States as regards the Large Combustion Plants Directive (LCP).
- **Agriculture** – phasing in of direct payments over a period of ten years http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-02-176_en.htm , one year transition period for the allocation of individual milk quotas secured by Poland and Slovenia, during which they are exempt from additional levies (the penalties imposed on farmers for overproduction) https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52003PC0640
- **Rural development** - transitional measures were agreed for Estonia (afforestation); Lithuania (early retirement for dairy farmers) and for Malta (various, to help the agriculture sector adapt to increased competition within the Single Market).
- **Veterinary, phytosanitary and food standards** - only tightly controlled transitional measures have been agreed for acceding countries in the past. These include allowing individual food production premises more time to correct specified structural defects in the Czech Republic: 52 establishments (44 meat, 1 egg, 7 fish); Hungary: 44 red meat establishments; Latvia: 117 establishments (29 fish, 77 meat & 11 milk); Lithuania: 20 establishments (14 meat, 5 fish, 1 milk); Poland: 485 establishments (332 meat, 113 milk, 40 fish) and Slovakia: 2 establishments (1 meat, 1 fish). Crucially, all products from food establishments in transition may not be marketed in any form in any other EU country. There were also provisions for a temporary Border Inspection Post at Hungary's border with Romania.
- **Energy** - new Member States can be given additional time (up until five years in some cases) to meet EU requirements on oil stocks, where the cost of building up stocks is high in comparison to new Member States' budgets. Estonia was given more time in which to open its electricity market, due to the unique nature of its power generation facilities and the need for restructuring of the sector.