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Preliminary figures show that Malta registered a trade deficit of €222.3 million in July 2015, compared to €299.7 million in the corresponding month of 2014.

## International Trade: July 2015

Cut-off date:  
**28 August 2015**

Provisional data for international trade show that the trade deficit in July stood at €222.3 million, down by €77.4 million when compared to the corresponding month of 2014. Imports declined by €58.2 million while exports registered an increase of €19.1 million (Table 1a). The decrease in the value of imports was primarily due to mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€91.5 million). Other decreases were recorded for food, chemicals, miscellaneous manufactured articles, and animal and vegetable oils and fats. Regarding exports, mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials accounted for the main increase (€19.9 million), with chemicals, miscellaneous manufactured articles, food, semi-manufactured goods, and beverages and tobacco also registering increases (Table 2).

### January-July 2015

During the first seven months, the trade deficit widened by €410.5 million, to €1,700.2 million when compared to the corresponding period last year. Imports increased by €250.3 million, while exports registered a decline of €160.2 million (Table 1a). Higher imports were mainly due to machinery and transport equipment (€700.8 million), while the decrease in the value of exports was triggered by lower mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€178.5 million), and machinery and transport equipment (€20.4 million) (Table 2).

Malta's trade imports from the European Union reached €2,144.7 million, or 56.3 per cent of total imports. There was an increase of €272.0 million in imports from euro area countries when compared to the same period last year. Main increases and decreases in imports were registered from the Netherlands (€191.3 million) and the United States of America (€164.4 million) respectively. On the export side the main increase was directed to France (€19.8 million), whereas Libya (€76.6 million) registered the highest decrease (Table 3) ■

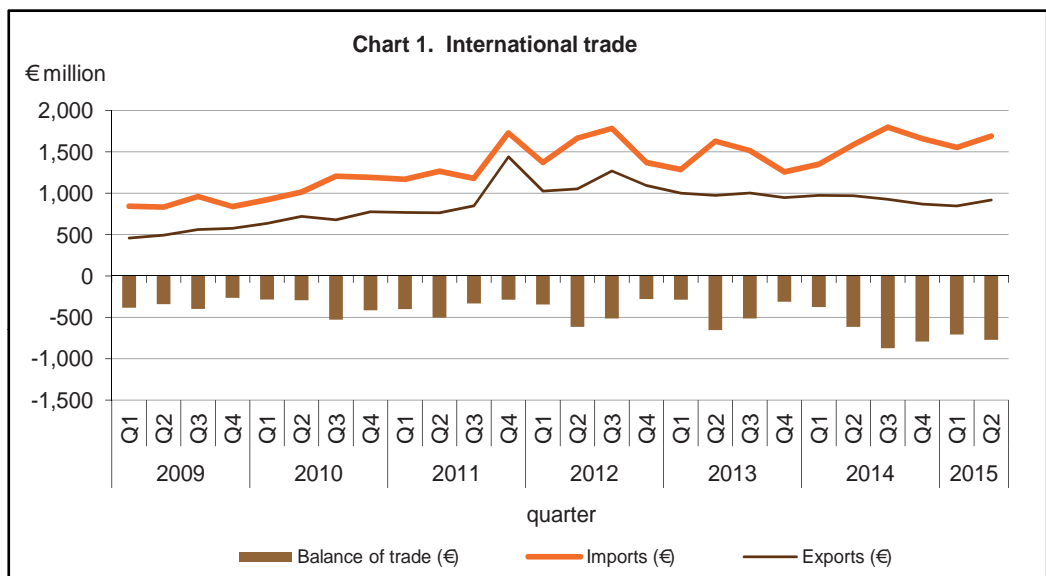
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Table 1a. Trade by period and broad economic category

