

# International trade in goods by partner

Statistics Explained

*Data extracted in June 2023  
Planned article update: July 2024*

**" In 2022, the 4 principal partners for goods exported from the EU and goods imported to the EU were the United States, China, the United Kingdom and Switzerland. "**

**" In 2022, China had the most goods imported into the EU while the United States received the most goods exported by the EU. "**

[Globalisation patterns in EU trade and investment](#) is an online Eurostat publication presenting a summary of recent European Union (EU) statistics on economic aspects of globalisation, focusing on patterns of EU trade and investment. Shares in world export markets have traditionally been used as a measure of a country's industrial competitiveness. However, with an increasing share of trade in intermediate goods (as a result of integrated supply chains and globalised production), such conventional indicators have become less informative, as high export shares might be simply related to assembly activities, whilst much greater shares of value added may be contained in other stages of production (design, marketing, logistics, after-sales). The increasing reliance on global production chains accelerated around the turn of the millennium and through to the onset of the financial and economic crisis. Nowhere was this more evident than in China, which developed into a 'processing hub' for Asia and became a member of the [World Trade Organisation \(WTO\)](#) in December 2001. Other important developments are the establishment and expansion of a broad range of global trade agreements designed to encourage increased levels of free-trade (for example, ASEAN, COMESA, Mercosur or NAFTA). This article looks at the development of the EU's trading relationships with some of its most important trade partners.

## Focus on EU trade in goods - an overview

**In 2022, the four principal destinations for goods exported from the EU were the United States, China, the United Kingdom and Switzerland**

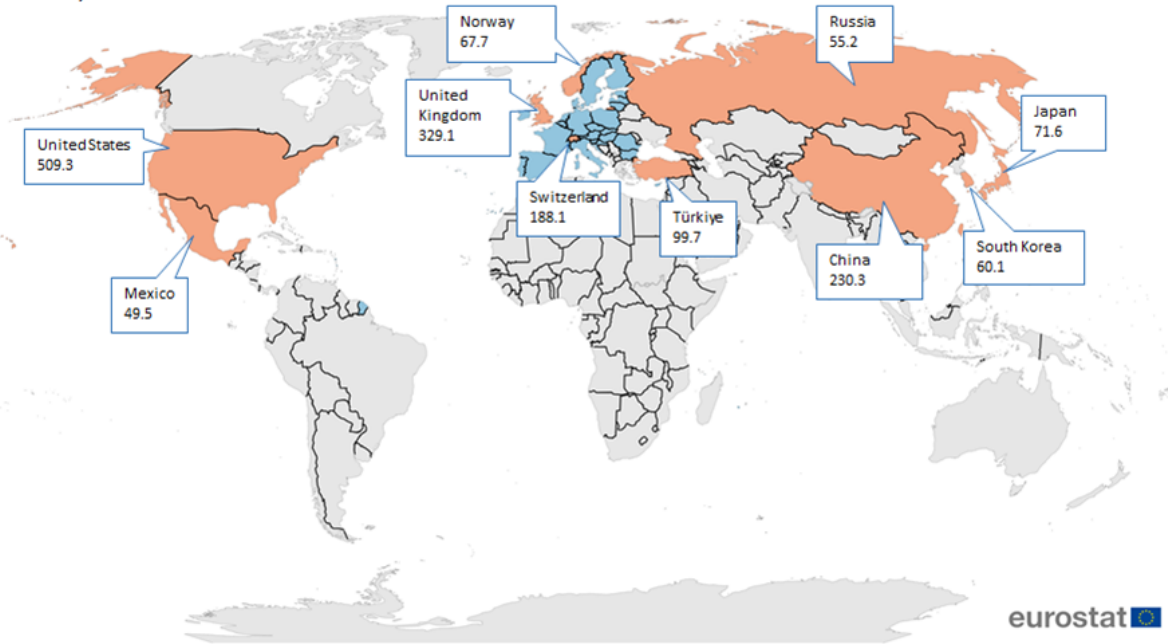
Extra-EU trade flows (imports plus exports) for the whole of the EU were valued at € 4 072 billion in 2019, more than twice as high as in 2002. In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic this fell to € 3 650 billion in 2020. However in 2022 and 2023 it recovered strongly, reaching € 4 307 in 2022 and € 5 575 in 2023. A majority of the EU's trade takes place within the single market (in the form of intra-EU trade flows), the share that originates in or is destined for non-member countries did not change much over time, increasing from 39.8 % of the total in 2002 to 40.1 % by 2022.

