



STATISTICS IN FOCUS

External trade



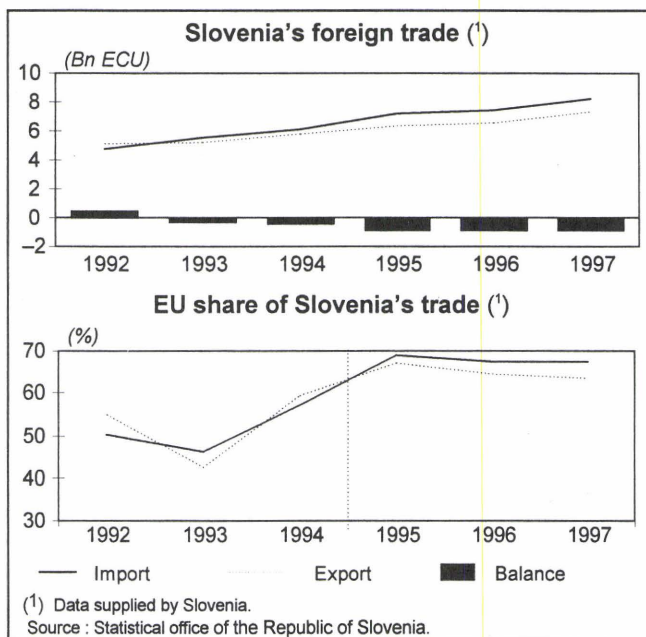
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SLOVENIA'S FOREIGN TRADE

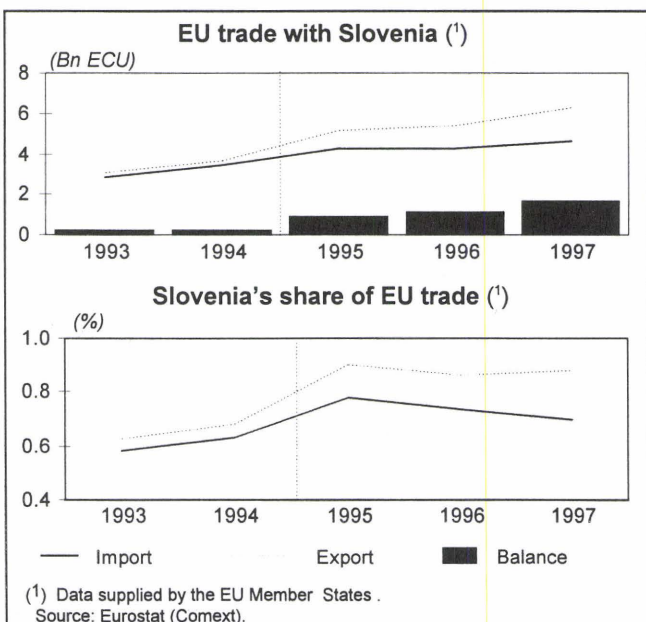


Summary

Slovenia's integration into world trade was supported by an adaptation of the institutional framework of its trade with the European Union and by its accession to the WTO (World Trade Organisation). Slovenia accounted for 6.9% of the total transactions of the central European countries (CECs) in 1997, with ECU 8.3 billion in imports and ECU 7.4 billion in exports. Between 1992 and 1995, Slovenia's purchases grew at twice the rate of its sales. As a result, its external position constantly deteriorated and reached a deficit of ECU 900 million in 1995, before stabilising in 1996 and 1997. Throughout the period the country had a deficit in primary materials and a surplus in manufactured articles.

Between 1992 and 1997 there was a shift in Slovenia's trade towards the European Union. The EU's share of Slovenia's imports rose from 50.1% to 67.4%, and that of its exports from 54.9% to 63.7%. Despite the gradual establishment of a free trade zone between the EU and Slovenia, it is the effect of Austria's accession which largely explains this trend, since Austria accounted for 8.4% of Slovenia's imports and 6.8% of its exports in 1997. The bulk of the EU's transactions with Slovenia involved manufactured products (SITC 5-8), which accounted for 95.6% of total purchases and 86.5% of total sales in 1997. Machinery and transport equipment (SITC 7) were the most traded products, accounting for 37.8% of total imports and 37.6% of total exports.

In 1997, four EU countries accounted for 86.7% of EU transactions with Slovenia: Germany (35.3%), Italy (25.7%), Austria (13.9%) and France (11.8%).



Note: In this report 1 Bn ECU is equal to 1000 Mio ECU.

