

THE GDP OF THE CANDIDATE COUNTRIES

Silke Stapel

Figures for the third quarter of 1999

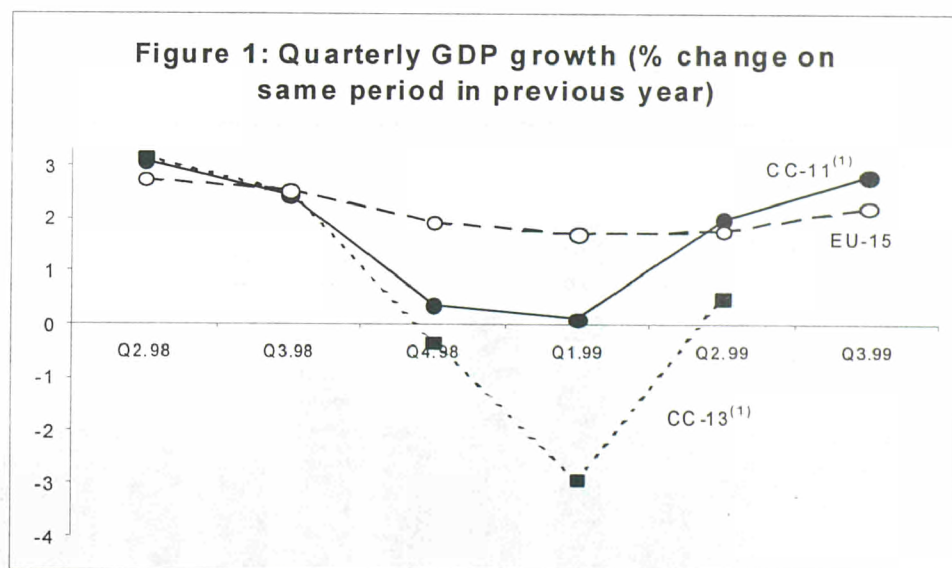
In this publication, Eurostat presents the latest quarterly GDP growth rates for the Candidate Countries (CCs). The CCs comprise Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Turkey. The most recent data published relate to the third quarter of 1999, and were submitted by the CCs before 31 January 2000.

Eurostat is presenting data in this series for Malta and Turkey for the first time, though there is not yet sufficient information to enable Malta's accounts to be expressed in Purchasing Power Standards (PPS). Also, Cyprus does not currently supply quarterly figures.

Table 1 (overleaf) illustrates the quarterly growth figures back to the second quarter of 1998. The trend for the CCs as a whole is shown below in Figure 1, along with a comparison against the EU-15. However, this summary masks great differences in growth between the countries, ranging from -5.0 % in Lithuania to +6.3 % in Malta for the third quarter of 1999.

Figure 1 shows that the average growth rate for the CC-11 group (excluding Turkey and Malta) exceeds that of the EU-15 for the second quarter running, after having been considerably lower in the fourth quarter of 1998 and the first quarter of 1999. The very different development of the CC-13 average is explained by the growth rate of Turkey and the heavy weighting it carries in the average because of the size of its GDP.

Figure 1: Quarterly GDP growth (% change on same period in previous year)



Note: The CC-13 aggregate includes all of the CCs for whom data are available. CC-11 does not include Malta or Turkey and is shown for purposes of comparison with previous publications.

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ECONOMY AND
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Table 1: GDP growth rates⁽²⁾ – Percentage change on previous year/same quarter of previous year

	Annual					Quarterly					
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1998			1999		
						Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Bulgaria (BG)	1.8	2.9	-10.1	-7.0	3.5	2.6	-1.8	1.2	-0.7	1.6	4.5
Cyprus (CY)	5.9	6.1	2.0	2.5	5.0	:	:	:	:	:	:
Czech Republic (CZ)	2.2	5.9	3.8	0.3	-2.3	-1.9	-2.6	-3.9	-4.1	0.4	0.8
Estonia (EE)	-2.0	4.3	3.9	10.6	4.0	6.3	1.9	-0.7	-5.6	-2.3	0.0
Hungary (HU)	2.9	1.5	1.3	4.6	4.9	5.0	5.5	4.9	3.3	3.7	4.4
Latvia (LV)	0.6	-0.8	3.3	8.6	3.6	5.6	2.2	-1.9	-2.3	-1.8	0.0
Lithuania (LT)	-9.8	3.3	4.7	7.3	5.1	10.3	3.6	-0.3	-5.8	-4.0	-5.0
Malta (MT)	5.7	6.2	4.0	4.9	3.4	11.4	3.5	-8.2	3.6	2.6	6.3
Poland (PL)	5.2	7.0	6.0	6.8	4.8	5.3	4.9	2.9	1.6	3.0	5.0
Romania (RO) ⁽⁶⁾	3.9	7.1	3.9	-6.1	-5.4	-4.3	-4.7	-11.3	-4.6	-3.3	-3.2
Slovak Republic (SK)	4.9	6.9	6.6	6.5	4.4	6.1	5.1	0.5	1.8	2.9	0.6
Slovenia (SI)	5.3	4.1	3.5	4.6	3.9	2.7	3.5	3.6	2.5	6.4	3.4
Turkey (TR)	-5.5	7.2	7.0	7.5	2.8	3.1	2.5	-1.4	-8.4	-2.2	:
CC-11 ⁽¹⁾	3.7	5.5	3.9	3.5	2.6	3.1	2.4	0.4	0.1	2.0	2.8
CC-13 ⁽¹⁾	0.4	6.1	4.9	4.9	2.7	3.2	2.5	-0.3	-2.9	0.5	:
EU-15	:	:	1.5	2.4	2.7	2.7	2.5	1.9	1.7	1.8	2.2

