

International Workshop

MENA Transition and International Response

2nd December 2011

**CESEE and MENA Transitions: Economic
Challenges and Prospects**

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Countries covered:

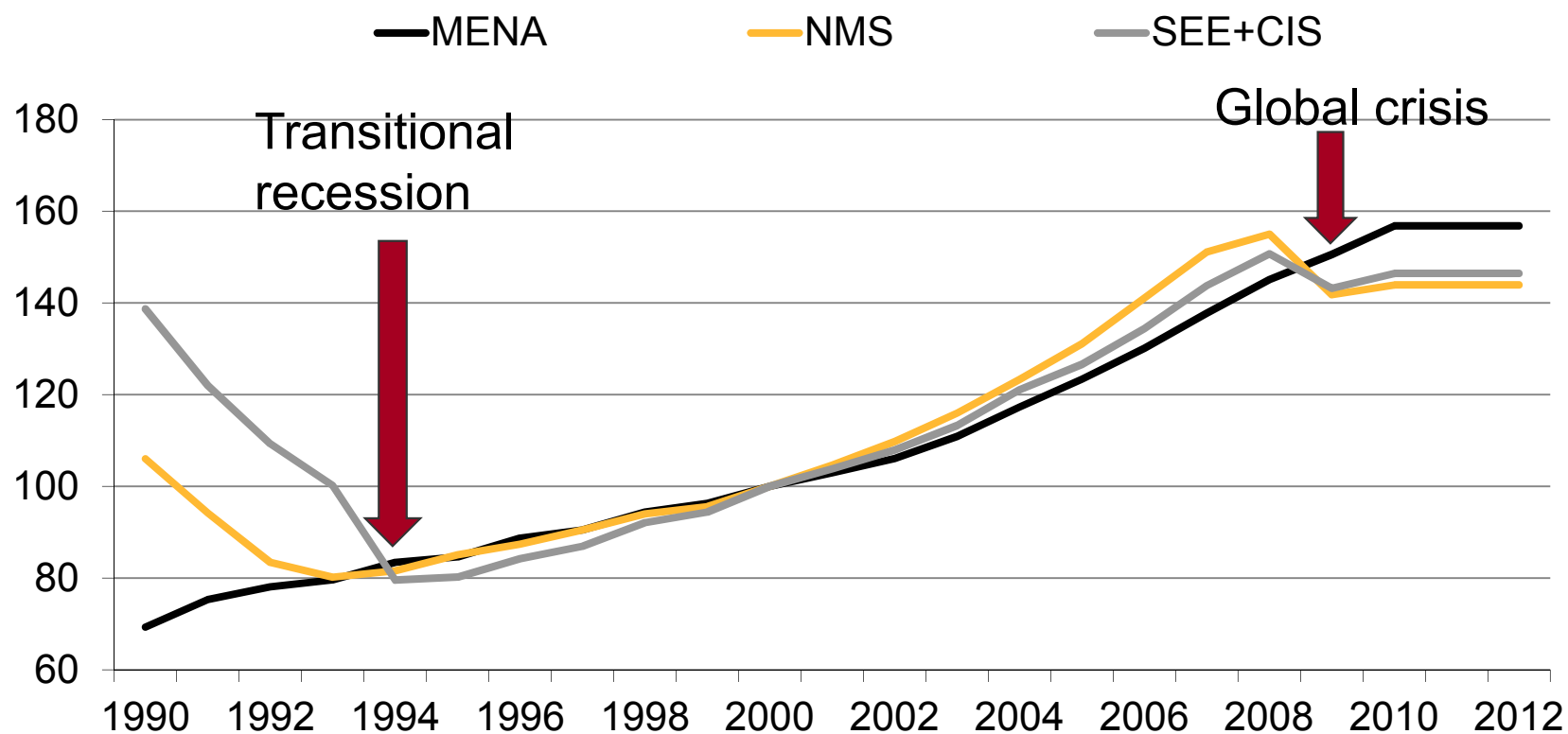
- CESEE:
 - NMS (Bulgaria BG, Czech Rep CZ, Estonia EE, Hungary HU, Latvia LV, Lithuania LT, Poland PL, Romania RO, Slovakia SK, Slovenia SI)
 - SEE (Albania AL, Bosnia-Herzegovina BiH, Kosovo KO, Serbia RS)
 - CIS (Russia RU, Ukraine UA, Moldova MD, Armenia AR, Azerbaijan AZ, Georgia GE)
- MENA (Syria SYR, Jordan JOR, Palestinian Authority PAL, Lebanon LEB, Egypt EGY, Libya LIB, Tunisia TUN, Algeria ALG, Morocco MOR)

Topics covered:

- economic growth, levels and structures – huge diversity across countries
- foreign trade and FDI: regional and commodity specialization
- intra-MENA trade: lessons from intra-CEE
- trade links with the EU and Austria
- economic transition challenges
- conclusions and prospects