In 2022, the principal destinations for goods exported from the EU included the United States, the United Kingdom, China, and Switzerland. The list of the EU's top 10 export markets for goods is completed with Türkiye, Japan, Norway, South Korea, Russia and Mexico (see Map 1).

A ranking of the principal origins of goods imported into the EU was composed of the same list of countries. A closer analysis reveals that China was the EU's principal partner for imported goods in 2022, followed by the United States, the United Kingdom, Russia and Norway. The remainder of the ranking for goods imported into the EU was composed of Switzerland, Türkiye, South Korea, Japan and India (see Map 2).

## Principal partners for EU exports of goods, 2022

(billion €)



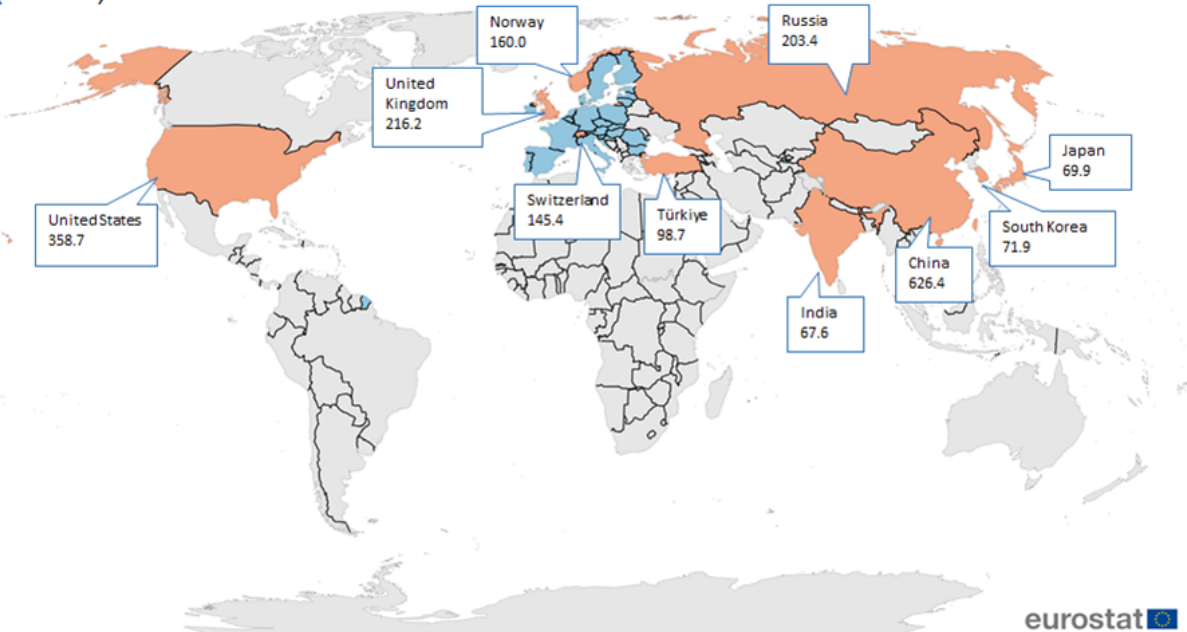
Note: based on a selected list of partners  
(see methodological notes in the introduction for more details)  
Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

Administrative boundaries: © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turkstat  
Cartography: Eurostat – IMAGE, 06/2023  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union

Map 1: Principal partners for EU exports of goods, 2022 (€ billion) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995

## Principal partners for EU imports of goods, 2022

(billion €)



Note: based on a selected list of partners  
(see methodological notes in the introduction for more details)  
Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

Administrative boundaries: © EuroGeographics © UN-FAO © Turkstat  
Cartography: Eurostat – IMAGE, 06/2023  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union

