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Preliminary figures show that Malta registered a trade deficit of €241.6 million in June 2016, compared to €279.6 million in the corresponding month of 2015.

## International Trade: June 2016

Cut-off date:  
**1 August 2016**

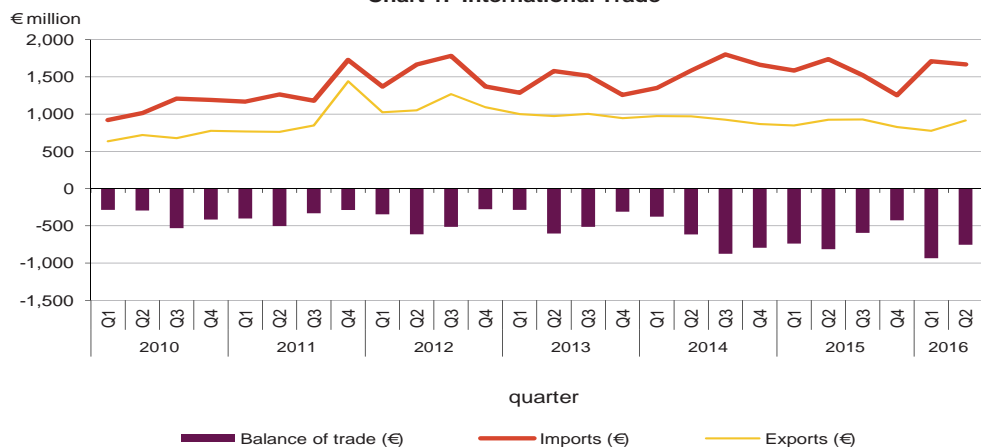
Provisional data for international trade show that the trade deficit in June stood at €241.6 million, down by €38.0 million when compared to the corresponding month in 2015. Both imports and exports decreased by €43.9 million and €5.8 million respectively (Table 1a). The decrease in the value of imports was primarily due to mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€92.6 million), which was partly outweighed by an increase of €75.5 million in machinery and transport equipment. On the exports side mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€70.8 million) and machinery and transport equipment (€23.7 million) accounted for the main decrease. This was partly outweighed by an increase of €94.9 million in chemicals (Table 2).

### January-June 2016

During the first six months this year, the trade deficit widened by €136.9 million when compared to the corresponding period last year. Imports show an increase of €54.6 million, with exports decreasing by €82.3 million (Table 1a). Higher imports were mainly due to machinery and transport equipment, which increased by €308.3 million. This was partly outweighed by a decrease of €214.2 million in mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials. The decrease in the value of exports was mainly triggered by lower mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€279.1 million), machinery and transport equipment (€48.8 million) and miscellaneous manufactured articles (€41.1 million). This was partly outweighed by an increase of €303.1 million in chemicals (Table 2).

Malta's trade imports from the European Union reached €1,428.5 million, or 42.3 per cent of total imports. There was a decrease of €350.0 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 Caribbean and Bahamas Islands (€55.7 million) and the Netherlands (€226.6 million) respectively. On the export side the main increase was directed to the United States of America (€327.4 million), whereas Hong Kong (€56.3 million) registered the highest decrease (Table 3) ■

Chart 1. International Trade



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Table 1a. Trade by period and broad economic category

