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Preliminary figures show that the trade deficit narrowed by €155.8 million in November when compared to the corresponding month a year earlier.

## International Trade: November 2013

Cut-off date:  
**6 January 2014**

Provisional data for international trade show that the trade deficit in November stood at €18.2 million, down by €155.8 million when compared to 2012 levels. Decreases were recorded in both imports and exports of €199.9 million and €44.1 million respectively (Table 1a). The decrease in the value of imports was primarily due to mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials. Other decreases were registered in all the other major commodity groups. A significant increase in the export of food, mainly fish, was offset by a drop in exports of mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials. Other decreases in exports include machinery and transport equipment, chemicals, beverages and tobacco, and miscellaneous transactions and commodities (Table 2).

### January-November 2013

During the eleven-month period under review, the trade deficit narrowed by €72.1 million, to €1,635.9 million. The decrease in imports of €636.7 million was mainly due to mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials, with other declines recorded for all the other major commodity groups except for machinery and transport equipment. Exports registered a drop in value of €564.6 million, primarily due to mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials. Other decreases were noted for machinery and transport equipment, semi-manufactured goods, miscellaneous manufactured articles, miscellaneous transactions and commodities, beverages and tobacco, and crude materials (Table 2).

A substantial amount of Malta's trade flows and consequent trade deficit continued to be directed towards the European Union (Table 3). An increase was registered in imports from Greece, while decreases were noted from Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and the Netherlands. Exports to the euro area declined by €130.6 million, mainly to France, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, and Germany. Increases in exports were recorded for Japan, Greece, Libya, India, Russia, and the Republic of Korea ■

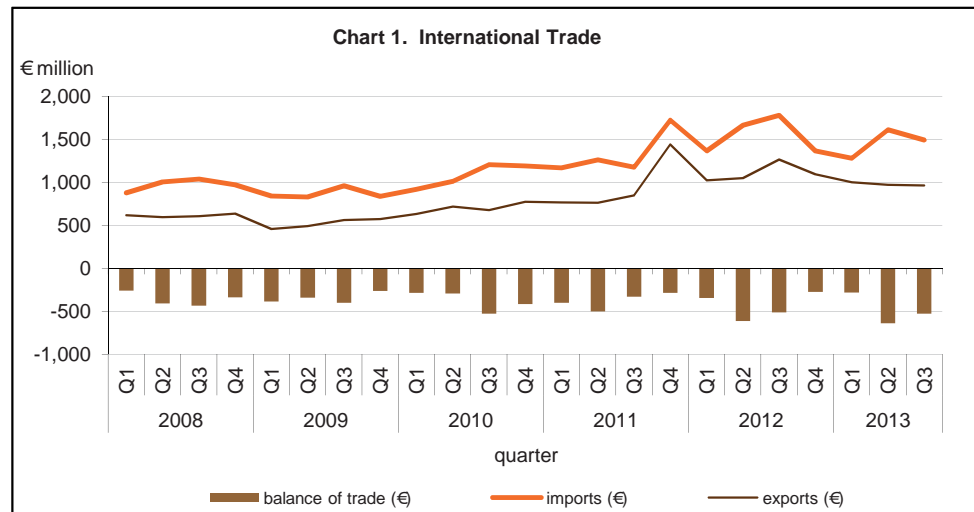
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Table 1a. Trade by final use\*