Figure 2 and tables 2 and 3, provide an illustration of the latest annual GDP data, both in current prices and Purchasing Power Standards (PPS).

Regarding data quality, eleven countries are working towards ESA 1995 compliance while Turkey bases

its accounts on SNA 1993 (according to its Statistical Office website). Malta, however, is using a dated system based on SNA 1954 and 1968. The statistics in this publication should therefore be interpreted with an appropriate level of caution – full comparability with EU Member States cannot yet be guaranteed

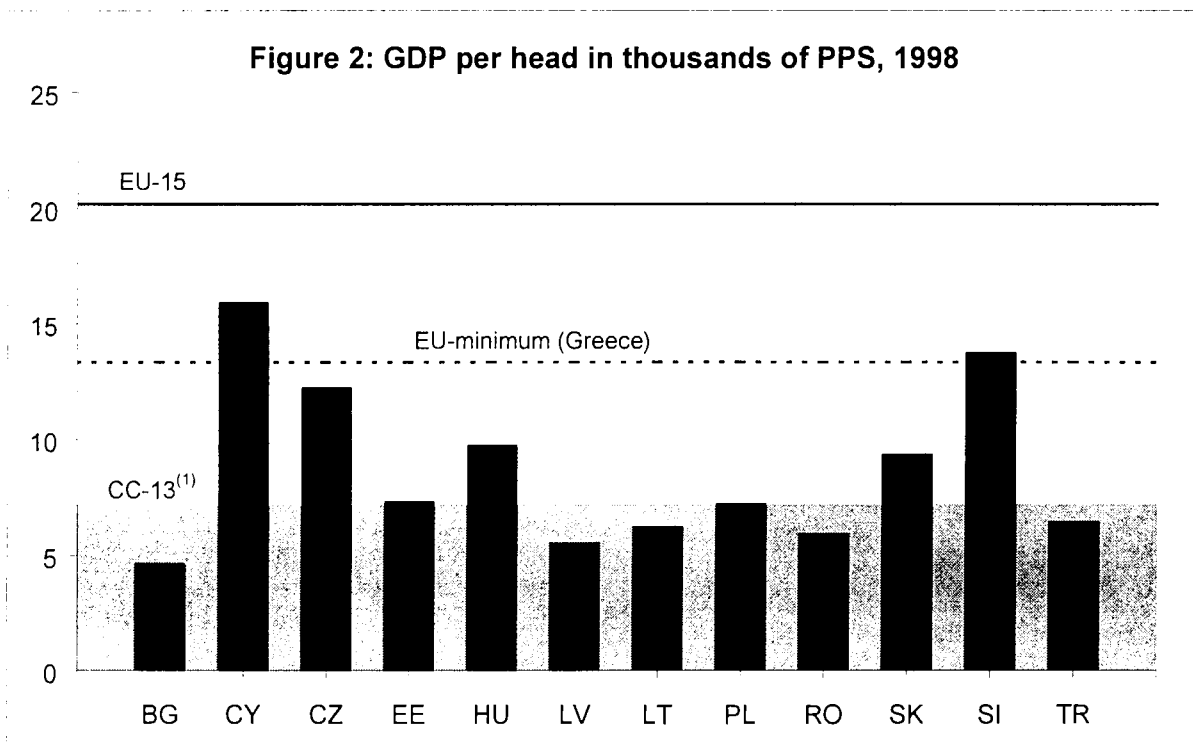


Table 2: GDP per head⁽³⁾ in PPS⁽⁴⁾

	PPS					EU-15=100			
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1995	1996	1997	1998
Bulgaria	4 700	4 900	4 600	4 400	4 600	28	25	23	23
Cyprus	13 100	13 900	14 700	15 200	15 900	79	79	78	79
Czech Republic	10 300	11 100	12 000	12 200	12 200	63	65	63	60
Estonia	5 200	5 600	6 100	6 900	7 300	32	33	36	36
Hungary ⁽⁵⁾	7 800	8 100	8 600	9 200	9 700	46	47	48	48
Latvia	4 200	4 300	4 700	5 200	5 500	24	25	27	27
Lithuania	4 600	4 800	5 300	5 800	6 200	27	29	30	31
Malta	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Poland	5 300	5 700	6 300	6 800	7 200	32	34	35	36
Romania ⁽⁶⁾	5 200	5 600	6 100	5 900	5 900	32	33	30	29
Slovak Republic	6 700	7 300	8 100	8 800	9 300	41	44	45	46
Slovenia	10 700	11 300	12 200	13 000	13 700	64	66	67	68
Turkey	5 300	5 600	6 000	6 500	6 400	32	33	33	32
CC-13 ⁽¹⁾	5 800	6 200	6 700	7 000	7 200	35	36	36	36
EU-15	:	17 600	18 400	19 300	20 200	100	100	100	100

Table 3: Total GDP at current prices and exchange rates, and in PPS⁽⁴⁾

	1000 Million ECU					1000 Million PPS				
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Bulgaria	8.2	10.0	7.8	9.0	11.0	39.3	40.9	38.4	36.4	38.2
Cyprus	6.3	6.7	7.0	7.4	8.1	8.3	8.9	9.5	9.9	10.5
Czech Republic	34.6	39.8	45.6	46.4	50.1	106.5	114.2	123.9	125.9	125.2
Estonia	1.9	2.7	3.4	4.1	4.6	7.9	8.3	9.0	10.2	10.7
Hungary ⁽⁵⁾	34.9	34.1	35.6	40.4	41.9	80.5	82.7	87.6	93.4	98.0
Latvia	3.1	3.4	4.0	5.0	5.7	10.7	10.7	11.6	12.9	13.5
Lithuania	3.6	4.6	6.2	8.5	9.6	17.2	18.0	19.7	21.5	22.9
