

## Monthly Report 8-9/06

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## Poland's competitive position in the enlarged EU\*

BY LEON PODKAMINER

Competitiveness is a rather ambiguous concept. It is more or less clear, of course, what kind of business firm would be considered competitive: A competitive firm is faring well in the market. It is attracting investors, making profits, outsmarting other firms (its 'competitors'). First of all it is surviving — escaping bankruptcy or hostile takeovers.

But, the microeconomic concept of competitiveness does not easily apply to nations. Nations rarely (if ever) go bankrupt economically and disappear from the world scene – as firms often do. (Occasionally, nations are taken over by stronger ones, though recently one observes the proliferation of new nations rather than the consolidation of existing

ones.) Besides, the criterion of profit-making is somewhat problematic in the national context. A country may work out huge profits – which are amassed by its capital-owning or managerial classes – while at the same time it may be reducing the incomes of its own working classes, or inducing a steep rise in unemployment.

It would make more sense to attribute 'competitiveness' to a country which demonstrates the ability to sustain growth higher than in other countries, combined with unemployment levels that are lower than elsewhere. Equipped with such a notion of national competitiveness, let us now examine the longer-term performance of the new EU member states from Central and Eastern Europe on two criteria: growth in GDP and in employment.

Table 1 indicates that over the ten-year period 1995-2005, Poland's performance was rather poor, comparatively speaking. In terms of GDP growth Poland clearly outperformed only the Czech Republic. In terms of employment growth, Poland was outperformed by all countries except Estonia,

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which had as poor a record on employment growth as Poland. Note, however, that Poland performed much better in the first part of the period considered (1995-2000). It can be argued that Poland's good performance in the earlier period had much to do with the policies instituted around 1993 and conducted until about 1997. In the second period (2000-2005) Poland was definitely outperformed, on both counts, by all other countries: Its GDP growth was the lowest, and it was the only country to register a fall in employment. The worsening Poland's performance relative to other new member states (NMS) in the second period must - in my judgement - be ascribed to mistaken macro (and social) policies applied after 1997, and to the misguided institutional reforms instituted in 1998.

Table 1

Longer-term performance of the new EU member states: indices of employment and GDP

	1995	-2005*	1995	-2000*	2000-2005**	
	D(E)	D(GDP)	D(E)	D(GDP)	D(E)	D(GDP)
CZ	0.99	1.27	0.99	1.075	1.00	1.18
0Z	0.55	1.21	0.55	1.070	1.00	1.10
HU	1.01	1.49	0.99	1.22	1.02	1.22
PL	0.95	1.50	0.99	1.3	0.96	1.16
SK	1.37	1.52	1.32	1.2	1.04	1.26
SI	1.23	1.46	1.15	1.24	1.07	1.18
EE	0.95	1.82	0.91	1.28	1.05	1.42
LV	1.05	1.84	0.99	1.26	1.06	1.46
LT	0.98	1.70	0.97	1.18	1.01	1.44

<sup>\* 1995=1, \*\* 2000=1</sup> 

Source: wiiw Database. D(E) is the index of employment, D(GDP) is the index of GDP.

A return to the successful macro policies of the earlier period does not seem likely at all, at least in the foreseeable future. It is even less plausible that some of the reforms responsible for the worsening of Poland's performance relative to other countries (e.g. the reform overhauling the pension system) would be reversed. Barring some glaring policy mistakes in other NMS, it would therefore seem that Poland is likely to continue to perform less impressively than other NMS also in the future.

### Poland's external competitive position is improving at the expense of capital formation

A competitive country does not have to be a champion of export performance. Japan and Germany are among the world's externally most competitive countries as both generate huge export surpluses. At the same time their overall growth is unimpressive, to say the least. Moreover, unemployment in Germany has been rather high for over a decade. Neither Japan nor Germany are thus very competitive (in the sense defined above) when compared with, let us say, the UK or Ireland. The problem, at least with Germany, is that the strength of its external competitiveness is at the same time the source of its internal weakness. For about ten years Germany has been experiencing a cost deflation (wages lagging much behind labour productivity) vs. its main EU partners. This has two closely related – consequences: First, German exports crowd out domestic production in less costefficient countries (in the euro area these are Italy and Spain, among others). Second, under the impact of wage incomes lagging much behind the rising potential output, employment and domestic demand stagnate.

Of course, a satisfactory performance in foreign trade (in goods and services) is a necessary component of competitiveness: In the long run a country running high trade deficits is certain to invite trouble, at some future date. Moreover, such a country is promoting higher growth and higher employment elsewhere, possibly in its direct competitors. Needless to say, good performance on the 'external front' may, under imaginable conditions, be also a source of overall prosperity. This is the case of 'export-led' growth, characterized by high contributions of both domestic demand and foreign balance to the overall GDP growth rates.

For example, German unit labour costs were about 20% lower than in Spain (in 2005). In 2000 that differential was only about 3%.

Given the fact that Poland's GDP growth was relatively weak over the past five years, it is perhaps not quite surprising that the country's external position has improved.

As can be seen from Table 2, Poland's trade balance (TB)/GDP ratios for the years 2000-05 are more or less consistent with the GDP growth rates over that period – though other Central European NMS (excluding the Baltic countries) managed to grow faster and yet generated lower trade deficits.

Table 2

GDP indices and the trade-balance/GDP ratios,
2000-2005

D(GDP)*	TB/GDP	D(GDP)**	TB/GDP	D(GDP)***	TB/GDP
2005/2000	2000-05	2000/1999	2000	2005/2004	2005
118.2	-1.4	103.9	-3.1	106	0.2
122.1	-3.0	105.2	-3.8	104.1	-1.2
115.6	-3.0	104.2	-6.3	103.4	-0.3
126.4	-4.3	102	-2.3	106	-4.5
117.9	-0.7	104.1	-3.5	103.9	-0.5
142.4	-6.0	107.9	-3.9	109.8	-6.4
145.7	-11.9	106.9	-7.6	110.2	-15.1
143.7	-6.2	103.9	-6.5	107.5	-7.0
	2005/2000 118.2 122.1 115.6 126.4 117.9 142.4 145.7	2005/2000 2000-05  118.2 -1.4  122.1 -3.0  115.6 -3.0  126.4 -4.3  117.9 -0.7  142.4 -6.0  145.7 -11.9	2005/2000     2000-05     2000/1999       118.2     -1.4     103.9       122.1     -3.0     105.2       115.6     -3.0     104.2       126.4     -4.3     102       117.9     -0.7     104.1       142.4     -6.0     107.9       145.7     -11.9     106.9	2005/2000         2000-05         2000/1999         2000           118.2         -1.4         103.9         -3.1           122.1         -3.0         105.2         -3.8           115.6         -3.0         104.2         -6.3           126.4         -4.3         102         -2.3           117.9         -0.7         104.1         -3.5           142.4         -6.0         107.9         -3.9           145.7         -11.9         106.9         -7.6	2005/2000         2000-05         2000/1999         2000         2005/2004           118.2         -1.4         103.9         -3.1         106           122.1         -3.0         105.2         -3.8         104.1           115.6         -3.0         104.2         -6.3         103.4           126.4         -4.3         102         -2.3         106           117.9         -0.7         104.1         -3.5         103.9           142.4         -6.0         107.9         -3.9         109.8           145.7         -11.9         106.9         -7.6         110.2

<sup>\* 2000=100, \*\* 1999=100, \*\*\* 2004=100</sup> 

 $\it Source:$  wiiw Database. TB is the trade balance (goods and non-factor services).

More recently, Poland's trade performance has improved: in 2005 Poland showed the second-lowest TB/GDP deficit — but also the slowest growth. It is quite obvious that the relation between growth and the TB deficit is a bit more favourable in Poland than in Hungary. But that relation seems even more favourable now in the Czech Republic, which experienced very high growth in 2005 and a TB surplus. The question worth asking is whether the improvements in foreign trade were perhaps achieved at too high a cost. To answer this question we look now at the sources of growth in individual NMS.

Table 3 sheds some light on the background of Poland's success on the 'external front'. First, it

appears that the contribution of the foreign trade balance to GDP growth was the largest in Poland (on average 0.9 percentage points over the period 2000-2005). Foreign trade was a stronger engine of GDP growth in Poland than in other NMS. (In the Baltic states, foreign trade was actually a 'brake' on growth, as it contributed negatively to the overall growth.) But, correspondingly, the contribution of domestic demand to GDP growth was lower in Poland than elsewhere. Moreover, only in Poland has gross fixed capital formation been contributing negatively to growth. Thus, the success on the 'external front' has been linked to the overall weakness of domestic demand, and happened to coincide with receding investment. The gains of foreign trade have proved smaller than the losses in terms of domestic demand.2

Table 3

Percentage contributions of domestic demand, consumption, gross fixed capital formation and foreign trade to average yearly GDP growth,

2000-2005

	Domestic demand	Consump- tion	GFCF	Trade balance	GDP growth
CZ	3.2	2.1	1.2	0.4	3.6
HU	3.6	4.1	1.6	0.5	4.0
PL	2.0	2.3	-0.3	0.9	3.0
SK	4.5	2.6	1.3	0.3	4.9
SI	2.9	2.1	0.9	0.5	3.4
EE	9.3	5.4	3.3	-1.7	7.6
LV	10.8	5.5	4.3	-2.7	8.1
LT	10.2	6.2	2.7	-2.6	7.6

Source: wiiw Database. GFCF is gross fixed capital formation. Domestic demand = consumption + GFCF + change in stocks + statistical discrepancy.

The weakness of Poland's domestic demand coupled with some improvements in foreign trade is consistent with the trends in productivity, wages

For comparison, German GDP growth for the same period was 1.2% per annum, with 0.4 percentage points contribution of domestic demand and 0.8 p.p. contribution of the trade balance. Ireland's GDP growth of 6.3% consisted of 4.4 p.p. and 1.9 p.p. contributions from domestic demand and the trade balance, respectively.

and unit labour costs. As can be seen from Table 4, Poland's real wage has been rising quite slowly.

Table 4

Growth rates of real wage, labour productivity and unit labour costs, annual averages for 2000-2005, in %

	Real wage	Productivity	Unit labour cost*	Unit labour cost**
CZ	3.8	3.3	3.6	7.4
HU	6.3	4.0	8.2	9.3
PL	1.6	3.4	0.9	0.9
SK	2.7	3.8	4.7	6.8
SI	3.4	2.3	6.7	3.4
EE	6.5	6.0	4.1	4.1
LV	5.6	5.9	3.8	-0.8
LT	4.7	6.5	-0.9	0.4

Source: wiiw Database. 'Real wage' is gross real wage, deflated with CIT; 'Productivity' refers to GDP per employed person, at constant prices of 2000; 'Unit labour cost\*' is GDP per person employed, at constant prices of 2000, divided by the average gross nominal wage; 'Unit labour cost\*\*' is adjusted for the current exchange rate (against the euro).

This explains the weak expansion of Poland's domestic demand. In all other countries real wages have been rising quite strongly (see Table 4), which squares with the robust expansion of domestic demand. The huge gap between gains in labour productivity and real wage has been responsible for the stubbornly high unemployment in Poland. Interestingly, Poland's gains in labour productivity were not much lower than in other Central European NMS (in fact these gains were higher than in Slovenia and the Czech Republic). But, with weak growth in wages, Poland's unit labour costs (whether at domestic prices, or in exchange-rate terms) have been virtually stagnant. This stands in stark contrast to what has been going on in other countries - especially in the Czech Republic and Hungary, but also in Slovenia. The fact that these countries have been able to combine strongly rising wages (and unit labour costs) with definite improvements in foreign trade is indicative of qualitative upgrading of their export commodities. Such an improvement seems to have been missing in Poland (but also in the three Baltic countries).

### Poland's unfavourable structural change: evidence from data on exports to the EU-15

The share of Poland's exports of manufacturing products to the 'old' EU-15 in the latter's total manufacturing imports has risen by 47% since 1995-1998.<sup>3</sup> The shares of such exports of

Table 5

Central and East European countries' (CEECs)
manufacturing goods exports to the EU-15:
shares in EU-15 total imports, in %

		Low- tech	Medium- low-tech	Medium- high-tech	High- tech	Total manu- facturing
CZ	1995-98	0.85	1.26	0.74	0.18	0.71
	2002-04	1.11	1.70	1.70	0.76	1.25
EE	1995-98	0.20	0.24	0.04	0.05	0.12
	2002-04	0.32	0.28	80.0	0.15	0.18
HU	1995-98	0.86	0.76	0.74	0.51	0.71
	2002-04	0.79	0.82	1.45	1.45	1.18
LT	1995-98	0.26	0.22	0.08	0.03	0.14
	2002-04	0.40	0.30	0.08	0.04	0.17
LV	1995-98	0.24	0.34	0.03	0.01	0.15
	2002-04	0.32	0.31	0.02	0.01	0.14
PL	1995-98	1.60	1.43	0.63	0.20	0.92
	2002-04	1.94	1.81	1.56	0.40	1.35
SI	1995-98	0.57	0.48	0.36	0.09	0.36
	2002-04	0.40	0.47	0.43	0.16	0.35
SK	1995-98	0.37	0.60	0.30	0.04	0.31
	2002-04	0.49	0.73	0.91	0.16	0.57
BG	1995-98	0.33	0.40	0.10	0.02	0.19
	2002-04	0.47	0.50	0.10	0.03	0.24
HR	1995-98	0.39	0.21	0.10	0.03	0.18
	2002-04	0.35	0.29	0.08	0.08	0.17
RO	1995-98	0.86	0.61	0.14	0.02	0.35
	2002-04	1.73	0.61	0.32	0.11	0.58

Source: wiiw calculations based on COMEXT Database. Low-tech goods are the products of NACE industries 15-22, 36-37; medium-low-tech: NACE 23, 25-28; medium-high-tech: NACE 24, 29, 31, 34-35; high-tech: NACE 30, 32-33.

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The indices discussed in this section compare the averages for the years 2002-2004 with the averages for the years 1995-1998.

Poland's main competitors rose faster: by 77% (Czech Republic), 66% (Hungary) and 82% (Slovakia) respectively. Even Romania performed better, with its export share rising by 65%. Moreover, the advantage of Poland's competitors in more sophisticated types of goods is even larger (see Table 5).

Poland's share in exports of high-tech products rose by slightly more than 100% – much less than the Czech Republic's or Slovakia's (each with an over 300% rise) or that of Hungary, Croatia and Estonia (close to 200% rise). Romania's share of high-tech exports increased more than fivefold.

### Losing quality/price competition in the export markets

There is yet another dimension of structural change: qualitative changes in production and exports (within the specific types of products) which are normally reflected in the prices received for a country's exports (relative to the prices received by the competitors). The measurement of such price/quality improvements involves the calculation of average prices per 'ton' of various types of goods.<sup>4</sup>

The results of the calculations using the COMEXT data are shown in Table 6. Informally speaking, each item from Table 6 represents a ratio of average prices received by a country (say, the Czech Republic) for its specific exports (say, of low-tech goods) to the average price of all such goods imported by the EU-15 countries. Thus, item 0.840 (for Czech exports of low-tech goods in 1995-1998) means that these goods were exported at a 16% discount (16% = 1 minus 0.840) as compared with exports from other countries. The corresponding item for 2002-2004 is 1.048, meaning that the prices received by Czech exporters for low-tech products were higher than

those of other suppliers. The change in the relative price (here from 0.840 to 1.043) is interpreted as reflecting an improvement in quality (relative to the average quality change of all EU imports).

The message of Table 6 is quite unpleasant for Poland. As concerns price/quality improvements at the level of total manufacturing, Poland has been strongly outperformed not only by Estonia, Latvia, Slovakia and the Czech Republic, but also by Romania and Bulgaria (see Table 7). Only Slovenia did register lower rates of growth of relative export prices for total manufacturing – but Slovenian export prices are much higher than Poland's.

Table 6

## Central and East European countries' exports to the EU-15: unit value ratios

		Low-tech	Medium- low tech	Medium- high tech	High-tech	Total manufacturing
CZ	1995-98	0.840	0.817	0.690	0.706	0.776
	2002-04	1.048	0.913	0.915	0.895	0.935
EE	1995-98	0.833	0.950	1.024	0.442	0.838
	2002-04	1.034	1.015	1.005	1.688	1.107
HU	1995-98	0.987	0.921	0.894	1.013	0.939
	2002-04	1.123	0.997	1.078	0.953	1.033
LT	1995-98	0.699	0.979	0.913	0.789	0.813
	2002-04	0.843	1.099	0.916	0.739	0.915
LV	1995-98	0.719	0.957	0.774	1.330	0.812
	2002-04	0.917	1.108	0.981	1.833	0.990
PL	1995-98	0.802	0.846	0.665	0.860	0.789
	2002-04	0.869	0.872	0.864	0.821	0.867
SI	1995-98	1.129	0.860	0.834	0.783	0.934
	2002-04	1.255	0.935	0.844	1.200	0.984
SK	1995-98	0.824	0.857	0.762	0.670	0.808
	2002-04	0.946	0.922	1.094	0.906	1.017
BG	1995-98	0.737	0.805	0.696	0.687	0.756
	2002-04	0.938	0.929	0.793	0.883	0.906
HR	1995-98	1.036	0.878	0.820	1.293	0.958
	2002-04	1.140	0.792	0.820	2.739	1.071
RO	1995-98	0.720	0.796	0.663	0.596	0.731
	2002-04	0.956	0.895	0.903	0.838	0.924

Source: wiiw calculations based on COMEXT.