€ million

	2011 <sup>P</sup>	2012 <sup>P</sup>	November		January-November	
			2012 <sup>P</sup>	2013 <sup>P</sup>	2012 <sup>P</sup>	2013 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Imports</b>	<b>5,336.8</b>	<b>6,180.6</b>	<b>562.3</b>	<b>362.4</b>	<b>5,779.4</b>	<b>5,142.7</b>
<b>Industrial Supplies</b>	<b>1,549.0</b>	<b>1,564.9</b>	<b>138.0</b>	<b>101.9</b>	<b>1,457.9</b>	<b>1,392.8</b>
Primary	52.2	111.7	8.8	2.4	108.6	85.3
Semi-Finished	1,362.5	1,302.4	115.2	88.5	1,208.9	1,165.6
Finished	134.2	150.8	14.1	10.9	140.4	141.9
<b>Capital Goods and Others</b>	<b>875.9</b>	<b>810.8</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>38.1</b>	<b>778.5</b>	<b>801.6</b>
<b>Consumer Goods</b>	<b>978.1</b>	<b>1,016.6</b>	<b>88.8</b>	<b>76.8</b>	<b>937.4</b>	<b>912.2</b>
Food and Beverages	402.2	421.4	37.7	33.8	388.9	394.6
Durable Goods	338.2	339.0	29.3	23.0	311.6	289.4
Others	237.7	256.2	21.7	20.1	236.8	228.1
<b>Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>1,933.8</b>	<b>2,788.3</b>	<b>297.7</b>	<b>145.6</b>	<b>2,605.6</b>	<b>2,036.2</b>
<b>Exports</b>	<b>3,819.0</b>	<b>4,438.6</b>	<b>388.3</b>	<b>344.2</b>	<b>4,071.4</b>	<b>3,506.8</b>
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-1,517.8</b>	<b>-1,742.0</b>	<b>-174.0</b>	<b>-18.2</b>	<b>-1,708.0</b>	<b>-1,635.9</b>

Table 1b. Trade by final use - last six quarters\*

€ million

	2012Q2 <sup>P</sup>	2012Q3 <sup>P</sup>	2012Q4 <sup>P</sup>	2013Q1 <sup>P</sup>	2013Q2 <sup>P</sup>	2013Q3 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Imports</b>	<b>1,663.7</b>	<b>1,780.3</b>	<b>1,368.6</b>	<b>1,281.7</b>	<b>1,612.2</b>	<b>1,492.2</b>
<b>Industrial Supplies</b>	<b>413.4</b>	<b>409.0</b>	<b>405.8</b>	<b>397.1</b>	<b>389.3</b>	<b>377.0</b>
Primary	41.5	28.6	31.9	18.3	20.5	28.4
Semi-Finished	335.9	338.8	336.0	338.4	324.4	315.2
Finished	36.0	41.6	37.8	40.4	44.4	33.5
<b>Capital Goods and Others</b>	<b>314.7</b>	<b>195.7</b>	<b>108.3</b>	<b>145.5</b>	<b>246.0</b>	<b>269.1</b>
<b>Consumer Goods</b>	<b>257.2</b>	<b>255.4</b>	<b>269.9</b>	<b>230.1</b>	<b>253.7</b>	<b>259.0</b>
Food and Beverages	105.3	106.8	112.2	94.6	108.9	117.5
Durable Goods	86.6	85.6	94.2	76.1	82.1	78.4
Others	65.3	63.0	63.5	59.5	62.7	63.1
<b>Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>678.3</b>	<b>920.1</b>	<b>584.7</b>	<b>508.9</b>	<b>723.2</b>	<b>587.1</b>
<b>Exports</b>	<b>1,051.8</b>	<b>1,268.3</b>	<b>1,093.5</b>	<b>1,000.3</b>	<b>971.5</b>	<b>965.7</b>
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-611.9</b>	<b>-512.0</b>	<b>-275.1</b>	<b>-281.4</b>	<b>-640.7</b>	<b>-526.4</b>

Table 1c. Total exports net of Fuels and Lubricants\*

€ million

	2011 <sup>P</sup>	2012 <sup>P</sup>	November		January-November	
			2012 <sup>P</sup>	2013 <sup>P</sup>	2012 <sup>P</sup>	2013 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>3,819.0</b>	<b>4,438.6</b>	<b>388.3</b>	<b>344.2</b>	<b>4,071.4</b>	<b>3,506.8</b>
Exports of Fuels and Lubricants	1,621.7	2,010.7	146.5	112.7	1,867.5	1,439.0
Exports net of Fuels and Lubricants	2,197.3	2,427.9	241.8	231.5	2,203.9	2,067.8

\* Classification by Broad Economic Categories

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Balance of trade by major commodity groups

