

# External Trade of Western Balkan Countries

*Strong growth in Western Balkan countries' (WBCs) trade with the European Union*

## Statistics in focus

### EXTERNAL TRADE

1/2005

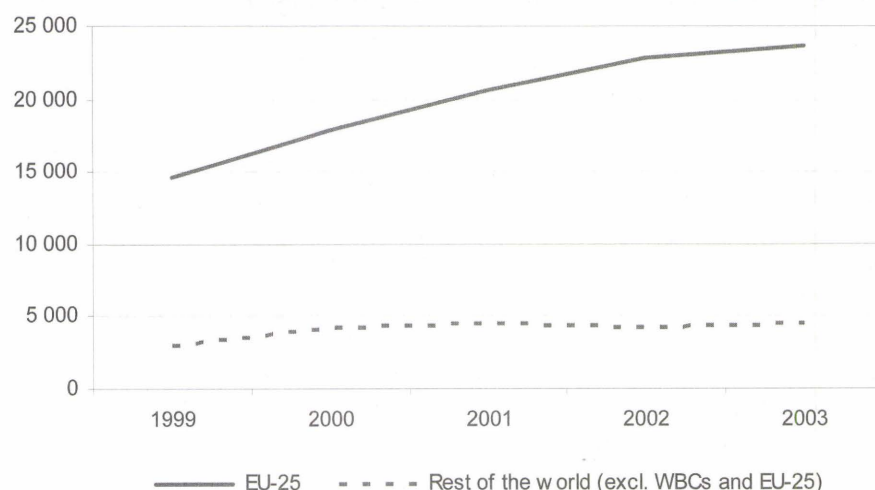
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Figure 1: Evolution of WBCs external trade – Total value of trade (imports + exports) in Mio Euro, 1999-2003.



### Highlights

The following pages outline the situation of the Western Balkan countries (WBCs) with regard to international trade in goods. The Western Balkan countries are Croatia (HR), Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA), Serbia and Montenegro (CS)\*, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (MK)\* and Albania (AL).

#### Main features:

- External trade of the WBCs has strongly increased over recent years (60% growth over the period 1999 to 2003).
- The growth rate was higher with the European Union (EU-25) than with the rest of the world.
- The European Union (EU-25) is the number one trading partner, accounting for more than 84% of WBCs' trade.
- Among the WBCs, Croatia (HR) is by far the major partner of the EU-25, accounting for 50% of the WBCs' trade with the European Union (EU-25).
- Trade between Croatia (HR) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA), and between Serbia and Montenegro (CS)\* and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (MK)\* accounts for nearly 75% of the total trade between the WBCs.



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\* See essential information – Methodological notes, p.7.



### ***A strong growth in trade in general***

Between 1999 and 2003, world trade with the WBCs increased by 60% (figure 1). Growth was most pronounced over the period 1999 to 2001 (+43%). These exceptional growth rates stem from an economic situation in 1999 showing very limited volumes of external trade. Growth was especially marked for exports to the WBCs. European Union (EU-25) exports to the WBCs increased by 63% in 2003 compared to 1999. Over the same period, trade flows for the rest of the world with these countries increased by 48%.

### ***The EU-25 is the WBCs' biggest trading partner...***

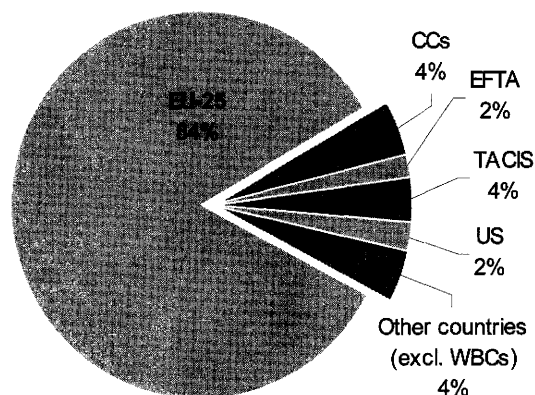
Among the world regions, the European Union (EU-25) conducts by far the most trade with the WBCs (figure 2). Indeed, in 2003 the European Union accounted for more than 84% of the WBCs' total foreign trade. In descending order, the world regions having the most trade with these countries are the Candidate Countries (CCs: Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey) with 4%, the New Independent States and Mongolia (TACIS) with 4%, the EFTA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland) and the United States of America (US) accounting for 2% each.