€ million

Broad economic category	2014 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>	June		January-June	
			2015 <sup>P</sup>	2016 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>	2016 <sup>P</sup>
			<b>Imports</b>	<b>6,400.3</b>	<b>6,100.6</b>	<b>599.8</b>
<b>Industrial Supplies</b>	<b>1,412.9</b>	<b>1,479.7</b>	<b>115.6</b>	<b>89.7</b>	<b>720.0</b>	<b>633.4</b>
Primary	81.2	80.0	8.4	9.2	46.4	37.5
Semi-Finished	1,180.7	1,189.3	91.0	69.6	572.7	502.4
Finished	151.0	210.4	16.2	11.0	101.0	93.5
<b>Capital Goods and Others</b>	<b>1,310.9</b>	<b>1,712.8</b>	<b>176.3</b>	<b>265.5</b>	<b>1,137.0</b>	<b>1,493.5</b>
<b>Consumer Goods</b>	<b>1,115.4</b>	<b>1,218.7</b>	<b>108.5</b>	<b>94.0</b>	<b>579.0</b>	<b>583.4</b>
Food and Beverages	472.7	482.0	44.1	39.1	226.6	237.3
Durable Goods	373.5	452.8	36.9	31.6	208.7	202.4
Others	269.2	284.0	27.5	23.3	143.7	143.7
<b>Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>2,561.1</b>	<b>1,689.4</b>	<b>199.3</b>	<b>106.7</b>	<b>888.7</b>	<b>669.0</b>
<b>Exports</b>	<b>3,737.9</b>	<b>3,527.4</b>	<b>320.1</b>	<b>314.3</b>	<b>1,772.6</b>	<b>1,690.3</b>
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-2,662.4</b>	<b>-2,573.2</b>	<b>-279.6</b>	<b>-241.6</b>	<b>-1,552.1</b>	<b>-1,689.0</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	2015 Q1 <sup>P</sup>	2015 Q2 <sup>P</sup>	2015 Q3 <sup>P</sup>	2015 Q4 <sup>P</sup>	2016 Q1 <sup>P</sup>	2016 Q2 <sup>P</sup>
	<b>Imports</b>	<b>1,586.5</b>	<b>1,738.3</b>	<b>1,522.6</b>	<b>1,253.3</b>	<b>1,710.9</b>
<b>Industrial Supplies</b>	<b>348.2</b>	<b>371.8</b>	<b>391.8</b>	<b>367.8</b>	<b>339.4</b>	<b>294.0</b>
Primary	16.7	29.6	21.2	12.4	22.6	14.9
Semi-Finished	280.4	292.3	331.6	285.0	257.9	244.4
Finished	51.1	49.8	39.1	70.4	58.8	34.7
<b>Capital Goods and Others</b>	<b>477.8</b>	<b>659.2</b>	<b>337.7</b>	<b>238.0</b>	<b>783.6</b>	<b>709.9</b>
<b>Consumer Goods</b>	<b>272.4</b>	<b>306.6</b>	<b>313.2</b>	<b>326.5</b>	<b>283.9</b>	<b>299.5</b>
Food and Beverages	102.6	124.0	127.6	127.8	107.6	129.8
Durable Goods	101.0	107.7	117.1	127.1	105.6	96.9
Others	68.9	74.9	68.6	71.6	70.7	72.9
<b>Fuels and Lubricants</b>	<b>488.0</b>	<b>400.7</b>	<b>479.8</b>	<b>320.9</b>	<b>304.0</b>	<b>365.0</b>
<b>Exports</b>	<b>847.7</b>	<b>925.0</b>	<b>927.8</b>	<b>827.0</b>	<b>776.1</b>	<b>914.3</b>
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-738.8</b>	<b>-813.3</b>	<b>-594.8</b>	<b>-426.3</b>	<b>-934.8</b>	<b>-754.1</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	2014 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>	June		January-June	
			2015 <sup>P</sup>	2016 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>	2016 <sup>P</sup>
			<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>3,737.9</b>	<b>3,527.4</b>	<b>320.1</b>
Exports of Fuels and Lubricants	1,608.2	1,332.3	136.7	58.2	679.7	386.1
Exports net of Fuels and Lubricants	2,129.7	2,195.0	183.4	256.1	1,093.0	1,304.2

<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	2014 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>	June		January-June	
			2015 <sup>P</sup>	2016 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>	2016 <sup>P</sup>
			<b>Imports</b>	<b>6,400.3</b>	<b>6,100.6</b>	<b>599.8</b>
Food	505.6	517.1	46.2	42.9	249.2	250.5
Beverages and Tobacco	89.8	89.6	9.4	10.9	41.0	46.9
Crude Materials	24.4	27.4	2.2	1.6	11.7	12.8
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	2,563.5	1,691.0	199.3	106.7	890.1	675.9
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	8.7	9.2	1.1	0.7	4.7	4.5
Chemicals	509.0	505.9	39.4	32.8	252.2	223.8
Semi-Manufactured Goods	342.4	413.8	31.6	24.5	176.8	187.4
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,922.4	2,368.3	229.7	305.2	1,466.7	1,775.0
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	422.5	464.1	40.2	29.9	224.4	197.0
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	11.9	14.1	0.7	0.7	7.9	5.6
<b>Exports</b>	<b>3,737.9</b>	<b>3,527.4</b>	<b>320.1</b>	<b>314.3</b>	<b>1,772.6</b>	<b>1,690.3</b>
Food	197.8	245.6	8.9	6.4	98.2	80.5
Beverages and Tobacco	45.3	42.3	3.7	4.0	18.5	20.3
Crude Materials	16.1	15.9	1.3	0.9	9.4	6.4
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	1,608.2	1,357.5	136.7	65.9	681.1	402.0
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals	377.3	363.6	29.7	124.6	180.5	483.6
Semi-Manufactured Goods	116.0	122.9	9.4	9.0	63.0	65.3
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,000.2	967.9	98.3	74.6	504.8	456.0
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	375.7	411.0	32.1	28.7	216.8	175.7
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	1.3	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.4
<b>Balance of Trade</b>	<b>-2,662.4</b>	<b>-2,573.2</b>	<b>-279.6</b>	<b>-241.6</b>	<b>-1,552.1</b>	<b>-1,689.0</b>
Food	-307.8	-271.5	-37.3	-36.5	-151.0	-170.0
Beverages and Tobacco	-44.5	-47.3	-5.7	-6.9	-22.5	-26.6
Crude Materials	-8.3	-11.5	-0.9	-0.7	-2.3	-6.4
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	-955.2	-333.6	-62.6	-40.8	-209.0	-273.9
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats	-8.7	-9.1	-1.1	-0.7	-4.7	-4.5
Chemicals	-131.8	-142.2	-9.7	91.8	-71.7	259.8
Semi-Manufactured Goods	-226.4	-291.0	-22.2	-15.5	-113.8	-122.1
Machinery and Transport Equipment	-922.3	-1,400.4	-131.4	-230.6	-961.9	-1,319.0
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	-46.9	-53.1	-8.1	-1.2	-7.6	-21.3
Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities	-10.6	-13.5	-0.7	-0.6	-7.6	-5.1

