



# STATISTICS IN FOCUS

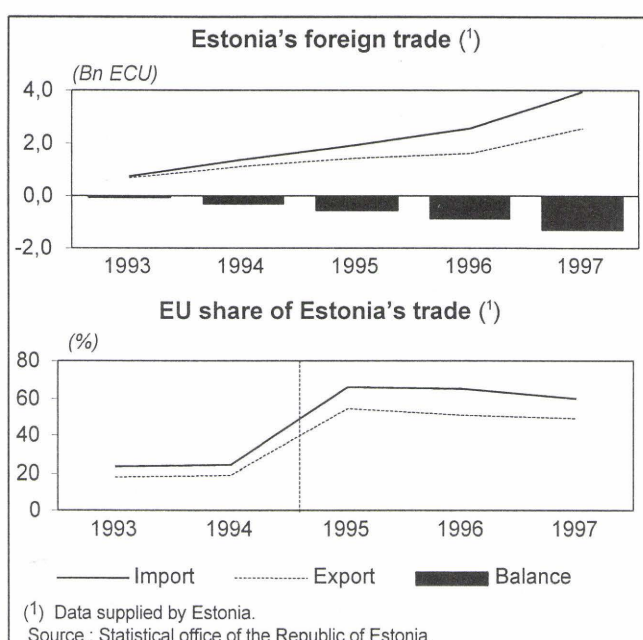
## External trade

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### ESTONIA'S FOREIGN TRADE

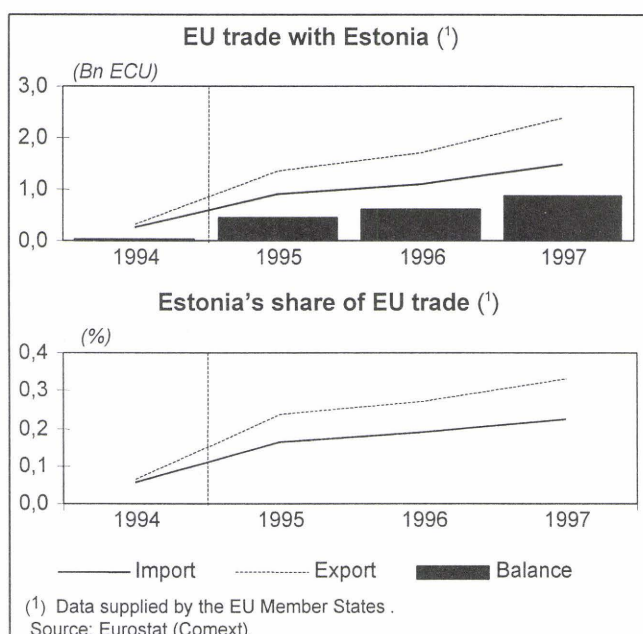


#### Summary

After regaining its independence in 1991, Estonia took steps to integrate into world trade by signing a number of trade agreements with its main partners; the Cooperation and Free-Trade Agreements and the Europe Agreement with the Union, for example, entered into force in 1993, 1995 and 1998 respectively.

Although relatively modest, Estonia's trade (ECU 3.9 million in imports and ECU 2.6 million in exports in 1997) has shown exceptional annual growth of 45.5% since 1993. In 1997 its economy achieved a high degree of openness, with trade measuring 93.1% of GDP for imports and 61.4% for exports.

Estonia's balance of trade is negative, and the deficit has steadily increased since 1993, reaching ECU 1.3 billion in 1997, or 31.6% of GDP.



In the wake of the accession of Finland and Sweden in 1995, the European Union became Estonia's main trading partner. In 1997 the EU accounted for 54.9% of the country's transactions. However, Estonia's share of EU trade (0.28%) remains modest, despite the marked increase in their trade between 1994 and 1997. The EU balance of trade with Estonia has always shown a surplus; in 1997 it was ECU 883.2 million, of which Finland accounted for ECU 765.3 million.

The Union's main imports from Estonia are wood, stone and metal products (29.9% of total imports), leather, textiles and miscellaneous manufactured articles (24.7%), and mineral products and fuels (20.1%). Its main exports to Estonia are machinery and equipment, which account for 30.3% of sales.

In 1997 Estonia's main trading partner was Finland, with 39.5% of total EU transactions with that country, followed by Sweden (18.3%) and Germany (14.5%).

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# 1. Estonian trade with the rest of the world



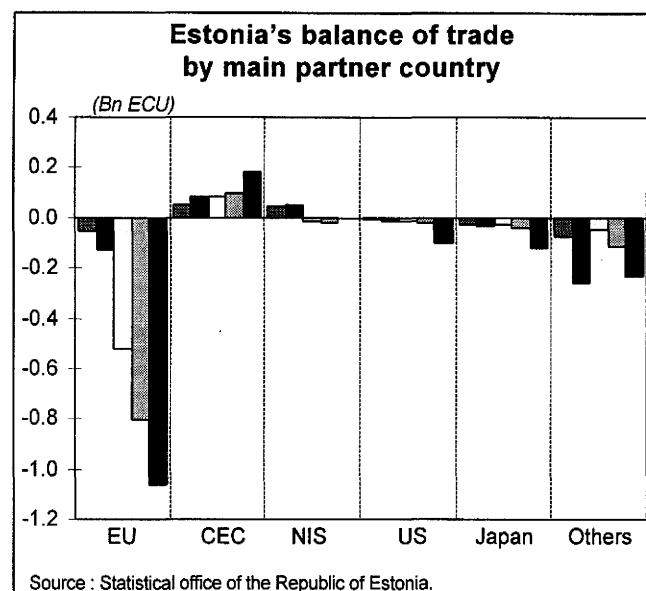
## 1.1. Estonian trade by main partner country