Both for imports and exports, the EU-25 is the world region conducting the most trade with the WBCs. The European Union is the biggest supplier to and the biggest customer of the WBCs.

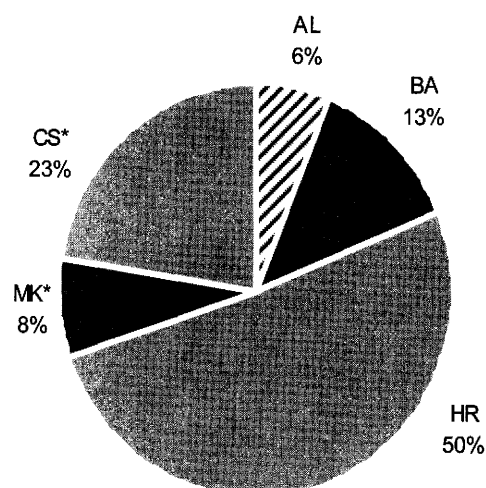
### ***... and among the WBCs, Croatia is the first partner of the EU-25***

The main EU-25 trading partner among the WBCs is Croatia which, in 2003, accounted for more than 50% of the total trade of the EU-25 with the WBCs, followed by Serbia and Montenegro (CS)\* with 23 % (figure 3). Among the WBCs, Albania accounts for the smallest share, making up 6% of trade between the EU-25 and WBCs.

**Figure 2: Breakdown by world's region of trade with WBCs – Total value of trade - 2003**



**Figure 3: EU-25 trade with WBCs broken down by WBC - Total value of trade - 2003**



## **Distribution and structure of world trade with the WBCs**

### ***Products Imported by the partners of the WBCs ...***

The breakdown (by section of the Harmonised System) of world imports coming from the WBCs (table 1) shows a trade structure focused on manufactured goods such as textiles (section XI), base metals and articles of base metal (XV) and machinery and electrical equipment (XVI), which account respectively for 16%, 15% and 13% of the total products imported by the world from the WBCs. They are the most important types of commodities, whereas high added valued manufactured products and the agricultural products and foodstuffs represent smaller shares. For all the categories of products, except live animals and animal products (I), pearls, precious stones and metals (XIV) and arms and ammunition (XIX), trade with the European Union (EU-

25) represents more than 60% of all imports coming from the WBCs.

### ***... differ from those exported by these partners to the WBCs***

On the whole, exports to the WBCs (table 2) by far exceed imports. The products most exported to the WBCs are machinery and electrical equipment (XVI), accounting for 22% of total exports, vehicles (XVII), 11%, the products of the chemical and allied industries (VI), 10%, and the base metals and articles of base metal (XV), 9%. For all commodities, except mineral products (V), more than 70% of exports to the WBCs come from the EU-25.

**Table 1: Distribution of the world's imports from the WBCs by region and type of goods – Trade value, 2003**

Sections of the Harmonized System	Imports from the WBCs						
	Total world (in million euro)	Share by region					
		EU-25	CCs	TACIS	EFTA	US	Other countries
I Live animals; animal products	126	50%	0%	0%	0%	1%	48%
II Vegetable products	317	87%	2%	3%	2%	3%	3%
III Animal or vegetable fats, oils and waxes	12	82%	17%	0%	0%	1%	0%
IV Foodstuffs; beverages, spirits; tobacco	465	82%	3%	3%	1%	6%	5%
V Mineral products	435	74%	2%	1%	0%	3%	20%
VI Products of the chemical or allied industries	404	60%	5%	14%	0%	17%	3%
VII Plastics and rubber	371	80%	2%	15%	0%	1%	1%
VIII Leather, furskins; saddlery; handbags	144	88%	7%	0%	0%	3%	1%
IX Wood; wood charcoal; cork; art. of straw	440	90%	1%	0%	2%	0%	8%
X Pulp of wood; paper and paperboard	167	87%	4%	7%	0%	0%	1%
XI Textiles and textile articles	1 247	93%	1%	1%	1%	4%	1%
XII Footwear, headgear, umbrellas, sticks	485	97%	0%	0%	0%	2%	1%
XIII Art. of stone, plaster, cement, ceramic; glass	116	83%	7%	6%	2%	1%	1%
XIV Pearls; precious stones and metals; coin	61	45%	0%	0%	1%	54%	0%
XV Base metals and articles of base metal	1 158	92%	3%	1%	1%	1%	4%
XVI Machinery; electrical equip.; image, sound	987	83%	1%	6%	1%	2%	6%
XVII Vehicles, aircraft, vessels	281	90%	3%	5%	0%	0%	2%
XVIII Optical, musical, medical instrum.; clocks	61	72%	5%	4%	1%	14%	5%
XIX Arms and ammunition	16	27%	1%	1%	2%	61%	9%
XX Miscellaneous manufactured articles	359	92%	0%	1%	2%	3%	2%
XXI Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	2	71%	0%	0%	11%	17%	1%
Goods not elsewhere specified	66	54%	33%	0%	0%	12%	1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7 718</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>5%</b>