€ million

Broad economic category	2013 <sup>P</sup>	2014 <sup>P</sup>	July		January-July	
			2014 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>	2014 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Imports</b>	<b>5,689.0</b>	<b>6,391.3</b>	<b>623.1</b>	<b>564.9</b>	<b>3,557.3</b>	<b>3,807.6</b>
<b>Industrial Supplies</b>	<b>1,549.8</b>	<b>1,409.5</b>	<b>136.3</b>	<b>151.0</b>	<b>825.8</b>	<b>851.3</b>
Primary	95.1	81.2	19.0	5.9	48.6	52.0
Semi-Finished	1,294.7	1,177.3	107.4	125.8	688.7	679.8
Finished	160.0	151.0	9.8	19.3	88.5	119.5
<b>Capital Goods and Others</b>	<b>868.8</b>	<b>1,307.1</b>	<b>123.8</b>	<b>146.2</b>	<b>556.9</b>	<b>1,255.0</b>
<b>Consumer Goods</b>	<b>1,040.7</b>	<b>1,113.7</b>	<b>100.7</b>	<b>96.2</b>	<b>633.5</b>	<b>654.9</b>
Food and Beverages	451.0	471.7	43.6	38.9	264.4	260.4
Durable Goods	335.5	372.9	33.8	35.1	211.7	232.5
Others	254.2	269.1	23.3	22.2	157.3	161.9
<b>Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>2,229.7</b>	<b>2,561.1</b>	<b>262.4</b>	<b>171.4</b>	<b>1,541.3</b>	<b>1,046.5</b>
<b>Exports</b>	<b>3,925.5</b>	<b>3,737.0</b>	<b>323.5</b>	<b>342.6</b>	<b>2,267.6</b>	<b>2,107.4</b>
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-1,763.5</b>	<b>-2,654.3</b>	<b>-299.7</b>	<b>-222.3</b>	<b>-1,289.7</b>	<b>-1,700.2</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 1b. Trade by broad economic category - last six quarters

€ million

Broad economic category	2014 Q1 <sup>P</sup>	2014 Q2 <sup>P</sup>	2014 Q3 <sup>P</sup>	2014 Q4 <sup>P</sup>	2015 Q1 <sup>P</sup>	2015 Q2 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Industrial Supplies</b>	<b>363.3</b>	<b>326.2</b>	<b>354.7</b>	<b>365.3</b>	<b>345.0</b>	<b>355.2</b>
Primary	11.1	18.5	30.4	21.2	16.7	29.4
Semi-Finished	309.1	272.2	293.9	302.2	277.3	276.6
Finished	43.1	35.5	30.4	42.0	51.0	49.2
<b>Capital Goods and Others</b>	<b>143.1</b>	<b>290.0</b>	<b>401.6</b>	<b>472.4</b>	<b>470.5</b>	<b>638.3</b>
<b>Consumer Goods</b>	<b>242.2</b>	<b>290.5</b>	<b>284.9</b>	<b>296.1</b>	<b>263.2</b>	<b>295.5</b>
Food and Beverages	100.0	120.9	126.1	124.7	100.6	120.9
Durable Goods	80.5	97.4	91.4	103.6	95.1	102.3
Others	61.7	72.3	67.4	67.8	67.4	72.3
<b>Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>600.8</b>	<b>678.1</b>	<b>756.8</b>	<b>525.4</b>	<b>474.5</b>	<b>400.6</b>
<b>Exports</b>	<b>974.1</b>	<b>970.1</b>	<b>925.3</b>	<b>867.5</b>	<b>846.1</b>	<b>918.7</b>
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-375.3</b>	<b>-614.7</b>	<b>-872.8</b>	<b>-791.6</b>	<b>-707.0</b>	<b>-770.9</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 1c. Exports net of fuels and lubricants by period

€ million

Broad economic category	2013 <sup>P</sup>	2014 <sup>P</sup>	July		January-July	
			2014 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>	2014 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>3,925.5</b>	<b>3,737.0</b>	<b>323.5</b>	<b>342.6</b>	<b>2,267.6</b>	<b>2,107.4</b>
Exports of Fuels and Lubricants	1,665.7	1,608.2	150.2	170.1	1,029.7	849.8
Exports net of Fuels and Lubricants	2,259.8	2,128.8	173.3	172.4	1,237.9	1,257.6

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Note: Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 2. Balance of trade by period and major commodity groups