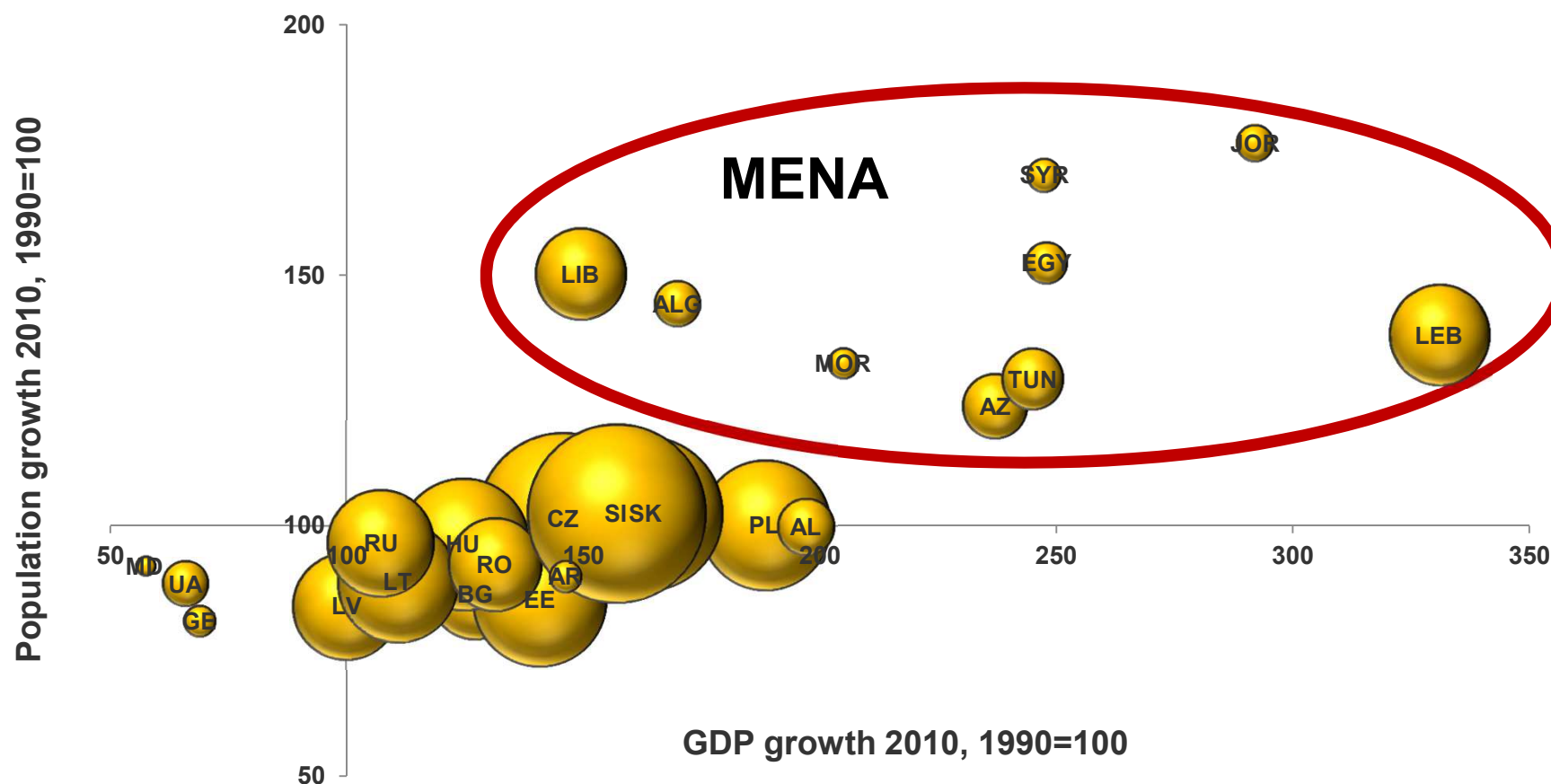
GDP growth in MENA, NMS and SEE+CIS, 1990-2012

2000=100, unweighted averages



Sources: National statistics, wiiw, Eurostat, WEO Database, Sep. 2011.

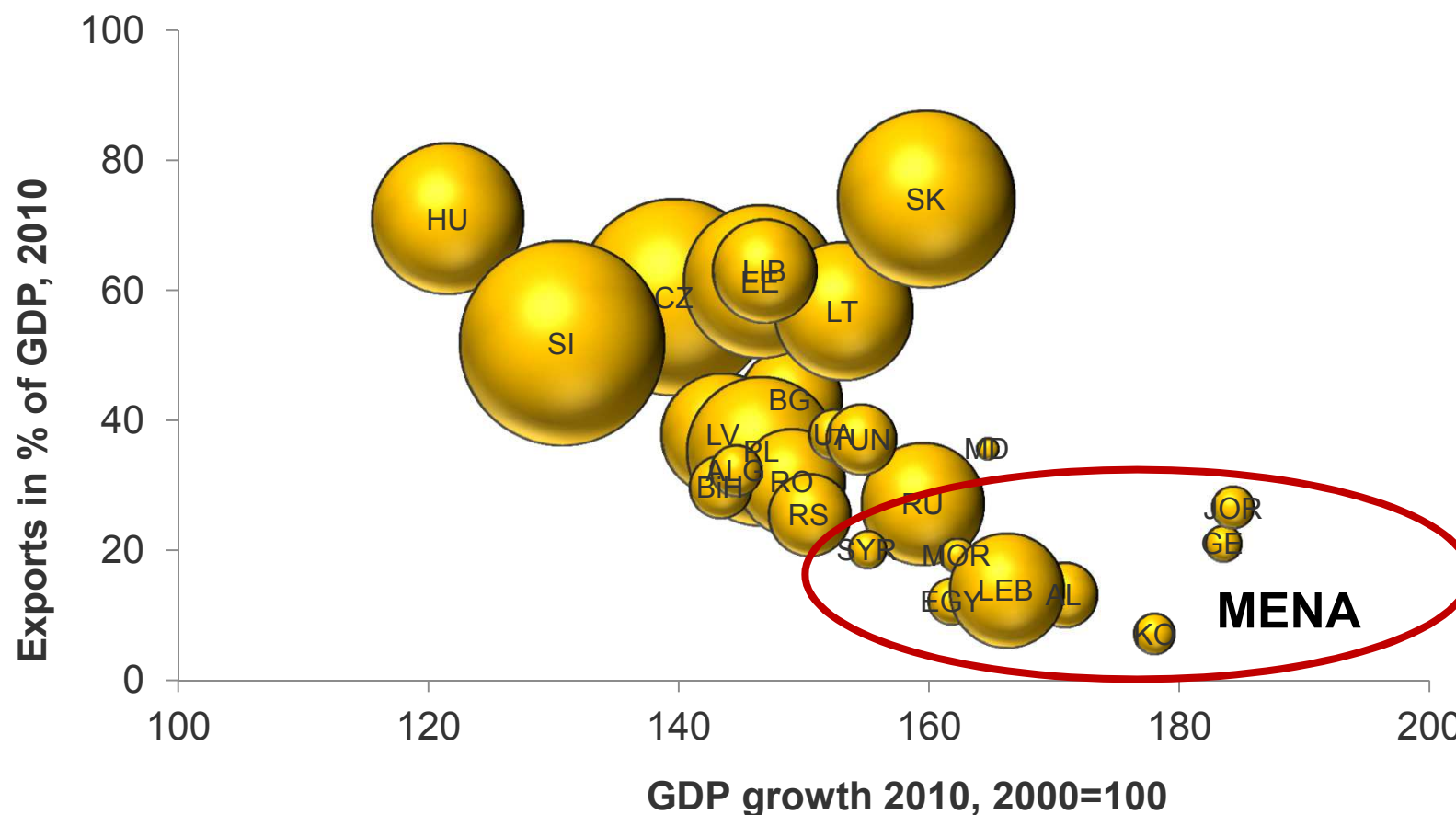
GDP, population growth (1990-2010) and development levels (bubbles correspond to GDP per capita at PPP, EUR, year 2010)



