

## 11. FOREIGN TRADE

### Methodological notes

**Foreign trade** in goods statistics generally records the movement of goods between the Slovak Republic and the rest of the world. The import includes goods entering the Slovak Republic to be added to the material resources of the Slovak Republic and goods for processing to be subsequently re-exported in the form of compensating products. The export includes goods taken from material resources of the Slovak Republic permanently leaving its territory or goods leaving this territory for the purposes of processing, which are to be reimported after processing in the form of compensating products.

Foreign trade in goods statistics do not include goods that are in temporary use, goods intended for repair and after their repair, and related spare parts and goods in which only a customs procedure (quasi import and quasi export) was carried out in the Slovak Republic.

The acquisitions of goods from another Member State or supplies of goods to another Member State (as considered by Act No 222/2004 Coll. on VAT as amended) are included in foreign trade statistics for month in which chargeable event occurs. If the import and export of goods are declared on customs declarations, then the goods are included in the month in which that declaration was accepted. Other goods are included in the month in which they enter or leave the territory of the Slovak Republic.

Foreign trade in goods data are published by **country of origin** (for total import) and **country of destination** (for total export), which is in compliance with the international methodology of presentation of foreign trade in goods data. Values of imported and exported goods are compiled as **FOB-type values**. Data on the value of imported and exported electricity and natural gas are estimated on the basis of data on their physical, cross-border flows.

Statistical data are collected and published by Combined Nomenclature, which is available as an Annex of Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 on the tariff and statistical nomenclature and on the Common Customs Tariff (Annex for year 2022 is in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1832). Data are also published according to the Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 4 (SITC, Rev. 4) and to Broad Economic Categories, Revision 4 (BEC, Rev. 4).

The statistics are compiled and published by countries according to the Nomenclature of countries and territories for the European statistics on international trade in goods and on the geographical breakdown for other business statistics (Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1470).

### Definitions

**Country of origin** is the country, where goods were completely produced or obtained, or where goods were substantially transformed.

**Country of destination** is the last country, to which it is known, at the time of export, that the goods are to be delivered.

**FOB-type value** includes the transaction value of goods and the values of services (e.g. transport, insurance, transfer, storing of the goods etc.) performed to deliver goods to the border of the exporting country.

**Economical groups** consist of the next countries:

**EU-27 (since 2020):** Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France,

Greece, Netherlands, Croatia, Ireland, Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Germany, Poland, Portugal, Austria, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Italy;

**EFTA:** Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland;

**OECD:** Australia, Belgium, Czechia, Chile, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Netherlands, Iceland, Israel, Ireland, Japan, Canada, Columbia (since 2020), Republic of Korea, Costa Rica (since year 2021), Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg, Hungary, Mexico, Germany, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Austria, Slovakia, Slovenia, United Kingdom, United States of America, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Italy, Turkey.

## Source

Foreign trade in goods statistics is composed of data from statistical surveys INTRASTAT-SK and from customs declarations.

Data sources on trade with non-EU countries are customs declarations, the collection and processing of which is ensured by the Customs Section of the Financial Directorate of the Slovak Republic in accordance with the legislation of the Union and the Slovak Republic.

The main data sources on trade with EU Member States are INTRASTAT-SK declarations provided by consignees and consignors of goods. Collection and processing of information on trade between EU Member States was carried out until 2021 according to Regulation (EC) No 638/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as amended and after 2022 according to Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council as amended. Under the Slovak legislation, this area was regulated by Decree of the Statistical Office of the SR No 250/2017 Coll. and by Decree of the Statistical Office of the SR No 292/2020 Coll. Collection of INTRASTAT-SK declarations submitted by providers of statistical information is provided by the Financial Directorate of the SR according to mentioned legislation and in co-operation with the Statistical Office of the SR, which is responsible for the production and dissemination of foreign trade in goods statistics. Statistics on trade with EU Member States covers data from customs declarations prescribed for the EU's territories where is not applied the common system of VAT. Imputations for trade realised by reporting units, which defaulted their reporting obligation and adjustments for trade of units, which have no reporting obligation due to volume of their trade with goods are used as another source of data. These data are calculated by the Statistical Office of the SR as an authority responsible for the foreign trade in goods data processing and publishing. From 2022, the data on imports of goods within EU by natural and legal persons who are not registered for VAT in the Slovak Republic and who purchased the goods under distance sales are also estimated.

More detailed information on foreign trade in goods can be obtained on the website of the Statistical Office of the SR in the section Macroeconomic statistics – Foreign trade, in the public database of the Statistical Office of the SR DATAcube.