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External Relations

23/79

PORTUGAL AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

This information note has been published on the occasion of the official opening by Mr Lorenzo Natali, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities, of the Commission's Press and Information Office in Portugal on 29 September 1979.

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Spokesman's Group and Directorate-General for Information Publications Distribution Service Berlaymont 2/83 Rue de la Loi 200 B - 1049 BRUSSELS Tel. 735 00 40 / ext. 5120 or 4301 The development of relations between the European Community and Portugal, outlined in this note, can be divided up into two phases:

Up to 1974 the Community's relations with Portugal were confined to the trade sector. These relations did, admittedly, take on a more concrete form with the conclusion in 1972 of a free-trade agreement, at the time that Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom joined the Community. This agreement followed the pattern of bilateral agreements concluded, in particular, with the other countries of the European Free-Trade Association (EFTA), of which Portugal is a Member State.

The Community was very satisfied with the re-establishment of democracy in Portugal in 1974 and from this time onwards the two partners have come notably closer together in all fields. Portugal expressed its wish at that time to strengthen links with the Community over and above the free-trade agreement. It requested financial aid together with the revision of a number of provisions in the free-trade agreement.

In October 1975 the Community granted Portugal special financial aid, then in 1976 an additional protocol and in 1978 a financial protocol were added to the agreement, giving Portugal more appreciable commercial and financial advantages.

Portugal's formal request for membership, which was submitted to the Community in.1977, opened up a new stage in the process — that of integrating Portugal into the European Community as a full member. ¹

II. THE 1972 FREE-TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND THE COMMUNITY

Before Portugal submitted its request for membership relations between Portugal and the Community were based in the main on the free-trade agreement signed on 22 July 1972.² This agreement entered into force on 1 January 1973.

The agreement falls within the framework of the bilateral agreements signed with the European Free-Trade Association (EFTA) member countries which were not applying for accession at the time of the first enlargement of the Community that took place on 1 January 1973 with the accession of Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom.

1. Provisions of the agreement

The general provisions and the object are, in principle, the same as for the other EFTA countries: progressive establishment of a free-trade area for industrial products between 1 January 1973 and 1 July 1977.

The agreement differs from the other EFTA agreements, however, in the inclusion of a section covering agriculture. Furthermore, in so far as industrial products are concerned, the timetable for Portuguese tariff dismantling has been extended to 1980 or 1985 in order to give Portuguese industry a longer adaptation period. Like the other agreements signed with EFTA countries, the agreement with Portugal includes a 'future developments' clause. Portugal attached great importance to this clause intended to provide possibilities for the development of the agreement. Portugal can submit a reasoned request to the Community, and vice versa, if the interests of the economies of the two partners call for the relations established by the agreement to be extended to other fields.

3

¹ Article 237 of the EEC Treaty:

Any European State may apply to become a member of the Community. It shall address its application to the Council, which shall act unanimously after obtaining the opinion of the Commission.

The conditions of admission and the adjustments to this Treaty necessitated thereby shall be the subject of an agreement between the Member States and the applicant State. This agreement shall be submitted for ratification by all the Contracting States in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements'.

² Oj L 301 of 31.12.1972.

Provisions concerning the agricultural sector

In view of the high proportion of agricultural products in Portuguese exports and the preferential system which this country had acquired with regard to the British and Danish markets within the framework of EFTA, the agreement between the Community and Portugal provides for tariff preferences, especially for tomato concentrates, canned sardines and certain wines and fresh fruit and vegetables.

Provisions concerning the industrial sector

Duty-free entry for Portuguese imports of industrial products from the Community is to be achieved in either 1977 or 1980. However, in so far as a number of products are concerned, the timetable for the tariff reductions runs until 1 January 1985.

The agreement also authorizes Portugal to introduce new import duties in order to facilitate the creation of new industries.

Certain Portuguese exports to the Community are subject to ceilings, which will end in 1980.

The timetable for EEC tariff dismantling is as follows:

Timetable Rate of reduction of customs duties

1 April 1973	20%
1 January 1974	20% = 40%
1 January 1975	20% = 60%
1 January 1976	20% = 80%
1 July 1977	20% = 80%
t out, tott	20% = 100% = duty-free entry.