Estonia accounted for 0.08% of world trade in 1997, or 2.6% of transactions by the CECs (Central European Countries). This was less than Lithuania (0.10% of world trade) but more than Latvia (0.05%).

As demonstrated by its trade/GDP ratio, the Estonian economy is one of the most highly integrated into world trade, since in 1997 its imports and exports represented, respectively, 93.1% and 61.4% of its GDP.

There was an exceptional increase in Estonia's trade flows between 1993 and 1997. Because imports grew at a higher rate (+50.6% per year) than exports (+39.6%), the country's trade deficit rose from ECU 77 million to ECU 1.3 billion. The European Union alone accounted for ECU 1.06 billion of this deficit in 1997. In the same year, Estonia's trade with the NIS was in balance: the CECs were the only major partner with which its transactions were in surplus: by ECU 180 million with the group as a whole and by ECU 250 million with the other two Baltic states.

The European Union became Estonia's main partner in 1995, with 61% of its transactions, compared with only 20.7% in 1993. This performance was due mainly to the automatic effect of EU enlargement, since Sweden and Finland alone accounted for 37.2% of EU trade with Estonia in 1995. Since then, however, the Union's share has steadily declined, so that by 1997 it was only 54.9% of Estonia's trade. In the same year, Finland was Estonia's main trading partner with 23.4% of its imports and 15.7% of its exports.



Russia has remained one of Estonia's main trading partners; its share of Estonia's trade fell from 19.4% in 1993 to 16% in 1997.

Apart from Latvia and Lithuania, which accounted for almost 7.9% of its trade in 1997, the CECs have always been minor trading partners for Estonia.

## Estonia's trade by main partner country

(Bn ECU)

Partners	Imports					Exports					Balance			
	1993	1996	1997		97/96 Var. (%)	1993	1996	1997		97/96 Var. (%)	1993	1996	1997	97/96 Var.
			Value	Share (%)				Value	Share (%)					
<b>World</b>	<b>0.76</b>	<b>2.54</b>	<b>3.91</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>1.64</b>	<b>2.58</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>-0.08</b>	<b>-0.90</b>	<b>-1.33</b>	<b>-0.43</b>
EU	0.18	1.64	2.31	59.2	25.8	0.12	0.84	1.25	48.6	34.2	-0.06	-0.81	-1.06	-0.25
Finland	:	0.74	0.92	23.4	10.5	:	0.30	0.41	15.7	20.8	0.00	-0.44	-0.51	-0.07
Sweden	:	0.21	0.36	9.1	53.1	:	0.19	0.35	13.5	64.4	0.00	-0.02	-0.01	0.01
CEC	0.05	0.16	0.22	5.7	27.7	0.10	0.25	0.41	15.8	43.7	0.05	0.10	0.18	0.09
Latvia	0.02	0.05	0.07	1.7	23.7	0.06	0.13	0.22	8.6	47.3	0.04	0.09	0.15	0.07
Lithuania	0.03	0.04	0.06	1.5	34.0	0.03	0.09	0.16	6.1	50.0	0.00	0.05	0.10	0.04
NIS	0.16	0.43	0.68	17.5	41.8	0.21	0.41	0.68	26.3	47.6	0.04	-0.02	0.00	0.02
Russia	0.13	0.35	0.56	14.4	46.1	0.15	0.27	0.48	18.8	59.9	0.02	-0.07	-0.08	-0.01
US	0.02	0.06	0.14	3.7	121.4	0.01	0.04	0.05	1.8	17.4	-0.01	-0.02	-0.10	-0.08
Japan	0.03	0.05	0.13	3.3	127.9	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.5	7.3	-0.03	-0.04	-0.12	-0.08
Others	0.31	0.20	0.41	10.5	83.9	0.24	0.09	0.18	6.9	79.4	-0.08	-0.11	-0.23	-0.12
<b>For comparison</b>														
Share in: GDP	54.4	74.7	93.1	-	24.6	48.9	48.1	61.4	-	27.7	-5.5	-26.6	-31.6	-
trade <sup>(1)</sup> of CEC's	1.2	2.3	2.7	-	17.4	1.3	2.0	2.4	-	20.0	-	-	-	-
of world	0.03	0.08	0.10	-	25.0	0.03	0.05	0.07	-	40.0	-	-	-	-

<sup>(1)</sup> IMF data were used for these calculations.

Sources: Statistical office of the Republic of Estonia; IMF.