€ million

	2011 <sup>P</sup>	2012 <sup>P</sup>	November		January-November	
			2012 <sup>P</sup>	2013 <sup>P</sup>	2012 <sup>P</sup>	2013 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Imports</b>	<b>5,336.8</b>	<b>6,180.6</b>	<b>562.3</b>	<b>362.4</b>	<b>5,779.4</b>	<b>5,142.7</b>
Food	423.4	494.3	43.3	33.8	462.6	444.4
Beverages and Tobacco	64.1	85.4	7.4	4.6	78.8	67.8
Crude Materials	23.7	29.0	1.6	1.3	25.8	21.9
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,943.2	2,791.3	297.8	145.6	2,608.6	2,042.3
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	8.6	9.0	0.9	0.6	8.3	7.7
Chemicals	434.1	447.5	39.1	32.4	411.7	403.2
Semi-Manufactured Goods	331.1	318.3	24.3	24.0	293.4	277.7
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,695.1	1,567.6	110.3	90.6	1,485.3	1,506.5
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	379.1	408.6	34.5	28.4	378.7	351.4
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	34.4	29.7	3.2	1.0	26.2	19.9
<b>Exports</b>	<b>3,819.0</b>	<b>4,438.6</b>	<b>388.3</b>	<b>344.2</b>	<b>4,071.4</b>	<b>3,506.8</b>
Food	129.9	187.5	33.4	66.7	127.3	187.7
Beverages and Tobacco	21.6	39.7	3.7	2.1	36.7	32.0
Crude Materials	19.8	20.0	1.3	2.1	18.2	14.1
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,621.7	2,010.8	146.5	112.7	1,867.5	1,439.0
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	258.8	321.2	36.7	32.0	294.2	317.2
Semi-Manufactured Goods	132.9	126.5	10.2	11.1	119.9	110.3
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,241.3	1,322.2	124.6	83.9	1,218.7	1,030.5
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	383.2	400.9	31.0	33.6	379.6	372.9
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	9.8	9.7	1.0	0.0	9.2	3.1
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-1,517.8</b>	<b>-1,742.0</b>	<b>-174.0</b>	<b>-18.2</b>	<b>-1,708.0</b>	<b>-1,635.9</b>
Food	-293.5	-306.8	-9.9	32.9	-335.3	-256.7
Beverages and Tobacco	-42.6	-45.7	-3.7	-2.5	-42.1	-35.9
Crude Materials	-3.9	-8.9	-0.2	0.8	-7.6	-7.8
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	-321.5	-780.6	-151.2	-32.9	-741.1	-603.3
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	-8.6	-9.0	-0.9	-0.6	-8.3	-7.6
Chemicals	-175.2	-126.3	-2.5	-0.4	-117.5	-86.0
Semi-Manufactured Goods	-198.3	-191.8	-14.1	-12.9	-173.5	-167.4
Machinery and Transport Equipment	-453.8	-245.4	14.3	-6.7	-266.7	-476.0
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	4.1	-7.7	-3.5	5.2	1.0	21.5
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	-24.5	-20.0	-2.2	-1.0	-17.0	-16.8

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Notes: The commodity breakdown is in accordance with S.I.T.C. Rev. 3.

Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Direction of trade

€ million

Region and Country	November						January-November					
	2012 <sup>p</sup>			2013 <sup>p</sup>			2012 <sup>p</sup>			2013 <sup>p</sup>		
	Arrivals/ Imports	Dispatches/ Exports	Balance of Trade	Arrivals/ Imports	Dispatches/ Exports	Balance of Trade	Arrivals/ Imports	Dispatches/ Exports	Balance of Trade	Arrivals/ Imports	Dispatches/ Exports	Balance of Trade
<b>Europe</b>	<b>405.4</b>	<b>155.7</b>	<b>-249.6</b>	<b>254.9</b>	<b>112.5</b>	<b>-142.3</b>	<b>4,553.1</b>	<b>1,537.0</b>	<b>-3,016.0</b>	<b>3,690.6</b>	<b>1,348.7</b>	<b>-2,341.9</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
<b>European Union</b>	<b>306.5</b>	<b>112.2</b>	<b>-194.4</b>	<b>207.5</b>	<b>87.6</b>	<b>-119.9</b>	<b>3,664.1</b>	<b>1,202.8</b>	<b>-2,461.3</b>	<b>2,977.4</b>	<b>1,086.8</b>	<b>-1,890.6</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
United Kingdom	25.1	10.3	-14.8	22.0	13.1	-8.9	351.9	118.5	-233.4	275.8	101.1	-174.7
Euro Area	259.1	91.2	-167.8	159.4	61.5	-97.8	3,087.7	961.3	-2,126.4	2,421.5	830.7	-1,590.8
<i>of which:</i>												
Italy	158.9	21.7	-137.3	75.3	9.0	-66.3	1,835.4	153.9	-1,681.5	1,293.8	102.8	-1,191.0
Germany	27.5	31.1	3.6	22.7	28.6	5.8	300.2	341.8	41.5	286.4	327.6	41.2
France	38.3	23.9	-14.3	19.3	9.6	-9.7	331.4	278.6	-52.8	262.9	215.5	-47.4
Greece	1.7	0.9	-0.8	17.6	4.3	-13.3	97.4	7.8	-89.5	129.6	60.8	-68.8
Netherlands	13.6	7.6	-6.0	7.9	2.7	-5.1	186.5	80.3	-106.2	178.9	45.6	-133.3
Spain	8.7	1.7	-6.9	7.4	2.6	-4.8	204.8	46.8	-158.0	125.2	32.0	-93.2
<b>EFTA Countries</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-3.5</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>133.4</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>-108.0</b>	<b>112.5</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>-86.2</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Switzerland	4.8	1.5	-3.3	3.5	1.9	-1.5	113.2	21.3	-91.9	46.9	20.6	-26.4
<b>Other European Countries</b>	<b>93.3</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>-51.8</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>-20.4</b>	<b>755.6</b>	<b>308.8</b>	<b>-446.8</b>	<b>600.7</b>	<b>235.6</b>	<b>-365.0</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Russia	10.3	18.8	8.6	22.8	0.5	-22.3	132.5	36.8	-95.7	258.4	44.5	-213.9
<b>Asia</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>134.8</b>	<b>71.3</b>	<b>42.6</b>	<b>137.8</b>	<b>95.2</b>	<b>727.0</b>	<b>888.5</b>	<b>161.5</b>	<b>785.5</b>	<b>927.7</b>	<b>187.1</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
China	10.3	8.2	-2.0	9.0	2.9	-6.0	150.1	55.1	-95.0	126.5	43.1	-83.3
India	7.5	1.9	-5.6	7.6	5.2	-2.5	69.5	12.7	-56.8	82.4	28.8	-53.6
Japan	4.5	25.7	21.2	5.1	62.2	57.2	35.7	64.4	28.7	45.9	183.1	137.2
Malaysia	0.7	0.1	-0.6	4.0	0.1	-3.9	12.8	1.4	-11.4	17.0	0.4	-16.5
Republic of Korea	6.3	0.3	-6.1	3.9	1.2	-2.7	80.4	6.8	-73.6	73.3	10.0	-63.3
<b>North and Central America</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>-29.9</b>	<b>201.9</b>	<b>216.5</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>230.8</b>	<b>197.0</b>	<b>-33.8</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
United States of America	4.2	15.3	11.0	42.6	10.0	-32.6	130.8	182.1	51.3	134.2	159.5	25.3
<b>Africa</b>	<b>83.1</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>-34.2</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>25.4</b>	<b>178.6</b>	<b>692.9</b>	<b>514.4</b>	<b>254.0</b>	<b>544.4</b>	<b>290.4</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Libya	38.1	10.7	-27.4	11.2	17.8	6.7	93.1	188.1	95.0	112.6	222.8	110.2
<b>Australia and Oceania</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>-27.8</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>-8.6</b>
<b>South America</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>-15.1</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>-4.8</b>
<b>Ships and Aircraft Stores</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>39.4</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>711.0</b>	<b>698.4</b>	<b>81.0</b>	<b>423.0</b>	<b>342.0</b>
<b>Caribbean and Bahamas Islands</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-37.9</b>	<b>68.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>-66.4</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>562.3</b>	<b>388.3</b>	<b>-174.0</b>	<b>362.4</b>	<b>344.2</b>	<b>-18.2</b>	<b>5,779.4</b>	<b>4,071.4</b>	<b>-1,708.0</b>	<b>5,142.7</b>	<b>3,506.8</b>	<b>-1,635.9</b>

<sup>p</sup> Provisional

Arrivals/Dispatches relate to transactions with EU Member States

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Imports/Exports relate to transactions with Non-EU Member States