The calculations were done by Robert Stehrer, wiiw. For the methodology see, e.g., M. Landesmann and R. Stehrer (2003), 'Evolving competitiveness of CEECs in an enlarged Europe'. *Rivista di Politica Economia*, Vol. XCII, No. I-II, pp. 23-87.

Quality improvements in Polish exports have been unimpressive in three out of four industry groups. Only in medium-high-tech goods (motor vehicles, other transport equipment, machinery etc.) did Poland's export prices rise at a speed comparable to that observed in the Czech Republic, Hungary and Romania. Nonetheless Poland's export prices for medium-high-tech products are the lowest now. Even Bulgarian and Romanian exporters receive higher prices for their medium-high-tech products. The situation is even worse in the low-tech and medium-low-tech products. Here the improvements are minimal - much lower than in other countries and that despite very low initial levels. Finally, one must note a decline in prices received for high-tech products. As a consolation, this has happened to Hungary and Lithuania as well.

Table 7
Indices of unit value ratios 2002-04 over 1995-98

	Low- tech	Medium-low tech	Medium-high tech	High- tech	Total manufacturing		
CZ	1.247	1.118	1.327	1.267	1.205		
EE	1.241	1.068	0.982	3.817	1.321		
HU	1.138	1.083	1.206	0.941	1.100		
LT	1.206	1.123	1.004	0.936	1.125		
LV	1.276	1.157	1.267	1.378	1.219		
PL	1.082	1.031	1.299	0.954	1.098		
SI	1.111	1.087	1.012	1.532	1.054		
SK	1.149	1.076	1.436	1.352	1.259		
BG	1.272	1.154	1.139	1.286	1.198		
HR	1.100	0.903	0.999	2.118	1.118		
RO	1.328	1.125	1.361	1.406	1.264		
Source: wiiw calculations.							

### Market shares changes indicate that Poland is competing in terms of prices rather than quality

A rising relative price of exports may be associated with a falling share in the export market. This situation is interpreted as 'pricing oneself out of the market'. Alternatively, if the rise in the relative price of exports is associated with an increase in the

market share, one may speak of 'successful quality competition' (foreign buyers demand more of the country's products despite its price rising faster than the competitors'). Then, if the relative price of a country's exports declines, one speaks of price (but not quality) competition. Price competition may be successful (if the country's market share increases), or unsuccessful (if the market share contracts).

The four combinations of rising/falling relative export price and market share can be illustrated graphically (see Figure 1) in a diagram with two co-ordinates. The horizontal axis measures the change (growth rate) in the market share of a country in the EU-15 markets. The vertical axis measures the change (growth rate) in the unit value ratios (or relative export prices).

Figure 2 shows the performance of the Central and East European countries in terms of price/quality dynamics and the market share dynamics (2002-2004 over 1995-1998) for four groups of manufacturing export products and for total manufacturing exports. As can be seen, Poland is located in the 'successful quality competition' quadrant (except in high-tech products, where it is rather located in the 'successful price competition' quadrant). However, in any group of products Poland has been outperformed by other countries, whose coordinates are located to the north-east to Poland's. In the case of low-tech products, Poland's performance was hugely inferior to that of Slovakia, the Czech Republic, the three Baltics states, Bulgaria and Romania. In medium-low-tech products, Poland was outperformed by the Czech Republic and Lithuania. In medium-high-tech products Poland's position is much better, inferior only to Slovakia's. However, in high-tech products, Poland fares quite badly. Overall, on the entire manufacturing level, Poland loses out on quality competition to Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Estonia and Romania. It retains a clear advantage only over Slovenia.

#### Concluding remarks

Poland's competitive position in the enlarged EU has been weakening relatively to: other new EU member states as well as Bulgaria and Romania which all seem to have been performing better. Improvements in labour productivity and unit labour costs have been responsible for weakness of domestic demand and stagnant employment. Under such conditions foreign trade was an important source of overall GDP growth, primarily restricting growth of imports. At the same time these improvements have not contributed to outstanding improvements in exports: Poland's shares in the EU-15 markets have risen at slower rates.

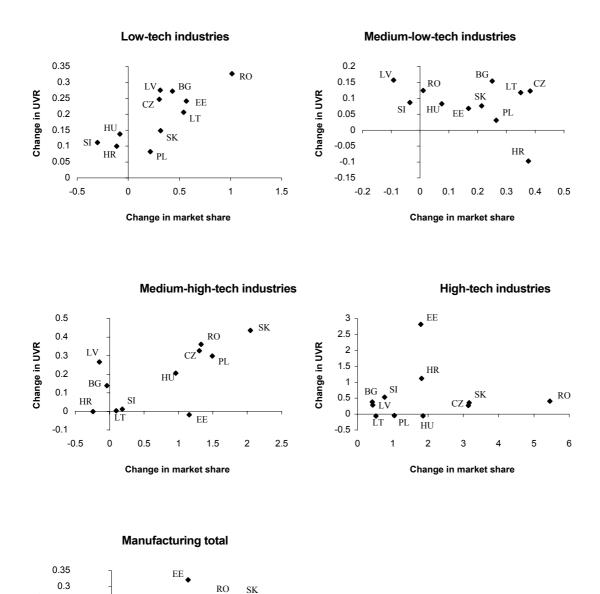
The weakening of Poland's competitiveness may, to some extent, result from the relatively low level of foreign direct investment. Poland's FDI stock/GDP ratio, currently at 29%, is lower than in the Czech Republic (51%), Hungary (59%), Slovakia (35%), Latvia (32%), Estonia (98%), Bulgaria (40%) or Croatia (43%). Other low-FDI countries also perform less successfully, at least in foreign trade: Slovenia (22% FDI/GDP ratio) and Lithuania (27%). Clearly, Poland's ability to attract FDI could be enhanced – provided the country improves its reputation on corruption, legal environment, bureaucracy, etc.

Figure 1 Price/quality competition and market share development

	∆ s < 0	∑ S > 0
<u>∧</u> P > 0	Pricing oneself out of the market	Successful quality competition
<u></u>	Unsuccessful price competition	Successful price competition

Note:  $\Delta P$  is the growth rate in the export price (relative to the average EU import price),  $\Delta S$  is the growth rate of the market share. Source: Figure 1 is an adapted version of a device proposed in M. Landesmann and J. Wörz (2006), 'CEECs' Competitiveness in the Global Context', wiiw Research Reports, No. 327.

Figure 2 Changes in quality/price competitiveness and in market shares in EU-15 markets, 1995/98 to 2002/04



Change in UVR 0.2 0.15 0.1 ◆ HU PL 0.05 SI •

BG

0.2

Change in market share

0.4

Source: wiiw calculations. UVR (unit value ratio) refers to the relative export price.

0.6

0.8

0.25

-0.2

0

## Ownership structure and the development of Russian firms

BY ANDREI KUZNETSOV\* AND ROSTISLAV KAPELYUSHNIKOV\*\*

In Russia, as in other transition economies, great hopes were originally placed on the ability of mass privatization to create 'responsible' owners and produce a foundation on which economic reconstruction and growth would flourish. These expectations have failed: restructuring in privatized firms has been slow, fixed production assets show a significant rate of wear, and innovation activity is low as is the competitiveness of domestic goods. In this context, the inability of new owners to lead the firms forward has been consistently identified as one of the causes of the poor economic performance of Russian companies.

The ownership structure may be seen as a part of the problem. Privatization was intended to create wide-spread ownership along the lines of the Anglo-Saxon model. Instead, within just a decade a different pattern has emerged. Ownership of Russian firms is characterized by the following three features: (a) it is highly concentrated (blockholder ownership) (Table 1); (b) dominant owners seek direct control over the firm by assuming managerial and board positions; and (c) among dominant shareholders insiders prevail.

#### Struggling with uncertain environment

In Russia, institutional settings provide a vivid case of a business environment that makes control more

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important than formal income rights because of the weak legal protection of shareholders, underdeveloped capital markets, and the restricted role of institutional investors. Throughout the post-privatization period. immediate mattered little to most shareholders as they had low liquidity and dividends were not paid. In addition, corporatization coincided with a period of profound economic crisis. Both circumstances had a long lasting impact on corporate governance and set the preconditions for blockholder ownership. First, they diluted the strength of monetary signals and incentives, and hampered the informational content of prices, making it difficult for both shareholders and investors to determine the value and investment potential of shares. Second, these circumstances worked as incentives for substituting networking and other informal arrangements for the market. Managers had to rely on successful networking as they sought to compensate the poor performance of formal institutions with arrangements based on personal contacts. The role of networks was controversial. On the one hand, informal relations provided means to create zones of trust within the general environment of distrust, thus reducing transaction costs. On the other hand, networking often pursued the goal of conspiring against outsiders and avoiding legal control over financial and other transactions, rather than getting better knowledge of business partners and their needs.

#### Ownership bias

Corporate ownership in Russia has been influenced by the bias in the allocation of shares built into the privatization programme: originally the majority of equity (51%) was distributed among insiders (workers and managers of privatized enterprises). According to REB (*Russian Economic Barometer*) data, as late as 2003 insiders remained the largest shareholder group, controlling 47% of all outstanding shares. This does not mean though

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See J. Nellis (1999), 'Time to Rethink Privatization in Transition Economies?', *Transition*, Vol. 10, No. 1, pp. 4-6; R. Desai and I. Goldberg (2000), 'Stakeholders, Governance, and the Russian Enterprise Dilemma', *Finance & Development*, June, pp. 14-18.

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Table 1

Ownership concentration within Russian firms, based on REB survey results

	1999	2001	2003
The proportion of firms in which the largest shareholder holds	%	%	%
fewer than 10% of shares	21	16	9
10-25% of shares	28	33	35
25-50% of shares	26	26	30
more than 50% of shares	25	25	26
Total	100	100	100
Average stake of the largest shareholder	32.9	34.5	37.2
Average stake of the second largest shareholder	-	-	17.2

Table 2

Ownership allocation within Russian firms, based on REB survey results

	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007 (forecast)
INSIDERS, total	54.8	52.1	46.2	48.2	46.2	46.6	54.0
Managers	11.2	15.1	14.7	21.0	25.6	31.5	40.0
Employees	43.6	37.0	31.5	27.2	21.0	15.1	14.0
OUTSIDERS, total	35.2	38.8	42.4	39.7	44.8	41.0	40.1
Non-financial outsiders, total	25.9	28.5	32.0	32.4	35.6	33.5	29.3
Individual Investors	10.9	13.9	18.5	21.1	20.1	18.0	15.0
Other firms	15.0	14.6	13.5	11.3	15.5	15.5	14.3
Financial outsiders, total	9.3	10.3	10.4	7.3	9.2	7.5	9.8
THE STATE	9.1	7.4	7.1	7.9	4.3	7.3	4.1
OTHER SHAREHOLDERS	0.9	1.7	4.3	4.2	4.9	5.2	2.8
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Number of firms	136	135	156	154	104	108	71

that the configuration of shareholding had remained unaltered during this period. In reality, it had experienced some sharp and pronounced changes. According to our estimates as much as 15% of shares were changing hands in a typical Russian firm every year between 1995 and 2003. The redistribution of shares proceeded according to the following pattern: ownership shifted from workers to managers; from insiders to outsiders; from the state to private owners (and, more recently, back to the state).

Managers have come out as the biggest winners. Their equity stake has increased from less than 10% in 1994 to over 30% at present. According to REB statistics, already by 2003 in an average industrial firm the managers had accumulated more shares than the rest of employees together, and by 2007 they are expected to control 40% of all shares against 14% held by workers. Even these impressive figures, however, are believed to underestimate the degree of concentration of ownership in the hands of managers. The secretive nature of the Russian corporate world makes it very difficult to quantify the structure of ownership. According to expert evaluation based on in-depth empirical studies, senior management is in control of no less than 50% of firms because many

shareholder-outsiders are just a façade for managers.4 Within the population covered by REB surveys, the proportion of firms in which the senior manager is the largest shareholder increased from 24% in 1999 to 39% in 2005. It is also typical that the stake of the largest shareholder tends to grow (currently it is close to 50% of the average authorized capital) (see Table 2). As far as outsiders are concerned, an important feature of the modern ownership structure, from the point of view of corporate governance, is that they are mostly industrial firms and individuals. The share of banks, financial companies, investment funds, etc. remains stable and low at about 10%. Foreign participation is generally also very low: only one in nine firms has shareholders abroad. When there is a stake owned by a foreign party, it tends to be rather high, at an average figure of 43% of the authorized stock.5

### From 'red directors' to 'companionship' capitalism

A considerable volume of shares has moved between the people who received their shares as members of working collectives during mass privatization and those who bought or received their shares from original owners at a later stage. Some of the latter have managed to consolidate their acquisitions into blocks that allowed them to dislodge the old 'red director' and step into his place. According to our estimates, in 2005 among firms controlled by top managers as a group, 44% were controlled by their former 'red directors' whilst 56% were controlled by the teams who arrived after privatization. Among firms in which the CEO was the largest shareholder, the proportion was 36% and 64%.

In most countries companies with concentrated ownership have grown and developed as family firms, often from entrepreneurial origins. In Russia,

T. Dolgopyatova (2001), 'Modeli korporativnogo kontroliya

na rossiiskikh predpriyatiach', Mir Rossii, Vol. 10, No. 3.

where private property of industrial assets has its origins in mass voucher privatization, medium and large firms neither originated with some innovative ideas of the founder-owners, nor could they become a family affair. Nonetheless, the majority of them are tightly held firms: shares are usually concentrated in the hands of two to seven individuals tied by informal links and a common background. Indeed, the owners of such firms usually share a long history. Often they knew each other professionally already before the market reforms started, they made their first steps as businessmen together and now own comparable stakes in the firm. This model of ownership, which may be called a 'companionship' firm, may be found in the most successful Russian companies. It also facilitates such an important feature of the Russian corporate scene as the deliberate complexity of ownership rights with the aim to conceal the identity of true owners. Often this is a reaction to the poor protection that the legal system offers to legitimate owners. Non-transparency of property rights is artificially maintained by the owners of many companies as a barrier against possible interference of the state or capture by market raiders.

#### The jury is still out

The Russian system of corporate governance in its present form bears all the signs of an *ad-hoc* construct. It is not illogical to assume that in the pursuit of wealth maximization the current generation of directors-owners, as did western managers-owners before them, will embrace eventually the necessity to delegate executive functions to more competent managers than themselves and focus on strategic ownership. This will be the choice of self-interest and self-preservation. In the current environment though, the same instincts prevent managers from giving up direct control over the firm and its assets. Poor legal protection of shareholder rights, lack of disclosure about the business operations or

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T. Dolgopyatova (2004), 'Corporate Ownership and Control in the Russian Companies in the Context of Integration', Russian Management Journal, Vol. 2, No. 2, pp. 3-26.

Ya. Pappe, (2002), 'Rossiiskii krupnyi biznes kak ekonomicheskii fenomen: spetsificheskie cherty modeli ego organizatsii', *Problemy prognozirovaniya*, No. 2, pp. 83-97.

finances, the underdeveloped state of the security market and a weak shareholder culture signify that holding even large and very large blocks of shares may result in little or no effective control over the firm. The same conditions favour people who are privy to the firm's management decisions. This category includes primarily senior managers. They have an important advantage because they consolidate the power of shareholding with the power of decision-making. As a result, domination can be achieved by simple if unscrupulous means exploiting the fact that other categories of shareholders cannot accurately monitor the day-to-day performance of the firm.

Consequently, there are two identifiable tendencies in the Russian corporate sector. The poor state of the institutional framework puts pressure on large shareholders to keep increasing their stake. As a result their control over the firm increases. However, the same institutional inadequacies make this category of shareholders feel insecure about

the future of their investment. This undermines their commitment to the firm they own/control and encourages to siphon off wealth of companies. Data accumulated by REB suggest a statistically significant and negative correlation between the size of the stake owned by the largest shareholder and the breadth of investment in the firm. There is also a statistically significant and negative correlation between the size of the stake owned by the largest shareholder and such parameters of the firm as capacity utilization and profitability. Evidently, these are the signs of an unhealthy situation that endangers the long-term restructuring and growth of the Russian economy.

The progress of corporate governance towards a more conventional modern model is unrealistic without changes in the political, social and economic realities of Russia in the first place. In other words, the current system of corporate governance is yet another manifestation of the inadequate state of institutional infrastructure in the country. The paradox is that certain behavioural patterns and business arrangements in Russia bring rewards although they should be a ticket to failure in a market economy as contradicting its institutions. It this rules and context the idiosyncratic behaviour of economic agents determined to by-pass the 'legal' market economy is in fact a rational reaction to the uncertainty and challenges caused by institutional distortions. The high perceived cost of acting legally is a fundamental impediment to progress in corporate governance along the lines suggested by the OECD code of corporate governance.