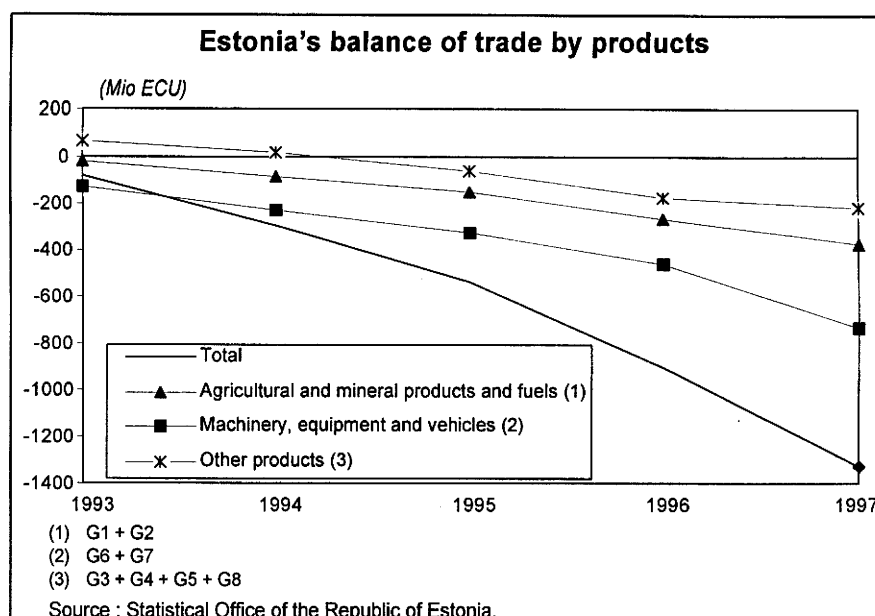
**The country aggregates:** EU: 93-94: EU 12; 95-96: EU 15; NIS (Newly Independent States): Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan. CECs (Central European Countries): Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, FYROM, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Czech Republic, Serbia Montenegro, Slovakia and Slovenia.

## 1.2. Trade by product

For the purposes of the analyses on pages 3 to 5, the data available at two-digit level of the Harmonised System (HS) have been grouped into eight headings, labelled G1 to G8 (see definitions on page 8).

In 1997, for the major product groups, machinery, equipment and vehicles were responsible for 55.3% of the deficit in Estonia's balance of trade. The deficit for this heading rose by almost 60.5% in a year. Agricultural and mineral products and fuels had a deficit of ECU 374.1 million, or 28.2% of the country's total deficit.

At a less aggregated level, Estonia's only surplus in 1997 was in leather,



### Estonia's trade by product group

(million ECU)

Product groups	Imports				Exports				Balance	
	1993		1997		1993		1997		1993	1997
	Value	Share (%)	Value	Share (%)	Value	Share (%)	Value	Share (%)	Value	
<b>Total</b>	<b>761.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3909.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>684.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2580.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-76.8</b>	<b>-1328.9</b>
Agricultural products (G1)	112.1	14.7	640.4	16.4	160.4	23.4	423.7	16.4	48.4	-216.7
Mineral products and fuels (G2)	118.9	15.6	346.9	8.9	52.4	7.7	189.5	7.3	-66.5	-157.4
Chemicals and plastics (G3)	73.5	9.6	481.5	12.3	42.8	6.3	254.3	9.9	-30.6	-227.2
Leather, textiles, manufactured articles (G4)	115.6	15.2	452.5	11.6	139.7	20.4	471.7	18.3	24.2	19.2
Wood, stone and metal products (G5)	73.1	9.6	578.5	14.8	149.2	21.8	566.5	22.0	76.1	-12.0
Machinery and equipment (G6)	153.4	20.1	938.8	24.0	62.9	9.2	475.1	18.4	-90.4	-463.7
Vehicles (G7)	108.0	14.2	470.2	12.0	73.2	10.7	198.8	7.7	-34.8	-271.4
Others products (G8)	7.2	0.9	0.6	0.0	4.2	0.6	0.9	0.0	-3.1	0.3

Source : Statistical Office of the republic of Estonia.

textiles and miscellaneous manufactured articles (ECU 19.2 million). This heading was in surplus throughout the period under consideration. At the same level of breakdown, vehicles showed the greatest deterioration in the balance of trade between 1996 and 1997, the deficit increasing from ECU 85.8 million to ECU 271.4 million.

Of the main products traded by Estonia at two-digit HS level, road vehicles (HS 87), electrical machinery and equipment (HS 85), machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) and mineral fuels and by-products (HS 27) accounted for major flows of both imports and exports. In 1997, the first three product groups represented a little over a third (33.5%) of Estonia's total imports. With a similar share (31%), electrical machinery and equipment (HS 85), wood and wood products (HS 44) and road vehicles (HS 87) were the

### Estonia's trade by main product, 1997

HS	Description of products	Value	Share	Cumul
		(Mio ECU)	(%)	
Imports				
87	Road vehicles	448.4	11.5	11.5
85	Electrical machinery and equipment	446.7	11.4	22.9
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	415.0	10.6	33.5
27	Mineral fuels and by- products	327.8	8.4	41.9
48	Papers and paperboard	129.5	3.3	45.2
Exports				
85	Electrical machinery and equipment	313.8	12.2	12.2
44	Wood and wood products	296.9	11.5	23.7
87	Road vehicles	188.9	7.3	31.0
27	Mineral fuels and by-products	163.8	6.3	37.3
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	124.0	4.8	42.1

Source : Statistical Office of the Republic of Estonia.

main export headings. Estonia was in deficit on all its products except the wood and wood products group, where it achieved a surplus of ECU 244.3 million in 1997.