**Table 2: Distribution of the world's exports to the WBCs by region and type of goods – Trade value, 2003**

Sections of the Harmonized System	Exports to the WBCs						
	Total world (in million euro)	Share by region					
		EU-25	CCs	TACIS	EFTA	US	Other countries
I Live animals; animal products	570	74%	7%	0%	1%	2%	16%
II Vegetable products	531	79%	6%	5%	0%	1%	8%
III Animal or vegetable fats, oils and waxes	106	86%	8%	6%	0%	0%	1%
IV Foodstuffs; beverages, spirits; tobacco	1 255	85%	6%	0%	4%	0%	5%
V Mineral products	1 196	49%	15%	32%	0%	1%	2%
VI Products of the chemical or allied industries	1 961	85%	4%	3%	6%	0%	1%
VII Plastics and rubber	1 038	89%	5%	1%	1%	1%	3%
VIII Leather, furskins; saddlery; handbags	286	93%	1%	0%	1%	0%	4%
IX Wood; wood charcoal; cork; art. of straw	306	88%	7%	1%	3%	0%	1%
X Pulp of wood; paper and paperboard	694	91%	5%	1%	2%	0%	0%
XI Textiles and textile articles	1 703	85%	5%	1%	0%	0%	9%
XII Footwear, headgear, umbrellas, sticks	346	84%	3%	0%	0%	1%	12%
XIII Art. of stone, plaster, cement, ceramic; glass	492	89%	7%	0%	0%	0%	3%
XIV Pearls; precious stones and metals; coin	69	98%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%
XV Base metals and articles of base metal	1 843	77%	9%	12%	1%	0%	1%
XVI Machinery; electrical equip.; image, sound	4 587	88%	2%	0%	2%	3%	4%
XVII Vehicles, aircraft, vessels	2 240	92%	2%	0%	0%	3%	2%
XVIII Optical, musical, medical instrum.; clocks	461	84%	1%	0%	6%	4%	5%
XIX Arms and ammunition	6	86%	5%	3%	2%	2%	2%
XX Miscellaneous manufactured articles	602	90%	4%	0%	1%	1%	5%
XXI Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	2	70%	0%	0%	10%	13%	8%
Goods not elsewhere specified	161	34%	51%	0%	1%	10%	4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20 456</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>4%</b>

## Structure and evolution of EU-25 trade with the WBCs

### *Fluctuating growth of imports from the WBCs ...*

The commodities most imported by the EU-25 from the WBCs are textiles (section XI), 18% of imports, base metals and articles of base metals (XV), 16%, and machinery and electrical equipment (XVI), 12%.

With regard to the total trade in goods, the remarkable growth of imports to the EU-25 coming from the WBCs slowed down as the years passed (table 3). With the exception of machinery and electrical equipment (XVI), the evolution for most of the categories of products fluctuated. Even imports to the EU-25 of products of the textile sector (XI) do not seem to have taken off as, after two years of strong growth, decreases were recorded during the following two years.

### *... but more constant growth for exports*

Machinery and electrical equipment products (XVI),

vehicles (XVII), and base metal and articles of base metal (XV) alone cover 45% of total exports from the EU-25 to the WBCs. Moreover, they recorded among the strongest growth rates over the last five years (especially at the beginning of the period). Comparing 2001 to 2000, base metal and articles of base metal (XV) and machinery and electrical equipment (XVI) increased by 22% and 32% respectively (table 3). At a slightly lower level, exports of chemical and allied products (VI), foodstuffs (IV) and plastic and rubber (VII) progressed well over the same period.