2. Emergency aid, additional and financial protocols

From April 1974 onwards the Portuguese authorities worked towards strengthening links with the European Community. It was thus that, within the Joint Committee responsible for managing the free-trade agreement, the Portuguese delegates expressed the desire for the Community to rapidly supply Portugal's economy with the aid it required and this, in particular, by improving the trade arrangements laid down in the agreement.

On 11 May 1975, considering that the Community has 'a natural interest in giving its fullest support to Portugal's efforts to strengthen democracy and promote social and economic progress' and that 'the support given by Europe to Portuguese democracy must be expressed in a spectacular manner', the European Commission proposed to the Member States that they should authorize the commencement of negotiations in order to strengthen the free-trade agreement signed in 1972.

This strengthening of links took the following form:

- (a) Special emergency financial aid, decided on 7 October 1975. The European Investment Bank (EIB) made credits available to Portugal amounting to 150 million u.a. (5 300 million escudos), coupled with an interest subsidy of 3% (representing 30 million u.a. (more than 1 000 million escudos) which were included in the Community budget). This loan served to finance infrastructure, industrialization and agricultural projects during 1976 and 1977.
- (b) An additional protocol to the 1972 free-trade agreement and a financial protocol.

The additional protocol contains a commercial section, a cooperation section and a labour section.

In the commercial field the Community granted certain tariff concessions to favour Portuguese exports, especially textiles, paper and wines. In addition, the Community brought forward to 1 July 1976 the date for final abolition of import duties on industrial products from Portugal, whilst Portugal was authorized to re-establish certain customs duties up to a maximum of 20% with a view to giving increased protection to its most vulnerable industries (customs duties will be finally abolished on 1 January 1985).

Cooperation was established between the Community and Portugal in the industrial, technical, technological and financial fields. This will contribute towards the economic and social development of Portugal.

In so far as labour is concerned. Portuguese workers enjoy conditions similar to those of workers who are nationals of Community Member States with regard to working conditions, pay and social security.

The financial protocol covers aid worth 200 million u.a. in the form of EIB loans spread over a period of five years. 150 million u.a. (the maximum charge) are coupled with interest subsidies of 3% per annum (at a cost to the Community of 30 million u.a.). The protocol makes provision for the financing of investment projects aimed at increasing productivity, improving infrastructure, diversifying the economy and promoting, in particular, industrialization and modernization of the agricultural sector.

These protocols were signed in Brussels on 20 September 1976 and came into force on 1 November 1978. (By virtue of an interim agreement the commercial provisions had already come into effect on 1 November 1976.)

3. Emergency disaster aid

In April 1979, the Commission decided to grant Portugal 100 000 u.a. emergency aid for the supply of essential goods following the floods that caused serious damage during February and March of 1979.

4. Revision of certain provisions of the agreement

At the meeting of the Joint EEC-Portugal Committee on 23 January 1979 the Portuguese delegation requested that negotiations be started with a view to revising certain provisions having bearing on trade arrangements and, in particular, that modifications be made to arrangements applicable to automobile imports and the assembly industry, measures designed to promote newly-established industries after 31 December 1979 and the tariff *status quo*. The Portuguese delegation also submitted a number of additional requests concerning agricultural products, paper, labour and cooperation.

On 11 April, the Commission submitted to the Council a recommendation for modification of certain provisions in the current agreement, taking up a substantial proportion of the requests made by the Portuguese Government. These new provisions will come into effect on 1 January 1980.

III. ENLARGEMENT OF THE COMUNITY – GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS AND VIEWS

Enlargement of the European Community from nine to twelve Member States constitutes a challenge which is at one and the same time political, economic, social and institutional.

In requesting accession to the Community, Spain, Greece and Portugal made what is primarily a political choice, reflecting the concern of these three democracies for their own consolidation. The Community, faithful to the commitment it made in the preamble to the EEC Treaty;

'(The founders of the Community) being resolved to preserve and strengthen peace and liberty (call upon) the other peoples of Europe who share their ideal to join in their efforts',

must make every effort to ensure that this new enlargement is a success and that any weakening of the European Community, which would jeopardize its fundamental objectives, is avoided.

After requests for membership had been submitted by Greece (12 June 1975), Portugal (28 March 1977) and Spain (28 July 1977), the Commission supplied the Council at the start of 1978 with an analysis of the implications (both for the Community and for the applicant countries) of this enlargement.