## 2. EU trade with Estonia

### 2.1. EU balance of trade with Estonia

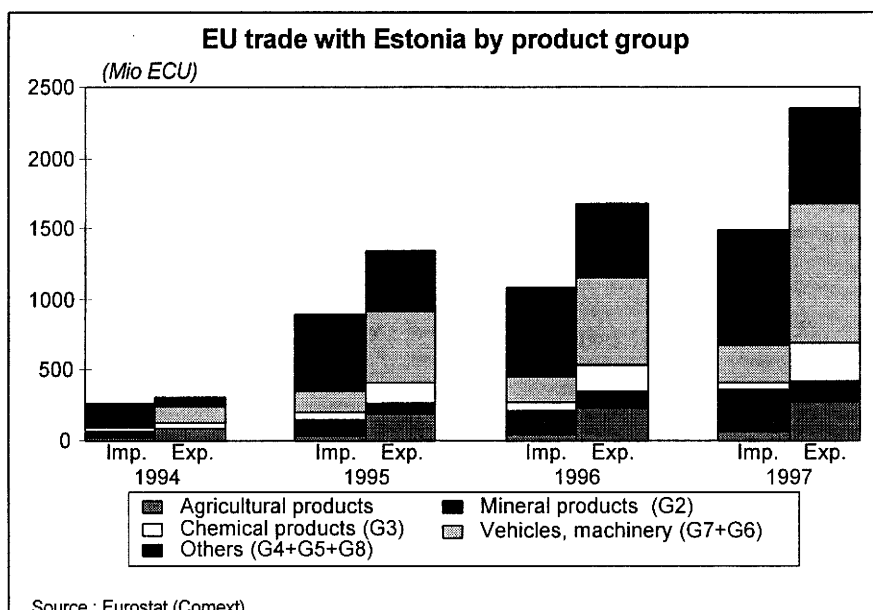
The analysis of bilateral trade between the European Union and Estonia presented in this part is seen from the point of view of the EU, since it is based on data supplied by the EU Member States.

The EU is Estonia's main trading partner, accounting for 54.9% of its transactions in 1997. In contrast, Estonia accounted for barely 0.28% of EU trade, which puts it on the same level as Bulgaria and Kuwait. Estonia is, however, the EU's main Baltic partner, followed by Lithuania and Latvia.

Since 1994, the European Union's balance of trade with Estonia has been in surplus. Since exports to Estonia have increased at a far higher rate than imports from it, this rose from ECU 41.8 million in 1994 to ECU 883.2 million in 1997.

The EU's largest surplus was in machinery and equipment (ECU 469.8 million in 1997, or 53.2% of the total surplus). The other headings in surplus were vehicles (ECU 250.9 million), chemicals and plastics (ECU 221.3 million) and agricultural products (ECU 217.3 million). At this level of breakdown, the EU's largest deficit was in mineral products and fuels (ECU 154.1 million).

With regard to the divisions of the HS, in 1997 the EU achieved surpluses mainly in electrical machinery and equipment (HS 85; ECU 271.5 million) and road vehicles (HS 87; ECU 243.6 million); the largest deficits were mainly in wood (HS 44; -ECU 266.2 million), followed by mineral fuels (HS 27; -ECU 144.9 million). In three years there was an exceptional improvement in the EU's balance of trade in electrical machinery and equipment, which rose from ECU 15.1 million in 1994 to ECU 271.5 million in 1997, while the EU deficit with Estonia in wood increased sixfold.



### EU balance of trade with Estonia by product group

Product group	1994	1996	1997	1994	1996	1997
	(Mio ECU)			CR <sup>(1)</sup> = (Exp/Imp)*100		
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.8</b>	<b>608.0</b>	<b>883.2</b>	<b>115.8</b>	<b>155.8</b>	<b>155.8</b>
Agricultural products (G1)	67.6	188.6	217.3	473.7	592.8	592.8
Mineral products and fuels (G2)	-41.4	-59.3	-154.1	7.8	66.4	66.4
Chemicals and plastics (G3)	4.5	127.6	221.3	115.1	311.4	311.4
Leather, textiles, manuf. articles (G4)	-27.9	-45.2	-51.7	56.0	85.0	85.0
Wood, stone and metal products (G5)	-77.9	-83.8	-97.4	21.0	74.1	74.1
Machinery and equipment (G6)	64.9	303.8	469.8	1860.	283.8	283.8
Vehicles (G7)	44.2	137.5	250.9	1876.	967.5	967.5
Others products (G8)	7.7	27.9	1.9	275.5	692.4	692.4
<b>For comparison</b>						
EU trade balance	2290.6	43620.1	50253.3	100.5	107.5	107.5
EU trade balance with CEC's	6666.4	20774.0	26831.4	119.7	141.5	144.4

(1) CR = coverage rate in %

Source : Eurostat (Comext).