The gradual slow-down in the growth rates for imports over the period 1999-2003 is also true for exports from the EU-25 to the WBCs. The high levels of growth at the beginning of the period did not continue in 2003. However, the data for the year 2003 discussed in this text are not all final and are likely to be revised.

**Table 3: Growth rate of EU-25 trade with the WBCs by type of goods – Trade value, 2003**

Sections of the Harmonized System	Imports from the WBCs					Exports to the WBCs				
	Trade value (in million euro)	Yearly growth rate				Trade value (in million euro)	Yearly growth rate			
		2000 1999	2001 2000	2002 2001	2003 2002		2000 1999	2001 2000	2002 2001	2003 2002
I Live animals; animal products	63	36%	21%	9%	4%	423	31%	10%	16%	-17%
II Vegetable products	275	3%	17%	52%	-14%	421	9%	42%	-18%	10%
III Animal or vegetable fats, oils and waxes	10	119%	7%	0%	-15%	91	-13%	2%	32%	0%
IV Foodstuffs; beverages, spirits; tobacco	380	-7%	29%	67%	11%	1 068	10%	24%	13%	-2%
V Mineral products	321	27%	-5%	-14%	14%	592	29%	5%	-3%	-7%
VI Products of the chemical or allied industries	241	27%	-1%	-18%	14%	1 671	29%	11%	12%	1%
VII Plastics and rubber	297	26%	1%	1%	-6%	926	27%	17%	16%	8%
VIII Leather, furskins; saddlery; handbags	127	53%	17%	5%	-16%	268	36%	30%	3%	5%
IX Wood; wood charcoal; cork; art. of straw	395	14%	-3%	2%	2%	269	7%	13%	25%	2%
X Pulp of wood; paper and paperboard	146	68%	0%	9%	2%	634	27%	13%	11%	4%
XI Textiles and textile articles	1 153	10%	16%	-12%	-1%	1 446	15%	19%	5%	-2%
XII Footwear, headgear, umbrellas, sticks	470	21%	25%	1%	-1%	291	19%	19%	2%	-3%
XIII Art. of stone, plaster, cement, ceramic; glass	96	21%	8%	-2%	4%	438	37%	19%	17%	-5%
XIV Pearls; precious stones and metals; coin	28	47%	-25%	58%	-25%	67	-5%	20%	72%	202%
XV Base metals and articles of base metal	1 060	69%	1%	-6%	16%	1 419	25%	22%	16%	5%
XVI Machinery; electrical equip.; image, sound	816	18%	19%	11%	21%	4 044	23%	32%	16%	7%
XVII Vehicles, aircraft, vessels	251	17%	0%	16%	20%	2 067	26%	1%	32%	9%
XVIII Optical, musical, medical instrum.; clocks	44	3%	5%	12%	10%	386	19%	21%	22%	4%
XIX Arms and ammunition	4	-6%	50%	3%	-27%	5	47%	-7%	57%	-17%
XX Miscellaneous manufactured articles	332	28%	38%	13%	22%	544	3%	20%	18%	0%
XXI Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	1	10%	80%	-55%	-18%	2	-10%	160%	13%	-39%
Goods not elsewhere specified	36	13%	3%	7%	15%	55	-5%	2%	-9%	-20%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6 546</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>17 125</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>3%</b>