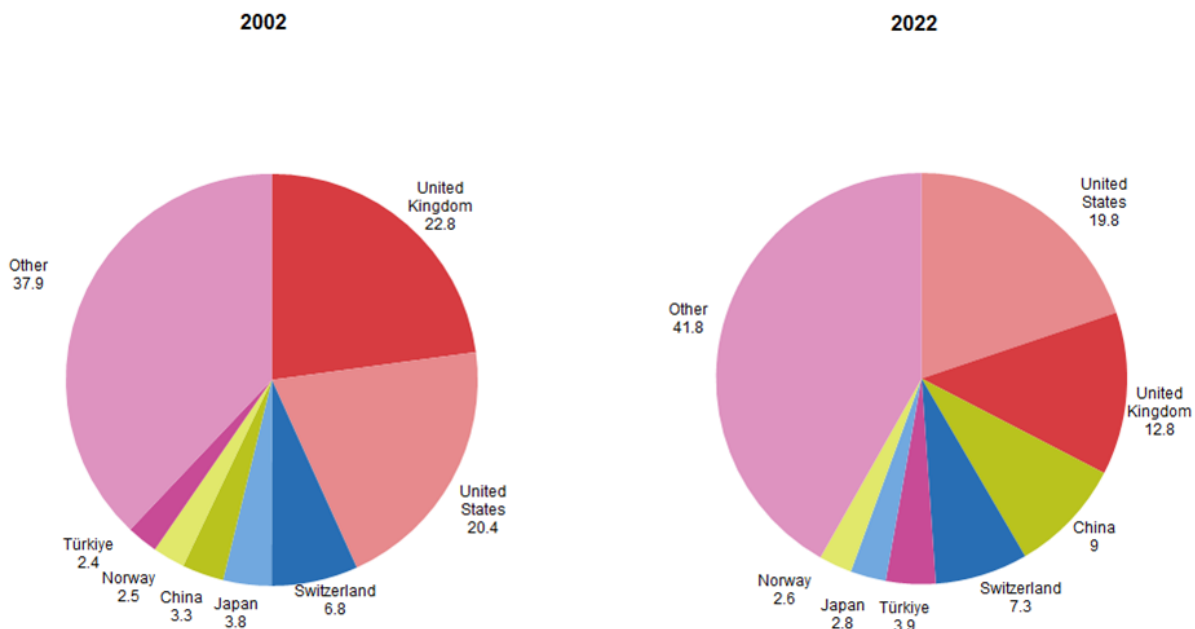
Map 2: Principal partners for EU imports of goods, 2022 (€ billion) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995

**In 2022, EU imports from China were six times as high as in 2002**

In 2002, half of EU exports went to the United Kingdom (22.8 %), the United States (20.4 %) and Switzerland (6.8 %) combined, as shown in Figure 1. By 2022, the United States (19.8 %) and the United Kingdom (12.8 %) had switched places and Switzerland was replaced by China (9.0 %) whose share had almost tripled since 2002.

**EU exports of goods, 2002 and 2022**

(%)



Note: the figure shows the top seven partners with the highest value of exports in 2022  
 Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

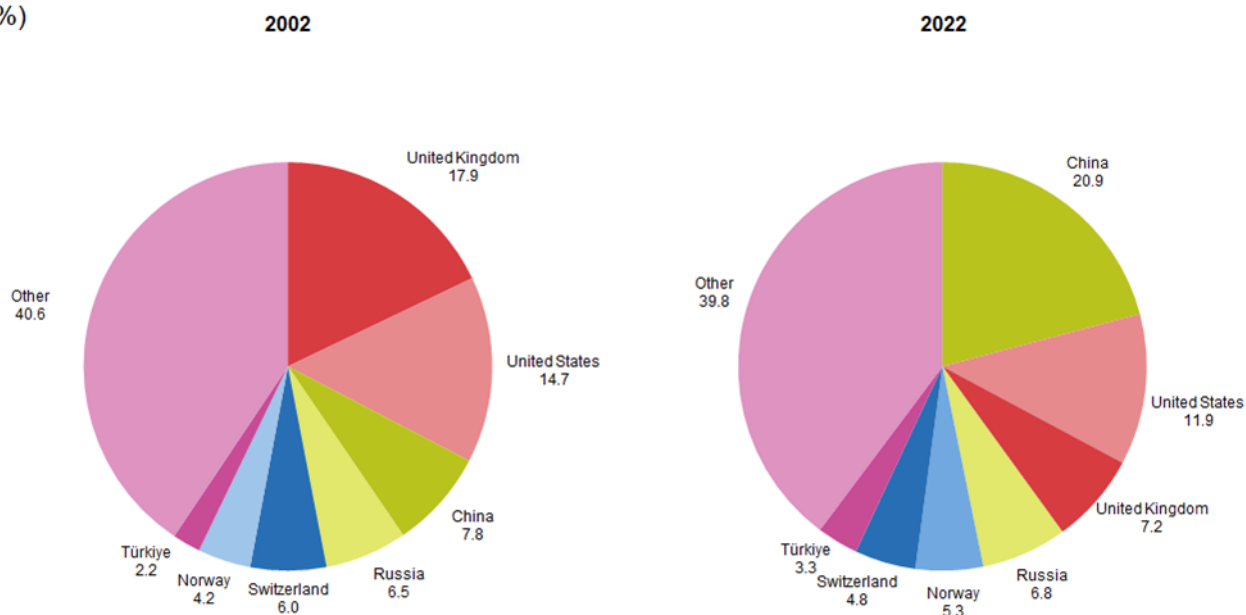


**Figure 1: EU exports of goods, 2002 and 2022 (%) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995**

On the import side, the share of EU imports originating in China increased from 7.8 % of the total in 2002 to 20.9 % by 2022, making China the main partner for imports. In the same period, the share of imports from the United States fell from 14.7 % to 11.9 % while the share from the United Kingdom dropped from 17.9 % to 7.2 % (see Figure 2).