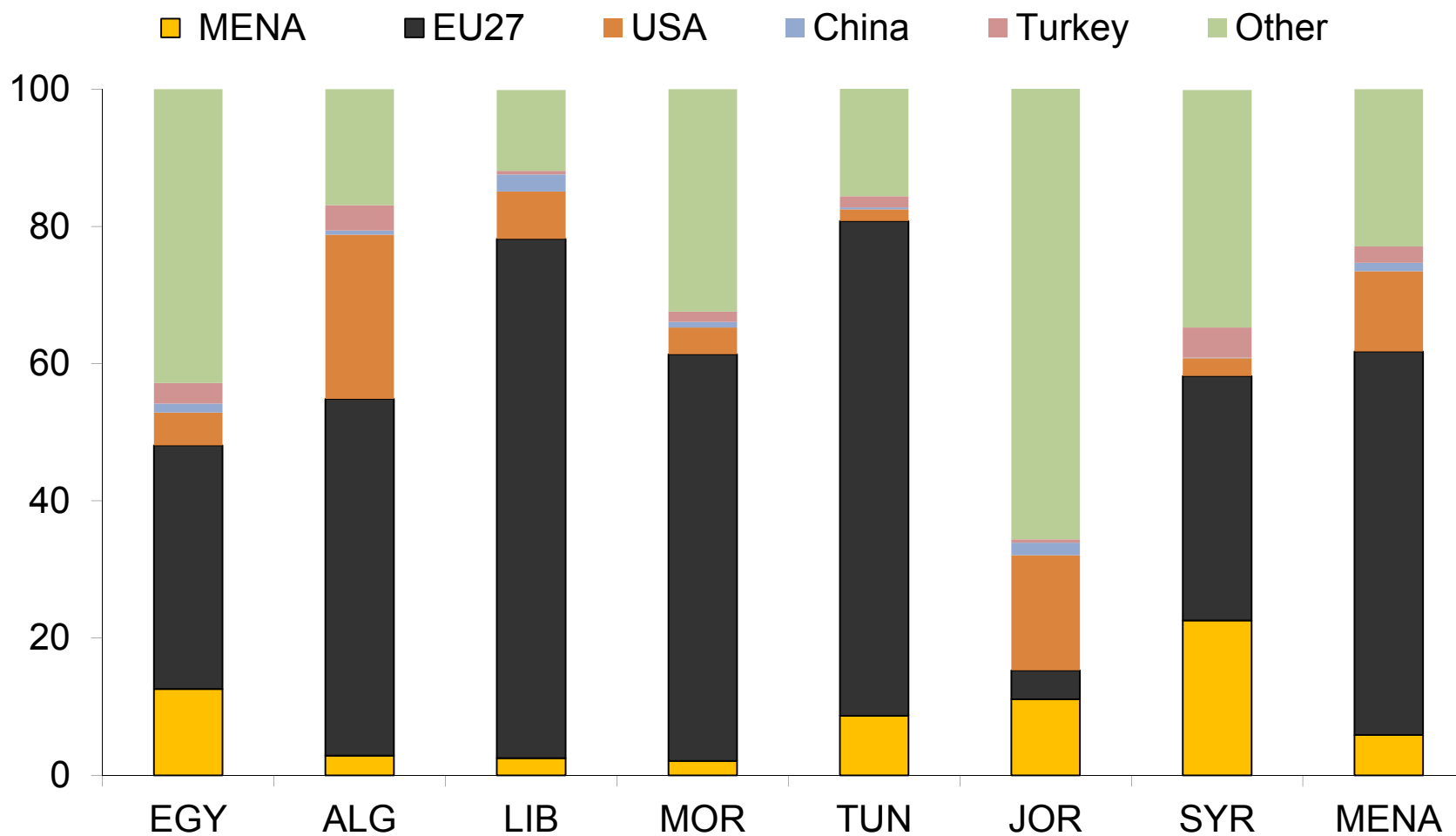
Source: national statistics, wiiw, Eurostat, AMECO, IMF, The World Bank.

GDP growth, exports in GDP and development level

(bubbles correspond to GDP per capita at PPP, EUR, year 2010)