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1. Slovenian trade with the rest of the world



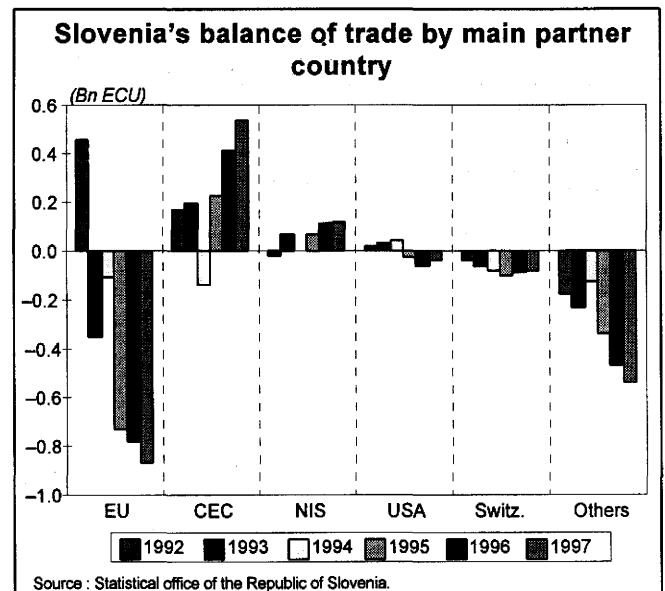
1.1. Slovenian trade by main partner country

In 1997 Slovenia's trade represented 0.21% of world trade, or 6.9% of CEC trade with the rest of the world. Slovenia thus ranks below Poland (26.2% of CEC international transactions), the Czech Republic (16.6%), Hungary (15.4%) and Romania (7.4%), but above Slovakia (6.6%) and Croatia (4.7%).

The Slovenian economy is well integrated into world trade, since in 1997 its degree of openness measured by trade as a percentage of GDP was 51.3% for imports and 45.9% for exports. However, over the period covered by this study, the rate of growth in Slovenia's GDP (10.8% per year) was higher than that of exports (7.5% per year).

Slovenia's trade has been in deficit since 1993. Since its imports grew almost twice as much as its exports (15.3% and 7.3% per year respectively between 1992 and 1995), its external position constantly deteriorated until it had a deficit of almost ECU 900 million in 1995, which then levelled off in the following two years. In 1997, Slovenia's total external deficit was the same as its deficit vis-à-vis the EU (ECU 870 million), although it should be borne in mind that for the same year it had a surplus in its transactions with all the CECs (ECU 538 million) and all the NIS (ECU 119 million).

The share of the European Union in Slovenia's trade increased from 52.6% in 1992 to 65.6% in 1997,



partly as a result of the automatic effect of Austria's accession. In 1997, Austria accounted for 7.6% of Slovenian transactions.

Among the CECs, Croatia is Slovenia's main trading partner with 5% of Slovenian imports and 10% of exports in 1997. However, although Slovenian exports to Croatia increased by 9.7% in 1997, the corresponding imports declined by 11.7%.

Slovenia's trade by main partner country

(Bn ECU)

Trading partners	Imports					Exports					Balance			
	1992	1996	1997		97/96 Var. (%)	1992	1996	1997		97/96 Var. (%)	1992	1996	1997	97/96 Value
			Value	Share (%)				Value	Share (%)					
World	4.73	7.42	8.25	100.0	11.2	5.15	6.54	7.38	100.0	12.8	0.42	-0.88	-0.87	0.01
EU	2.37	5.01	5.56	67.4	11.1	2.83	4.23	4.69	63.6	11.0	0.46	-0.78	-0.87	-0.09
Germany	1.07	1.61	1.71	20.7	6.1	1.39	2.00	2.17	29.4	8.3	0.32	0.39	0.46	0.07
Italy	0.65	1.25	1.37	16.6	9.3	0.68	0.87	1.10	14.9	26.7	0.03	-0.39	-0.27	0.11
CEC	1.19	1.07	1.16	14.1	8.4	1.36	1.49	1.70	23.1	14.3	0.17	0.42	0.54	0.12
Croatia	0.66	0.46	0.41	5.0	-11.7	0.73	0.67	0.74	10.0	9.7	0.08	0.21	0.33	0.12
NIS	0.19	0.18	0.25	3.0	33.8	0.17	0.29	0.36	4.9	23.9	-0.02	0.11	0.12	0.01
Russia	0.10	0.16	0.22	2.7	34.4	0.10	0.23	0.29	3.9	22.8	0.00	0.07	0.07	0.00
USA	0.13	0.26	0.25	3.0	-2.1	0.15	0.19	0.21	2.9	11.0	0.02	-0.06	-0.04	0.03
Switzerland	0.08	0.14	0.14	1.7	1.7	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.8	15.6	-0.04	-0.09	-0.08	0.01
Others	0.77	0.76	0.89	10.7	17.1	0.60	0.29	0.35	4.7	21.0	-0.17	-0.47	-0.54	-0.07
For comparison														
Share (%) in: GDP	49.0	49.8	51.3	-	2.9	53.4	43.9	45.9	-	4.4	4.3	-5.9	-5.4	-
Trade of CEC's of world	8.4 ⁽¹⁾	6.6	6.2	-	-6.6	9.5 ⁽¹⁾	8.1	7.9	-	-2.4	-	-	-	-
	0.2	0.2	0.2	-	-8.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	-	-3.9	-	-	-	-

(¹) 1993

Sources: Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia; IMF.