€ million

Major commodity group	2013 <sup>P</sup>	2014 <sup>P</sup>	July		January-July	
			2014 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>	2014 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>
			<b>Imports</b>	<b>5,689.0</b>	<b>6,391.3</b>	<b>623.1</b>
Food	503.9	504.8	57.3	40.0	287.0	283.8
Beverages and Tobacco	74.8	89.6	7.8	8.4	51.9	49.1
Crude Materials	26.4	24.4	2.1	3.2	12.9	14.6
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	2,235.8	2,563.5	263.0	171.5	1,542.1	1,048.0
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	8.5	8.7	0.8	0.7	5.6	5.3
Chemicals	440.7	506.3	47.9	35.0	283.7	275.0
Semi-Manufactured Goods	311.0	341.9	30.4	66.1	195.9	237.8
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,668.2	1,919.0	173.7	201.1	933.6	1,634.4
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	398.9	421.3	39.0	37.3	238.0	250.1
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	20.9	11.9	1.1	1.6	6.7	9.4
<b>Exports</b>	<b>3,925.5</b>	<b>3,737.0</b>	<b>323.5</b>	<b>342.6</b>	<b>2,267.6</b>	<b>2,107.4</b>
Food	212.5	197.8	6.9	8.7	87.7	107.0
Beverages and Tobacco	35.5	45.3	3.9	4.4	26.6	23.0
Crude Materials	15.3	16.1	1.4	0.7	9.1	10.1
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,665.7	1,608.2	150.2	170.1	1,029.7	851.2
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	358.2	376.4	32.3	39.3	212.8	217.6
Semi-Manufactured Goods	117.8	116.0	8.5	9.8	71.9	72.6
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,112.4	1,000.2	91.6	76.3	597.1	576.7
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	404.5	375.6	28.8	33.2	231.5	248.9
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	3.7	1.3	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.3
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-1,763.5</b>	<b>-2,654.3</b>	<b>-299.7</b>	<b>-222.3</b>	<b>-1,289.7</b>	<b>-1,700.2</b>
Food	-291.4	-307.0	-50.4	-31.3	-199.2	-176.8
Beverages and Tobacco	-39.4	-44.2	-3.9	-4.0	-25.3	-26.2
Crude Materials	-11.1	-8.3	-0.7	-2.5	-3.8	-4.5
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	-570.1	-955.2	-112.8	-1.3	-512.4	-196.8
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	-8.5	-8.7	-0.8	-0.7	-5.6	-5.3
Chemicals	-82.5	-130.0	-15.7	4.3	-70.9	-57.4
Semi-Manufactured Goods	-193.2	-225.9	-21.9	-56.3	-124.0	-165.2
Machinery and Transport Equipment	-555.7	-918.8	-82.1	-124.8	-336.6	-1,057.7
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	5.6	-45.7	-10.3	-4.1	-6.5	-1.2
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	-17.1	-10.6	-1.0	-1.6	-5.5	-9.1

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Notes:

1. The commodity breakdown is in accordance with the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) Rev. 3.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 3. Direction of trade by period