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This is how Fortune describes the treatment that Khodorkovsky, one of Russia's so-called oligarchs and the one-time CEO and principal owner of Yukos, gave to his minority shareholders: 'He bought Yukos in Russia's infamous 'loan for shares' scheme in 1995; got rid of U.S. investor Kenneth Dart, a large minority stakeholder in Yukos, via a brazenly massive share dilution; then survived the economic collapse of 1998 by simply stonewalling three big Western institutions whose loans to Khodorkovsky's bank were collateralized by 30% of Yukos' shares. Despairing of their ability to prevail legally in a virtually lawless Russia, the Westerners eventually walked, ending up with a fraction of what their stakes would be worth today.' (Fortune, 13.05.2002, p. 32)

The Russian legal system offers inadequate protection of legitimate owners, even if they hold majority stakes. In the West, hostile takeovers are feasible when shares of the target company are widely available and easily purchased. In Russia, hostile takeovers rely on the abuse of the rights of shareholders and the exploitation of legalistic hitches and corruption in the judicial system. One of the common tricks is to obtain a judicial decision that bans the current owners of the firm to use their right to vote in the shareholders' general meeting or take a position on the board of directors. Another ploy is to make the court requisite to the registry of shareholders, the only legal proof of ownership, and then replace it with an alternative registry with a different composition of shareholders. One notorious incident involved Krasnoyarsk Aluminum, which deleted from its share register a 20% stake held by the British Trans World Group, effectively wiping out its holding.

## Building walls: a note on immigration

BY VLADIMIR GLIGOROV

#### Introduction

Finland, Greece, Spain and Portugal, and recently Italy too, have decided not to prolong the barriers to labour mobility for citizens of the new member states of the European Union from Central and Eastern Europe. In that they join the United Kingdom, Ireland and Sweden, which did not impose restrictions to begin with. The other countries have three more years to maintain the barriers and may extend them for an additional two years thereafter. Most of them have indicated that they intend to soften the restrictions already and will in all probability lift them well before the deadline is finally reached in 2011. At the moment, judging from the public pronouncements, it looks as though only Austria and Germany will use up the opportunity to restrict access to their labour markets to the full.

In this context, it is interesting to note the recent assessment by an independent expert group, the ITEM Club, who have in their Spring Forecast reached the conclusion that the overall economic impact of migration from the new EU member states on the UK economy has been quite positive overall: 'As a direct result the UK workforce has become younger, more flexible and economical, easing the pensions burden and keeping interest rates lower than many commentators could have Even with а modest rise predicted. unemployment numbers we are looking at a very favourable cost-benefit ratio.' Also, migrants 'have plugged gaps in a variety of industries, from agriculture to hospitality and catering with nearly 300,000 immigrants taking new jobs in the UK in the last three years. Unlike previous occasions that have been confined to major urban centres, this influx has benefited many regions across the UK from East Anglia to Edinburgh.<sup>1</sup>

In the current debates on economic effects of migration in the EU and in the USA often opposite expectations are voiced about three of the issues that are deemed to be more important than the others. The first is that migration is not the same as trade, because of the effects on public finances. The second is that immigrants earn lower wages and that is especially damaging in the case of low-skilled native workers who either have to accept lower wages or become unemployed. The third is that immigration increases cultural heterogeneity, which has all kinds of negative consequences. In this note, these three arguments will be assessed for their consistency and empirical support.

#### Voluntary and involuntary migration

To introduce the discussion, a brief conceptual comment may be in order: migration is seen here as a labour market phenomenon, which means that mostly economic immigration will be discussed (and effects on the sending countries will be set aside). The empirical research finds significant differences between economic and political migrants.<sup>2</sup> In the case of economic migration there is a voluntary, contractual relationship between the employer and the employee.<sup>3</sup> The behaviour of both is guided by the markets and in turn influences developments in the markets. Thus, the idea, for instance, that without the restriction on migration from less developed to more developed

See ITEM Club (2006). Similar assessments can be found in European Commission (2006) and in UK Home Office et al. (2006). Ser also Doyle, Hughes and Waldesjo (2006), Gilpin et al. (2006), and Anderson et al. (2006). Though there are differences in the specific findings of these reports, the main messages for the UK and the EU as a whole are generally in accordance with the findings of the ITEM Club quoted in the text

For a comprehensive treatment see Borjas and Crisp (2005); for a discussion see Boswell and Crisp (2004).

In a sense, the employment of illegal immigrants may be regarded as not being voluntary; it can be reasonably argued that they would prefer legal employment to the illegal one. It makes sense to argue that this type of employment is involuntary, though no coercion on the part of the employer is actually involved.

countries the whole population of the less developed countries will settle in more developed countries or that there will be no end to immigration into rich countries if there is free movement of labour, is inconsistent with the way markets work.

The situation is different with political migration or with refugees. Their resettlement is involuntary and is not guided primarily by the labour markets. In addition, in many countries, political immigrants and refugees are treated differently from economic migrants. In general, the former are often denied market access and may be rather entitled to income support of one kind or another. As a consequence, their participation in the labour markets is quite different as is their impact on public finances. It could be argued that even in their case market solutions are better than the alternative ones, but that is a separate issue.

The key conceptual difference, to repeat, is whether cross-border migration is seen as a market or as a political phenomenon. It is to be expected that market-induced movements will give rise to different consequences from those that are pushed by political shocks, though both are more often than not influenced by both economic and political causes, but those should be kept distinct conceptually.

#### Migration and social welfare

Though the effects of migration on the labour markets are the most important ones, the public debate has been dominated by the concerns with their effects on public finances - especially in cases where most of the immigrants have been with low skills. A low-skilled migrant, it is argued, is a cost on the budget while a high-skilled one is a net contributor. The argument is as follows: A lowskilled migrant belongs to the low-income group that benefits from the progressive nature of taxation. Thus, low-skilled migrants take out more than they bring in over their lifetime. The opposite is the case of the high-skilled migrant. Therefore, from the public finance point of view, it is argued that low-skilled migrants should be kept out and high-skilled ones should be welcomed in.

The argument is flawed in all of its forms. In the typical case, the low-skilled immigrant is initially a contributor to the public revenues, because he or she pays taxes immediately and starts receiving most of the social benefits only later.4 Thus, in the beginning, the immigrant bolsters public finances rather than endangering them. He or she contributes more, on a net basis, than the native low-skilled worker over their whole lifetime, because he or she has not been relying on any public resources before immigrating. The issue, if there is an issue, then is who is paying for the benefits that he or she is receiving later in life, once health services are needed or, for instance, at retirement. Clearly, to the extent that the tax system is progressive, the better off pay more than the worse off for whatever is supplied by the public sector. The issue is, however, what is the opportunity cost of the immigrant as compared to the native worker? Clearly, the immigrant worker costs less. Even if he or she brings in the family and has children, that is also the case with the native worker. The only difference is in the duration of the contribution and in the amount of benefits. As a rule, an immigrant contributes for a longer period of time and draws less on social benefits overall.5

This may be different in the case of an immigrant who applies for benefits rather than for work. In most cases, except for political migrants or refugees in general, this is not possible because of the way the benefits system is set up. Recent studies on migration within the EU also find no evidence of 'welfare tourism', i.e., of people migrating in order to take advantage of the target countries' welfare systems. It is, indeed, true that

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For an extensive argument see Simon (1884, 1989). A theoretical case has been made in a series of papers by Razin and Sadka (1998, 1999, 2004), Gilpin et al. (2006), Doyle, Hughes and Waldesjo (2006).

In Sinn (2004a and 2004b) it is argued that the beneficial effects of immigration on social security contributions can be found only for immigrants who settle for more than ten years and especially for those who stay for more than 25 years (and have children). The implication would have to be that incentives for short-term immigration should be removed and long-term migration, especially of families with children, should be encouraged.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See, e.g., European Commission (2006).

in some cases the unemployment rate among immigrants is higher than among the native population; nevertheless, most studies find that the employment rate among immigrants is actually higher than among natives.7 In some cases, such as in France, unemployment among the second generation of immigrants is higher than among the native youth. This is not the consequence of immigration *per se* but of the way the labour market and social system work. Restricting migration would not improve the working of the labour market; in all probability the level of unemployment would remain the same with or without migration. The distribution, of course, would be different with the natives being the only ones who would be unemployed if there were no immigrants.

It may seem that an immigrant with a larger family would be a burden irrespective of whether he or she is skilled or not. Over the whole lifetime, and certainly over successive generations, that is however not the case. The work force will in fact become younger and will in all probability lower the burden of social security benefits. That is the case even with the costs of education and health being taken into consideration because they will be paying for those with higher earnings resulting from the higher human capital that investments in education and health will bring. Again, to the extent that the tax system is progressive, transfers from rich to poor will of course remain, migration or no migration. Of course, if the educational system fails to include adequately the children of immigrants, they will be a growing burden on the social security system.

Thus, the argument about low-skilled immigration is essentially an argument about the desirability of progressive taxation. If it is believed that direct or indirect social transfers are not desirable, then it immigrants cost less than the natives in terms of public finance, and, for another, because once there is no tax or other types of transfers, there are no reasons to restrict migration, at least not on that account. In addition, the existing welfare states, with progressive taxation, support permanent rather than guest immigration. Consequently, they support freer rather than more restricted mobility and they support legalization of illegal immigrants rather than their repatriation. Finally, migrant families are more supportive of the public finances of the recipient countries than the individual migrants.

Why is so much debate on immigration concerned

may make sense to change the systems of taxation

and of social benefits, but that is an argument for

and not against migration. For one, because

with its effects on public finances? Essentially because the investigative motivation of much of research is muddled and confused. Competition for employment is seen as a labour market issue, but it is also assumed that employment is in fact being rationed with natives queuing up ahead of the immigrants. Their privileged place in the queue is justified on, inter alia, public finance grounds. Clearly, these are contradictory assumptions, i.e., market access to and rationing of employment, and that accounts for the stress that is put on the consequences of immigration on public financing. This also reveals that the debate about immigration is really one about justified inclusions and exclusions.

#### Wages and competitiveness

Increased supply of low-skilled labour, it is argued, depresses the wages of low-skilled workers. That, it is suggested, has an income and an employment effect. In addition, it is sometimes argued that it has a negative effect on competitiveness. Most of these arguments either do not go through or are about other aspects of the market system and not really about migration.

The argument about wages declining due to competition from immigrants is no different from a

For one study on immigration in and within the EU-15 see Peracchi and Depolo (2006). They find that the labour market characteristics of long-term immigrants from outside the EU-15 converge to those of the natives, unlike in the case of intra-EU-15 immigration where immigrants tend to show lower employment and higher unemployment rates than the natives.

similar argument that could be made about internal labour mobility. However, it is mostly argued that internal mobility is beneficial for the efficient allocation of labour unlike cross-border mobility. In the same manner, it is argued that internal free movement of goods is good, but imports of cheap products are not. Thus, this is in essence an argument about the market allocation rather than about migration.

Theoretically, it is argued, if there is full employment and supply of labour is increased, wages may be expected to fall. This, however, depends on the assumptions made to justify the existence of full employment. If, as seems unavoidable on theoretical grounds, it is assumed that full employment implies that employees and employers are wage takers, i.e., that wages are set by the market, then an increase of labour supply should not lead to any change in the wages. If there is no full employment, either migration cannot happen, for the lack of demand, or it will push wages downwards and thus push the economy in the direction of full employment.

Some empirical analyses, such as in Israel, seem to indicate that it may be appropriate to assume that wages are indeed given in a small open economy, perhaps over the medium run. Initially, an inflow of migrants depresses wages, but as the return to capital increases, so do investments, and wages bounce back rather quickly. In addition, most studies find that the depressing effect on wages comes more from trade than from migration.8

It is also argued that a migrant worker displaces a domestic worker thus increasing unemployment. That makes sense only if the reservation wage of the domestic worker is higher than that of the migrant one. If that is the case, the causes that support high reservation wages should be investigated. That, again, has nothing to do with migration. In fact, research in the US finds that the effect of low-skilled migrants on the wages of the low-skilled native workers is essentially nonexistent, mainly because they are not really perfect substitutes. Indeed, the difference between the wages of natives, between low- and high-skilled, seems not to have changed despite a significant increase of immigration in the past few decades.9 In the EU, the inflow of new immigrants from the Central European new member states has been too low to have had any discerning influence on the wages in the EU.

Finally, it is argued that low-skilled migrants, unlike the high-skilled ones, threaten the competitiveness of the country of destination – because the country will, it is argued, specialize in low-skilled rather than in high-skilled sectors. Thus, the USA will look more like Mexico and the EU will converge to Turkey. This is not supported either by theory or by evidence. In fact, low-skilled workers are invited to because the developed countries specialize in high-skilled industries. That may create demand for low-skilled labour in services and in other non-tradable sectors. In the same way, developing countries export high-skilled labour because they specialize in low-skilled sectors.

If, however, developed countries were to protect their low-skilled workers and keep their wages higher than those would be with liberalized migration, these countries will either support their workers to specialize in low-skilled labour or will attempt to diversify rather than specialize. In the latter case, of course, it cannot be that these countries will both attempt to develop all types of skills and to specialize in the high-skilled sectors. In other words, they will either have to give up the idea of being competitive or will have to choose whether they want to support low-skilled specialization of domestic workers.

In general, the argument for or against migration is symmetrical to the argument for or against foreign trade. If, to take an example, countries specialize in

For short- and long-term effects on wages see Borjas (2003) and for the effects of trade vs. immigration on wages see, for instance, the recent survey of the literature by Hanson (2006).

See Card (2005) and Ottaviano and Peri (2005).

labour-intensive industries, they will also export low-skilled labour. The opposite is true for countries that specialize in high-skilled labour. If, in addition, countries invest, through their system of education or in other ways, both in low- and high-skilled labour, then they will either have to protect their labour and their product markets, or they will have to specialize in accordance with their respective comparative advantages. Thus, a country with a comparative advantage in labour-intensive industries will lose its capital-intensive industries as well as its high-skilled labour, and the opposite will be the case with the more developed countries. These effects will be modified by the process of catching up and by the increase in importance of intra-industry trade and the similar developments in the labour markets. On the margin, however, interindustry trade and comparative advantages will continue to play a role. And on those margins, migration and trade will have the symmetrical effects just described.

#### The issue of diversity

In view of the recent social tensions in immigrant neighbourhoods, it is argued that the assimilation policy in the EU but also in the USA is failing. It is believed that there is a significant difference between earlier migrations and the current ones. The folk theory, now used to criticize a certain version of the idea of multiculturalism, is that in the past immigrants wanted to integrate and to look as much as possible like the natives, while now they want to preserve their identity and thus the heterogeneity of societies in the EU and the USA is increasing. As a consequence, cultural barriers to immigration, it is argued, should be strengthened. 10 Both claims – i.e., that heterogeneity is a problem and that the lack of assimilation leads to more social conflicts - are not supported by historical and sociological evidence. When it comes to assimilation, it is hard to argue that the current inflow of migrants is not assimilating because it has been quite recent.<sup>11</sup> As for diversity, it is not likely that the identity issues are now more important than they used to be in the past. In fact, the institutional ability to deal with diversity is if anything better now than it was the case in the last century. It may perhaps not be an exaggeration to argue that the international tensions we observe now used to be internal tensions in the states and the empires of the past. Indeed, both the US and the EU are now in a position to take advantage of the increased diversity.

The last statement is predicated on the assumption that diversity is advantageous in the economic, social and cultural sense. 12 That may sound like a paradox, but that reaction is just an indication of the confusion that surrounds the discussion of the whole issue of migration. It is true that managing greater diversity stresses the need for institutional reform and development and that readiness for institutional reforms may be in short supply nowadays. But that has little to do with migration and everything to do with the weak political will that characterizes both the US and the EU at the moment.

#### Conclusion

The debate on immigration is completely detached from the facts as we know them or could know them, and the inferences about it that are made in the public are hardly consistent. They are also not supported by economic and social theory, not to mention history, because some of the most developed countries in the world are historically recipients of large inflows of immigrants if they are not outright products of immigration and colonization. 13 Just looking at the bulky facts such as unemployment levels, working hours,

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For some reflections on the economics of the historical evidence on migration see O'Rourke (2004). For an overall assessment of economic effects of migration both on countries of origin and of destination see The World Bank

For an influential study see Borjas and Katz (2005). For evidence that new immigrants are assimilating as much as have the previous waves of immigrants into the USA see Card (2005).

For some evidence that diversity is indeed beneficial see Ottaviano and Peri (2004).

For a history of migrations into the USA see Zolberg (2006).

wages and public finance problems – it is clear that the main economic characteristics have little if anything to do with immigration both in the US and in the EU.

In the US, in the period of rapid immigration, unemployment rates have been quite low, probably not very far from full employment. In the EU, the persistently high unemployment in a number of countries can hardly be blamed on immigration; it is hard to find a study of this intriguing macroeconomic fact that relies on immigration flows for an explanation. Similarly, the decline in effective working hours in most of Europe can hardly be blamed on the growing competition from immigrants. As for wages, it is hard to find evidence for negative, and in most cases for any, effects of immigration on wages.