### EU balance of trade with Estonia by products

		(million ECU)		
HS	Description of products	1994	1996	1997
<b>Largest surpluses</b>				
85	Electrical machinery and equipment.	15.1	146.8	271.5
87	Road vehicles	45.3	131.4	243.6
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	39.1	122.7	154.9
39	Plastics and plastics products	8.2	57.5	82.6
48	Paper, paperboard and by-products	2.6	46.2	68.2
<b>Largest deficits</b>				
44	Wood and wood products	-41.7	-178.4	-266.2
27	Mineral fuels and by-products	-34.4	-51.2	-144.9
62	Clothing and accessories	-10.2	-69.0	-74.2
94	Furniture and furnishings	-9.4	-21.0	-34.8
52	Cotton	-11.3	-18.1	-27.1

Source : Eurostat (Comext).

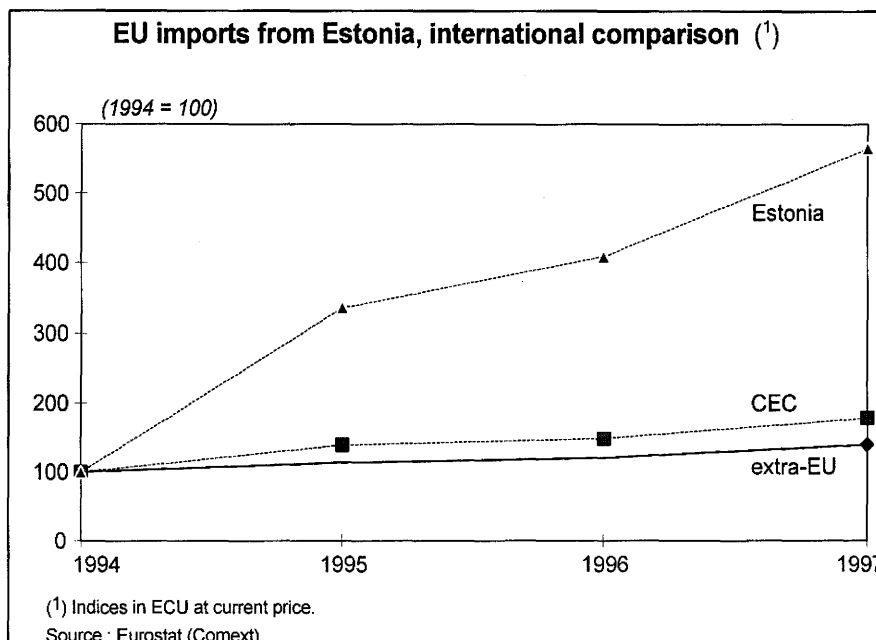
## 2.2. EU imports from Estonia

Starting from a relatively low level in 1994, the EU's trade flows with Estonia showed exceptional growth in the following years.

EU imports from Estonia grew at an annual rate of 78% between 1994 and 1997, compared with 11.9% for all extra-Community purchases and 21.2% for imports from the CECs as a whole. Although 1996 and 1997 saw considerable growth in EU purchases from Estonia (22.4% and 37.6% respectively), growth in 1995 puts these figures in the shade, since in that year EU imports from Estonia increased by a factor of more than 3.3. This increase was due mainly to the accession of Finland and Sweden, whose share of total EU purchases from Estonia was 51.4% in 1995.

The European Union imports the following products from Estonia, in order of importance: wood, stone and metal products (29.9% of total imports), leather, textiles and miscellaneous manufactured articles (24.7%), mineral products and fuels (20.1%) and machinery and equipment (16.8%). During the reference period, and at this level of aggregation, the greatest increase was in purchases of machinery and equipment (from ECU 3.7 million to ECU 251.6 million). In 1997 the highest growth was in imports of mineral products and fuels (+70.6%), followed by agricultural products (+58%) and machinery and equipment (+52.2%). For the same year, EU purchases of chemicals and plastics, on the one hand, and vehicles, on the other, fell by 23.6% and 6.1% respectively.

At Harmonised System chapter level, the EU imports from Estonia mainly two types of products which, in 1997, each represented a little over 19% of total imports: mineral fuels (HS 27), almost 89% of which was petroleum products (HS 2710), and wood (HS 44). Electrical machinery and equipment (HS 85) and clothing and accessories (HS 62) accounted for 9% and 7.5% re-



### EU imports from Estonia by product group

Product group	1994	1996	1997	Part 1997	97/96	97/94
	(Mio ECU)			(%)	(% annual change)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>265.4</b>	<b>1088.8</b>	<b>1497.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>78.0</b>
Agricultural products (G1)	18.1	38.3	60.5	4.0	58.0	49.5
Mineral products and fuels (G2)	44.8	176.8	301.5	20.1	70.6	88.8
Chemical and plastics (G3)	29.9	60.3	46.1	3.1	-23.6	15.5
Leather, textiles, manufact. articles (G4)	63.4	301.9	369.8	24.7	22.5	80.0
Wood, stone and metal products (G5)	98.5	324.0	447.7	29.9	38.2	65.6
Machinery and equipment (G6)	3.7	165.3	251.6	16.8	52.2	308.7
Vehicles (G7)	2.5	15.9	14.9	1.0	-6.1	81.6
Others products (G8)	4.4	4.7	3.1	0.2	-34.3	-11.1

Source : Eurostat (Comext).