<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	June						January-June					
	2015 <sup>P</sup>			2016 <sup>P</sup>			2015 <sup>P</sup>			2016 <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>430.0</b>	<b>105.3</b>	<b>-324.7</b>	<b>319.3</b>	<b>93.1</b>	<b>-226.2</b>	<b>2,304.6</b>	<b>568.7</b>	<b>-1,735.8</b>	<b>1,663.5</b>	<b>555.9</b>	<b>-1,107.6</b>
<b>European Union</b>	<b>375.5</b>	<b>101.7</b>	<b>-273.8</b>	<b>285.9</b>	<b>89.5</b>	<b>-196.4</b>	<b>1,918.7</b>	<b>528.5</b>	<b>-1,390.2</b>	<b>1,428.5</b>	<b>518.1</b>	<b>-910.4</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
United Kingdom	47.6	10.8	-36.8	27.3	7.0	-20.3	227.0	61.8	-165.2	154.8	54.4	-100.4
Euro Area	302.5	79.3	-223.2	235.1	70.9	-164.1	1,522.8	406.8	-1,116.0	1,172.8	404.5	-768.3
<i>of which:</i>												
Italy	138.2	12.0	-126.2	98.6	9.3	-89.4	645.9	65.0	-580.9	513.6	60.9	-452.7
Netherlands	44.5	2.3	-42.2	55.1	1.2	-53.9	340.3	15.9	-324.3	113.7	9.4	-104.3
France	23.4	31.1	7.7	25.3	24.0	-1.3	113.5	112.4	-1.1	157.1	102.4	-54.7
Germany	28.6	26.6	-2.1	20.0	28.4	8.4	167.4	172.2	4.9	185.2	189.3	4.1
Greece	2.9	0.5	-2.3	14.7	0.8	-13.9	33.9	1.7	-32.2	52.9	3.4	-49.5
Spain	29.2	3.4	-25.8	8.8	4.6	-4.2	89.3	20.8	-68.5	69.0	18.1	-50.9
<b>EFTA Countries</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>23.8</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>-7.4</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>-22.3</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Switzerland	3.9	1.7	-2.1	3.8	1.7	-2.1	20.1	14.1	-6.0	33.4	10.7	-22.7
<b>Other European Countries</b>	<b>50.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>-48.9</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-27.9</b>	<b>362.0</b>	<b>23.8</b>	<b>-338.3</b>	<b>199.5</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>-174.8</b>
<b>Asia</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>-14.3</b>	<b>344.0</b>	<b>360.5</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>399.1</b>	<b>244.3</b>	<b>-154.8</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
China	15.5	1.8	-13.7	14.1	1.1	-13.0	93.3	30.9	-62.4	102.6	12.0	-90.6
India	9.2	0.8	-8.4	8.0	0.9	-7.1	48.8	13.0	-35.9	59.2	5.9	-53.3
Hong Kong	1.6	26.7	25.0	5.8	8.9	3.1	11.8	108.1	96.3	24.8	51.8	27.0
Israel	0.3	0.4	0.1	5.8	0.2	-5.6	3.3	1.5	-1.8	34.6	1.5	-33.1
Japan	3.8	2.1	-1.6	3.0	1.3	-1.7	33.9	10.7	-23.2	28.8	10.5	-18.4
<b>North and Central America</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>-10.5</b>	<b>69.0</b>	<b>113.4</b>	<b>44.3</b>	<b>466.5</b>	<b>91.9</b>	<b>-374.6</b>	<b>557.3</b>	<b>413.9</b>	<b>-143.4</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Canada	0.2	2.7	2.5	44.4	2.0	-42.3	311.8	18.6	-293.2	377.2	15.4	-361.8
United States of America	26.0	11.1	-14.9	24.5	110.2	85.7	152.2	63.2	-89.0	176.8	390.6	213.8
<b>Africa</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>69.8</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>53.9</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>485.5</b>	<b>434.6</b>	<b>80.0</b>	<b>286.6</b>	<b>206.6</b>
<i>of which:</i>												
Tunisia	1.0	1.7	0.7	5.2	4.1	-1.1	10.0	53.0	43.0	11.8	19.7	8.0
<b>Australia and Oceania</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-27.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>-23.8</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>2.6</b>
<b>South America</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>-5.0</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>-23.7</b>
<b>Ships and Aircraft Stores</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>72.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>248.6</b>	<b>225.1</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>179.5</b>	<b>174.5</b>
<b>Caribbean and Bahamas Islands</b>	<b>48.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-48.0</b>	<b>100.8</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-100.7</b>	<b>90.4</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-89.1</b>	<b>646.1</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>-643.3</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>599.8</b>	<b>320.1</b>	<b>-279.6</b>	<b>555.9</b>	<b>314.3</b>	<b>-241.6</b>	<b>3,324.7</b>	<b>1,772.6</b>	<b>-1,552.1</b>	<b>3,379.3</b>	<b>1,690.3</b>	<b>-1,689.0</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	June		January-June	