**Table 4: Structure of EU-25 imports from the WBCs by type of goods and partner – Trade value, 2003**

Sections of the Harmonized System	EU-25 Imports from the WBCs						
	Total share by product	Distribution per partner country in 1000 euros					
		AL	BA	HR	MK*	CS*	Total
I Live animals; animal products	1%	2 054	1 393	35 483	17 611	6 757	63 298
II Vegetable products	4%	8 222	9 987	42 380	16 669	198 175	275 432
III Animal or vegetable fats, oils and waxes	0%	0	315	5 971	2	3 581	9 869
IV Foodstuffs; beverages, spirits; tobacco	6%	15 944	11 525	208 880	43 259	100 015	379 622
V Mineral products	5%	6 044	42 275	210 180	32 603	30 282	321 385
VI Products of the chemical or allied industries	4%	1 568	4 555	186 359	4 937	43 785	241 205
VII Plastics and rubber	5%	1 633	5 977	152 204	2 105	135 362	297 281
VIII Leather, furskins; saddlery; handbags	2%	10 144	29 038	64 139	5 408	18 255	126 985
IX Wood; wood charcoal; cork; art. of straw	6%	9 042	95 163	233 809	3 411	53 972	395 397
X Pulp of wood; paper and paperboard	2%	2 395	14 180	106 037	521	22 653	145 786
XI Textiles and textile articles	18%	106 669	118 329	522 848	253 843	151 362	1153 051
XII Footwear, headgear, umbrellas, sticks	7%	117 102	103 538	133 684	38 038	77 149	469 510
XIII Art. of stone, plaster, cement, ceramic; glass	1%	1 699	1 968	73 067	5 843	13 357	95 935
XIV Pearls; precious stones and metals; coin	0%	1 222	1 741	18 933	3 863	1 897	27 656
XV Base metals and articles of base metal	16%	40 670	197 375	228 234	211 344	382 654	1060 277
XVI Machinery; electrical equip.; image, sound	12%	19 544	90 907	574 326	24 497	106 568	815 843
XVII Vehicles, aircraft, vessels	4%	2 082	16 870	184 758	4 175	43 275	251 161
XVIII Optical, musical, medical instrum.; clocks	1%	2 353	5 415	28 499	695	6 567	43 529
XIX Arms and ammunition	0%	0	2 447	114	9	1 629	4 199
XX Miscellaneous manufactured articles	5%	9 131	86 236	187 577	4 035	44 703	331 682
XXI Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	0%	172	156	312	47	536	1 223
Goods not elsewhere specified	1%	1 355	6 305	14 785	1 081	12 042	35 568
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>359 045</b>	<b>845 696</b>	<b>3212 579</b>	<b>673 996</b>	<b>1454 576</b>	<b>6545 893</b>

**Table 5: Structure of EU-25 exports to the WBCs by type of goods and partner. – Trade value, 2003**

Sections of the Harmonized System	EU-25 Exports to the WBCs						
	Total share by product	Distribution per partner country in 1000 euros					
		AL	BA	HR	MK*	CS*	Total
I Live animals; animal products	2%	21 260	103 361	185 925	55 295	57 140	422 981
II Vegetable products	2%	43 470	106 620	160 007	27 895	82 930	420 922
III Animal or vegetable fats, oils and waxes	1%	14 376	30 899	28 265	5 824	11 471	90 834
IV Foodstuffs; beverages, spirits; tobacco	6%	118 961	225 500	407 021	86 111	230 033	1067 625
V Mineral products	3%	58 395	99 858	300 671	46 591	86 136	591 651
VI Products of the chemical or allied industries	10%	73 836	180 806	894 342	108 391	413 553	1670 928
VII Plastics and rubber	5%	38 841	116 081	458 074	56 935	256 483	926 414
VIII Leather, furskins; saddlery; handbags	2%	46 947	53 489	98 639	10 564	58 075	267 714
IX Wood; wood charcoal; cork; art. of straw	2%	21 200	27 227	142 098	17 014	61 574	269 114
X Pulp of wood; paper and paperboard	4%	25 083	74 054	329 461	37 033	167 914	633 544
XI Textiles and textile articles	8%	155 726	159 516	650 686	238 842	240 763	1445 532
XII Footwear, headgear, umbrellas, sticks	2%	37 798	48 173	122 245	21 295	61 839	291 350
XIII Art. of stone, plaster, cement, ceramic; glass	3%	42 628	69 067	223 742	17 105	85 771	438 312
XIV Pearls; precious stones and metals; coin	0%	602	1 373	61 880	816	2 727	67 397
XV Base metals and articles of base metal	8%	90 524	179 026	799 820	67 718	281 514	1418 603
XVI Machinery; electrical equip.; image, sound	24%	222 991	390 922	2057 609	218 822	1153 478	4043 823
XVII Vehicles, aircraft, vessels	12%	57 937	207 056	1349 539	70 640	381 360	2066 532
XVIII Optical, musical, medical instrum.; clocks	2%	14 561	32 670	190 094	19 130	130 009	386 464
XIX Arms and ammunition	0%	452	387	1 938	350	1 999	5 127
XX Miscellaneous manufactured articles	3%	23 778	63 743	332 448	31 666	91 983	543 619
XXI Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	0%	84	70	1 065	9	289	1 516
Goods not elsewhere specified	0%	2 117	6 225	28 523	2 157	15 611	54 634
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1111 569</b>	<b>2176 124</b>	<b>8824 091</b>	<b>1140 202</b>	<b>3872 650</b>	<b>17124 635</b>