### EU imports from Estonia by main products, 1997

HS	Description	Value	Annual change	Share in total	Cumulative share
		(Mio ECU)	(% )		
44	Wood and articles of wood	290.4	48.3	19.4	19.4
27	Mineral fuels and derived products	288.4	74.0	19.3	38.6
85	Electrical machinery and equipment	134.3	69.6	9.0	47.6
62	Clothing and accessories	112.0	11.0	7.5	55.1
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	108.0	39.5	7.2	62.3

Source : Eurostat (Comext).

spectively of total EU imports from Estonia. A large proportion of the products under these two headings are purchases after outward processing in Estonia, at least 37% of imports of electrical machinery and equipment and 14% of imports of clothing. Machinery

and mechanical appliances (HS 84) represented 42.9% of total EU imports of machinery and equipment from Estonia.

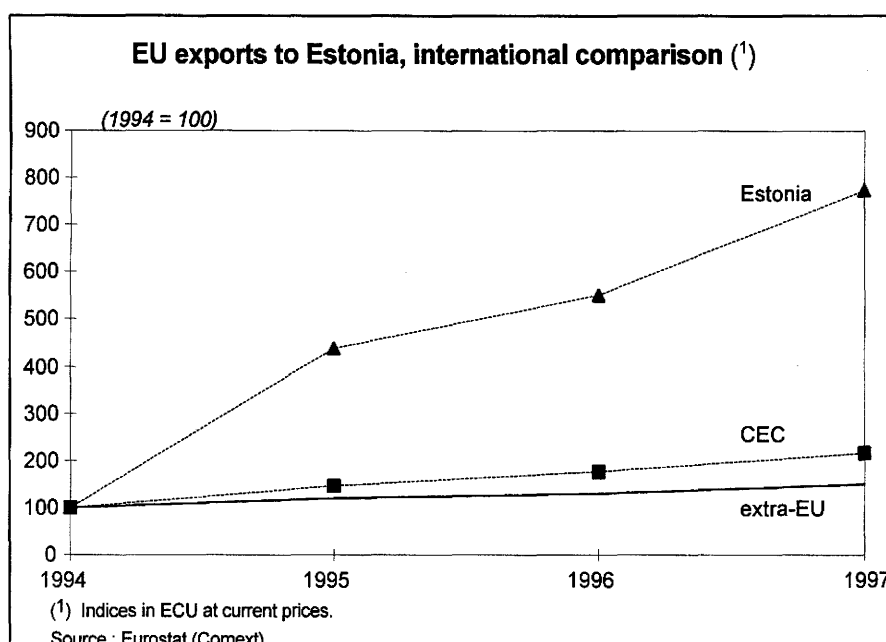


## 2.3. EU exports to Estonia

Like imports, EU exports to Estonia increased - by an exceptional 97.9% per annum - between 1994 and 1997, compared with 9.9% for all extra-Community exports and 29.1% for sales to the CECs as a whole. 1995 was a crucial year, since it saw EU exports to Estonia increase by a factor of 4.4, mainly as a result of the accession of Finland and Sweden, since these two countries alone accounted for 65.6% of EU sales to Estonia.

After outstripping the 1996 figure by 53.8%, Community exports of machinery and equipment to Estonia were worth ECU 721.4 million in 1997. This figure alone corresponds to almost a third (30.3%) of EU sales. At the same level of aggregation, apart from mineral products and fuels (6.2% of total exports) and other products (0.2%), the contributions of the other product groups in 1997 ranged between 11% and 15% of total EU sales to Estonia. Over the reference period as a whole, the greatest increase was in exports of mineral products and fuels (from ECU 3.5 million to ECU 147.5 million), but the greatest increase in 1997 was in sales of vehicles (73.3%). Although EU sales of agricultural products to Estonia increased constantly at an annual rate of 48%, this figure was well below that for total exports between 1994 and 1997 (+97.9% annual growth).

In 1997 electrical machinery and equipment (HS 85), machinery and mechanical appliances (HS 84) and road vehicles (HS 87) represented, respectively, 17%, 11% and 10.7% of total EU exports to Estonia. Almost 40% of sales of the first product group involved integrated circuits (HS 8542), electrical apparatus for line telephony or line telegraphy (HS 8517) and parts for transmission and reception apparatus for radios etc. (HS 8529). Among the main sales in 1997, electrical machinery and equipment, with road vehicles (HS 87), saw the highest growth (over 79%).