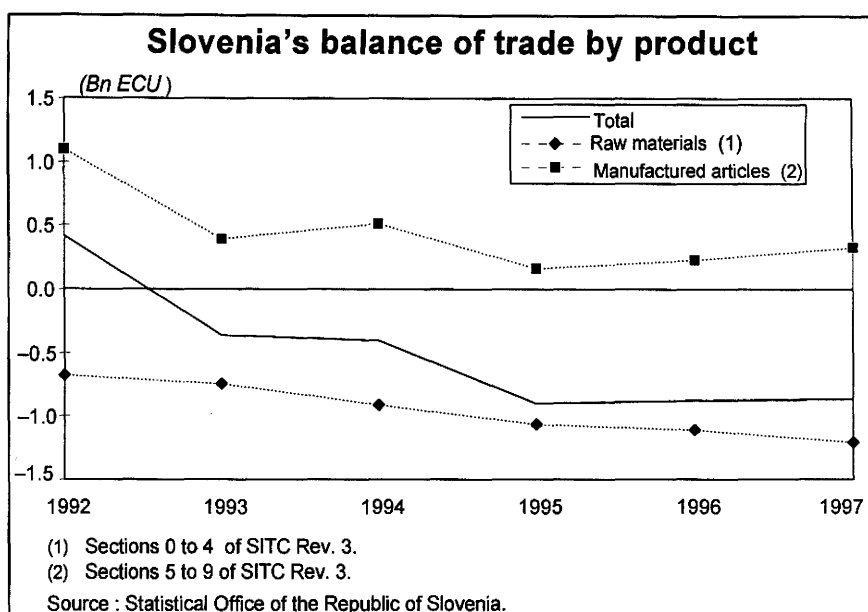
The country aggregates: EU: 93-94:EU 12; 95-96: EU 15; NIS (Newly Independent States): Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan. CECs (Central European Countries): Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia,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

1.2. Slovenian trade by product



The breakdown of Slovenia's trade balance shows that throughout the period it had a surplus in manufactured products (SITC 5-9) and a deficit in primary materials (SITC 0-4).

The surplus in manufactured products, which was approximately ECU 334 million in 1997, was attributable to miscellaneous manufactured articles (SITC 8; ECU 450 million) and goods classified by material (SITC 6; ECU 304 million). These surpluses more than offset the deficits in machinery and transport equipment (SITC 7; -ECU 250 million) and chemicals (SITC 5; -ECU 170 million).



Slovenia's trade by product group

(Bn ECU)

Product groups (SITC Rev.3)	Imports				Exports				Balance	
	1992		1997		1992		1997		1992	1997
	Value	Share (%)	Value	Share (%)	Value	Share (%)	Value	Share (%)	Value	
Total	4.73	100.0	8.25	100.0	5.15	100.0	7.38	100.0	0.42	-0.87
Primary materials (0-4)	1.26	26.5	1.73	20.9	0.57	11.2	0.52	7.1	-0.68	-1.20
Food products (0-1)	0.41	8.6	0.57	7.0	0.33	6.4	0.27	3.7	-0.08	-0.30
Crude materials excluding fuels (2+4)	0.34	7.2	0.47	5.6	0.11	2.2	0.16	2.2	-0.23	-0.31
Mineral fuels (3)	0.51	10.8	0.69	8.3	0.13	2.6	0.09	1.2	-0.38	-0.60
Manufactured articles (5-8)	3.26	68.9	6.52	79.0	4.57	88.8	6.86	92.9	1.31	0.34
Chemicals (5)	0.59	12.4	1.00	12.1	0.47	9.1	0.83	11.3	-0.12	-0.17
Goods classified by material (6)	0.93	19.6	1.69	20.5	1.40	27.1	2.00	27.1	0.47	0.30
Machinery and transport equipment (7)	1.25	26.4	2.73	33.1	1.51	29.4	2.48	33.6	0.26	-0.25
Misc. manufactured articles (8)	0.50	10.5	1.09	13.3	1.20	23.2	1.55	20.9	0.70	0.45
Commodities, transactions n.e.s. (9)	0.22	4.6	0.01	0.1	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0	-0.21	-0.01

Source : Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia.

In 1997, half the deficit in primary materials (SITC 0-4; -ECU 1.2 billion) was attributable to mineral fuels (SITC 3), a quarter to crude materials (SITC 2+4) and a quarter to food products (SITC 0-1).

At SITC two-digit level, road vehicles (SITC 78), electrical machinery (SITC 77) and articles of apparel and clothing accessories (SITC 84) were the basis of Slovenia's main transactions. Road vehicles accounted for both the main import flows and the main export flows in the country's trade with the rest of the world. In 1997, about a quarter of Slovenia's purchases were of road vehicles (12.2% of total imports), petroleum and petroleum products (33, 6.4%) and electrical machinery (5.4%), while

Slovenia's trade by main product, 1997

SITC Rev. 3	Description of products	Value	Share	Cumul
		(Bn ECU)	(%)	
Imports				
78	Road vehicles	1.01	12.2	12.2
33	Petroleum and petroleum products	0.52	6.4	18.6
77	Electrical machinery	0.45	5.4	24.0
84	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	0.39	4.8	28.7
74	General industrial machinery and equipment	0.37	4.5	33.2
Exports				
78	Road vehicles	0.88	11.9	11.9
77	Electrical machinery	0.74	10.0	21.9
84	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	0.49	6.6	28.5
82	Furniture and parts thereof	0.41	5.6	34.1
54	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	0.36	4.8	38.9

Source : Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia.

almost 30% of its sales were of road vehicles (11.9% of total exports), electrical machinery (10%) and articles of apparel and clothing accessories (6.6%). For the same year, medical and pharmaceutical products (SITC 54) represented 4.8% of exports.