Similarly, neither public finance nor social problems can be traced to increased immigration. Immigration, if anything, may have positive effects on the long-term sustainability of the public finances of the aging European and US societies. Internal security as well as the crime rates do not seem to have worsened in the past few decades and in fact internal security has most probably improved, in some cases such as New York quite dramatically.

It is thus hard to avoid the thought that for some rather embarrassing reasons when it comes to issues of migration and the clash of civilizations, whatever that might mean, it is politically correct, even for the most vocal advocates of free markets, to advocate building internal and external walls, the introduction or maintenance of discriminatory legislation, and even ethnic cleansing through deportation.

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#### Conventional signs and abbreviations

used in the following section on monthly statistical data

data not available

% per cent

CMPY change in % against corresponding month of previous year

CCPY change in % against cumulated corresponding period of previous year

(e.g., under the heading 'March': January-March of the current year against January-March

of the preceding year)

3MMA 3-month moving average, change in % against previous year.

CPI consumer price index

PM change in % against previous month

PPI producer price index

p.a. per annummn millionbn billion

BGN Bulgarian lev (1 BGN = 1000 BGL)

CZK Czech koruna

EUR Euro, from 1 January 1999

HRK Croatian kuna HUF Hungarian forint PLN Polish zloty

RON Romanian leu (1RON = 10000 ROL) RUB Russian rouble (1 RUB = 1000 RUR)

SIT Slovenian tolar SKK Slovak koruna UAH Ukrainian hryvnia

USD US dollar

M0 currency outside banks
M1 M0 + demand deposits
M2 M1 + quasi-money

Sources of statistical data:

National statistical offices and central banks; wiiw estimates.

Please note: wiiw Members have free online access to the wiiw Monthly Database Eastern Europe.

To receive your personal password, please go to <a href="http://mdb.wiiw.ac.at">http://mdb.wiiw.ac.at</a>

#### CZECH REPUBLIC: Selected monthly data on the economic situation 2005 to 2006

(updated end of August 2006) 2005 2006 Oct Apr Mav Jun Jul Aug Sep Nov Dec Jan Feb Mai ngA May Jun Jul PRODUCTION Industry, total13 real, CMPY 6.4 6.3 7.1 8.5 8.0 10.0 7.3 16.0 12.0 17.4 10.5 5.1 8.9 3.8 12.4 Industry, total1 real, CCPY 4.5 4.9 5.7 6.0 6.2 6.6 6.7 16.0 14.0 15.2 12.2 12.3 12.0 5.3 5.2 Industry, total1 real 3MMA 42 66 62 7.0 7.5 84 89 8.5 11.0 11.7 152 110 112 9.0 Construction, total real, CMPY 10.2 -29.6 26.1 19.1 6.0 6.5 9.4 13.8 8.6 -1.2 -8.2 8.7 -2.9 11.0 LABOUR Employees in industry2) 1124 1124 1125 1131 1132 1130 1141 1147 1141 1139 1144 1147 1143 1144 1142 th. persons Unemployment, end of period 503.4 512.6 494.6 489.7 500.3 505.3 491.9 490.8 510.4 531.2 528.2 514.8 486.2 463.0 451.1 458.3 th. persons Unemployment rate 89 86 86 8.8 89 88 8.5 84 89 92 91 88 8.3 7.9 77 79 Labour productivity, industry<sup>2)4</sup> CCPY 5.6 5.9 6.4 6.3 7.0 7.4 7.7 8.0 8.2 14.4 12.0 13.4 10.5 10.7 10.5 Unit labour costs, exch.r. adj.(EUR)<sup>2)4)</sup> CCPY 7.1 6.5 5.7 5.2 4.8 4.5 4.1 3.9 3.5 -2.1 0.0 -1.7 0.8 1.4 1.5 WAGES, SALARIES Industry, gross<sup>2</sup> CZK 18603 18814 17618 18570 18238 18058 17943 18184 21464 19629 17992 17284 19588 20066 19661 Industry, gross<sup>2)</sup> real, CMPY 2.2 3.9 3.4 1.1 5.1 2.7 1.5 2.7 1.5 3.2 3.0 3.6 2.3 4.7 3.0 Industry, gross<sup>2)</sup> USD 757 781 752 728 750 751 736 865 803 758 726 789 842 906 876 Industry, gross<sup>2)</sup> EUR 585 616 618 604 610 612 613 734 677 626 608 657 687 710 693 **PRICES** Consumer PM 0.1 0.2 0.6 0.3 0.0 -0.3 0.9 -0.3 -0.1 1.4 0.1 -0.1 0.1 0.5 0.3 0.4 CMPY Consumer 16 13 18 17 17 22 26 24 22 29 28 28 28 3 1 28 29 Consumer CCPY 1.7 1.6 1.6 16 17 1.7 18 19 1.9 29 28 28 28 29 29 29 -0.7 0.2 0.4 -0.3 -0.6 Producer, in industry PM 0.1 -0.2 0.1 0.0 1.0 0.2 0.1 0.3 0.3 0.2 0.7 Producer, in industry CMPY 5.6 4.0 2.7 1.0 0.3 0.0 -0.4 0.3 0.3 0.3 0.5 2.4 2.0 1.1 1.6 1.9 Producer, in industry CCPY 6.6 6.1 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.1 3.7 3.3 3.0 0.3 0.3 0.3 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.1 RETAIL TRADE Turnover real, CMPY 2.4 7.8 4.6 1.2 7 1 3.8 34 3.3 2.1 69 7.8 6.9 55 7 1 66 Turnover real, CCPY 3.8 4.6 4.6 4.1 4.5 4.4 4.3 4.2 4.0 6.9 7.3 7.2 6.8 6.8 6.8 FOREIGN TRADE<sup>5)6)</sup> Exports total (fob),cumulated EUR mn 19587 24747 30269 34887 39990 45761 51505 57699 62911 5701 11299 17830 23416 29666 36063 18796 23780 33662 38877 44498 50149 56250 5273 10688 16938 22518 28747 34832 Imports total (fob),cumulated EUR mn 29010 61585 Trade balance cumulated FUR mn 791 967 1258 1225 1113 1263 1357 1449 1326 428 612 892 898 919 1231 Exports to EU-25 (fob), cumulated EUR mn 16692 21061 25671 29537 33785 38639 43451 48670 52911 4801 9485 14897 19600 24849 30229 Imports from EU-25 (fob)7, cumulated EUR mn 13427 16996 20778 24096 27794 31834 35759 39962 43663 3636 7431 11877 15787 20213 24496 Trade balance with EU-25, cumulated EUR mn 3265 4065 5442 7692 8709 9248 1165 2054 3020 3813 5733 4893 5991 6805 4636 FOREIGN FINANCE Current account, cumulated<sup>5)</sup> EUR mn -487 317 99 -349 -729 -1086 -1370 -1286 -1687 -2070 89 7 8 -820 -1771 **EXCHANGE RATE** 23.8 CZK/USD, monthly average nominal 23.3 23.8 24.7 25.0 24.1 23.9 24.7 24.8 24.4 23.7 23.8 23.3 22.1 22.4 22.4 CZK/EUR, monthly average nominal 30.1 30.2 30.0 30.2 29.6 29.3 29.7 29.3 29.0 28.7 28.4 28.6 28.5 28.3 28.4 28.4 CZK/USD, calculated with CPI<sup>8)</sup> real, Jan03=100 123.9 121.6 117.8 116.0 120.1 119.3 116.1 116.2 118.3 122.6 122.1 121.2 123.3 129.5 127.8 128.4 CZK/USD, calculated with PPI<sup>8</sup> real. Jan03=100 118.4 114.5 112.2 113.8 115.4 120.5 119.5 121.4 113.9 111.0 112.4 106.4 107.3 108.7 113.5 118.6 CZK/FUR calculated with CPI8 real .lan03=100 103.0 1028 1039 103 6 105.5 105.7 105.3 106.5 107 2 1098 1109 1094 1094 1106 110.3 1105 CZK/EUR, calculated with PPI8 real. Jan03=100 108.8 108.0 108.1 107.3 109.1 109.8 108.4 109.9 110.2 111.4 112.5 111.2 111.3 112.0 111.9 112.4 DOMESTIC FINANCE M0, end of period CZK bn 245.9 248.8 253.2 253.0 252.9 256.3 258.5 262.7 263.8 261.8 264.8 267.3 272.7 273.2 279.9 M1, end of period CZK bn 965.5 1007.7 1004.0 1004.2 1028.2 1015.2 1048.5 1078.2 1087.3 1099.9 1103.5 1086.0 1111.0 1160.7 1141.0 M2, end of period CZK bn 1882.2 1912.1 1913.0 1908.3 1920.5 1919.2 1933.9 1965.6 1992.1 1989.6 2002.2 2011.2 2051.9 2061.5 2073.0 M2, end of period CMPY 47 5.4 52 4.8 46 42 5.0 6.8 8.0 8.9 8.6 9.0 9 0 7.8 8.4 0.75 0.75 0.75 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.25 Discount rate (p.a.),end of perio 0.75 0.75 0.75 1.00 1.00 Discount rate (p.a.),end of period 9) -1.2 real. % -4.6 -3.1 -1.9 -1.2 -0.3 -0.2 0.7 1.0 1.4 0.7 0.7 0.7 0.5 -0.5 -0.9 BUDGET -56338 3427 Central gov.budget balance,cum CZK mn -22492 -27029 3763 10259 10008 25748 15181 201 -557 15754 -19955 -12202 7642 -445

<sup>1)</sup> According to new calculation.

<sup>2)</sup> Enterprises employing 20 and more persons.

<sup>3)</sup> Ratio of job applicants to the economically active (including women on maternity leave), calculated with disposable number of registered unemployment.

<sup>4)</sup> Calculation based on industrial sales index (at constant prices).

<sup>5)</sup> Based on cumulated national currency and converted with the average exchange rate.

<sup>6)</sup> Cumulation starting January and ending December each year.

<sup>7)</sup> According to country of origin.

<sup>8)</sup> Adjusted for domestic and foreign (US resp. EU) inflation. Values more than 100 mean real appreciation.

Deflated with annual PPI.

HUNGARY: Selected monthly data on the economic situation 2005 to 2006

(updated end of August 2006) 2005 2006 Apr Mav Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mai ngA May Jun Jul PRODUCTION 8.8 Industry, total real, CMPY 9.4 13.2 5.9 12.1 8.9 9.8 7.7 7.7 13.2 11.8 14.8 2.1 10.0 6.5 real, CCPY 3.8 5.6 5.8 5.8 6.5 6.8 7.2 7.2 7.3 13.2 12.5 13.3 10.4 10.3 10.0 Industry, total Industry, total real 3MMA 79 96 8.5 8.0 89 10 1 88 84 93 10.8 13.3 9.5 90 7.0 real, CMPY 15.0 -8.1 Construction, tota 14.2 8.6 23.5 18.7 13.1 37.0 13.3 17.5 10.5 -3.2 15.1 -4.8 -8.5 LABOUR Employees in industry<sup>1</sup> 764.3 760.7 760.7 762.5 759.9 759.2 759.9 756.7 752.8 751.8 752.6 751.4 748.9 750.2 751.3 th. persons Unemployment<sup>2</sup> 298.7 308.3 326.5 300.1 302.9 299.5 302.5 308.6 305.4 309.9 317.6 323.6 318.5 309.4 305.7 th. persons Unemployment rate % 72 72 7 1 7 1 72 7.3 7.3 72 7.3 7.5 7.8 7 7 7.5 7.3 72 Labour productivity, industry1) CCPY 6.5 8.6 9.0 9.1 10.0 10.3 10.5 10.6 10.7 17.1 16.0 16.5 13.4 11.1 12.5 Unit labour costs, exch.r. adi.(EUR)1 CCPY 4.8 1.9 2.1 1.5 0.5 -0.1 -0.7 -1.1 -1.7 -9.6 -9.4 -10.4 -9.0 -7.0 -8.8 WAGES, SALARIES Total economy, gross<sup>1)3)</sup> HUF 155911 155668 148438 150339 152714 195625 162315 150008 151352 175837 179843 157271 162142 166349 165705 Total economy, gross<sup>1)3)</sup> real, CMPY 2.9 6.5 2.8 3.7 3.2 3.9 3.3 3.9 2.0 3.4 6.0 5.1 5.7 3.8 3.5 Total economy, gross<sup>1)3)</sup> USD 783 786 761 740 747 750 729 825 844 945 747 748 750 810 771 Total economy, gross<sup>1)3)</sup> EUR 604 619 625 614 607 611 607 700 712 780 625 622 611 634 609 Industry, gross<sup>1</sup> EUR 591 592 588 622 604 624 610 595 607 598 585 714 663 590 649 **PRICES** PM 0.2 Consumer 0.8 0.6 0.3 0.0 -0.40.2 0.0 0.2 0.0 0.1 02 0.6 0.7 10 0.3 Consumer CMPY 3.9 36 3.8 3.7 3.6 3.7 32 3.3 3.3 2.7 25 23 23 28 28 3.0 CCPY 3.7 3.7 3.6 3.6 2.7 2.5 Consumer 3.7 3.6 3.7 3.7 3.6 2.6 2.5 2.5 2.6 2.6 Producer, in industry PM 0.8 0.5 0.0 -0.4 0.1 0.8 0.8 0.4 0.0 0.6 0.1 1.8 1.1 0.1 2.4 CMPY Producer, in industry 5.3 5.2 5.0 4.2 3.4 3.8 4.1 4.1 4.5 4.3 4.4 5.4 5.8 5.3 7.9 Producer, in industry CCPY 43 4.5 4.6 4.5 44 43 4.3 4.3 4.3 4.3 4.3 47 5.0 5.0 5.5 RETAIL TRADE Turnover real, CMPY 2.6 7.2 6.8 5.1 6.2 7.4 6.8 7.0 3.5 7.5 6.0 2.9 6.1 5.4 3.6 Turnover real, CCPY 3.8 4.5 5.0 5.0 5.1 5.4 5.6 5.7 5.5 7.5 6.7 5.3 5.5 5.5 5.1 FOREIGN TRADE<sup>4)5)</sup> EUR mn 19305 23755 27553 31373 36202 40645 45570 49760 4123 8284 13277 17652 22618 27464 Exports total (fob), cumulated 15266 Imports total (cif), cumulated FUR mn 16201 20397 24952 29193 33456 38374 43166 48338 52670 4282 8695 13919 18474 23587 28540 -411 Trade balance, cumulated EUR mn -935 -1092 -1196 -1640 -2083 -2172 -2521 -2768 -2909 -159 -642 -822 -970 -1076 Exports to EU-25 (fob), cumulated EUR mn 11879 14979 18347 21247 24075 27702 31147 34922 37950 3176 6349 10084 13357 17071 20704 Imports from EU-25 (cif)<sup>6)</sup>, cumulated EUR mn 20146 29538 32965 12358 15877 19349 11111 14040 17174 22943 26298 35760 2830 5803 9389 Trade balance with EU-25, cumulated EUR mn 768 939 1173 1101 1132 1404 1608 1956 2190 347 546 695 998 1193 1355 FOREIGN FINANCE Current account, cumulated EUR mn -3150 -4988 -6525 -1442 **EXCHANGE RATE** HUF/USD, monthly average 191.7 198.3 204.6 204.6 198.8 200.6 209.4 213.0 213.0 207.1 210.6 216.9 216.3 205.5 214.9 218 8 nominal HUF/EUR, monthly average 248.2 252.0 249.0 246.4 244.4 245.9 251.7 251.1 252.7 250.9 251.6 260.8 265.3 262.5 271.9 277.6 nominal HUF/USD, calculated with CPI71 real, Jan03=100 124.8 121.5 118.0 117.5 119.8 117.7 112.5 111.6 114.5 109.5 115.9 109.1 112.1 112.6 109.5 110.9 HUF/USD, calculated with PPITI real, Jan03=100 1123 1095 106 1 104 4 106.7 103 6 97.6 97 7 98.2 100.7 100.7 993 99 6 104 0 101 4 HUF/EUR, calculated with CPI7) real, Jan03=100 102.6 104.0 105.0 105.3 104.4 101.9 102.5 102.6 102.2 98.8 97.2 99.0 103.7 101.5 95.7 93.9 real, Jan03=100 HUF/EUR, calculated with PPI 100.2 100.0 99.8 100.7 101.1 101.6 101.3 99.5 99.5 97.3 96.0 96.7 95.7 DOMESTIC FINANCE M0, end of period 1466.8 1555.5 1622.7 HUF bn 1403.5 1426.1 1456.7 1475.2 1491.4 1532.7 1570.7 1600.3 1551.4 1663.9 1661.5 1724.9 M1, end of period<sup>8</sup> HUF hn 4219 1 4390 4 4417 1 4436 1 4533 7 4643 4 4692 1 4960 0 5188 8 4863 8 4959 2 5318 2 5323 4 5358.3 5573 2 5610.9 Broad money, end of period<sup>8)</sup> HUF bn 10166.1 10275.2 10253.9 10363.9 10469.0 10621.1 10673.6 10915.6 11232.5 11226.4 11356.4 11926.7 11780.5 11771.9 12158.7 12214.8 Broad money, end of period<sup>8)</sup> CMPY 15.2 15.9 14.4 14.0 13.2 14.5 14.1 14.6 16.2 16.5 19.7 15.9 14.6 18.6 17.9 NBH base rate (p.a.) end of period 7.5 7.3 7.0 6.8 6.0 6.0 6.0 6.0 6.0 6.0 6.0 6.3 6.8 6.3 6.0 6.0 NBH base rate (p.a.),end of period9 real % 21 1.9 1.9 24 2.1 1.8 1.8 1.6 1.5 0.6 0.2 0.7 -1.5 BUDGET Central gov.budget balance,cum HUF bn -589.0 -680.5 -798.6 -741.3 -769.0 -780.9 -738.7 -744.7 -545.0 -144.4 -440.6 -682.7 -794.2 -859.7 -1158.4 -1141.3

<sup>1)</sup> Economic organizations employing more than 5 persons.