€ million

Region and Country	July						January-July					
	2014 <sup>P</sup>			2015 <sup>P</sup>			2014 <sup>P</sup>			2015 <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>455.0</b>	<b>106.7</b>	<b>-348.3</b>	<b>353.4</b>	<b>100.4</b>	<b>-253.1</b>	<b>2,454.8</b>	<b>812.0</b>	<b>-1,642.8</b>	<b>2,584.0</b>	<b>661.0</b>	<b>-1,923.0</b>
<b>European Union</b>	<b>333.0</b>	<b>89.4</b>	<b>-243.7</b>	<b>300.0</b>	<b>90.0</b>	<b>-210.0</b>	<b>1,803.8</b>	<b>669.0</b>	<b>-1,134.8</b>	<b>2,144.7</b>	<b>610.5</b>	<b>-1,534.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
United Kingdom	28.1	8.1	-20.0	44.2	11.5	-32.7	189.9	55.7	-134.2	267.9	73.2	-194.7
Euro Area	272.4	66.1	-206.4	238.3	65.7	-172.6	1,420.2	517.9	-902.4	1,692.2	464.7	-1,227.5
<i>of which:</i>												
Italy	100.7	8.1	-92.7	113.5	10.5	-103.1	651.9	111.7	-540.2	718.0	73.2	-644.8
Spain	15.2	3.3	-11.9	35.4	2.5	-32.9	123.1	22.8	-100.2	119.1	22.6	-96.5
Germany	24.4	30.8	6.4	33.8	28.3	-5.5	203.3	197.9	-5.4	194.3	196.7	2.4
Netherlands	70.9	2.8	-68.1	20.3	4.7	-15.6	165.3	25.6	-139.7	356.6	20.6	-336.0
France	19.2	17.2	-2.0	15.5	15.6	0.1	134.0	107.8	-26.2	123.1	127.6	4.5
Greece	27.1	0.4	-26.6	8.8	0.3	-8.5	43.9	25.2	-18.7	42.0	1.8	-40.1
<b>EFTA Countries</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>-3.2</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>-53.3</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>-9.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Switzerland	4.2	1.4	-2.8	7.4	2.6	-4.8	29.9	11.8	-18.2	27.5	16.7	-10.8
<b>Other European Countries</b>	<b>117.1</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>-101.5</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>-41.1</b>	<b>582.1</b>	<b>127.5</b>	<b>-454.6</b>	<b>407.5</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>-379.4</b>
<b>Asia</b>	<b>70.6</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>-31.3</b>	<b>68.6</b>	<b>44.6</b>	<b>-24.0</b>	<b>402.0</b>	<b>433.0</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>404.6</b>	<b>405.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
China	15.6	1.0	-14.5	17.2	1.9	-15.3	78.2	13.9	-64.3	110.5	32.8	-77.7
Singapore	5.7	11.9	6.2	10.1	12.3	2.2	29.7	107.6	77.9	52.5	94.5	42.0
India	10.1	1.3	-8.9	8.3	4.5	-3.8	55.4	21.0	-34.4	57.1	17.5	-39.6
Japan	3.6	2.4	-1.2	7.0	2.0	-5.0	24.6	22.6	-2.0	40.9	12.7	-28.2
Indonesia	0.4	4.4	4.0	6.4	0.8	-5.6	2.3	11.2	8.9	8.0	7.3	-0.8
<b>North and Central America</b>	<b>52.5</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>-37.6</b>	<b>73.0</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>-53.4</b>	<b>402.2</b>	<b>131.1</b>	<b>-271.1</b>	<b>539.5</b>	<b>111.5</b>	<b>-428.0</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
United States of America	52.1	10.6	-41.5	65.1	14.9	-50.2	381.7	108.4	-273.3	217.3	78.1	-139.2
<b>Africa</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>114.3</b>	<b>86.2</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>129.3</b>	<b>103.2</b>	<b>152.3</b>	<b>630.0</b>	<b>477.7</b>	<b>76.9</b>	<b>615.1</b>	<b>538.2</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Libya	4.7	4.5	-0.1	16.0	8.0	-8.1	18.3	156.1	137.8	32.3	79.5	47.2
<b>Australia and Oceania</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>50.5</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>-44.3</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>-23.1</b>
<b>South America</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>-3.7</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>-11.3</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>-8.7</b>
<b>Ships and Aircraft Stores</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>44.0</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>78.7</b>	<b>246.6</b>	<b>167.9</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>295.3</b>	<b>271.7</b>
<b>Caribbean and Bahamas Islands</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-38.7</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>129.2</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-127.8</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>623.1</b>	<b>323.5</b>	<b>-299.7</b>	<b>564.9</b>	<b>342.6</b>	<b>-222.3</b>	<b>3,557.3</b>	<b>2,267.6</b>	<b>-1,289.7</b>	<b>3,807.6</b>	<b>2,107.4</b>	<b>-1,700.2</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Notes:

1. Arrivals/Dispatches relate to transactions with EU Member States.
2. Imports/Exports relate to transactions with Non-EU Member States (see methodological note 8 for country groupings).
3. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Table 4. Trade by period and principal traded commodities