		2015 <sup>P</sup>	2016 <sup>P</sup>	2015 <sup>P</sup>	2016 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Main imports</b>					
02	Meat and edible offal	5,212	4,175	25,390	24,572
03	Fish and crustaceans, etc.	7,233	9,618	26,899	38,006
04	Dairy produce; birds' eggs	4,560	3,437	22,467	21,819
08	Edible fruit and nuts	3,085	2,851	16,845	17,106
16	Preparations of meat/fish	4,064	3,471	21,399	22,046
19	Preparations of cereals	5,901	5,211	29,986	28,944
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit and nuts	2,473	2,414	13,101	11,638
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	4,134	3,406	18,986	18,177
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	6,639	7,183	29,853	29,050
23	Food residues and waste	1,993	2,738	15,502	13,610
24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	2,918	3,752	11,587	18,300
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	199,288	106,665	890,147	676,905
29	Organic chemicals	6,401	5,764	66,697	52,558
30	Pharmaceutical products	12,813	10,778	69,263	67,367
32	Tanning/dyeing extracts and paints	2,675	2,150	15,362	15,015
33	Essential oils and toilet preparations	3,791	2,667	21,106	18,256
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	15,356	11,408	78,959	70,073
48	Paper and paperboard articles	7,908	5,688	41,339	35,403
61	Knitted clothing	3,412	2,278	23,755	21,180
62	Woven clothing	3,814	2,725	21,591	20,626
69	Ceramic products	2,277	2,255	13,632	13,166
73	Articles of iron or steel	4,441	3,208	30,505	43,963
76	Aluminium and articles thereof	1,740	1,749	9,227	10,503
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	23,862	21,676	131,096	144,787
85	Electrical machinery etc.	48,269	36,142	286,344	227,863
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	13,071	16,616	84,041	89,165
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	12,128	50,066	393,098	519,585
89	Ships, boats and floating structures	134,112	181,436	577,810	779,361
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	6,051	4,621	34,750	32,593
94	Furniture; bedding, etc.	7,484	6,548	33,835	32,065
<b>Main exports</b>					
03	Fish and crustaceans, etc.	1,919	1,059	12,819	10,951
19	Preparations of cereals	716	1,369	17,370	17,012
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	5,034	3,680	48,530	43,212
24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	863	1,475	5,465	8,917
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products	136,658	65,764	680,698	401,283
29	Organic chemicals	1,967	3,279	36,663	16,897
30	Pharmaceutical products	23,624	119,189	121,964	446,939
39	Plastics and articles of plastics	4,339	4,390	26,236	27,784
40	Rubber and articles of rubber	4,462	3,862	29,335	29,457
49	Printed books, newspapers	9,021	6,916	65,594	39,624
60	Knitted/crocheted fabrics	2,355	1,838	13,198	11,460
73	Articles of iron or steel	1,113	2,259	11,425	14,351
84	Machinery and mechanical appliances	6,575	7,410	55,605	49,255
85	Electrical machinery etc.	80,316	57,571	384,622	314,514
87	Vehicles (excluding trains) and parts thereof	4,285	1,501	19,905	20,573
88	Aircraft/spacecraft and parts thereof	7,177	7,796	43,258	72,174
90	Optical/photographic/cinematographic instruments	6,767	4,619	40,459	29,628
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	7,345	10,664	48,583	59,670
99	Special classifications	2,969	2,759	12,141	12,367

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

Notes:

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

2. A full list of chapters is available on the excel version of this news release:

[http://nso.gov.mt/en/News\\_Releases/View\\_by\\_Unit/Unit\\_A4/International\\_Trade/Pages/International-Trade.aspx](http://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/View_by_Unit/Unit_A4/International_Trade/Pages/International-Trade.aspx)

## 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?>