This analysis contains general consideration, ¹ a study of the economic and sectoral aspects ² and also considerations on the transitional period and the institutional consequences.³ The main conclusions are as follows:

In order to avoid any adverse effect on cohesion of the Community by the new disparities which will result from enlargement, every effort must be made in the first instance to ensure that Portugal and the other applicant countries have as high an economic growth rate as possible.

Specific problems would be easier to solve with a high level of economic growth in the Community and a comparatively higher level in the applicant countries. Progress must be made in accomplishing greater alignment of Member States' economies and achieving economic and monetary union.

¹ Supplement 1/78 - Bull. EC.

² Supplement 3/78 - Bull. EC.

³ Supplement 2/78 – Bull. EC.

In addition, it will be necessary to prepare for and facilitate integration of the three applicant countries into the Community through specific sectoral measures. These measures will be worked out with the applicant countries on the basis of specific sectoral objectives.

The European Investment Bank (EIB) could help to finance joint measures and its capital should be increased accordingly.

The applicant countries will not be able to shoulder all the obligations stemming from Community membership at the time they join. A *transitional period* will be necessary, since accession will involve immediate and full participation in all the institutions.

As for the institutional aspects, modifications will need to be made to the Treaties. More frequent use of majority voting will be necessary as will expansion of the Commission's executive competences and more judicious use of the legal instruments provided by the Treaties.

Enlargement will strengthen the role that the Community is called upon to play in the world: in the Mediterranean, since it will border on a large part of the northern shores, and also in Africa and Latin America, on account of the historical links held by Spain and Portugal with important countries in these two geographical zones.

The consequences of enlargement will be particularly marked in trade with Mediterranean and developing countries. Agreements concluded with these countries are designed to promote trade for the benefit of both sides and this objective will need to be pursued after enlargement.

The *European Parliament*, for its part, has confirmed its political wish to see Greece, Portugal and Spain become members of the Community. In a resolution adopted on 18 January 1979, the Parliament expressed its support for the upholding and strengthening of the pluralist democracy in Portugal and also voiced its political wish to see this country become part of the Community. It furthermore requested that every measure be taken to ensure that Portugal's accession to the Community contributed both to the strengthening and advancement of the Community and to that of the applicant country, in particular, on a political, institutional, economic and social level. The Parliament likewise expressed the desire that the many existing links between Community institutions, Member States, the applicant States and their parliaments be developed and strengthened. It was pleased in this respect that regular relations had been established with the parliaments of Spain and Portugal.

In addition, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on 10 May 1979, reflecting concern that although long-term prospects were favourable, enlargement could involve serious economic difficulties. Consequently, the Parliament insisted that appropriate specific measures be taken in the economic and monetary sectors, the budgetary sector, the social sector and the sectors of agriculture, regional policy, energy and external economic relations.

The *Economic and Social Committee*, in its opinion of 28 June 1979, confirmed its positive attitude towards enlargement. It requested that the internal structure of the European institutions be adapted to the new dimensions. In addition, in its capacity as a consultative body for the economic and social sectors of the Community, it hoped that very soon democratically structured interest groups would be successfully set up and developed in the applicant countries.

IV. THE FIRST STEPS TOWARDS PORTUGAL'S ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

1. Request for membership

On 28 March 1977, the Portuguese Prime Minister submitted to the President-in-Office of the Council of the European Communities Portugal's request for membership of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (EAEC).

On 5 April 1977 the Council of Ministers of the Communities took note of the Portuguese request and decided to set in motion the procedure provided by the Treaties by asking the Commission to formulate its opinion.

The Commission's departments started their work, in close cooperation with the Portuguese authorities and, in particular, with the 'European Integration Committee' set up by the Portuguese Government to promote and coordinate the preparatory work for accession. This meant that the Commission's departments had ample documentation on the economic and social situation in Portugal and were able to define as objectively as possible the precise nature and extent of the problems raised by membership.

The Commission's opinion was conveyed to the Council of Ministers on 19 May 1978. The Commission did, in fact, feel that a positive response should rapidly be given to the Portuguese request. The main points of this opinion are set out below.

2. The Commission's opinion¹

A rapid start to negotiations

The Commission calls on the Council to open negotiations with Portugal as soon as possible.

Democracy in Portugal is now an established political fact. It has already ridden out testing times, due to the aftermath of the revolution and the problem of reabsorbing the refugees from Angola and Mozambigue, and has gained indisputable international authority.