2. EU trade with Slovenia

2.1. EU balance of trade with Slovenia



The analysis of bilateral trade between the European Union and Slovenia 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.

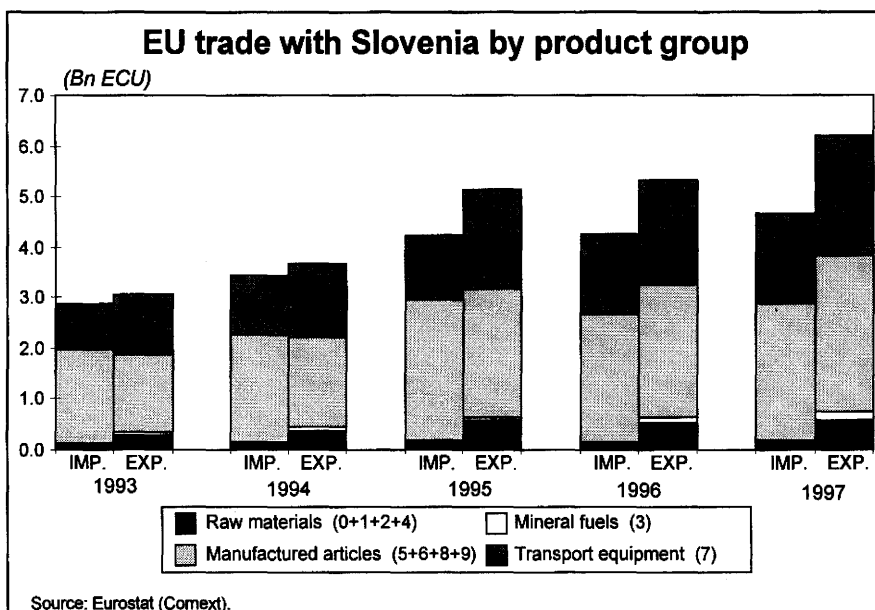
Among the CECs, Slovenia is the EU's fourth largest trading partner, after Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary. With 0.79% of EU trade in 1997, it accounted for 7.4% of the transactions of this group of countries with the Union.

The EU trade balance with Slovenia was in surplus throughout the period, increasing from ECU 196 million in 1993 to ECU 1.64 billion in 1997. In that year the EU had a similar surplus vis-à-vis Hungary (ECU 1.98 billion), but its largest surpluses with the CECs were with Poland (ECU 10.9 billion), the Czech Republic (ECU 4.1 billion) and Croatia (ECU 3.0 billion).

In 1997, the EU had a surplus in its transactions with Slovenia in both primary materials (ECU 546 million) and manufactured goods (ECU 1 billion). The relatively high level of the surpluses in this last item are especially noteworthy since in 1993 the Union had a deficit of ECU 48 million.

At a more detailed level of breakdown, the largest Community surpluses in 1997 concerned the following items: machinery and transport equipment (ECU 613 million), chemicals (ECU 490 million) and food products (ECU 282 million). At this level of breakdown, the EU had the largest deficit in miscellaneous manufactured articles (-ECU 319 million).

At SITC two-digit level, the European Union's largest surplus in 1997 was in textile yarn, fabrics and related products (SITC 65) and its largest deficit in articles of apparel and clothing accessories (SITC 84).



EU balance of trade with Slovenia by product group

Product group (SITC-Rev.3)	1993	1996	1997	1993	1996	1997
	(Bn ECU)			CR ⁽¹⁾ = (Exp/Imp)*100		
Total	0.20	1.11	1.64	106.8	125.9	135.3
Raw materials (0-4)	0.21	0.47	0.55	248.8	375.9	382.9
Food, beverage and tobacco (0-1)	0.12	0.29	0.28	277.2	595.0	548.3
Crude material except fuels (2+4)	0.04	0.08	0.11	156.6	176.0	192.1
Mineral fuels (3)	0.05	0.10	0.15	3184.9	1278.4	2231.7
Manufactured articles (5-8)	-0.05	0.59	1.00	98.2	114.5	122.5
Chemicals (5)	0.25	0.40	0.49	399.0	329.1	355.1
Goods classified by material (6)	-0.04	0.08	0.22	95.0	107.0	117.3
Machinery and transport equipment	0.30	0.47	0.61	133.2	129.7	134.8
Misc. manufactured articles (8)	-0.56	-0.37	-0.32	39.6	66.4	73.4
Commodities, transactions n.e.s. (9)	0.04	0.01	0.00	220.0	151.9	88.1
For comparison						
EU trade balance	-46.1	43.4	50.3	90	107.5	107.5
EU trade balance with CECs	-0.92	20.8	26.8	93	141.5	144.4

(1) CR = coverage rate in %.