## EU exports to Estonia by product group

Product group	1994	1996	1997	Part 97	97/96	97/94
	(Mio ECU)			(%)	(%annual change)	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>307.2</b>	<b>1696.7</b>	<b>2381.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>97.9</b>
Agricultural products (G1)	85.7	226.9	277.8	11.7	22.4	48.0
Mineral products and fuels (G2)	3.5	117.5	147.5	6.2	25.5	248.6
Chemicals and plastics (G3)	34.4	187.9	267.4	11.2	42.3	98.0
Leather, textiles, manufact. articles (G4)	35.5	256.7	318.0	13.4	23.9	107.7
Wood, stone and metal products (G5)	20.7	240.2	350.3	14.7	45.8	156.9
Machinery and equipment (G6)	68.6	469.0	721.4	30.3	53.8	119.1
Vehicles (G7)	46.7	153.4	265.8	11.2	73.3	78.6
Others products (G8)	12.1	32.6	5.0	0.2	-84.7	-25.5

Source : Eurostat (Comext).

## EU exports to Estonia by main products, 1997

(million ECU)

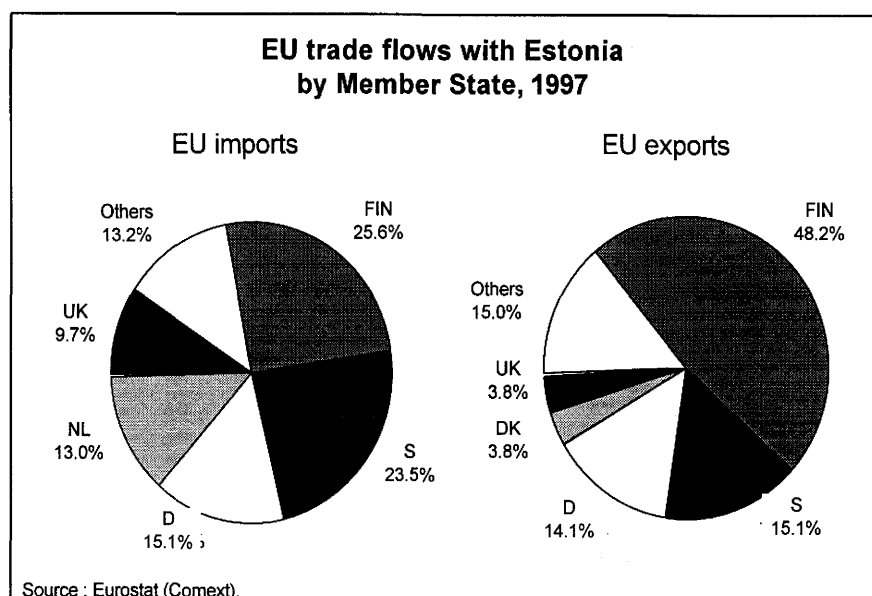
HS	Description of products	Value	Annual change	Share in total	Cumulative share
			(%)		
85	Electrical machinery and equipment	405.8	79.6	17.0	17.0
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	263.0	31.4	11.0	28.1
87	Road vehicles	255.0	79.8	10.7	38.8
27	Mineral fuels and by-products	143.5	25.2	6.0	44.8
39	Plastics and plastic products	95.5	46.0	4.0	48.8

Source : Eurostat (Comext).

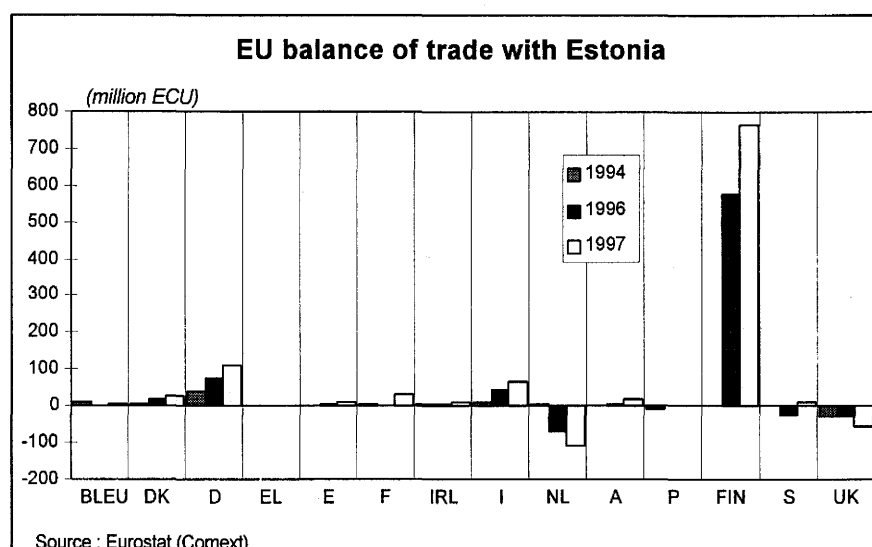
At least 39% of EU sales of electrical machinery and equipment to Estonia were exports for outward processing. Community exports of mineral fuels (HS 27) represented 6% of total sales, almost 95% of which was petroleum (HS 2710).

## 2.4. EU trade with Estonia by Member State

In 1997, three countries accounted for 72.3% of EU transactions with Estonia: Finland (39.5%), Sweden (18.3%) and Germany (14.4%). Finland alone accounted for 48.2% of EU exports to Estonia and 25.6% of imports from it. Of these three countries, Sweden saw the greatest rise in its transactions with Estonia in 1997: 51.6% for imports and 73.6% for exports. Spain's purchases and sales showed exceptional increases compared with 1996 (310.9% and 145.7% respectively), although the level of these transactions remains modest (1.1% of total EU trade with Estonia in 1997).