The Community cannot leave Portugal out of the process of European integration. The resulting disappointment would be politically very grave and the source of serious difficulties. The accession of Portugal, which set its face firmly towards Europe almost as soon as its democracy was restored, can only strengthen the European ideal.

The economic problems of accession

Political considerations must not, however, be allowed to obscure the economic difficulties of accession.

For the Community, the economic impact will be very limited, in view of the relative weight of the Portuguese economy. The problems liable to arise would stem primarily from the fact of appreciable disparities in development, which would accentuate the Community's heterogeneity.

For Portugal, the prospect of accession makes it all the more necessary to remedy certain shortcomings in its economy.

The need for structural reform in Portugal

The Portuguese Government is urgently pressing on with radical economic and social reforms to bring about the necessary restructuring of the country. In this respect, the first aim is undoubtedly to scale down the balance-of-payments deficit. Accordingly, the agreement with the IMF calls for stabilization measures.

The sacrifices which the stabilization plan will entail can only be accepted if the reconstruction of the economy enables a basis to be laid for a policy of structural reform, from which sustained economic recovery can be looked for from 1979 onwards.

Medium-term structural reform policies, however, can go ahead only if Portugal receives from the Community certain indications as to the accession process. The restructuring and renewed expansion of the economy are both dictated by and conditional on integration into Europe – dictated by it because the development gap is a major obstacle to integration, which means that Portugal must achieve faster growth than the Community, and conditional on it because the restructuring must dovetail into the economic coherence of an enlarged Community.

Community support for Portuguese structural reforms

The Community must state its willingness to support the restructuring drive the Portuguese authorities will be undertaking on the basis of the above guidelines.

As the process goes forward, the Commission will propose to the Council the support measures the Community should adopt.

It would also be desirable to support the Portuguese Government's efforts to raise funds in the international capital markets and to consider the possibilities for recycling certain loans falling due.

¹ Summary published by the Spokesman's Group of the Commission.

Alongside these moves to assist the balance of payments, the Community should go ahead with cooperation projects for furthering Portugal's economic and social development. In this context, consideration might be given to speeding up utilization of aid under the Financial Protocol signed in 1976. At the same time the Community should prepare from the outset of negotiations to support Portuguese development, particularly in the industrial and agricultural sectors. Development programmes drawn up by the Portuguese authorities in collaboration with the Community, with Community co-financing, could provide a suitable framework for action.

Furthermore, the Community should show flexibility over certain provisions in the 1972 free-trade agreement so as to enable projects of importance to the development of the Portuguese economy to go ahead.

3. The Council of Ministers' position

At its session of 6 June 1978, the *Council of Ministers* declared itself in favour of Portugal's request and agreed that the preparatory work, essential for establishing a common basis for negotiation, be carried out as soon as possible and be conducted in a positive spirit.

4. Development of negotiations

Negotiations with a view to Portugal's accession to the European Community were formally started in Luxembourg on 17 October 1978. This official opening ceremony took place in a particularly positive atmosphere. In their speeches, Mr von Dohnanyi, President-in-Office of the Council, Mr Jenkins, President of the Commission, and Mr Correia Gago, Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs, recalled the historical and contractual bonds linking Portugal to the Community and outlined the problems that needed to be solved during negotiations. After setting forth the principal stages in the process of constructing Europe together with the chief elements of Community attainment that Portugal would be called upon to take up right from its accession, Mr von Dohnanyi, for his part, expressed the Community's concern about the economic problems that Portugal had to tackle, both as regards the difficulties of its economic situation and from the viewpont of integration into Europe. He confirmed in this context that 'the Community is ready to study and examine with Portugal possible additional measures that could potentially support the efforts of the Portuguese'.

The first round of negotiations was held in Brussels on 1 December 1978. This was devoted to organizational aspects of the negotiations — the procedures to be followed, the frequency of meetings at ministerial level and deputy (ambassador) level and the principal chapter headings of the negotiations.

At the following meetings (27 February, 4 April and 6 June 1979) a start was made on the chapters covering the customs union, external relations and the Euratom and ECSC (European Coal and Steel Community) sections.

As far as the customs union in the industrial sector is concerned, the Portuguese delegation recalled to mind that negotiations in this sector depended to a large extent on the Community's decisions regarding the requests submitted by Portugal in the context of the EEC-Portugal agreement (cf. Chapter II above).