Source: Eurostat (Comext).

EU balance of trade with Slovenia by product

SITC-Rev.3	Type of products	1993	1996	1997
		(Bn ECU)		
Largest surpluses				
65	Textile yarns, fabrics and related products	0.20	0.23	0.26
72	Machinery specialized for particular indust.	0.09	0.12	0.17
74	General industrial machinery	0.07	0.12	0.15
33	Petroleum and petroleum products	0.05	0.09	0.14
78	Road vehicles	0.19	0.14	0.13
Largest deficits				
84	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	-0.39	-0.30	-0.29
82	Furniture and parts thereof	-0.12	-0.15	-0.16
63	Cork and wood manufactures	-0.09	-0.12	-0.10
77	Electrical machinery	-0.11	-0.14	-0.08
68	Non-ferrous metals	-0.03	-0.06	-0.07

Source: Eurostat (Comext).

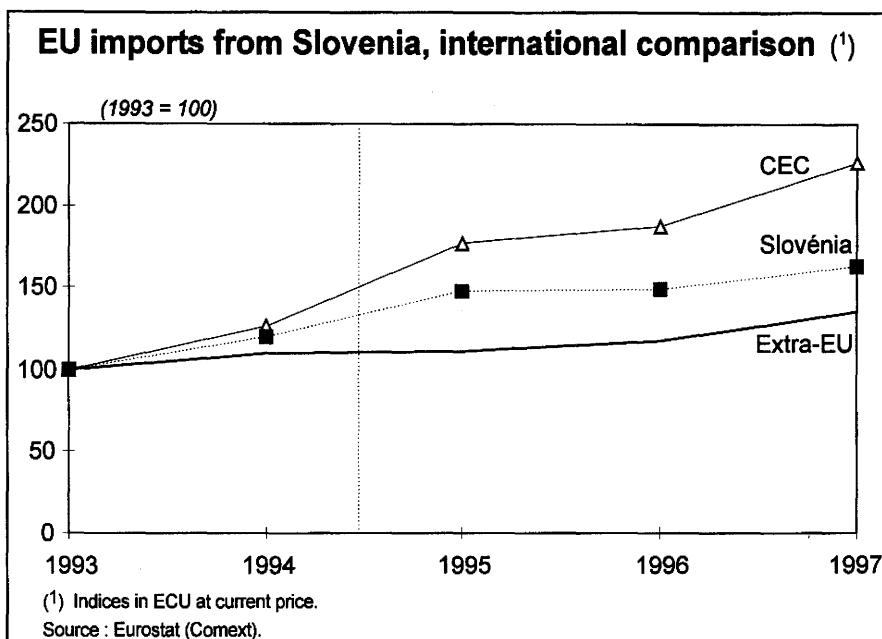
2.2. EU imports from Slovenia

EU imports from Slovenia rose at an annual rate of 12.9% between 1993 and 1997, which was higher than the rate of increase of total extra-Community purchases (+7.9%) but less than that of EU imports from the CECs as a whole (+22.5%). In the wake of Austria's accession to the Union, 1995 saw the largest increase in EU purchases (+24.1%), 11.4 percentage points of which was due to this factor. After marking time in 1996, Community imports from Slovenia increased by 9.1% in 1997.

Almost all EU purchases from Slovenia concerned manufactured goods (95.6% of total imports in 1997), the main product groups being the following: machinery and transport equipment (37.8%), goods classified by material (27.5%) and miscellaneous manufactured articles (25.7%). Of these three groups of products, imports of machinery and transport equipment showed the largest increase (+10.6%).

At SITC two-digit level, road vehicles (SITC 78) were the main Community imports from Slovenia (15.5% of total imports), followed by electrical machinery (SITC 77; 10.2%) and articles of apparel and clothing accessories (SITC 84; 9.7%). 78.3% of imports of road vehicles was accounted for by motor vehicles for the transport of persons (SITC 7812).

The value of the Grubel-Lloyd index calculated at SITC five-digit level is 48,1 which does not show a very high level of either intra-industry or inter-industry trade between the Union and Slovenia.



EU imports from Slovenia by product group

Product groups SITC-Rev.3	1993	1996	1997	Share 1997	97/96	97/93
	(Bn ECU)			(%)	(% annual change)	
Total	2.87	4.27	4.66	100	9.1	12.9
Raw materials (0-4)	0.14	0.17	0.19	4.1	13.9	8.6
Food, beverage and tobacco (0-1)	0.07	0.06	0.06	1.3	8.7	-1.7
Crude materials, except fuels (2+4)	0.07	0.10	0.12	2.6	19.6	15.2
Mineral fuels (3)	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.2	-19.3	46.2
Manufactured articles (5-8)	2.70	4.09	4.45	95.6	8.9	13.4
Chemicals (5)	0.08	0.18	0.19	4.1	9.6	23.6
Goods classified by material (6)	0.79	1.19	1.28	27.4	7.3	12.9
Machin. and transport equipment (7)	0.91	1.59	1.76	37.8	10.6	17.6
Misc. manufactured articles (8)	0.92	1.11	1.20	25.7	7.8	7.2
Commodities, transactions n.e.s. (9)	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.5	11.5	-6.4

Source: Eurostat (database).