Malta	2.3	2.5	2.6	3.0	3.1	:	:	:	:	:
Poland	82.9	96.6	112.6	126.3	140.2	202.5	219.2	242.9	264.6	280.3
Romania ⁽⁶⁾	25.2	27.1	27.8	31.2	36.9	117.3	127.2	138.1	132.5	133.7
Slovak Republic	11.6	13.3	14.8	17.2	18.1	36.1	39.1	43.5	47.3	49.9
Slovenia	12.1	14.3	14.9	16.1	17.4	21.3	22.4	24.3	25.9	27.2
Turkey	108.9	129.6	143.1	168.6	175.8	317.5	343.1	372.0	407.1	404.9
CC-13 ⁽¹⁾	335.5	384.8	425.5	483.0	522.6	965.2	1 034.7	1 120.5	1 187.5	1 215.1
EU-15	:	6 577.6	6 903.9	7 266.8	7 585.6	:	6 578.2	6 904.6	7 268.2	7 586.7
% of EU-15	:	5.9	6.2	6.6	6.9	:	15.7	16.2	16.3	16.0

(1) Total refers to the countries for whom there are available data

(2) Based on GDP at constant prices in national currency

(3) For the calculation of GDP per head, the data for the total population is taken from the National Accounts; it may differ from that obtained via demographic statistics

(4) The PPPs used to calculate the data at PPS are provisional estimates. The basis of these estimates is the 1996 European Comparison Programme (ECP) results published by OECD/Eurostat. In the case of Poland and Cyprus, the results of the 1997 ECP are used

(5) Due to methodological changes there is a break in the series for Hungary between 1994 and 1995

(6) There may be large differences between the Romanian data in this publication and the previous one. This is due to the incorporation of new data sources in the calculation of the NA accounts, such as fiscal data for General Government and the Structural Business Survey for Gross Fixed Capital Formation. A more detailed explanation will be given in the forthcoming annual publication

Data Sources: Where not otherwise specified, data are supplied by the Statistical Offices of the CCs to Eurostat in the form of a quarterly National Accounts data questionnaire. Data for Malta and Turkey were supplied to Eurostat in a general statistical questionnaire, with quarterly data for Turkey taken from their Statistical Office website

This report was prepared using contributions from Wayne Codd and Sebastian Reinecke.

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