### Similar trade structure of each country with the EU-25...

Tables 4 and 5 confirm that among the WBCs, Croatia and Serbia and Montenegro (CS)\* are the largest partners of the European Union (EU-25) for both exports and imports. It also appears that the trade structure by product between the EU-25 and each WBC is relatively similar. Indeed, we note that textile products (section XI) and base metal and articles of base metal

(XV) account for more than one third of imports to the EU-25 coming from each WBC. For certain countries, like the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (MK)\*, these products cover almost 70% of imports to the EU-25. Machinery and electrical equipment (XVI) are largely exported by the EU-25 to each of these countries, more or less covering 20% of exports of the EU-25 to each of them.

## Structure of the trade between the WBCs

### ... but particular trade among the WBCs

It is interesting to establish a matrix of exports/imports between the WBCs. Taking into account the availability of the data, this matrix covers data for the year 2002 and has had to be partially reconstituted on the basis of mirror statistics. It has the advantage of identifying flows between partners and thus makes it possible to pinpoint special trading relations.

As can be seen in table 6, Croatia conducted the greatest part of its trade within the area with Bosnia and Herzegovina and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (MK)\* is a favoured partner for Serbia and Montenegro (CS)\*.

From the point of view of the categories of products traded between themselves, table 7 shows that the WBCs trade especially foodstuffs (IV) and minerals, including fuels (V), and chemical products (VI). There is also trade in base metal and articles of base metal (XV) and machinery and electrical equipment (XVI).

**Table 6: Trade between the WBCs – Trade value in 1000 Euro (based on declared imports), 2002**

Partner countries					
	AL	BA	HR	MK*	CS*
AL	-	727	34 058	17 334	13 810
BA	76	-	741 994	19 269	n.a.
HR	276	175 411	-	70 578	56 355
MK*	1 176	15 111	58 057	-	195 499
CS*	7 905	n.a.	181 851	259 594	-
TOTAL	9 433	191 249	1 015 961	366 774	265 665

*Note: Data in italic have been estimated using mirror declarations of partner countries*

**Table 7: Distribution by type of goods of the trade between the WBCs – Trade value, 2002.**

Sections of the Harmonized System	Imports from the WBCs					Exports to the WBCs				
	AL	BA	HR	MK*	CS*	AL	BA	HR	MK*	CS*
I Live animals; animal products	3%	3%	1%	2%	1%	4%	1%	3%	0%	1%
II Vegetable products	13%	2%	3%	7%	3%	7%	1%	2%	4%	11%
III Animal or vegetable fats, oils and waxes	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	4%
IV Foodstuffs; beverages, spirits; tobacco	4%	20%	9%	19%	24%	18%	9%	21%	22%	15%
V Mineral products	43%	27%	4%	7%	21%	18%	8%	28%	12%	6%
VI Products of the chemical or allied industries	4%	10%	3%	10%	10%	2%	1%	9%	13%	5%
VII Plastics and rubber	2%	3%	3%	5%	5%	1%	3%	4%	4%	6%
VIII Leather, furskins; saddlery; handbags	2%	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	2%
IX Wood; wood charcoal; cork; art. of straw	1%	1%	10%	2%	1%	1%	16%	1%	0%	2%
X Pulp of wood; paper and paperboard	1%	3%	3%	4%	2%	1%	2%	3%	1%	5%
XI Textiles and textile articles	0%	2%	5%	4%	3%	1%	4%	2%	6%	4%
XII Footwear, headgear, umbrellas, sticks	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%
XIII Art. of stone, plaster, cement, ceramic; glass	2%	7%	2%	5%	4%	1%	2%	6%	4%	4%
XIV Pearls; precious stones and metals; coin	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
XV Base metals and articles of base metal	10%	5%	36%	8%	10%	4%	36%	5%	19%	9%
XVI Machinery; electrical equip.; image, sound	10%	10%	8%	8%	9%	29%	6%	11%	8%	8%
XVII Vehicles, aircraft, vessels	1%	1%	3%	3%	2%	4%	1%	1%	2%	3%
XVIII Optical, musical, medical instrum.; clocks	3%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%
XIX Arms and ammunition	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
XX Miscellaneous manufactured articles	0%	2%	5%	2%	1%	5%	7%	2%	1%	2%
XXI Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Goods not elsewhere specified	0%	0%	0%	8%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	7%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

## ➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

### Data sources:

The contents of this "Statistics in Focus" are based on data available in Eurostat's Comext database. Foreign trade data for EU-25, WBCs, CCs, EFTA and TACIS countries have been extracted from Comext's specific domains (Source: Eurostat), whilst the world total foreign trade value and the US foreign trade data have been extracted from the Comtrade domain in Comext (Source: UN/Comtrade). The data for the year 2003 discussed in this "Statistics in Focus" were extracted in the course of September 2004 and may be subject to revision.

### Scope, partner country and valuation:

- In the methodology applied to EU external trade of goods statistics (trade between EU Member states and non-member countries), statistics do not record exchanges involving goods in transit, placed in customs warehouses or given temporary admission (for trade fairs, exhibitions, tests...). This is known as "special trade".
- So the partner country is in general the country of final destination for exports and the country of origin for imports.
- Values recorded are CIF trade values in euro for imports and FOB trade values in euro for exports.

### Croatia

In this publication covering the 1999 - 2003 period, Croatia is

included in the WBCs and not in the CCs, even if since 2004 Croatia is also a CC.

### Abbreviations:

- CS Serbia and Montenegro including Kosovo/UNSCR 1244. In this publication, figures for Serbia and Montenegro do include Kosovo, which is under international administration in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1244 of 10 June 1999.
- CCs Candidate countries (Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey)
- EFTA European Free Trade Association (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland)
- EU-25 European Union
- MK Provisional code which does not prejudice in any way the definitive nomenclature for this country which will be agreed following the conclusion of negotiations currently taking place on this subject at the United Nations.
- TACIS Countries under the EC technical assistance programme TACIS (New Independent States and Mongolia)
- WBCs Western Balkan countries

This publication was prepared with the assistance of André Peters

### Commodities classification:

For the purposes of this publication, products are presented according to Sections of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) of the Customs Cooperation Council. For practical reasons, the titles of these sections have been shortened in the tables. More extensive section headings are given below.

#### Sections headings of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS)

Section number	Section Label
I	Live animals; animal products
II	Vegetable products
III	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes
IV	Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits and vinegar; tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes
V	Mineral products
VI	Products of the chemical or allied industries
VII	Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof
VIII	Raw hides/skins, leather, fur skins, articles thereof; saddlery/harness; travel goods/handbags/similar cont.; animal gut articles (excl. silkworm gut)
IX	Wood/articles of wood; wood charcoal; cork/articles of cork; manufactures of straw, esparto or other plaiting materials; basket ware/wickerwork
X	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or paperboard; paper and paperboard and articles thereof
XI	Textiles and textile articles
XII	Footwear/headgear/umbrellas/walking-/seat-sticks/whips/riding-crops, parts; prepared feathers/articles; artificial flowers; articles of human hair
XIII	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials; ceramic products; glass and glassware
XIV	Natural/cultured pearls, precious/semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal, articles thereof; imitation jewellery; coin
XV	Base metals and articles of base metal
XVI	Machinery/mechanical appliances; electrical equipment; parts; sound recorders/reproducers, tv image, sound recorders/reproducers, parts/accessories
XVII	Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment
XVIII	Optical/photographic/cinematographic/measuring/checking/precision/medical/surgical instruments or apparatus; clocks/watches; musical instruments; parts/accessories
XIX	Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof
XX	Miscellaneous manufactured articles
XXI	Works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques
	Goods not elsewhere specified (chapter 99 of the Combined Nomenclature)



## ***Further information:***

### **Databases**

[EUROSTAT Website/External trade/External trade detailed data](#)

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Eurostat set up with the members of the 'European statistical system' a network of support centres, which will exist in nearly all Member States as well as in some EFTA countries.

Their mission is to provide help and guidance to Internet users of European statistical data.

The complete details concerning this support network can be found on our Internet site: [www.europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/)

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