EU imports from Slovenia by main products, 1997

SITC Rev.3	Types of products	Value	Annual change	Share of the total	Cumulative share
		(Bn ECU)	(%)		
78	Road vehicles	0.72	9.9	15.5	15.5
77	Electrical machinery	0.47	8.2	10.2	25.7
84	Apparels, clothing accessories	0.45	2.7	9.7	35.4
82	Furniture and parts thereof	0.33	17.6	7.1	42.4
69	Manufactures of metals	0.22	10.6	4.8	47.2

Source: Eurostat (Comext).

The Grubel-Lloyd intra-industry trade index shows whether the trade specialisation between partners relates to different industries (inter-industry trade) or to the same industry (intra-industry trade). A value in the region of 100 shows that trade is concentrated within a branch, while a value in the region of 0 shows that there is strong inter-industry specialisation.

The index is calculated as follows:
$$\frac{\sum (X_i + M_i) - \sum |X_i - M_i|}{\sum (X_i + M_i) + \sum |X_i - M_i|} * 100$$
, where X_i is exports and M_i imports for industry i .

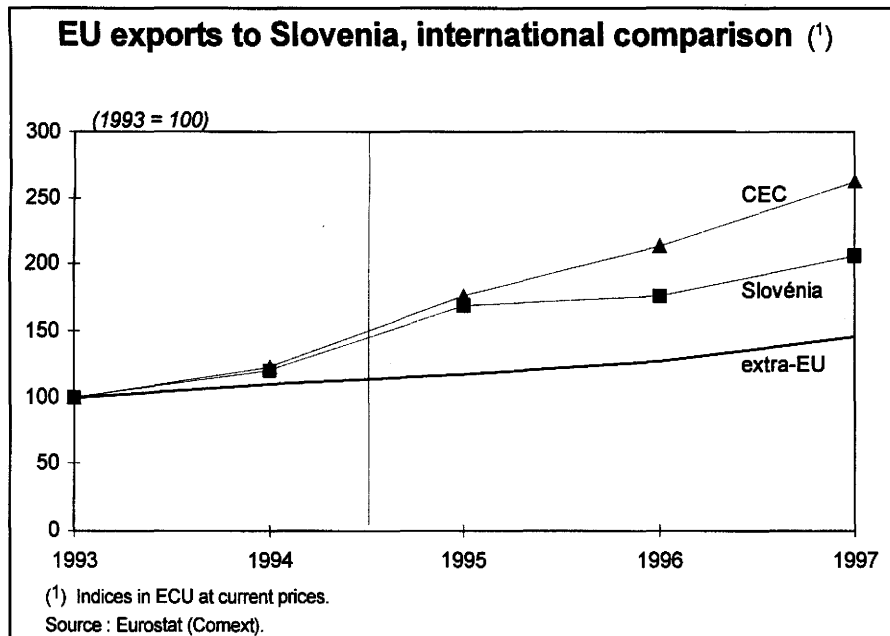
2.3. EU exports to Slovenia

Like imports, EU exports to Slovenia increased at a higher rate (+19.8% per year between 1993 and 1997) than extra-Community exports (+10.0%) but at a lower rate than sales to the CECs as a whole (+27.3%). The most striking feature of this period is the exceptional growth of EU exports to Slovenia in 1995 (+41%). It should, however, be stressed that 21.7 points of this increase were due to the accession of Austria to the European Union.

Since sales to Slovenia increased more (+19.8% per year) than imports (+12.9%) between 1993 and 1997, the corresponding EU trade surplus rose from ECU 195.8 million to ECU 1.6 billion.

As in the case of imports, the bulk of EU exports to Slovenia concerned manufactured goods (86.5% of total exports in 1997). Machinery and transport equipment alone accounted for 37.6% and manufactured goods classified by material for 23.8%.

The importance of EU sales of machinery and transport equipment (SITC 7) to Slovenia is indicated at SITC two-digit level. Since 1997, exports of road vehicles (SITC 78), electrical machinery (SITC 77) and general industrial machinery (SITC 74) alone accounted for more than a quarter of total exports. At this level of breakdown, textile yarn, fabrics and related products (SITC 65; 6.9% of total exports) were the second largest item in EU sales to Slovenia. In 1997, at SITC two-digit level, the highest growth was recorded for electrical machinery and manufactures of metals (SITC 69), with 30.3% and 27.9% respectively.