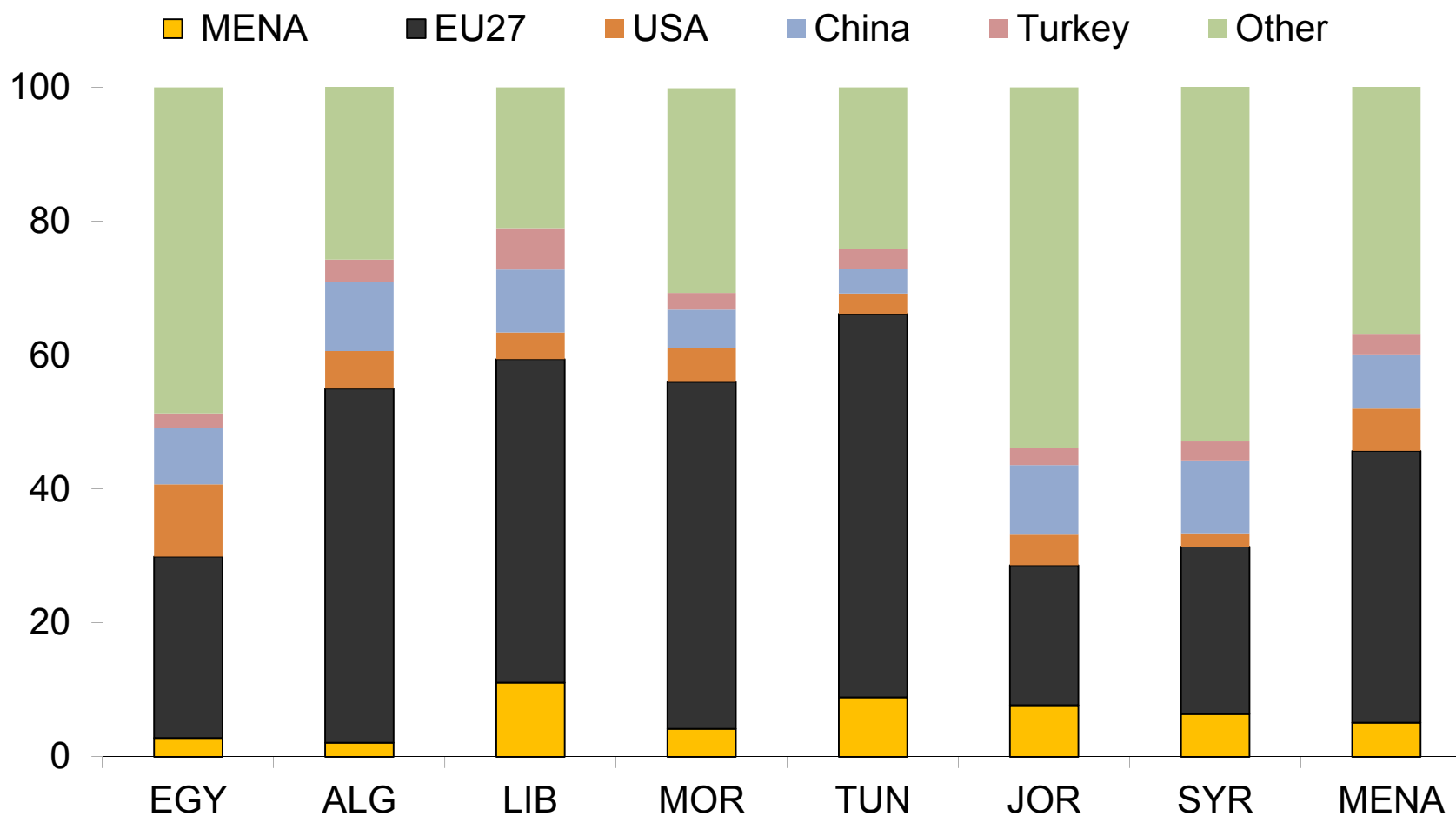


MENA exports by region, shares in total exports (%), 2008



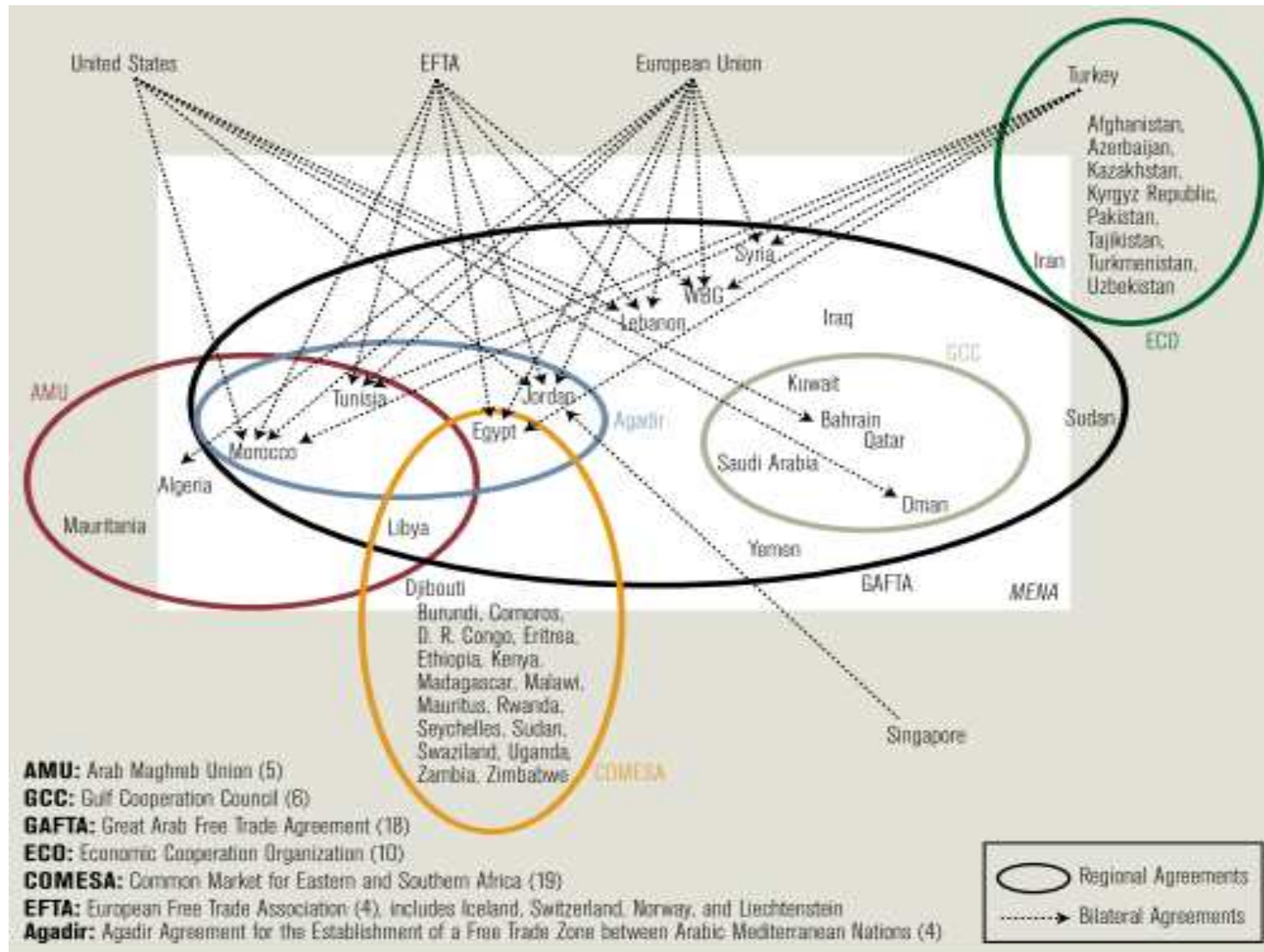
Source: COMTRADE.