A substantial proportion of the EU surplus with Estonia is achieved by Finland (ECU 765.3 million in 1997), followed by Germany (ECU 109.3 million) and Italy (ECU 68.2 million). The Finnish surplus has risen constantly since 1995: +32.5% in 1996 and +32.2% in 1997. In contrast, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom had a relatively high trade deficit with Estonia in 1997 (ECU 107.9 million and ECU 55.5 million respectively). France, after a very slight deficit in 1996, achieved a surplus of ECU 29.4 million the following year.



## EU trade with Estonia by Member State

(million ECU)

Declarant country	Imports					Exports					Balance			
	1994	1996	1997		97/96 Change (%)	1994	1996	1997		97/96 Change (%)	1994	1996	1997	97-96 Value
			Value	Share (%)				Value	Share (%)					
EU	265.4	1088.8	1497.8	100	37.6	307.2	1696.7	2381.0	100	40.3	41.8	608.0	883.2	275.2
BLEU	18.0	36.1	54.7	3.7	51.5	26.0	35.4	58.7	2.5	65.5	8.1	-0.7	3.9	4.6
DK	29.03	58.0	63.3	4.2	9.2	34.3	75.8	90.6	3.8	19.5	5.3	17.8	27.2	9.4
D	98.5	159.8	225.6	15.1	41.2	138.8	236.6	334.9	14.1	41.5	40.4	76.8	109.3	32.5
EL	0.1	0.8	0.6	0.0	-16.7	0.9	1.6	1.1	0.0	-31.6	0.8	0.8	0.5	-0.4
E	4.2	3.9	16.2	1.1	310.9	5.6	10.3	25.3	1.1	145.7	1.5	6.3	9.1	2.7
F	10.2	36.1	29.5	2.0	-18.3	13.6	35.3	58.9	2.5	67.1	3.4	-0.8	29.4	30.3
IRL	0.08	2.81	4.14	0.3	47.1	3.2	9.4	11.8	0.5	25.8	3.1	6.6	7.7	1.1
I	13.6	19.3	19.7	1.3	2.2	24.4	61.8	87.9	3.7	42.3	10.7	42.5	68.2	25.7
NL	35.4	137.0	194.8	13.0	42.2	40.7	66.0	86.9	3.7	31.6	5.3	-71.0	-107.9	-37.0
A	:	3.4	5.2	0.3	52.9	:	10.0	24.0	1.0	140.0	0.0	6.6	18.9	12.2
P	8.20	3.00	3.63	0.2	20.8	0.8	2.3	2.6	0.1	12.8	-7.4	-0.7	-1.0	-0.3
FIN	:	301.1	382.9	25.6	27.1	:	879.8	1148.2	48.2	30.5	0.0	578.7	765.3	186.6
S	:	231.9	351.6	23.5	51.6	:	207.2	359.8	15.1	73.6	0.0	-24.7	8.2	32.9
UK	48.1	95.5	145.9	9.7	52.8	18.7	65.2	90.3	3.8	38.5	-29.4	-30.2	-55.5	-25.3

Source : Eurostat (Comext).

## Estonia's trade agreements

### 1. Chronology of agreements

- 1991: Estonia regains its national independence.  
1993: Entry into force of the *Economic and Trade Cooperation Agreement with the EC*.  
1994: Entry into force of the *Free-Trade Agreement with the Baltic States*.  
1995: Entry into force of the *Free-Trade Agreement with the EU*.  
1998: Entry into force of the *Europe Agreement*<sup>(1)</sup> with the EU.

Accession to the *World Trade Organisation (WTO)* is currently being negotiated.

### 2. Contents of the commercial section of the Europe Agreement regarding industrial products

- a) Concessions granted by the EU to Estonia.  
*All customs duties, quantitative restrictions and measures with equivalent effect on imports have been abolished.*
- b) Concessions granted by Estonia to the EU.  
*All customs duties, quantitative restrictions and measures with equivalent effect on imports have been abolished.*

(1) The Europe Agreement with Estonia was published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, L68 of 9 March 1998.

## Methodological note

**Data sources:** Customs records. Statistical Office of the Republic of Estonia for the data on Estonia's trade with the rest of the world, Eurostat for bilateral trade between the Union and Estonia. Divergences between the two sources can be partly explained by the use of different methodologies and concepts.

**Statistical system:** Special trade for the EU and general trade for Estonia.

**Statistical values:** Eurostat data: CIF values for imports and FOB values for exports.

**Classification:** the product groups have been defined according to the sections of the Harmonised System as follows: G1 : I-IV; G2 : V; G3 : VI-VII; G4 : VIII, XI, XII, XX; G5 : IX, X, XIII, XIV, XV; G6 : XVI, XVIII; G7 : XVII; G8 : XIX, XXI.

The data in value terms used in this report are expressed in current ecus.  
On this report, 1Bn ECU = 1000 million ECU.

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