On 12 June 1979, the Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs met with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs from the nine Member States in Luxembourg. This meeting permitted an exchange of views on progress made in negotiations and also on the requests submitted by Portugal in the context of the EEC-Portugal agreement, in particular, as regards restructuring plans for the automobile sector.

Negotiations are still continuing.

In the meantime, the Commission (with Mr Natali, Vice-President, responsible for the 'Enlargement' dossier) adopted, on 13 September 1979, a proposal to the Council concerning the granting of 47 million u.a. worth of special aid by the EEC, destined to assist small and medium-sized firms within the framework of measures designed to adapt Portugal's economy for Community membership.

Country ¹	Area	Population	Density	Projected population 1000		
	1000 sq. km	1000	per sq. km	1985	1990	
EUR 9	1 525.6	259 180	170	261 017	263 483	
FR of Germany	248.6	61 400	247	59 614	58 587	
France	544.0	53 400	98	54 829	56 085	
Italy	301.3	56 462	187	57 849	58 966	
Netherlands	41.2	13 856	336	14 016	14 178	
Belgium	30.5	9 830	322	9817	9 764	
Luxembourg	2.6	355	137	358	360	
United Kingdom	244.1	55919	229	55 803	56 500	
Ireland	70.3	3 192	45	3 540	3 795	
Denmark	43.1	5 088	118	5 191	5 248	
Greece	132.0	9 2 6 8	70	9 594	9 86	
Spain	504.8	36 672	73	38 999	40 54	
Portugal	91.6	9 733	106	10 338	40 54	

Area, population, density per square kilometre and estimated population growth Middle of 1977

Civilian employment by main sectors of economic activity - 1977

Country ¹	Agriculture	Industry	Services	Total %
EUR 9	8.2	39.9	51.9	100.0
FR of Germany	6.8	45.3	47.9	100.0
France	9.4	37.8	52.8	100.0
Italy	15.9	38.6	45.5	100.0
Netherlands	6.3	33.2	60.4	100.0
Belgium	3.3	37.9	58.8	100.0
Luxembourg	5.7	44.1	50.2	100.0
United Kingdom	2.7	40.0	57.3	100.0
Ireland	23.1	30.4	46.5	100.0
Denmark	9.0	30.4	60.5	100.0
Greece	28.4	30.3	41.3	100.0
Spain	20.7	37.5	41.8	100.0
Portugal	32.5	33.1	34.4	100.0

¹ The order in which countries are listed is that adopted by Eurostat, (Statistical Office of the European Communities). Source: Eurostat 1979: Basic Statistics of the Community.

Annex B

Indices of agricultural output ¹ Average 1969-70 = 100

Country	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
EUR 9		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
FR of Germany	100	104	101	100	102
France	110	112	108	109	109
Italy	101	106	107	106	104
Netherlands	108	116	120	118	122
Belgium	106	112	109	101	103
United Kingdom	108	114	108	104	112
Ireland	101	117	138	125	135
Denmark	98	111	105	100	104
Greece	108	118	125	129	127
Spain	117	120	125	128	127
Portugal	99	102	102	98	9.

General indices of industrial production ¹

1975 = 100

Country	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
EUR 9	106	107	100	107	110	112
FR of Germany	108	107	100	107	110	113
France	105	108	100	109	110	112
Italy	106	110	100	112	112	114
Netherlands	100	105	100	106	107	108
Belgium	107	111	100	108	108	111
Luxembourg	124	128	100	106	107	108
United Kingdom	108	105	100	103	107	111
Ireland	103	107	100	109	118	129
Denmark	107	106	100	109	110	113
Greece	97	96	100	111	113	:
Spain	98	107	100	106	119	:
Portugal	103	108	100	:	:	:

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¹ Excluding construction. Source: Eurostat 1979: Basic Statistics of the Community.