MENA imports by region, shares in total imports (%), 2008

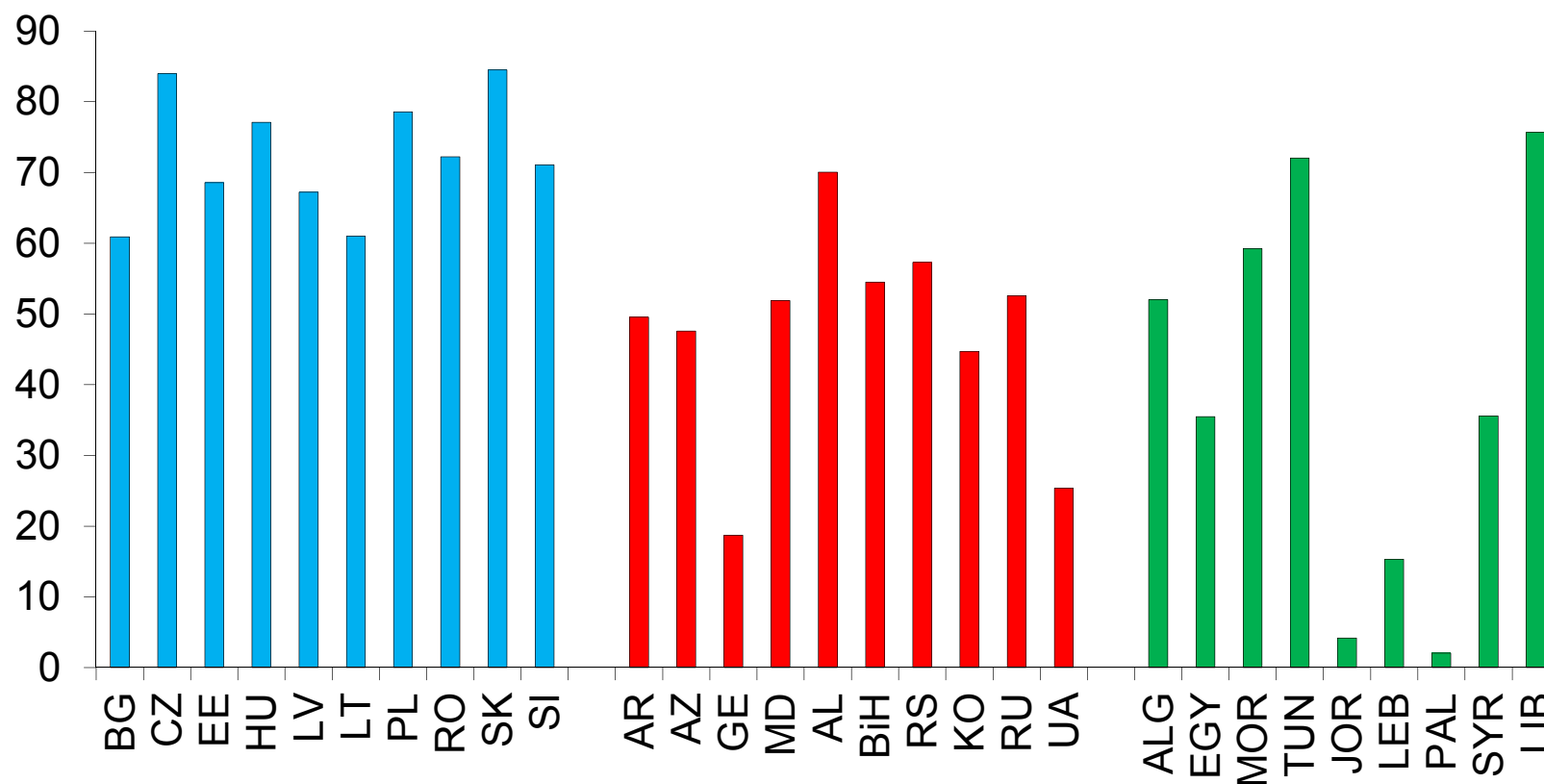


Source: COMTRADE.