<sup>2)</sup> According to ILO methodology, 3-month averages comprising the two previous months as well.

<sup>3)</sup> Increase of wages in January 2005 due to payment of one month extra salary in state sector (in January instead of December).

Based on cumulated national currency and converted with the average exchange rate.

<sup>5)</sup> Cumulation starting January and ending December each year.

<sup>6)</sup> According to country of dispatch.

<sup>7)</sup> Adjusted for domestic and foreign (US resp. EU) inflation. Values more than 100 mean real appreciation.

<sup>8)</sup> According to ECB monetary standards.

<sup>9)</sup> Deflated with annual PPI.

POLAND: Selected monthly data on the economic situation 2005 to 2006

(updated end of August 2006) 2005 2006 Oct Apr Mav Jun Jul Aug Sep Nov Dec Jan Feb Mai Apr May Jun Jul PRODUCTION Industry<sup>1</sup> real, CMPY -1.1 0.9 6.9 2.6 5.9 7.6 8.5 9.5 9.7 10.2 16.5 12.2 14.3 4.8 5.7 19.1 Industry real, CCPY 0.3 1.5 1.7 2.1 2.5 3.6 4.1 9.7 10.0 12.3 10.6 12.3 12.2 12.5 0.4 3.1 Industrv1 real 3MMA -14 22 3.5 4.8 4.5 61 7.3 8.5 92 98 123 10.8 13.7 12 2 15 1 Construction<sup>1</sup> real, CMPY 4.9 -17.7 21.8 29.9 17.3 6.5 10.5 6.8 5.8 8.2 -7.9 -3.4 15.7 4.1 13.3 15.7 LABOUR Employees1) 4754 4756 4770 4772 4776 4788 4798 4804 4799 4862 4861 4870 4889 4901 4918 4928 th. persons Employees in industry<sup>1</sup> 2426 2423 2422 2424 2428 2436 2430 2457 2458 2464 2468 2471 2478 2484 2427 2434 th. persons 2866.7 Unemployment, end of period th. persons 2957 8 2867.3 2827 4 2809 0 2783.3 2760 1 2712 1 2722 8 2773 0 2865.9 2822 0 27036 2583 0 2487 6 2443 4 Unemployment rate2) 18.8 18.3 18.0 17.9 17.7 17.6 17.3 18.0 18.0 17.8 17.2 16.5 16.0 15.7 17.3 17.6 Labour productivity, industry1) CCPY -0.7 -0.6 0.5 0.6 1.0 1.4 2.0 2.5 3.0 8.0 8.3 10.5 8.8 10.4 10.3 10.4 CCPY 20.4 19.9 18.6 17.3 16.2 14.9 13.0 1.9 -0.7 -0.4 -0.5 Unit labour costs, exch.r. adj.(EUR)1 15.6 14.4 1.7 1.1 0.3 WAGES, SALARIES Total economy, gross<sup>1)</sup> PLN 2471 2484 2471 2648 2424 2513 2507 2481 2539 2678 2789 2526 2614 2570 2550 2625 Total economy, gross<sup>1)</sup> real, CMPY -1.3 0.6 3.1 2.0 1.3 0.3 5.1 6.2 1.2 3.2 4.3 5.1 3.4 4.4 3.7 4.5 Total economy, gross<sup>1)</sup> USD 771 737 753 737 755 777 779 795 858 782 796 811 804 836 828 841 Total economy, gross1) EUR 612 633 674 723 646 675 656 662 595 580 619 613 647 666 655 654 648 Industry, gross<sup>1</sup> FUR 597 580 630 617 618 637 639 697 738 678 681 661 661 664 679 PRICES Consumer PM 0.4 0.3 -0.2 -02 -0 1 0.4 0.4 -0.2 -0.2 02 0.0 -0.1 0.7 0.5 -0.3 0.0 CMPY 1.6 0.7 0.6 Consumer 3.0 2.5 1.4 1.3 1.6 1.8 1.0 0.7 0.4 0.7 0.9 0.8 1.1 CCPY 3.7 3.5 3.1 2.8 2.7 2.6 2.5 2.3 2.2 0.6 0.6 0.8 0.8 0.9 1.0 1.0 Producer, in industry PM 0.7 -0.20.3 0.2 0.1 -0.3 -0.1 0.1 -0.7 0.2 -0.1 0.7 1.5 0.4 0.9 0.7 Producer, in industry CMPY 0.9 -0.5 0.0 0.0 -0.2 -0.5 -0.9 -0.4 0.2 0.3 0.7 0.9 1.7 2.3 3.0 3.5 Producer, in industry CCPY 2.8 2.1 1.8 1.5 1.3 0.9 0.8 0.7 0.3 0.5 0.6 0.9 1.2 1.5 1.8 RETAIL TRADE Turnover<sup>1]</sup> real, CMPY 5.5 8.8 3.2 2.9 5.7 9.9 10.1 13.3 10.5 10.8 5.6 6.4 6.2 8.6 13.4 Turnover<sup>1]</sup> real, CCPY 8.6 -5.9 -4.1 -1.9 -1.0 -0.2 0.1 0.6 1.2 1.5 9.6 9.0 10.1 10.6 10.5 10.8 FOREIGN TRADE<sup>3)4)</sup> Exports total (fob), cumulated EUR mn 22299 27751 33973 39693 45260 51872 58747 65512 71720 6365 12844 20219 26951 34192 41371 24899 Imports total (cif), cumulated EUR mn 31378 38292 44740 51247 58688 66233 73941 81018 6965 14264 22519 29809 38224 45844 Trade balance, cumulated EUR mn -2600 -3628 -4319 -5047 -5986 -6816 -7485 -8428 -9299 -600 -1420 -2300 -2858 -4032 -4473 Exports to EU-25 (fob), cumulated EUR mn 17413 34696 50508 26764 32259 21605 26151 30557 39694 45078 55149 5152 10086 15932 21145 Imports from EU-25 (cif)5), cumulated EUR mn 16583 20887 25376 29705 33752 38544 43498 48559 52853 4297 8813 14219 18782 24104 28989 Trade balance with EU-25, cumulated EUR mn 829 718 774 852 944 1149 1580 1948 2296 854 1273 1713 2363 2659 3270 FOREIGN FINANCE EUR mn -3463 Current account, cumulated -1042 -1720 -1539 -1786 -2167 -2404 -2721 -3012 -197 -991 -1342 -1532 -1752 -1592 **EXCHANGE RATE** PLN/USD, monthly average 3.205 3.291 3.336 3.399 3.287 3.195 3.260 3.367 3.252 3.160 3.174 3.223 3.198 3.049 3.171 3.149 nominal 4.183 4.060 4.097 4.045 3.925 3.926 3.972 3.856 3.794 3.919 3.894 4.016 3.997 PLN/EUR, monthly average nominal 4.151 3.825 3.875 PLN/USD, calculated with CPI<sup>6</sup> real .lan03=100 1186 116.0 1141 1113 1144 1169 1147 1117 115.9 118 5 117.8 1153 116.0 121 6 116.4 117 2 PLN/USD, calculated with PPI<sup>6)</sup> real, Jan03=100 111.5 110.3 107.1 110.0 103.1 108.8 108.8 114.9 111.0 112 5 114.3 109.7 104.8 106.4 109.9 110.0 PLN/EUR, calculated with CPI<sup>6)</sup> real, Jan03=100 98.4 97.8 99.2 103.5 102.2 103.8 100.6 100.4 100.2 103.2 104.8 106.1 106.6 103.9 102.8 100.1 PLN/EUR, calculated with PPI real, Jan03=100 107.9 102.3 101.5 104.5 103.5 104.5 106.9 106.3 105.4 107.7 108.4 106.4 106.0 106.6 104.4 105.7 DOMESTIC FINANCE M0 end of period PI N hn 53.2 52 9 53.8 55.3 55.2 55.3 55.8 55.9 57.2 55.3 56.3 58 4 61.3 61 2 64 2 64.9 M1, end of period<sup>7</sup> PLN bn 189.6 188.0 185.7 193.3 192.5 195.9 202.5 208.0 204.5 211.5 209.7 223.8 226.2 233.1 176.5 M2, end of period7 PLN bn 376.4 382.5 379.1 379.7 386.2 390.5 395.3 396.7 402.5 397.2 404.1 408.1 412.3 420.0 426.6 429.2 M2, end of period CMPY 7.9 11.0 9.9 11.4 6.9 11.2 10.3 10.9 9.8 9.5 12.5 13.1 8.8 9.2 9.8 9.8 Discount rate (p.a.),end of period 6.0 6.0 5.5 5.3 5.3 48 48 48 4.8 48 45 4.3 43 4.3 43 43 Discount rate (p.a.),end of period<sup>8)</sup> 5.1 5.3 5.2 4.5 4.4 3.8 2.5 0.7 6.5 5.5 5.3 5.5 5.7 3.3 1.9 1.2 BUDGET Central gov.budget balance, cum PLN mn -13651 -18134 -18248 -17331 -18537 -17782 -20649 -22272 -27495 772 -9275 -10070 -14718 -17694 -15619

<sup>1)</sup> Enterprises employing more than 9 persons.

<sup>2)</sup> Ratio of unemployed to the economically active.

<sup>3)</sup> Based on cumulated national currency and converted with the average exchange rate.

<sup>4)</sup> Cumulation starting January and ending December each year.

<sup>5)</sup> According to country of origin.

<sup>6)</sup> Adjusted for domestic and foreign (US resp. EU) inflation. Values more than 100 mean real appreciation.

<sup>7)</sup> Revised according to ECB monetary standards.

<sup>8)</sup> Deflated with annual PPI.

#### S L O V A K REPUBLIC: Selected monthly data on the economic situation 2005 to 2006

														(up	dated en	d of Augu	st 2006)
		2005									2006						
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
			.,			- 3									.,		
PRODUCTION																	
Industry, total	real, CMPY	5.7	1.9	1.7	4.9	4.5	5.4	4.1	5.8	8.7	7.3	4.9	16.5	3.5	10.9	12.1	
Industry, total	real, CCPY	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.1	2.4	2.8	2.9	3.2	3.6	7.3	6.1	9.7	8.1	8.7	9.3	
Industry, total	real, 3MMA	1.3	3.0	2.8	3.6	4.9	4.7	5.1	6.1	7.2	7.0	9.7	8.4	10.3	8.9		
Construction, total	real, CMPY	18.1	18.8	25.2	17.3	15.1	20.7	9.4	15.8	0.5	4.6	19.9	18.0	11.1	19.4	16.3	
LABOUR																	
Employment in industry	th. persons	574.7	579.3	582.2	583.0	585.7	583.2	585.8	587.5	579.6	556.3	557.7	559.4	561.1	563.6	566.3	
Unemployment, end of period	th. persons	344.2	330.8	325.4	322.4	318.7	327.8	322.2	322.6	333.8	342.4	337.3	329.3	315.6	302.6	296.5	291.3
Unemployment rate <sup>1)</sup>	%	11.9	11.3	11.1	11.0	10.9	11.2	10.9	10.9	11.4	11.8	11.7	11.4	11.0	10.6	10.4	10.2
Labour productivity, industry	CCPY	-1.7	-1.7	-1.6	-1.3	-1.0	-0.6	-0.3	0.1	0.6	8.5	7.1	11.0	9.7	10.6	11.4	
Unit labour costs, exch.r. adj.(EUR)	CCPY	17.9	16.8	15.8	14.1	13.4	12.5	12.1	11.4	10.6	-0.6	-3.3	-5.7	-3.2	-2.6	-3.4	
WAGES, SALARIES																	
Industry, gross	SKK	16869	17637	18572	17636	17751	17727	18471	21515	19949	17781	17311	18401	17893	19222	19651	
Industry, gross	real, CMPY	1.4	5.1	2.9	1.7	3.8	2.7	3.6	3.2	3.1	0.6	-6.5	0.5	1.5	4.0	1.1	
Industry, gross	USD	558	575	587	547	564	565	571	656	625	573	553	590	586	652	654	
Industry, gross	EUR	431	452	482	454	459	461	475	556	527	474	463	491	479	512	517	
PRICES																	
Consumer	PM	0.2	0.0	0.3	-0.3	-0.1	0.2	1.1	0.0	0.1	2.1	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2
Consumer	CMPY	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.2	3.3	3.4	3.7	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.6	5.0
Consumer	CCPY	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.6
Producer, in industry	PM	8.0	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.5	1.8	-0.6	1.4	1.4	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.6
Producer, in industry	CMPY	3.5	4.0	4.8	5.3	5.6	5.8	5.7	7.4	7.0	8.7	9.9	9.9	9.8	9.9	9.1	9.0
Producer, in industry	CCPY	2.7	3.0	3.3	3.6	3.8	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.7	8.7	9.3	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.6	9.5
RETAIL TRADE <sup>2)</sup>																	
Turnover	real, CMPY	6.8	9.6	8.0	7.5	11.7	12.7	14.4	12.3	6.3	6.6	6.5	10.0	8.6	9.3	10.7	
Turnover	real, CCPY	8.8	9.0	8.8	8.6	9.0	9.4	9.9	10.1	9.7	6.6	6.6	7.7	7.9	8.2	8.6	
FOREIGN TRADE <sup>3)4)5)</sup>										• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •							
Exports total (fob),cumulated	EUR mn	7633	9710	11954	13968	16067	18486	20975	23583	25773	2170	4444	7150	9527	12287	15062	
Imports total (fob),cumulated	EUR mn	8184	10428	12765	14903	17012	19501	22165	24878	27751	2393	4936	7773	10406	13359	16310	
Trade balance,cumulated	EUR mn	-551	-717	-811	-935	-945	-1015	-1190	-1295	-1978	-223	-492	-624	-879	-1073	-1248	
Exports to EU-25 (fob), cumulated	EUR mn	6674	8445	10284	12015	13751	15816	17958	20184	22015	1922	3897	6243	8265	10640	1210	
Imports from EU-25 (fob) <sup>6)</sup> , cumulated	EUR mn	5825	7470	9174	10725	12220	14053	15963	17894	19778	1505	3168	5145	6908	8941		
Trade balance with EU-25, cumulated	EUR mn	849	975	1110	1290	1532	1763	1996	2290	2237	417	729	1098	1357	1699		
FOREIGN FINANCE	20111111	0.0	0.0		.200			1000			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	. 20	1000	1001	1000	·	•
Current account, cumulated <sup>3)</sup>	EUR mn	-364	-972	-1309	-1495	-1586	-1765	-1949	-2146	-3288	-294	-509	-745	-1020	-1476	-1704	
•	LOIVIIIII	-304	-312	-1303	-1433	-1300	-1703	-1343	-2140	-3200	-234	-505	-140	-1020	-1470	-1704	•
EXCHANGE RATE		20.0	00.7	04.0	20.0	04.5	04.4	00.4	20.0	24.0	04.0	04.0	04.0	20.5	00.5	20.4	20.0
SKK/USD, monthly average	nominal nominal	30.2 39.2	30.7 39.0	31.6 38.5	32.2 38.8	31.5 38.7	31.4	32.4 38.9	32.8 38.7	31.9	31.0 37.5	31.3	31.2 37.5	30.5 37.4	29.5	30.1 38.0	30.3
SKK/EUR, monthly average							38.5			37.9		37.4			37.6		38.4
SKK/USD, calculated with CPI <sup>7</sup>	real, Jan03=100	135.9	134.1	130.3	127.1	129.2	128.6	125.6	124.9	129.0	134.4	133.8	133.6	135.7	140.5	137.6	136.8
SKK/USD, calculated with PPI <sup>7)</sup> SKK/EUR, calculated with CPI <sup>7)</sup>	real, Jan03=100 real, Jan03=100	123.3 112.8	122.9 113.0	120.4 114.7	117.4 113.3	120.1 113.5	117.7 113.9	111.8 113.7	114.0 114.3	117.0 116.7	121.1 120.5	123.6 121.2	124.7 120.7	126.8 120.5	131.3 120.1	128.5 118.5	128.2 117.7
SKK/EUR, calculated with PPI <sup>7)</sup>	real, Jan03=100 real, Jan03=100	110.5	111.7	114.7	113.4	114.3	115.9	113.7	116.5	118.4	120.3	121.2	120.7	120.3	120.1	121.0	120.6
	real, Janus-100	110.5	111.7	114.0	113.4	114.3	115.0	113.1	110.5	110.4	120.3	121.9	122.1	122.3	122.1	121.0	120.0
DOMESTIC FINANCE	0.444	405.0	4000	400.4	440.4		440.0	440.0	444.0	440.0	440.0	440.4	100.1	1010	404.0	101 =	
M0, end of period <sup>8)</sup>	SKK bn	105.2	106.3	108.1	110.1	111.4	112.6	113.6	114.9	119.8	118.8	119.4	120.1	121.3	121.9	124.5	
M1, end of period <sup>8)</sup>	SKK bn	403.9	420.9	428.5	421.7	433.2	443.0	445.8	464.4	486.0	477.7	493.5	486.0	485.5	512.9	521.7	•
M2, end of period <sup>8)</sup>	SKK bn	730.2	721.3	726.1	731.5	738.1	744.1	751.0	751.7	786.0	779.4	788.5	796.6	808.5	811.3	822.2	
M2, end of period <sup>8)</sup>	CMPY	8.3	9.0	6.5	5.9	5.9	6.1	7.3	6.4	7.4	8.4	9.5	11.2	10.7	12.5	13.2	
Discount rate (p.a.),end of period <sup>9)</sup>	% rool %	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.5	3.5	4.0	4.0	4.5
Discount rate (p.a.),end of period <sup>9)10)</sup>	real, %	-0.5	-0.9	-1.7	-2.2	-2.5	-2.6	-2.5	-4.1	-3.7	-5.2	-6.3	-5.8	-5.8	-5.4	-4.7	-4.2
BUDGET	****	0000	05		4655					00555	100	00:-				105:-	<b>50</b>
Central gov.budget balance, cum.	SKK mn	6388	-3858	-1149	1922	-5065	-8107	-5115	-7553	-33886	12083	6347	157	180	-11700	-10246	-5244

<sup>1)</sup> Ratio of disposable number of registered unemployment calculated to the economically active population as of previous year.