EU exports to Slovenia by product group

Product group SITC-Rev.3	1993	1996	1997	Share 97	97/96	97/93
	(Bn ECU)			(%)	(% annual change)	
Total	3.06	5.38	6.30	100	17.3	19.8
Raw materials (0-4)	0.35	0.64	0.74	11.7	16.0	20.9
Food, beverage and tobacco (0-1)	0.19	0.34	0.34	5.5	0.2	16.6
Crude materials except fuels (2+4)	0.11	0.18	0.24	3.8	30.6	21.2
Mineral fuels (3)	0.05	0.11	0.16	2.5	40.9	33.8
Manufactured articles (5-8)	2.65	4.69	5.46	86.5	16.4	19.8
Chemicals (5)	0.33	0.58	0.68	10.8	18.2	20.0
Goods classified by material (6)	0.75	1.27	1.50	23.8	17.7	19.0
Machinery and transport equipment	1.21	2.06	2.37	37.6	15.0	18.4
Misc. manufactured articles (8)	0.36	0.74	0.88	14.0	19.0	24.7
Commodities, transactions n.e.s. (9)	0.07	0.03	0.02	0.3	-35.3	-25.5

Source: Eurostat (Comext).

EU exports to Slovenia by main products, 1997

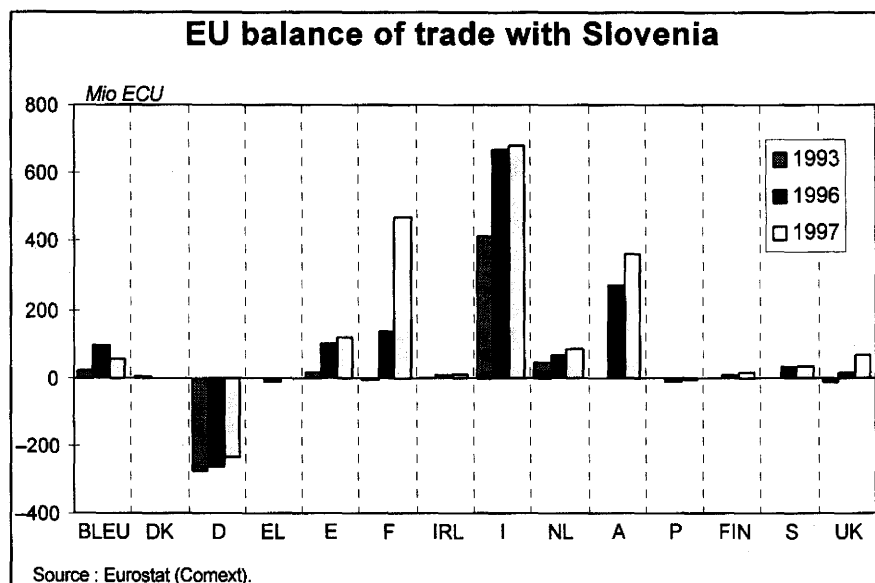
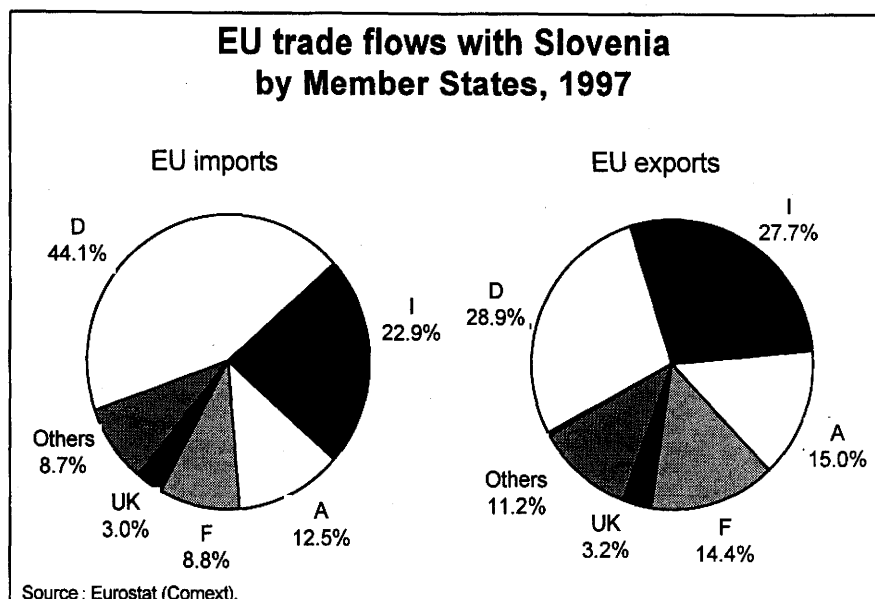
SITC Rev.3	Types of products	Valeur	Annual variation	Share in the total	Cumulative share
		(Bn ECU)	(%)		
78	Road vehicles	0.85	6.6	13.5	13.5
65	Textile yarns, fabrics, related products	0.44	8.9	6.9	20.5
77	Electrical machinery	0.39	30.3	6.2	26.7
74	General industrial machinery	0.36	18.8	5.6	32.4
69	Manufactures of metals	0.28	27.9	4.5	36.8

Source: Eurostat (Comext).

2.4. EU trade with Slovenia by Member States.

86.7% of EU transactions with Slovenia were accounted for by Germany (35.3% in 1997), Italy (25.7%), Austria (13.9%) and France (11.8%). Germany alone received 44.1% of EU imports from Slovenia. During the reference period, the greatest increases were recorded for Denmark for imports (21.1% per year) and by Spain for exports (+39.3%), although the level of these countries' transactions with Slovenia remained fairly low. It should be noted that Italy's imports (22.9% of total EU imports) increased by 25% in 1997.