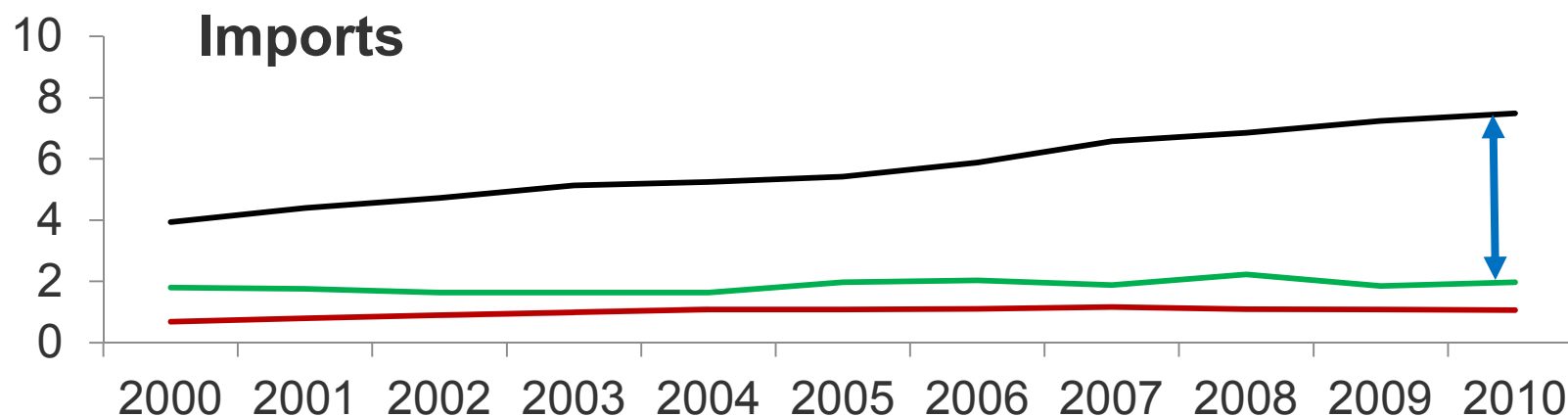
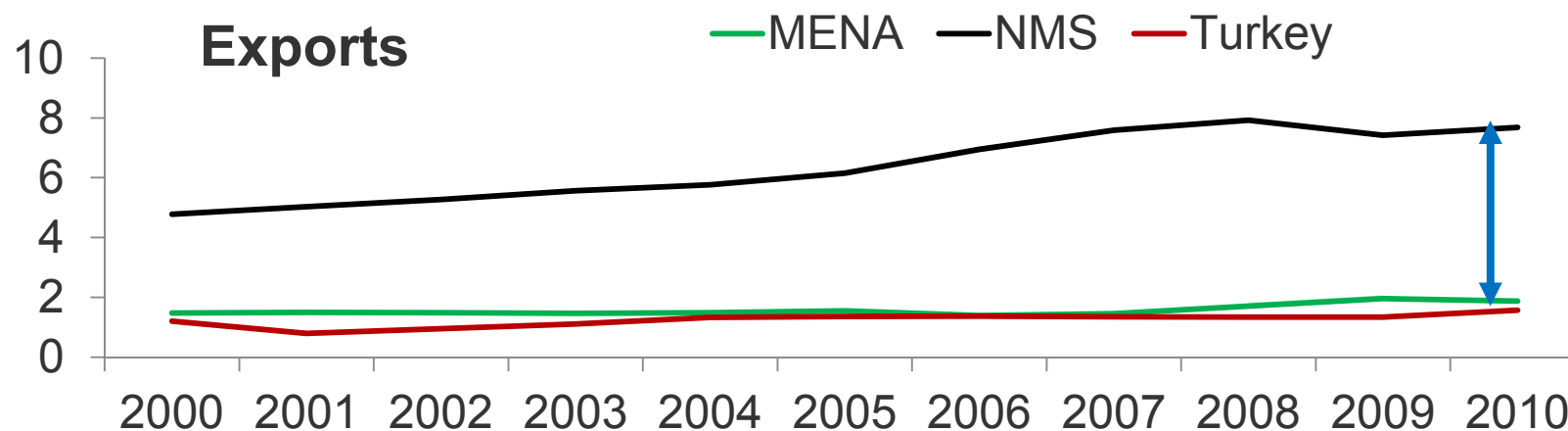
Maps of regional integration in MENA



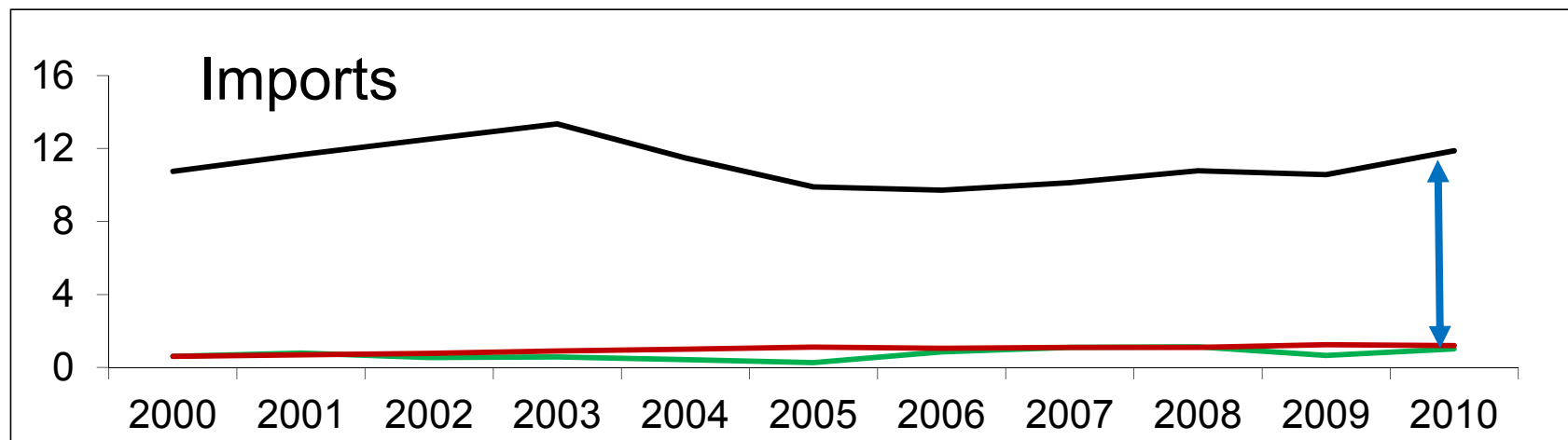
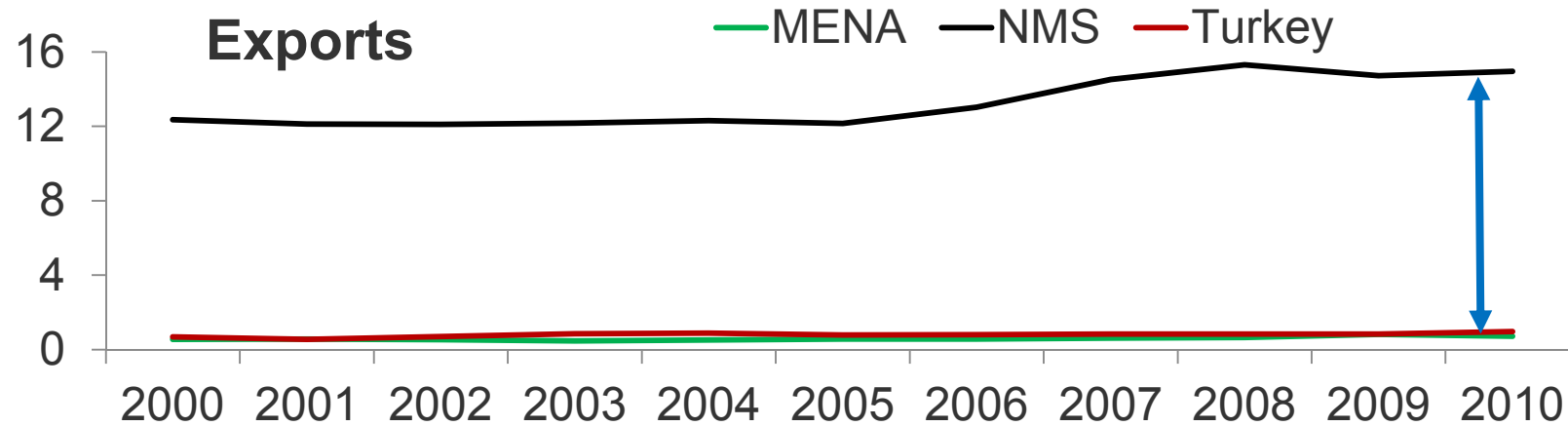
Exports to the EU in % of total exports, MENA and CESEEs