<sup>2)</sup> According to NACE (52 - retail trade), excluding VAT.

<sup>3)</sup> Based on cumulated national currency and converted with the average exchange rate.

<sup>4)</sup> Cumulation starting January and ending December each year.

<sup>5)</sup> From January 2005 excluding value of goods for repair and after repair.

<sup>6)</sup> According to country of origin.

<sup>7)</sup> Adjusted for domestic and foreign (US resp. EU) inflation. Values more than 100 mean real appreciation.

<sup>8)</sup> According to ECB methodology.

<sup>9)</sup> Corresponding to the 2-week limit rate of NBS.

<sup>10)</sup> Deflated with annual PPI.

S L O V E N I A: Selected monthly data on the economic situation 2005 to 2006

		2005									2006			(up	dated end	d of Augus	st 2006)
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
PRODUCTION																	
Industry, total <sup>1)</sup>	real, CMPY	2.7	6.1	6.9	3.8	0.7	2.5	3.1	7.5	6.0	7.2	8.3	7.3	1.0	9.8	4.3	
Industry, total <sup>1)</sup>	real, CCPY	0.7	1.8	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.6	3.1	3.3	7.2	7.8	7.6	5.9	6.7	6.3	
Industry, total <sup>1)</sup>	real, 3MMA	2.1	4.4	3.8	4.2	3.5	4.0	6.1	7.1	7.6	7.6	7.6	5.5	6.1	5.0		
Construction, total <sup>2)</sup>	real, CMPY	9.3	16.9	13.2	1.8	-1.2	-4.7	-8.2	8.6	13.2	-3.9	7.7	1.0	-3.2	-2.8	11.8	
LABOUR																	
Employment total	th. persons	812.2	814.8	816.1	813.5	812.7	816.1	817.5	818.3	813.6	812.5	814.1	817.3	819.9	823.6	827.4	
Employees in industry	th. persons	240.5	240.9	240.4	239.2	238.3	238.1	238.3	238.1	235.8	235.1	234.9	234.8	234.6	235.1		
Unemployment, end of period	th. persons	91.6	89.8	88.9	91.1	90.6	91.1	94.2	93.9	92.6	95.2	94.1	91.4	90.0	87.1	84.9	
Unemployment rate <sup>3)</sup>	%	10.1	9.9	9.8	10.1	10.0	10.0	10.3	10.3	10.2	10.5	10.4	10.1	9.9	9.6	9.3	
Labour productivity, industry	CCPY	2.1	3.2	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.9	5.2	10.0	10.5	10.3	8.6	9.4		
Unit labour costs, exch.r. adj.(EUR)	CCPY	3.1	2.5	1.5	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	0.5	-2.4	-3.3	-3.4	-2.4	-3.2		
WAGES, SALARIES <sup>4)</sup>																	
Total economy, gross	th. SIT	269.4	271.8	271.7	271.4	279.0	277.4	279.5	314.0	290.5	281.6	277.4	285.7	279.9	286.3	285.7	
Total economy, gross	real, CMPY	1.9	3.8	2.7	1.6	3.2	1.3	1.6	6.9	-1.5	2.8	3.2	3.2	1.2	2.1	2.2	
Total economy, gross	USD	1454	1442	1381	1364	1432	1420	1403	1545	1437	1423	1384	1432	1429	1526	1510	
Total economy, gross	EUR	1124	1134	1134	1133	1165	1158	1167	1310	1213	1175	1158	1192	1168	1195	1192	
Industry, gross	EUR	983	1008	998	993	1042	1028	1036	1221	1060	1061	1021	1079	1027	1065	1070	
PRICES																	
Consumer	PM	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.7	-0.6	1.0	0.2	-0.5	0.0	-0.5	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.9	-0.3	-0.2
Consumer	CMPY	2.7	2.2	1.9	2.3	2.1	3.2	3.1	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.2	1.9	2.7	3.2	2.9	1.9
Consumer	CCPY	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.5
Producer, in industry	PM CMPY	0.3 3.6	-0.3 2.6	0.0	-0.2 2.0	0.3 2.1	0.3 1.9	0.2 1.8	0.1	0.4	-0.1	0.6 1.6	0.4 2.0	0.3 2.0	0.1 2.4	0.3 2.7	0.1 2.9
Producer, in industry Producer, in industry	CCPY	3.b 4.1	3.8	2.4 3.6	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.9	1.8 2.8	1.8 2.7	1.3 1.3	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.7	2.9
•	COPT	4.1	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.0	2.1	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.1
RETAIL TRADE Turnover	real, CMPY	2.8	9.3	11.7	7.2	14.5	8.2	8.0	18.9	14.3	8.4	9.9	9.2	8.2	9.8	4.8	
Turnover	real, CCPY	5.7	6.5	7.4	7.4	8.2	8.2	8.2	9.2	9.7	8.4	9.9	9.2	8.9	9.1	8.3	
FOREIGN TRADE <sup>5)6)</sup>	icai, coi i	5.1	0.0	1.4	1.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	J.Z	5.1	0.4	3.1	5.2	0.5	J. I	0.5	
Exports total (fob), cumulated	EUR mn	4540	5753	7051	8201	9236	10577	11868	13229	14397	1231	2490	3980	5281	6717	8151	
Imports total (cif), cumulated	EUR mn	4864	6141	7491	8686	9908	11363	12745	14313	15804	1245	2617	4255	5573	7113	8650	
Trade balance total, cumulated	EUR mn	-324	-389	-440	-485	-672	-787	-877	-1084	-1408	-14	-127	-275	-292	-396	-500	
Exports to EU-25 (fob), cumulated	EUR mn	3141	3988	4861	5623	6290	7185	8056	8977	9770	900	1797	2831	3705	4683	5656	
Imports from EU-25 (cif) <sup>7)</sup> , cumulated	EUR mn	3823	4936	6058	7087	8062	9255	10366	11575	12788	971	2028	3353	4394	5623	6857	
Trade balance with EU-25, cumulated	EUR mn	-681	-948	-1197	-1464	-1772	-2070	-2310	-2598	-3018	-71	-232	-522	-688	-940	-1201	
FOREIGN FINANCE																	
Current account, cumulated	EUR mn	-166	-151	-87	-108	-38	-18	3	-92	-301	73	-25	-142	-109	-94	-79	
EXCHANGE RATE																	
SIT/USD, monthly average	nominal	185.3	188.5	196.7	198.9	194.9	195.3	199.3	203.2	202.2	197.9	200.4	199.5	195.9	187.6	189.2	188.9
SIT/EUR, monthly average	nominal	239.7	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6	239.6
SIT/USD, calculated with CPI <sup>8)</sup>	real, Jan03=100	118.6	117.0	112.2	111.2	112.3	111.9	109.6	107.8	108.8	109.7	108.5	109.4	111.2	116.6	115.1	115.0
SIT/USD, calculated with PPf <sup>8)</sup>	real, Jan03=100	110.6	108.8	104.3	101.6	103.2	100.4	96.2	95.8	97.1	98.3	99.1	99.8	100.8	104.4	103.5	103.8
SIT/EUR, calculated with CPI <sup>(6)</sup>	real, Jan03=100	98.5	98.6	98.6	99.2	98.5	99.0	99.1	98.7	98.4	98.1	98.3	98.7	98.9	99.5	99.0	98.8
SIT/EUR, calculated with PPf <sup>8)</sup>	real, Jan03=100	99.1	99.0	98.7	98.2	98.1	97.9	97.7	98.0	98.3	97.5	97.8	97.7	97.4	97.0	97.3	97.4
DOMESTIC FINANCE																	
M0, end of period <sup>9)</sup>	SIT bn	173.1	174.9	179.2	179.0	174.6	177.6	186.0	177.1	187.2	202.7	206.8	207.5	220.9	216.5		
M1, end of period <sup>9)</sup>	SIT bn	1032.2	1054.8	1074.7	1057.4	1051.6	1068.4	1079.1	1073.4	1151.4	1683.9	1694.1	1740.5	1764.7	1795.3	1824.8	
Broad money, end of period <sup>9)</sup>	SIT bn	4140.4	4070.3	4031.2	4048.1	4088.3	4155.8	4164.5	4248.9	4258.2	3498.5	3524.7	3570.2	3546.0	3593.4	3627.2	
Broad money, end of period <sup>9)</sup>	CMPY	8.2	6.4	4.6	4.3	5.5	6.1	7.5	8.0	5.5	-14.0	-13.3	-12.8	-14.4	-11.7	-10.0	
Refinancing rate (p.a.),end of period	%	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.75	3.75	3.50	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.50	3.50
Refinancing rate (p.a.),end of period <sup>10)</sup>	real, %	-0.1	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.4	1.9	1.2	1.2	8.0	0.8	0.6
BUDGET																	
General gov.budget balance, cum.	SIT bn	-53.3	-70.3	-84.7	-82.1	-62.3	-47.5	-49.9	-36.9	-71.8	16.2	-18.0	-31.4	-15.7			

<sup>1)</sup> Data in 2005 according to new methodology introduced in July 2005.

<sup>2)</sup> Effective working hours, construction put in place of enterprises with 20 and more persons employed.

<sup>3)</sup> Ratio of unemployed to the economically active.
4) Break 2004/2005 - until December 2004 without small privat enterprises (with 1 or 2 employees).

<sup>5)</sup> Based on cumulated national currency and converted with the average exchange rate.

<sup>6)</sup> Cumulation starting January and ending December each year.

<sup>7)</sup> According to country of dispatch.

<sup>8)</sup> Adjusted for domestic and foreign (US resp. EU) inflation. Values more than 100 mean real appreciation.

<sup>9)</sup> From 2006 harmonized ECB methodology.

<sup>10)</sup> Deflated with annual PPI.

B U L G A R I A: Selected monthly data on the economic situation 2005 to 2006

(updated end of August 2006) 2005 2006 Oct Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Nov Dec Jan Feb Mai ngA May Jun Jul PRODUCTION 4.9 Industry, total13 real, CMPY 9.3 6.5 6.2 7.0 1.7 9.2 7.8 7.6 8.9 5.7 2.7 10.3 6.5 6.3 Industry, total1 real, CCPY 6.9 7.0 6.9 6.3 6.6 6.7 6.7 7.6 7.3 6.6 7.3 7.1 8.3 6.1 7.0 Industry, total real, 3MMA 7.6 7.3 66 66 5.0 5.8 6.3 7 7 7.2 7.5 7.3 5.7 62 59 I AROUR Employees total th. persons 2237 2247 2264 2285 2279 2266 2260 2261 2234 2201 2213 2237 2250 2265 2276 Employees in industry 722 720 718 720 719 715 714 713 708 699 701 702 705 705 704 th. persons Unemployment, end of period 331.8 449.7 427.2 405.5 399.0 388.5 386.5 383.9 397.3 432.3 426.2 401.5 378.9 355.3 340.1 th. persons 411.6 Unemployment rate2 121 11.5 11 1 10.9 10.8 10.5 10 4 104 10.7 117 115 10.8 102 96 92 90 Labour productivity, industry1) CCPY 2.5 2.4 2.2 2.2 2.2 2.0 2.0 2.0 10.6 11.1 10.1 9.6 9.1 1.7 8.8 Unit labour costs, exch.r. adj.(EUR)13 CCPY 4.0 4.1 4.4 4.6 4.6 5.3 5.2 5.1 5.2 -1.3 -1.5 -0.6 0.9 0.0 0.3 WAGES, SALARIES Total economy, gross BGN 310 319 314 317 310 324 317 321 324 322 340 343 346 345 340 Total economy, gross real, CMPY 2.8 3.4 3.4 3.4 1.5 1.4 0.5 -0.9 -0.23.4 1.0 0.9 2.4 -0.1 1.5 Total economy, gross USD 205 207 195 195 195 203 195 193 206 201 197 209 215 226 223 Total economy, gross EUR 159 163 161 162 159 166 162 164 174 166 165 174 175 177 176 Industry, gross 175 182 EUR 160 162 168 164 162 170 168 166 167 168 179 178 176 **PRICES** -0.5 Consumer PM 11 -0.5 -13 0.1 0.6 14 12 10 0.8 0.8 3.0 0.3 0.4 0.0 -16 Consumer CMPY 5.1 4.6 5.1 39 5.0 5.4 6.5 6.9 6.5 6.6 8.7 87 8.1 8.5 82 76 CCPY 4.2 4.2 4.4 4.3 4.5 4.7 4.9 5.0 6.6 7.6 8.0 Consumer 4.4 8.0 8.1 8.1 8.1 Producer, in industry<sup>1)</sup> PM -0.6 0.7 0.2 1.3 0.8 0.5 0.7 -0.5 -0.2 1.8 3.1 0.3 1.1 1.1 1.5 CMPY Producer, in industry 7.7 5.9 7.2 6.6 6.6 7.0 6.3 7.7 9.8 8.8 9.6 6.8 7.5 11.5 11.1 Producer, in industry1 CCPY 6.6 6.5 6.6 6.6 6.6 6.6 6.6 6.7 7.0 8.8 9.2 84 8.1 8.8 9.2 FOREIGN TRADE<sup>3)4</sup> Exports total (fob), cumulated EUR mn 2828 3565 4386 5245 6027 6800 7716 8596 9454 816 1692 2667 3656 4642 5699 Imports total (cif), cumulated EUR mn 4075 5301 6592 7864 9137 10404 11831 13290 14682 1233 2457 3933 5344 6868 8361 -3604 -4694 -418 -1688 -2661 Trade balance, cumulated EUR mn -1247 -1736 -2206 -2618 -3110 -4115 -5228 -764 -1266 -2226 FOREIGN FINANCE Current account, cumulated5 EUR mn -790 -1010 -1116 -1136 -1174 -1346 -1685 -2111 -2531 -441 -685 -1118 -1474 -1752 -1815 **EXCHANGE RATE** BGN/USD, monthly average nominal 1.512 1.543 1.608 1.625 1.591 1.597 1.628 1.660 1.650 1.614 1.638 1.627 1.597 1.532 1.546 1.542 BGN/EUR, monthly average nominal 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 1.956 BGN/USD, calculated with CPI<sup>6</sup> real, Jan03=100 119.1 122.5 127.9 124.8 116.5 119.0 117.8 117.6 119.8 124.0 124.6 126.3 131.0 127.5 127.3 118.1 BGN/USD, calculated with PPI<sup>6</sup> real, Jan03=100 119.6 116.9 113.0 111.6 113.3 111.1 107.2 107.3 109.1 110.1 111.8 112.1 115.0 122.5 121.3 BGN/EUR, calculated with CPI<sup>6)</sup> real, Jan03=100 106.3 105.6 104.2 104.2 104.6 105.6 106.7 107.9 108.5 109.6 112.6 112.5 112.3 111.9 110.0 109.5 BGN/EUR, calculated with PPI<sup>6)</sup> real, Jan03=100 107.3 108.1 107.9 108.8 109.2 110.0 109.2 110.5 111.0 DOMESTIC FINANCE M0, end of period7 BGN mn 4652 4756 4848 5058 5147 5213 5134 5096 5396 5092 5080 5113 5190 5284 5503 5710 M1, end of period<sup>7</sup> 10790 11713 11729 12058 12371 13444 BGN mn 10552 11167 11494 11566 11792 12443 11840 12430 13085 14101 Broad money, end of  $period^{7)}$ RGN mn 22004 22440 22778 23211 23663 23746 23939 24010 25260 24633 25125 25558 25771 26568 27535 28244 CMPY 28.0 29.0 25.4 26.4 29.0 26.6 27.0 27.3 23.9 20.0 21.1 10.1 17.1 18.4 20.9 21.7 Broad money, end of period BNB base rate (p.a.),end of period 2.0 2.0 2.1 2.1 2.1 2.1 2.1 2.2 2.3 2.6 2.1 2. 2.3 2.5 2.6 2.7 BNB base rate (p.a.),end of period<sup>8</sup> -5.3 -3.6 -4.7 -4.3 -4.3 -4.6 -4.0 -5.2 -7.0 -6.0 -6.7 -4.2 -4.7 -8.0 -7.6 real. % BUDGET

926.7 1007.7 1001.5 1198.9 1339.3 1488.3 1611.8 1333.9

137.0

457.7

619.9

978.8 1237.7 1454.9

623 6

BGN mn

Central gov.budget balance,cum

<sup>1)</sup> According to new calculation for industrial output and prices. Output data based on survey for enterprises with 10 and more persons.