Annex C

Total imports

							(million El
Country	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	19	78
EUR 9	174 664	246 509	242 787	308 570	339 972	362 138	% 37.6
FR of Germany	44 106	58 046	60 4 4 2	78 9 1 2	88 803	95 405	9.9
France	30 0 4 2	44 293	43 682	57 647	61 784	64 2 1 5	6.7
Italy	22 649	34 438	31 1 2 2	39 485	42 132	44 2 4 8	4.6
Netherlands	19 799	27 847	28 389	35 832	39 970	41 532	4.3
Belgium Luxembourg	17 910	25 015	24 819	31 715	35 418	37 919	3.9
United Kingdom	31 562	45 347	42 905	50 122	55 522	51 638	6.4
Ireland	2 2 6 3	3 193	3 0 4 6	3 764	4 7 2 8	5 584	0.6
Denmark	6 3 3 4	8 331	8 383	11 093	11 616	11 597	1.2
Greece	2 899	3 677	4 285	5 378	5 940	5 929	0.6
Spain	7 786	12 942	13106	15 618	15 578	14 648	1.5
Portugal	2 4 5 1	3726	3 0 7 8	3 782	4 3 4 1	4 0 5 7	0.4

Total exports

(million EUA)

Country	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	19	78
EUR 9	170 703	231 290	239 571	292 651	332 789	359 664	% 37.6
FR of Germany	54 397	74 753	72 666	91 155	103 316	111 340	11.7
France	28 902	38 4 6 9	41 981	49 9 15	55 667	50 1 18	6.3
Italy	18 105	25 557	28240	33 504	39 688	43 926	4.6
Netherlands	19 511	27 7 45	28 593	36 149	38 283	39 292	4.1
Belgium	18 203	23 704	23 193	29 340	32 891	35 137	3.7
United Kingdom	24 795	32 373	35288	41 458	50276	56 090	5.9
Ireland	1 727	2 2 2 6	2 585	2 992	3 852	4 4 5 6	0.5
Denmark	5 063	6 464	7 024	8 1 3 9	8 8 1 6	9 305	1.0
Greece	2 039	1 709	1 848	2 2 7 4	2 387	2 6 1 7	0.3
Spain	4 188	5942	6 192	7 806	8 942	10250	1.1
Portugal	1 4 9 1	1 890	1 5 5 6	1 618	1 772	1915	0.2

Portugal-EEC trade	Exports	Imports	Trade deficit
1973	892	1 370	- 478
1974	1 086	1 937	- 851
1975	970	1 535	- 565
1976	932	1 764	- 832
1977	1 046	2 159	-1113
1978	1 354	2 368	-1014

Annex D

	Imports	Export
UROPE	60.98	71.55
Community	45.80	55.50
FR of Germany	13.88	13.04
France	9.00	8.91
Italy	5.46	5.70
Netherlands	3.51	4.05
Belgium/Luxembourg	3.18	3.20
United Kingdom	10.05	18.09
Ireland	0.09	0.40
Denmark	0.60	2.10
Spain	5.49	2.16
Sweden	2.37	4.57
Switzerland	4.23	3.77
USSR	1.85	1.66
FRICA	3.38	7.58
Angola	0.25	4.07
Mozambique	0.39	1.40
AMERICA	15.97	11.93
United States	11.85	6.96
Brazil	1.28	1.03
SIA	16.39	3.44
Japan	3.25	1.15
Saudi Arabia	2.99	0.13
Iraq	4.97	0.14
Iran	2.89	0.12
THER COUNTRIES	3.28	5.50

Geographical breakdown of Portugal's foreign trade in 1978

Development of gross domestic product by volume Annual growth rates (at 1970 prices and exchange rates)

Country	1970	1972	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978 (1
EUR 9	5.0	4.0	1.6	- 0.3	4.9	2.3	2.9
FR of Germany	6.0	3.7	0.5	0.2	5.0	2.8	3.1
France	5.7	5.9	3.2	4.7	5.0	2.8	3.0
Italy	5.0	3.1	4.2	- 1.1	5.9	2.0	2.6
Netherlands	6.9	3.9	4.2	- 2.2	4.7	2.2	2.4
Belgium	6.4	5.7	4.7	- 9.5	5.6	1.2	1.8
Luxembourg	1.5	5.4	4.2	- 1.7	2.2	1.4	3.2
United Kingdom	2.4	2.3	- 1.8	1.2	3.6	1.2	3.3
Ireland	2.8	5.7	2.1	- 1.2	2.9	5.5	6.0
Denmark	2.6	5.4	0.6	- 0.3	6.3	1.8	1.0
Greece	8.0	8.9	- 3.6	- 6.1	2.1	3.7	5.5
Spain	_	8.5	5.3	0.7	5.9	2.4	3.0
Portugal	9.5	8.1	0.7	- 3.7	6.2	6.0	3.8

Source: Eurostat 13.9.1979.