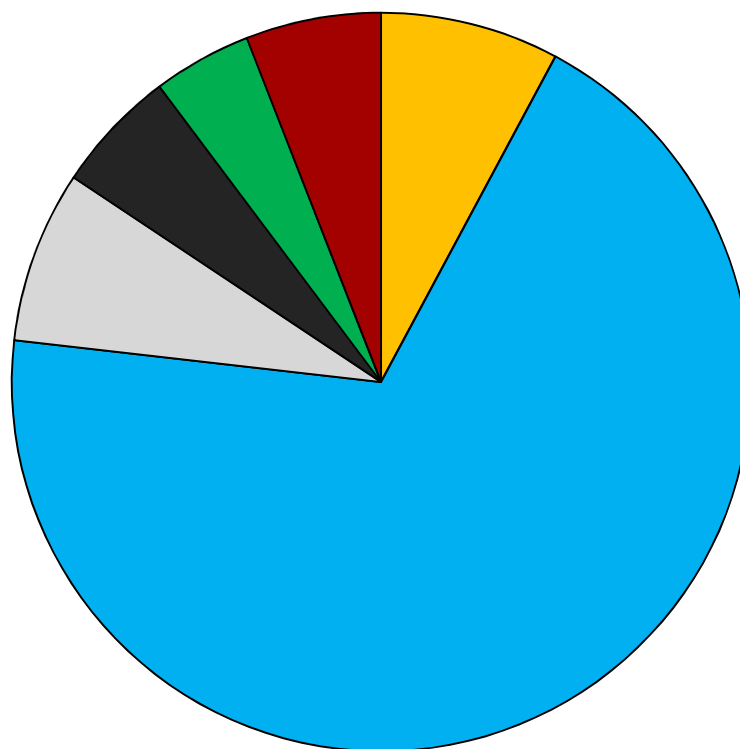
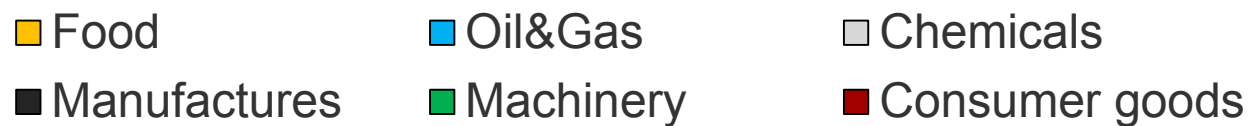
EU foreign trade with MENA, NMS and Turkey (shares in total EU trade in %)



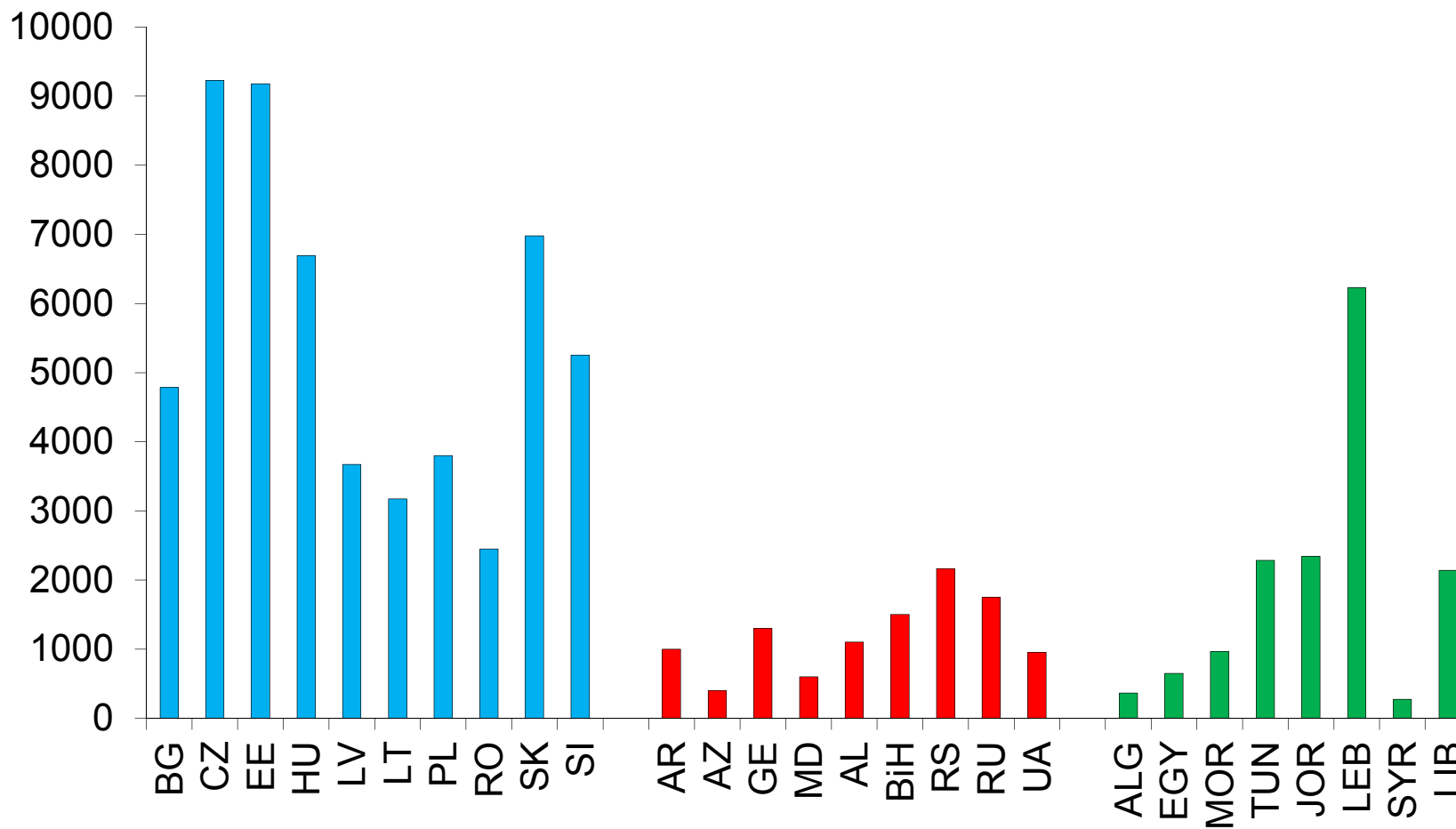
Austrian foreign trade with MENA, NMS and Turkey (shares in total Austrian trade in %)