<sup>2)</sup> Ratio of unemployed to the economically active.

<sup>3)</sup> Based on cumulated national currency and converted with the average exchange rate.

<sup>4)</sup> Cumulation starting January and ending December each year.

<sup>5)</sup> Based on national currency and converted with the exchange rate.

<sup>6)</sup> Adjusted for domestic and foreign (US resp. EU) inflation. Values more than 100 mean real appreciation.

<sup>7)</sup> According to ECB methodology.

<sup>8)</sup> Deflated with annual PPI.

#### ROMANIA: Selected monthly data on the economic situation 2005 to 2006

(updated end of August 2006) 2005 2006 Apr Mav Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mai ngA May Jun Jul PRODUCTION real, CMPY Industry, total13 9.0 -4.0 -0.7 -6.2 2.3 2.7 1.7 2.2 4.2 4.3 0.6 10.6 1.6 5.0 15.7 Industry, total1 real, CCPY 6.6 4.3 1.9 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 5.0 4.6 4.5 3.5 6.7 3.4 1.9 5.9 Industry, total real 3MMA 29 12 -37 -16 -0.5 22 20 18 2.8 38 45 3.0 6.7 89 I AROUR Employees total th. persons 4551.0 4560.3 4577.8 4567.5 4563.2 4554.6 4538.0 4537.6 4501.2 4556.2 4565.6 4582.0 4589.7 4604.0 4612.2 Employees in industry 1740.0 1731.5 1722.2 1712.6 1699.4 1690.3 1680.6 1670.7 1652.3 1684.0 1680.8 1678.5 1666.7 1663.9 1653.1 th. persons Unemployment, end of period 548.0 511.3 495.9 488.8 489.3 499.0 493.8 499.7 504.8 523.0 554.6 545.9 512.3 481.2 465.9 th. persons Unemployment rate2 5.8 56 56 56 57 56 5.7 5.7 5.9 62 6.3 62 59 5.5 5.3 Labour productivity, industry CCPY 8.2 6.1 5.4 4.3 4.5 4.8 5.0 5.2 8.8 8.6 8.4 7.5 9.9 10.7 5.4 Unit labour costs, exch.r. adj.(EUR) CCPY 17.2 20.4 22.0 24.0 24.8 25.0 25.1 24.6 24.0 9.9 10.2 12.0 12.1 9.2 7.9 WAGES, SALARIES RON 1101.0 Total economy, gross 973.0 941.7 943.6 957.0 963.0 965.0 974.0 1017.0 1121.0 1100.0 1017.0 1120.0 1109.0 1112.0 real, CMPY Total economy, gross 6.6 6.9 7.1 7.7 9.2 8.3 7.4 7.8 6.0 6.2 7.1 10.4 7.7 9.8 10.0 Total economy, gross USD 347 330 318 323 338 337 325 328 364 366 343 377 393 **4**04 397 Total economy, gross EUR 268 260 261 268 275 275 271 278 306 302 287 314 321 316 313 Industry, gross EUR 255 254 296 262 256 265 274 277 262 268 268 302 301 299 300 **PRICES** Consumer PM 18 0.3 0.3 10 0.1 0.6 0.9 12 0.5 10 02 02 0.4 0.6 02 0.1 Consumer CMPY 10.0 10.0 9.7 93 89 8.5 8 1 8 7 8.6 89 8.5 84 6.9 7.3 7.1 62 CCPY 9.3 9.2 9.1 9.0 8.9 8.6 Consumer 9.1 9.4 9.4 9.3 9.0 8.7 8.2 8.0 7.8 7.6 Producer, in industry PM 2.5 0.5 0.2 0.7 1.2 0.7 1.7 0.7 -0.1 1.4 0.4 1.8 1.1 1.5 1.1 CMPY Producer, in industry 12.3 11.4 10.4 9.3 8.8 8.1 8.2 8.8 9.6 9.8 11.7 11.3 10.6 11.7 12.7 Producer, in industry CCPY 13.1 12.7 12.3 11.9 11.5 11.1 10.8 10.6 10.5 9.8 10.7 10.9 10.8 11.0 11.3 RETAIL TRADE Turnover real, CMPY 24.1 14.8 14.2 14.2 22.6 11.7 9.2 12.4 30.3 25.4 26.7 24.0 16.3 32.1 27.2 Turnover real, CCPY 25.4 25.4 20.3 19.2 18.4 17.5 18.2 17.4 16.5 16.0 17.6 26.0 23.1 24.9 25.3 FOREIGN TRADE3) EUR mn 6889 8663 16466 18407 20436 1774 3880 6218 8086 10392 Exports total (fob), cumulated 10527 12530 14394 22255 12668 Imports total (cif), cumulated FUR mn 9223 11899 14740 17521 20220 23066 26144 29462 32569 2420 5287 8575 11517 15024 18475 -2333 Trade balance, cumulated EUR mn -3236 -4213 -4990 -5826 -6600 -7737 -9025 -10313 -646 -1407 -2358 -3432 -4632 -5807 Exports to EU-25 (fob), cumulated EUR mn 4799 5969 7275 8590 9745 11153 12477 13935 15043 1237 2681 4256 5473 6950 8486 Imports from EU-25 (cif), cumulated EUR mn 7495 16340 18417 11467 5767 9288 11025 12611 14366 20251 1456 3142 5160 6947 9212 Trade balance with EU-25, cumulated EUR mn -968 -1526 -2013 -2436 -2866 -3213 -3863 -4482 -5208 -219 -462 -904 -1474 -2262 -2980 FOREIGN FINANCE Current account, cumulated EUR mn -1581 -2178 -2975 -2952 -3248 -4363 -4891 -6023 -6891 -391 -1018 -1564 -2486 -3336 -4170 **EXCHANGE RATE** RON/USD, monthly average 2.804 2.851 2.969 2.961 2.851 2.865 2.993 3.097 3.084 3.006 2.963 2.918 2.849 2.745 2.801 2.817 nominal RON/EUR, monthly average 3.629 3.618 3.614 3.566 3.506 3.510 3.598 3.653 3.659 3.645 3.540 3.507 3.491 3.507 3.548 3.572 nominal RON/USD, calculated with CPI49 real, Jan03=100 140.2 134.8 136.0 140.7 134.2 132.3 137.8 139.9 144.4 150.0 146.9 141.9 139.3 134.1 141.7 146.3 RON/USD, calculated with PPI4 real, Jan03=100 146 2 145 1 1396 139 2 145 1 1413 134 2 132.6 133.6 137 9 143 5 146 1 150 6 157.3 155.2 RON/EUR, calculated with CPI<sup>4)</sup> real, Jan03=100 118.7 121.8 123.8 123.8 121.8 121.5 121.6 123.5 127.1 128.2 128.5 128.3 126.8 126.1 118.2 119.1 RON/EUR, calculated with PPI real, Jan03=100 138.4 138.5 136.0 136.9 145.6 131.3 132.6 132.7 135.0 136.9 135.5 142.0 143.4 146.4 146.5 DOMESTIC FINANCE M0, end of period 8689 11480 RON mn 8750 9582 9790 9985 10341 10258 10348 11386 10977 11165 12471 12595 13557 M1 end of period RON mn 16376 17146 18495 19162 20456 20964 21289 21133 24551 23560 23508 23843 24593 26080 27781 M2, end of period RON mn 71966 74200 74080 76745 80152 81098 81402 86332 85727 85677 87528 88034 91747 95054 69096 CMPY 43.9 46.7 46.5 41.1 39.9 41.3 41.3 43.1 33.9 35.8 31.4 28.8 27.4 27.5 28.1 Discount rate (p.a.),end of period 5 8.0 7.7 7.5 7.5 8.5 8.5 8.4 8.0 8.0 8.0 8.3 7.5 7.5 8.5 8.5 8.5 Discount rate (p.a.),end of period 5)6) real % -3.4 -3.1 -22 -1.2 -0.7 0.1 -0.4 -12 -19 -2.1 -38 -25 -19 -28 -3.7 BUDGET Central gov.budget balance, cum RON mn -5.5 -235.2 -725.9 -255.6 50.7 403.0 1363.8 653.2 -2182.9 850.9 851.4 472.6 674.3 830.9 -444.7

Note: On 1 July 2005, the new Romania leu was introduced (1 RON = 10000 ROL). Data in this table are presented in new leu RON.

<sup>1)</sup> Enterprises with more than 50 (in food industry 20) employees.

<sup>2)</sup> Ratio of unemployed to economically active population as of December of previous year, from 2004 as of December 2003.

<sup>3)</sup> Cumulation starting January and ending December each year.

<sup>4)</sup> Adjusted for domestic and foreign (US resp. EU) inflation. Values more than 100 mean real appreciation.

<sup>5)</sup> Reference rate of RNB.

Deflated with annual PPI.

#### CROATIA: Selected monthly data on the economic situation 2005 to 2006

(updated end of August 2006) 2005 2006 Oct Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Nov Dec Jan Feb Mai ngA May Jun Jul PRODUCTION Industry, total13 real, CMPY 6.3 8.3 12.3 5.4 6.0 7.2 7.3 6.0 -3.2 4.1 4.7 6.4 3.1 5.9 -1.1 Industry, total1 real, CCPY 1.9 3.2 4.8 4.9 4.9 5.0 5.2 5.3 5.1 5.9 6.6 6.4 3.7 3.8 2.9 Industry, total1] real 3MMA 3.8 90 87 7.5 54 6.0 6.5 5.5 5.0 5.3 64 3 1 23 -0 1 Construction, total,effect.work.time1] real, CMPY -2.7 -6.6 -6.7 -3.6 -3.6 5.5 5.6 8.8 8.0 4.4 13.3 17.1 16.9 13.7 LABOUR Employment total 1407.4 1420.1 1434.2 1444.5 1446.3 1436.9 1429.7 1425.4 1417.2 1406.6 1403.8 1406.7 1416.3 1429.6 th. persons 279.7 279.4 279.6 279.5 278.5 279.4 279.1 274.6 274.8 275.5 276.8 Employees in industry 279.1 277.4 273.1 276.3 th. persons Unemployment, end of period th. persons 320.3 308.3 2976 293 2 291 0 2943 300 6 305.5 307.9 314 2 3136 3113 3024 287.3 274 5 270.8 Unemployment rate2) 18.5 17.8 17.2 16.9 16.8 17.0 17.4 17.7 17.8 18.3 18.3 18.1 17.6 16.7 16.0 15.7 Labour productivity, industry1) CCPY 0.3 1.6 3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4 3.6 3.7 3.5 5.2 6.8 7.0 4.7 4.9 4.1 CCPY 6.3 2.9 2.8 2.8 2.9 3.1 4.3 2.6 2.5 4.0 3.7 Unit labour costs, exch.r. adj.(EUR)1 5.3 3.5 3.0 WAGES, SALARIES HRK Total economy, gross 6112 6358 6348 6199 6306 6202 6184 6588 6409 6386 6326 6650 6459 6780 Total economy, gross real, CMPY -0.4 3.2 1.4 -0.5 2.0 0.8 0.4 1.1 0.8 2.2 2.4 2.8 2.1 2.5 Total economy, gross USD 1069 1104 1057 1023 1055 1025 1008 1054 1028 1046 1032 1090 1081 1190 Total economy, gross 893 EUR 826 868 868 849 858 835 837 867 866 863 908 883 932 Industry, gross FUR 758 800 795 780 797 783 768 833 796 795 797 850 807 867 PRICES Consumer PM -0.2 0.0 -0.1 -02 0.1 0.5 0.7 0.2 0.5 0.6 0.8 0.1 0.2 0.5 -0 1 -0.8 CMPY 2.9 3.8 3.6 3.9 4.0 3.4 Consumer 3.5 2.8 3.1 3.1 4.1 3.8 3.6 3.0 3.5 4.0 CCPY 3.4 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.2 3.3 3.4 3.3 3.9 3.8 3.5 3.5 3.6 3.7 3.6 3.2 Producer, in industry PM 0.3 0.1 -0.20.8 0.1 0.8 0.5 0.0 -0.3 0.5 0.7 0.3 0.1 0.4 -0.2 0.1 Producer, in industry CMPY 4.5 2.3 2.4 2.3 1.5 2.1 1.8 2.3 2.7 3.2 3.6 3.6 3.4 3.7 3.7 3.0 Producer, in industry CCPY 4.8 4.3 4.0 3.7 3.4 3.2 3.1 3.0 3.0 3.2 3.4 3.5 3.4 3.5 3.5 3.5 RETAIL TRADE Turnover real, CMPY 2.0 6.6 7.3 2.0 3.6 1.7 2.0 2.9 5.3 0.3 0.2 -0.5 5.1 3.6 1.5 3.6 Turnover real, CCPY 1.1 2.3 3.2 3.0 3.4 3.3 3.1 3.1 3.2 4.4 1.7 2.3 1.8 1.4 FOREIGN TRADE<sup>3)4)</sup> Exports total (fob), cumulated FUR mn 2127 2677 3334 3919 4494 5166 5737 6407 7092 605 1192 1969 2553 3256 3899 Imports total (cif), cumulated EUR mn 4401 5706 7136 8417 9600 10914 12346 13656 14922 1134 2424 3955 5323 6828 8354 Trade balance, cumulated EUR mn -2274 -3028 -3802 -4498 -5106 -5748 -6609 -7249 -7830 -529 -1233 -1986 -2770 -3573 -4455 Exports to EU-25 (fob), cumulated EUR mn 1347 2498 2155 2602 1726 2139 2861 3247 3604 4026 4404 392 794 1291 1690 Imports from EU-25 (cif), cumulated EUR mn 2893 3791 4725 5604 6346 7199 8073 8965 9824 643 1474 2449 3399 4448 5459 Trade balance with EU-25, cumulated EUR mn -1545 -2064 -2586 -3106 -3485 -3952 -4469 -4940 -5420 -251 -680 -1158 -1709 -2293 -2856 FOREIGN FINANCE Current account, cumulated<sup>5)</sup> EUR mn -2695 -1960 -1993 **EXCHANGE RATE** HRK/USD, monthly average 5.717 5.759 6.007 6.062 5.975 6.052 6.136 6.252 6.234 6.102 6.129 6.098 5.974 5.698 5.726 5.714 nominal 7.246 HRK/EUR, monthly average 7.395 7.327 7.348 7.432 7.386 7.375 7.378 7.327 7.313 7.273 7.256 nominal 7.313 7.305 7.389 7.325 HRK/USD, calculated with CPI<sup>6</sup> real, Jan03=100 1226 121.9 1166 114 8 116 1 113 9 1128 111.8 113.1 1154 115.5 1157 1173 122 9 122.0 121.2 HRK/USD, calculated with PPf<sup>0</sup> real, Jan03=100 114.4 109.5 108.0 108.8 105.2 101.4 103.6 105.5 111.9 114.7 101.7 101.8 106.1 107.3 110.7 111 0 HRK/EUR, calculated with CPI<sup>6)</sup> real, Jan03=100 102.5 102.5 102.3 101.6 100.5 101.7 102.2 103.2 104.5 104.2 104.0 104.8 104.1 101.7 102.2 104.8 HRK/EUR, calculated with PPI real, Jan03=100 103.5 102.7 103.9 104.2 102.6 103.9 103.5 104.2 103.3 102.4 103.1 102.9 103.9 103.8 103.3 103.8 DOMESTIC FINANCE M0, end of period HRK hn 114 115 12 2 13 1 127 122 119 11 7 12.2 11 7 118 12 1 12 7 13.0 14 0 M1, end of period HRK bn 36.0 36.7 38.3 37.8 36.7 37.1 37.2 38.8 37.2 37.2 38.2 39.2 40.8 42.2 34.8 Broad money, end of period HRK bn 137.9 140.6 142.6 145.6 151.1 151.6 152.5 154.7 154.6 152.0 151.7 153.6 155.1 158.1 163.1 Broad money, end of period CMPY 7.8 10.3 10.1 9.4 10.4 9.3 10.2 10.8 10.5 9.4 9.3 11.3 12.5 14.4 12.4 Discount rate (p.a.),end of period 4.5 4.5 4.5 4.5 4.5 4.5 4.5 4.5 4.5 45 45 4.5 4.5 4.5 4.5 Discount rate (p.a.),end of period 7) 0.0 2.2 2.1 2.2 3.0 2.4 2.7 2.2 1.8 1.3 0.9 0.8 0.9 1.1 0.8 BUDGET Central gov. budget balance, cum.8) HRK mn -6276 -6732 -7603 -6557 -5995 -6994 -6874 -1742 -2803 -3097 -3381

<sup>1)</sup> In business entities with more than 20 persons employed.