€ 000

Chapter number	Commodity description	July		January-July	
		2014 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>	2014 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Main imports</b>					
2	Meat and edible offal	5,604	4,697	28,464	29,987
3	Fish and crustaceans, etc	16,418	2,340	33,298	29,210
4	Dairy produce; birds' eggs	3,985	3,659	26,030	25,260
10	Cereals	3,918	3,293	17,561	22,681
16	Preparations of meat/fish	4,160	4,254	27,515	25,478
19	Preparations of cereals	4,953	4,418	31,642	33,913
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit and nuts	2,877	2,290	15,710	15,179
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	4,474	4,042	23,715	22,320
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	5,920	6,169	34,903	35,727
23	Food residues and waste	3,178	3,454	20,015	18,628
25	Salt/sulphur/earths/plastering materials and cement	1,545	3,501	11,305	15,393
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	263,014	171,473	1,542,123	1,048,037
29	Organic chemicals	17,715	7,266	80,985	65,672
30	Pharmaceutical products	11,379	9,593	70,956	78,468
32	Tanning/dyeing extracts and paints	2,366	3,020	17,559	18,029
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	3,832	3,540	24,880	23,784
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	12,438	14,275	86,299	90,680
48	Paper and paperboard articles	8,406	5,883	47,020	47,010
61	Knitted clothing	3,533	2,664	22,870	23,227
62	Woven clothing	2,662	3,369	21,509	23,766
71	Pearls, precious stones/metals and imitation jewellery	3,674	4,635	28,282	25,510
72	Iron and steel	1,603	3,050	13,622	14,475
73	Articles of iron or steel	4,346	41,006	32,377	70,404
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	21,036	30,799	152,460	156,917
85	Electrical machinery etc.	50,495	44,331	349,724	326,003
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	10,533	24,263	75,761	99,356
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	6,109	15,449	88,634	408,535
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	86,333	86,911	270,625	650,017
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	6,266	6,954	31,728	40,045
94	Furniture; bedding, etc;	6,120	5,641	34,761	37,925
<b>Main exports</b>					
3	Fish and crustaceans, etc	1,344	1,878	17,118	14,739
19	Preparations of cereals	882	1,482	16,527	18,851
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	4,385	4,908	47,142	53,438
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	149,977	170,061	1,029,250	850,735
29	Organic chemicals	10,025	13,733	55,599	48,365
30	Pharmaceutical products	20,498	22,939	138,904	144,851
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	2,935	5,214	25,136	31,499
40	Rubber and articles of rubber	4,619	4,929	33,137	34,188
49	Printed books, newspapers	5,096	7,114	56,651	72,133
60	Knitted/crocheted fabrics	1,681	2,532	17,444	15,730
71	Pearls, precious stones/metals and imitation jewellery	1,232	1,891	18,927	10,949
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	6,798	9,644	58,578	65,246
85	Electrical machinery etc.	54,644	52,311	461,181	432,328
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	1,890	5,332	9,613	25,487
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	27,380	5,719	67,802	48,976
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	956	3,204	1,344	6,052
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	5,159	7,375	37,436	47,240
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	9,754	8,296	67,455	56,878
99	Special classifications	2,923	3,029	14,803	15,169

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Note: The commodity breakdown is the Harmonised System (HS) Code at chapter level.

## Methodological Notes

1. 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 1 May 2004. The requirements of the Supplementary Declaration, which at EU level were introduced as from 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. This news release is based on data available as on the cut-off date printed on the front page of this release. These are provisional figures based on information provided by traders on a monthly basis. Regular revisions to monthly and annual trade data may be carried out for up to two (2) years after the reference period.
6. National concepts differ from the harmonised methodology used by Eurostat, leading to differences between figures in this release and those published by Eurostat. Malta uses the General Trade system for dissemination purposes, in line with UN recommendations. On the other hand, monthly data sent to Eurostat for both Intra-EU and Extra-EU are compiled according to the Special Trade methodology. A more detailed explanation of these two concepts can be found at <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=7>.
7. Individual countries' data not appearing in this release are available from the NSO upon request.
8.
  - i. Up to 31 December 2014, the euro area included Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia (from 2014), Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain. From 1 January 2015, the euro area also includes Lithuania. Trade data for Lithuania is included with the euro area data as from reference month January 2015.
  - ii. 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 the United Kingdom.
  - iii. EFTA (European Free Trade Association) countries comprise Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.
9. Totals may not add up due to rounding.
10. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:  
Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>  
Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=7>  
Classification: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/index.cfm?>