MENA: Exports by SITC commodity groups (shares in total MENA exports in %, 2008)

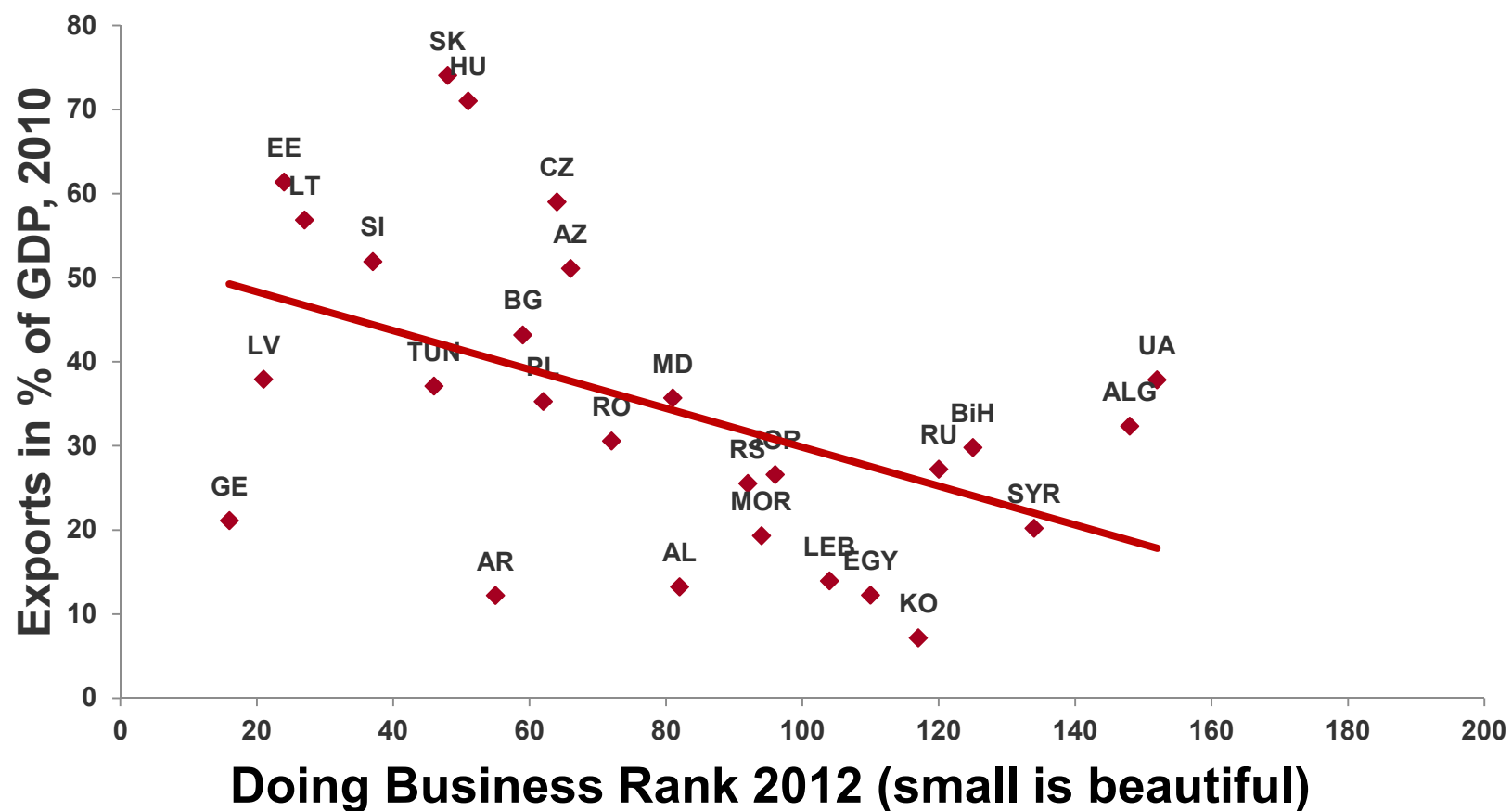


FDI inward stock, EUR per capita, year 2010



Source: national statistics, wiiw, UNCTAD.

Exports and Ease of Doing Business



Source: national statistics, wiiw, Eurostat, IMF, The World Bank.

Challenges, lessons and prospects for MENA (I):

- disappointing growth: lagging behind and disillusion may spark unrest and transitions
- transformational recessions next ?
- trade restructuring, diversification (via FDI) urgently needed
- will require improvements in business climate
- intra-MENA trade integration and cooperation helpful !
- Pan-Islamic integration as a reform anchor ?

Challenges, lessons and prospects for MENA (II):

- asymmetry in EU-MENA trade relations
- EU has little direct economic interests in MENA - except for energy and migration (fears)
- despite 16 years of Policy Dialogue, AA/FTA (ex Libya)
- EU can help mostly with advice (e.g. lessons from CESEE transitions), but watch demography !
- No EU accession anchor !
- be prepared for long transitions and even setbacks !

THANK YOU !