Four EU countries conducted trade worth ECU 1.6 billion with Slovenia: Italy (ECU 681.1 million), France (ECU 473.0 million), Austria (ECU 363.6 million) and Spain (ECU 119.7 million). While Italy always had a considerable surplus vis-à-vis Slovenia, France was still in deficit (-ECU 7.7 million) in 1995. In contrast, Germany's trade with Slovenia was in deficit throughout the period, and in 1997 by -ECU 235.9 million.



EU trade with Slovenia by Member States

(ECU million)

Declarant country	EU imports					EU exports					Balance			
	1993	1996	1997		97/96	1993	1996	1997		97/96	1993	1996	1997	97-96
			Value	Share (%)	Change (%)			Value	Share (%)	Change (%)				Change
EU	2 865.1	4 270.4	4 660.4	100	9.13	3 060.8	5 377.1	6 304.8	100	17.25	195.8	1 106.7	1 644.3	537.7
BLEU	50.1	69.9	91.2	2.0	30.5	73.6	166.6	144.9	2.3	-13.0	23.5	96.7	53.7	-43.0
DK	22.7	37.3	48.8	1.0	30.8	25.1	35.1	44.7	0.7	27.3	2.5	-2.2	-4.1	-1.9
D	1 547.5	1 890.4	2 054.8	44.1	8.7	1 273.6	1 624.4	1 819.0	28.9	12.0	-273.8	-266.0	-235.9	30.1
EL	11.5	20.9	20.9	0.4	-0.1	9.0	9.8	16.4	0.3	67.2	-2.5	-11.1	-4.4	6.6
E	28.8	39.4	46.9	1.0	19.2	44.3	138.2	166.6	2.6	20.6	15.5	98.8	119.7	20.9
F	444.1	575.2	410.3	8.8	-28.7	434.0	707.6	883.3	14.0	24.8	-10.1	132.4	473.0	340.6
IRL	7.1	4.1	4.4	0.1	8.4	5.6	12.5	15.8	0.2	26.4	-1.5	8.4	11.3	2.9
I	581.0	854.5	1 068.0	22.9	25.0	992.9	1 524.4	1 749.1	27.7	14.7	411.9	669.9	681.1	11.2
NL	79.4	94.9	109.4	2.3	15.2	125.0	159.6	190.4	3.0	19.3	45.6	64.7	81.1	16.4
A	0.0	472.7	581.9	12.5	23.1	0.0	743.4	945.5	15.0	27.2	0.0	270.7	363.6	92.9
P	7.2	16.2	11.3	0.2	-30.1	6.4	3.4	4.5	0.1	34.9	-0.9	-12.8	-6.8	6.0
FIN	0.0	17.7	16.6	0.4	-6.2	0.0	28.5	30.7	0.5	7.4	0.0	10.8	14.1	3.2
S	0.0	46.5	55.8	1.2	20.1	0.0	77.5	89.4	1.4	15.3	0.0	31.1	33.6	2.5
UK	85.9	130.9	140.1	3.0	7.1	71.4	146.0	204.5	3.2	40.0	-14.5	15.2	64.4	49.2

Source: Eurostat (Comext).

Slovenia's trade agreements

1. Chronology of agreements

- 1980: Trade and Cooperation Agreement with the Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia
 13.04.1992: Establishment of diplomatic relations between the EU and Slovenia
 01.09.1993: Entry into force of the EU *Cooperation Agreement* with Slovenia
 30.07.1995: Slovenia became a member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO)
 10.06.1996: Signature of the *European Agreement* with the aim of gradually establishing a free trade zone among the signatory countries, with a view to the accession of Slovenia to the European Union
 01.01.1997: Entry into force of the *Interim Agreement* ⁽¹⁾ as a precursor to the European Agreement

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

a) Concessions granted by the EU to Slovenia

All *customs duties* on EU imports from Slovenia and measures with equivalent effect, except those levied on the products listed in Annex II to the Agreement, were abolished on 1 January 1997. Customs duties on products in Annex II will be gradually phased out until they are completely abolished on 1 January 2000. All *quantitative restrictions* on EU imports from Slovenia and measures with equivalent effect were abolished on 1 January 1997.

b) Concessions granted by Slovenia to the EU

All *customs duties on Slovenian imports* from the Union and measures with equivalent effect, except those levied on the products listed in Annexes III and IV, were abolished on 1 January 1997. Other customs duties on imports will be gradually phased out until they are completely abolished on 1 January 2000 for the products in Annex III and on 1 January 2001 for the products in Annex IV. All *quantitative restrictions* on Slovenian imports from the EU and measures with equivalent effect were abolished on 1 January 1997.

(1) The Interim Agreement with Slovenia was published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, L 344 of 31 December 1997.

Methodological note

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

Statistical system of Slovenia and the EU: Special trade.

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

The data in value terms used in this report are expressed in current ecus.

On this report, 1 Bn = 1 000 million .

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