<sup>2)</sup> Ratio of unemployed to the economically active population.

Based on cumulated national currency and converted with the average exchange rate.

<sup>4)</sup> Cumulation starting January and ending December each year.

<sup>5)</sup> Calculated from USD to NCU to EUR using the official average exchange rate.

<sup>6)</sup> Adjusted for domestic and foreign (US resp. EU) inflation. Values more than 100 mean real appreciation.

<sup>7)</sup> Deflated with annual PPI.

<sup>8)</sup> Consolidated central government budget. Including extra-budgetary funds.

R U S S I A: Selected monthly data on the economic situation 2005 to 2006

														(up	dated en	d of Augu	ust 2006)
		2005									2006						
		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
PRODUCTION (1)			4.0												44.0		
Industry, total <sup>1)</sup>	real, CMPY	3.7	1.0	6.0	3.9	3.0	4.9	3.6	6.0	4.8	4.3	0.9	4.1	4.9	11.2	2.9	3.6
Industry, total <sup>1)</sup>	real, CCPY	3.4	2.9	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.3	2.6	3.1	3.6	5.0	4.7	4.5
Industry, total <sup>1)</sup>	real, 3MMA	2.9	3.6	3.6	4.3	3.9	3.8	4.8	4.8	5.0	3.4	3.1	3.3	6.6	6.2	5.8	
Construction, total	real, CMPY	6.1	5.3	7.4	12.9	11.6	10.4	13.6	16.2	15.6	-7.5	-3.5	10.7	12.1	10.9	14.5	14.5
LABOUR <sup>2)</sup>																	
Employment total	th. persons	67800	68300	68600	68900	69300	69100	68900	68700	68300	67600	67600	67900	68200	68500	68899	69170
Unemployment, end of period	th. persons	5610	5406	5400	5397	5395	5444	5491	5543	5660	5776	5893	5780	5674	5571	5501	5430
Unemployment rate	%	7.6	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.7	7.9	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.3
WAGES, SALARIES																	
Total economy, gross	RUB	8002	8089	8637	8651	8616	8829	8701	8931	11319	9016	9255	9914	9833	10257	11106	11218
Total economy, gross	real, CMPY	9.4	9.2	8.8	9.8	11.6	13.7	12.8	14.0	16.0	10.9	11.5	10.7	11.8	15.7	17.7	18.5
Total economy, gross	USD	288	289	303	301	303	311	305	311	393	319	328	356	357	379	412	417
Total economy, gross	EUR	222	228	249	250	246	254	253	263	331	263	274	296	291	297	325	328
Industry, gross <sup>3)</sup>	EUR	224	229	245	251	251	252	259	266	302	257	263	285	286	287	299	•
PRICES																	
Consumer	PM	1.1	8.0	0.6	0.5	-0.1	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.8	2.4	1.7	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.7
Consumer	CMPY	13.4	13.6	13.3	12.9	12.3	12.2	11.7	11.2	10.9	10.7	11.2	10.7	9.9	9.6	9.2	9.5
Consumer	CCPY	13.0	13.1	13.2	13.1	13.0	12.9	12.8	12.7	12.5	10.7	10.9	10.8	10.6	10.4	10.2	10.1
Producer, in industry	PM	2.5	2.7	0.1	0.5	2.0	2.8	0.9	-0.9	-2.1	0.5	3.3	2.1	0.6	1.8	0.8	
Producer, in industry	CMPY	24.0	24.7	21.4	20.6	20.8	20.5	19.4	16.0	13.4	13.4	15.6	15.1	13.0	12.0	12.8	
Producer, in industry	CCPY	23.5	23.8	23.4	22.9	22.6	22.4	22.1	21.4	20.7	13.4	14.5	14.7	14.3	13.8	13.6	
RETAIL TRADE																	
Turnover <sup>4)</sup>	real, CMPY	13.5	14.4	13.6	12.8	13.1	13.8	12.9	12.2	14.8	10.8	10.1	10.8	10.7	11.6	13.7	13.6
Turnover <sup>4)</sup>	real, CCPY	11.3	11.9	12.2	12.3	12.4	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.8	10.8	10.5	10.6	10.6	10.8	11.3	11.7
FOREIGN TRADE <sup>5)6)7)</sup>																	
Exports total, cumulated	EUR mn	53627	69547	85395	103059	120528	138178	156521	175258	195673	17292	35829	56088	75880	97102	117159	
Imports total, cumulated	EUR mn	27057	34619	42848	51758	60475	69270	78796	89135	100663	7130	15830	26357	35639	45773	56511	
Trade balance, cumulated	EUR mn	26570	34928	42547	51301	60053	68909	77725	86124	95010	10162	19999	29731	40242	51330	60648	
FOREIGN FINANCE																	
Current account, cumulated8)	EUR mn			33328			49103			67139			24517				
EXCHANGE RATE																	
RUB/USD, monthly average	nominal	27.810	27.951	28.498	28.694	28.480	28.380	28.563	28.763	28.805	28.228	28.195	27.874	27.564	27.065	26.983	26.916
RUB/EUR, monthly average	nominal	35.993	35.485	34.725	34.568	35.015	34.808	34.338	33.951	34.162	34.293	33.733	33.492	33.767	34.524	34.209	34.155
RUB/USD, calculated with CPI <sup>9)</sup>	real, Jan03=100	138.7	139.3	137.3	136.5	136.7	136.1	135.6	136.7	138.1	143.2	145.5	147.6	148.5	151.3	151.9	153.3
RUB/USD, calculated with PPI <sup>9)</sup>	real, Jan03=100	154.6	158.6	155.7	153.4	156.4	156.8	153.4	153.2	150.4	153.0	160.6	165.6	166.6	171.2	172.4	
RUB/EUR, calculated with CPI <sup>9)</sup>	real, Jan03=100	115.4	117.7	120.9	122.0	120.1	120.6	122.9	125.3	125.1	127.9	131.9	133.4	132.0	129.5	130.8	131.9
RUB/EUR, calculated with PPI <sup>9)</sup>	real, Jan03=100	138.6	144.7	147.6	148.5	149.0	153.3	156.2	156.8	152.4	151.4	158.5	162.4	160.9	159.4	162.3	
DOMESTIC FINANCE																	
M0, end of period	RUB bn	1565.8	1582.3	1650.7	1701.8	1703.3	1740.7	1752.0	1765.8	2009.2	1875.6	1890.1	1928.8	2027.8	2096.9	2233.4	
M1, end of period	RUB bn	2906.3	2965.6	3144.3	3162.5	3240.8	3371.9	3340.1	3413.2	3858.5	3662.0	3686.7	3855.9	3957.7	4205.2	4479.3	
M2, end of period	RUB bn	5594.0	5743.0	6015.9	6087.4	6286.5	6458.4	6482.7	6604.8	7221.1	7035.6	7155.7	7392.9	7534.2	7877.6	8304.8	
M2, end of period	CMPY	29.1	31.5	32.4	33.8	37.6	39.3	37.0	35.7	36.3	35.7	33.9	34.4	34.7	37.2	38.0	
Refinancing rate (p.a.),end of period	%	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	11.5	11.5
Refinancing rate (p.a.),end of period 10)	real, %	-8.9	-9.4	-7.0	-6.3	-6.5	-6.2	-5.3	-2.6	-1.3	-1.3	-3.1	-2.7	-0.9	0.0	-1.1	
BUDGET																	
Central gov.budget balance, cum.	RUB bn	621.4	738.2	942.2	1036.5	1172.9	1162.0	1429.6	1636.7	1612.9	221.7	390.8	575.9	692.0	894.7		

<sup>1)</sup> From January 2001 according to NACE  $\,$  C+ D+ E.

<sup>2)</sup> Based on labour force survey.

<sup>3)</sup> Manufacturing industry only.

<sup>4)</sup> Including estimated turnover of non-registered firms, including catering.

<sup>5)</sup> Based on cumulated USD and converted using the ECB EUR/USD average foreign exchange reference rate.

<sup>6)</sup> Cumulation starting January and ending December each year, incl. estimates of non-registered imports.

<sup>7)</sup> Based on balance of payments statistics.

<sup>8)</sup> Calculated from USD to NCU to EUR using the official average exchange rate.

<sup>9)</sup> Adjusted for domestic and foreign (US resp. EU) inflation. Values more than 100 mean real appreciation.

<sup>10)</sup> Deflated with annual PPI.

#### UKRAINE: Selected monthly data on the economic situation 2005 to 2006

(updated end of August 2006) 2005 2006 Oct Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Nov Dec Jan Feb Mai ndA May Jun Jul PRODUCTION Industry, total real, CMPY 5.1 4.3 -0.9 -2.4 0.9 0.9 2.4 2.0 -2.9 1.5 1.3 0.5 10.0 9.6 11.4 5.3 Industry, total real, CCPY 6.7 6.2 5.0 3.9 3.5 3.2 3.1 2.9 3.1 -2.9 -0.6 0.4 2.4 3.6 0.2 4.8 Industry, total real 3MMA 5.3 28 0.3 -0.8 -0.2 14 18 32 1.5 13 0.0 1.1 39 6.7 10.3 I AROUR Employees<sup>1)</sup> th. persons 11332 11319 11339 11371 11361 11361 11357 11306 11220 11245 11296 11352 11378 11381 11412 11440 Employees in industry<sup>1</sup> 3421 3410 3408 3413 3410 3407 3407 3394 3368 3374 3380 3380 3367 3355 3354 3351 th. persons Unemployment, end of period 986.7 825.4 780.6 762.9 809.7 899.9 923.8 913.7 868.7 805.8 749.1 715.3 918.6 858.3 800.4 881.5 th. persons Unemployment rate 3.5 3.3 3.0 29 28 28 27 29 3 1 32 33 32 3 1 29 27 25 Labour productivity, industry1 CCPY 6.1 5.6 4.4 3.4 3.1 2.9 2.8 2.7 3.0 -2.1 0.3 1.3 1.6 3.7 5.0 6.3 Unit labour costs, exch.r. adj.(EUR)1 CCPY 14.9 17.0 20.2 23.2 24.9 26.1 27.2 29.1 30.6 50.8 47.2 46.3 42.2 34.3 29.4 25.3 WAGES, SALARIES 1) Total economy, gross UAH 987 1079 764 823 837 831 856 882 897 1020 865 905 984 948 1064 734 real. CMPY Total economy, gross 16.8 20.2 19.6 20.0 19.7 19.2 23.3 24.3 31.3 22.9 22.6 25.8 24.9 15.6 21.0 19.9 Total economy, gross USD 141 151 163 166 165 170 175 178 202 171 179 195 195 188 211 214 Total economy, gross EUR 109 119 134 138 134 138 145 150 170 142 150 163 159 147 169 Industry, gross EUR 182 135 144 156 163 165 166 171 177 188 173 177 194 174 187 193 **PRICES** PM 0.4 0.9 Consumer 0.7 0.6 0.6 0.3 0.0 0.9 12 0.9 12 18 -0.3-0.40.5 0.1 Consumer CMPY 14.7 146 14 4 14.8 14.9 13.9 124 12.0 10.3 9.8 10.7 8.6 74 7.3 6.8 74 CCPY 13.8 14.0 14.1 14.2 14.3 14.2 14.0 13.5 9.8 10.2 9.7 9.1 8.7 8.3 Consumer 13.8 8.4 Producer, in industry PM 2.5 1.6 -0.8 -1.6 0.7 1.9 0.0 -0.1 0.3 1.2 0.3 0.4 1.4 1.0 0.7 1.2 CMPY Producer, in industry 21.1 20.5 17.7 15.7 14.7 14.7 12.9 10.4 9.6 10.7 8.1 6.5 5.4 4.7 6.3 9.4 Producer, in industry CCPY 22.0 21.7 21.0 20.2 19.5 18.9 18.3 17.5 16.8 10.7 9.4 8.4 7.6 7.0 6.9 7.3 RETAIL TRADE Turnover<sup>3</sup> real, CCPY 19.2 20.4 21.1 21.8 23.0 23.1 22.4 22.4 23.0 31.3 28.4 26.5 27.4 27.2 27.0 FOREIGN TRADE<sup>4)5)</sup> Exports total (fob), cumulated 24908 EUR mn 8710 10909 13227 15518 17702 19992 22415 27498 1933 4041 6645 9055 11494 EUR mn 8103 10316 15508 18090 20695 23349 26084 29030 2241 4895 8116 10792 13643 Imports total (cif), cumulated 12918 16501 Trade balance, cumulated FUR mn 608 593 309 10 -387 -703 -934 -1176 -1533 -309 -854 -1472 -1737 -2150 -2375 FOREIGN FINANCE Current account, cumulated<sup>6)</sup> EUR mn 1727 2076 2030 -618 -733 **EXCHANGE RATE** 5.190 UAH/USD, monthly average nominal 5.050 5.055 5.053 5.050 5.050 5.050 5.050 5.050 5.050 5.050 5.050 5.050 5.050 5.050 5.050 6.422 6.090 6.208 5.961 6.037 6.402 UAH/EUR, monthly average 6.714 6.151 6.200 6.070 5.983 6.101 6.064 6.180 6.428 6.396 nominal UAH/USD, calculated with CPI73 128 7 129 8 real .lan03=100 120 7 125 0 125.5 125 4 124 8 124 0 124 7 127 2 128 9 129 4 131 5 1304 128 7 128 6 UAH/USD calculated with PPITI real, Jan03=100 1323 138 7 137 5 133 6 133 5 132 2 129 0 130.8 131.8 1323 134 7 135.0 135 4 135.5 135.9 137 5 UAH/EUR, calculated with CPI<sup>7)</sup> real, Jan03=100 105.1 109.3 109.4 115.8 100.1 110.2 111.6 112.6 116.2 116.4 118.8 117.5 114.1 110.0 110.5 111.3 UAH/EUR, calculated with PPI7 real, Jan03=100 118.3 125.9 130.0 128.8 126.7 128.7 130.9 133.4 133.2 131.1 132.5 131.9 130.4 126.0 127.6 129.0 DOMESTIC FINANCE M0, end of period UAH bn 47.6 47.9 51.3 53.8 55.5 54.9 55.1 60.2 57.0 58.6 61.0 61.1 64.3 66.2 53.8 56.8 M1, end of period UAH bn 76.2 77.6 83.8 84.8 85.5 90.1 88 7 92 7 98.6 92 1 93.6 96.2 97.5 99.8 104 7 108 6 Broad money, end of period UAH bn 146.5 147.9 156.3 159.1 164.8 171.0 174.8 180.1 194.1 188.8 191.3 195.3 201.2 207.4 214.1 221.5 Broad money, end of period CMPY 39.4 35.1 37.2 35.9 35.6 31.3 38.5 43.8 54.3 50.1 46.1 39.4 37.4 40.2 37.0 39.2 Refinancing rate (p.a.),end of period 9.0 9.0 9.0 9.5 9.5 9.5 9.5 9.5 9.5 8.5 9.0 9.5 9.5 9.5 9.5 8.5 Refinancing rate (p.a.),end of period87 real % -10.0 -95 -74 -5.8 -45 -45 -3.0 -0.8 -0.1 -1.1 1.3 28 39 4.5 20 -0.8 BUDGET General gov.budget balance, cum UAH mn 2252 4007 1735 2959 6907 5816 5309 3216 -7735 2508 2497 380 -856 1183 -1014

<sup>1)</sup> Excluding small firms.

<sup>2)</sup> Ratio of unemployed to the economically active

<sup>3)</sup> Official registered enterprises.

<sup>4)</sup> Based on cumulated USD and converted using the ECB EUR/USD average foreign exchange reference rate

<sup>5)</sup> Cumulation starting January and ending December each year.

<sup>6)</sup> Calculated from USD to NCU to EUR using the official average exchange rate

<sup>7)</sup> Adjusted for domestic and foreign (US resp. EU) inflation. Values more than 100 mean real appreciation.

<sup>8)</sup> Deflated with annual PPI.

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