Table 4. Trade by principal traded commodities

€000

CHP NO	Commodity description	November		January-November	
		2012 <sup>P</sup>	2013 <sup>P</sup>	2012 <sup>P</sup>	2013 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Main imports</b>					
02	Meat and edible offal	4,569	4,657	45,909	44,979
04	Dairy produce; birds' eggs	3,198	3,646	39,591	39,282
16	Preparations of meat/fish	3,103	2,901	39,319	39,130
18	Cocoa and cocoa preparations	2,967	2,819	18,046	18,725
19	Preparations of cereals	5,604	5,553	49,593	51,770
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit and nuts	2,076	1,830	23,598	23,777
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	3,025	2,369	31,424	30,777
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	4,683	4,095	49,275	50,465
23	Food residues and waste	2,956	2,343	31,685	30,878
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	297,759	145,612	2,609,752	2,043,222
29	Organic chemicals	10,653	4,901	109,199	92,709
30	Pharmaceutical products	9,638	11,520	101,432	107,761
32	Tanning/dyeing extracts and paints	2,862	2,081	24,908	28,833
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	2,991	2,499	36,807	36,346
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	12,927	10,207	139,823	133,255
48	Paper and paperboard articles	5,315	6,534	78,345	71,016
49	Printed books, newspapers	2,972	2,226	20,540	18,692
61	Knitted clothing	2,850	2,392	34,568	33,616
62	Woven clothing	2,453	2,011	31,358	29,071
69	Ceramic products	2,115	1,894	20,015	19,916
71	Pearls, precious stones/metals and imitation jewellery	7,480	5,247	65,408	57,144
72	Iron and steel	1,350	2,834	21,996	22,965
73	Articles of iron or steel	3,019	2,465	34,566	34,822
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	15,412	15,119	213,367	211,640
85	Electrical machinery etc.	67,466	50,674	694,664	686,056
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	10,182	7,372	96,307	96,077
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	10,924	7,894	211,239	181,998
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	6,762	10,026	276,969	339,556
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	4,037	3,570	58,455	48,389
94	Furniture; bedding, etc;	4,762	3,698	51,029	46,418
<b>Main exports</b>					
03	Fish and crustaceans, etc	21,290	61,254	36,410	90,058
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	3,201	3,583	55,010	60,197
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	146,467	112,610	1,867,134	1,438,192
29	Organic chemicals	7,312	6,421	25,230	47,113
30	Pharmaceutical products	27,144	22,503	243,334	239,069
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	1,043	1,430	14,586	15,488
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	4,920	3,366	49,075	45,381
40	Rubber and articles of rubber	3,093	5,766	41,986	46,816
49	Printed books, newspapers	6,537	11,003	87,786	102,375
60	Knitted/crocheted fabrics	5,050	3,026	50,620	36,328
71	Pearls, precious stones/metals and imitation jewellery	4,367	3,678	47,530	33,452
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	6,680	5,635	78,922	70,434
85	Electrical machinery etc.	105,838	69,470	957,805	867,977
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	2,005	1,291	16,389	15,998
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	9,407	5,785	154,316	74,691
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	757	1,910	14,115	2,605
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	5,486	3,830	66,384	54,529
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	7,415	8,527	98,003	103,345
99	Special classifications	1,534	2,453	21,699	24,407

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

## Methodological Notes

1. The data in this release are based on:
  - a. the Intrastat Supplementary Declaration that traders in merchandise goods must submit in respect of Arrivals (Imports) and Dispatches (Exports) of goods from and to the Member States of the European Union (EU), in compliance with Legal Notice 131 of 2004, and
  - b. the Customs Declarations for imports from and exports to countries that are not Member States of the EU.
2. The Intrastat Supplementary Declaration for the collection of data on trade in goods between the Member States of the EU replaced the Customs Declaration as from the 1 May 2004. The requirements of the Supplementary Declaration, which at EU level were introduced as from the 1 January 1993, are similar in all the Member States of the EU.
3. As from May 2004, with the introduction of the Intrastat Supplementary Declaration as the source document for trade statistics, it was no longer possible to disaggregate total exports into domestic exports and re-exports.
4. The 'Balance of Trade' is the difference between a country's exports and imports. A country has a trade deficit if it imports more than it exports; the opposite scenario is a trade surplus.
5. The data in this release are provisional and therefore subject to revision. Regular revisions to monthly and annual trade data may be carried out for up to two (2) years after the reference period.
6. Individual countries' data not appearing in the release are available from the NSO upon request.
7. The euro area includes Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

The European Union includes Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia (from July 2013), Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom.

EFTA (European Free Trade Area) countries comprise Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.