## EU imports of goods, 2002 and 2022

(%)



Note: the figure shows the top seven partners with the highest value of exports in 2022

Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

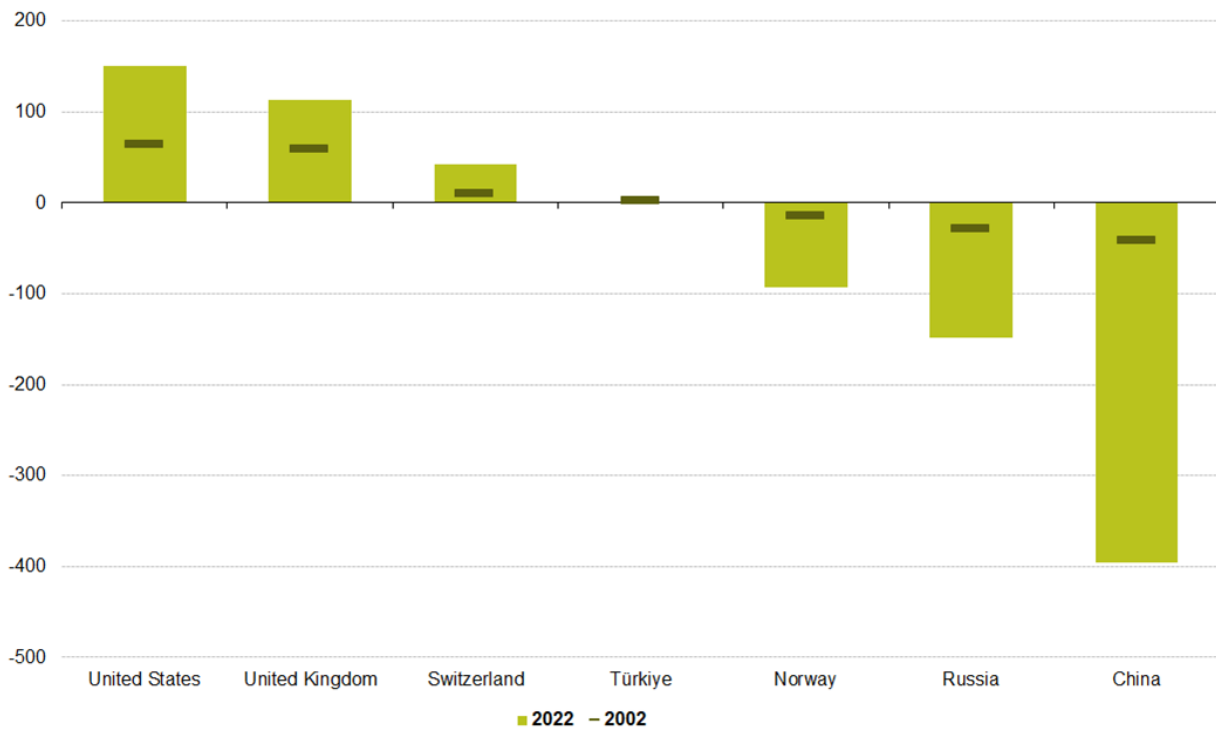
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**Figure 2: EU imports of goods, 2002 and 2022 (%) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995**

The EU ran a trade deficit for goods with China of € 396 billion in 2022 (see Figure 3). It also had a sizeable trade deficit with Russia (€ 148 billion) and Norway (€ 92 billion). By contrast, the EU recorded trade surpluses with the United States (€ 151 billion), the United Kingdom (€ 113 billion), Switzerland (€ 43 billion) and Türkiye (€ 1 billion).

### EU trade in goods balance, 2002 and 2022

(billion €)



Note: the figure shows the top seven partners with the highest value of trade in 2022

Source: Eurostat (Comext DS-018995)

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**Figure 3: EU trade in goods balance, 2002 and 2022 (%) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995**

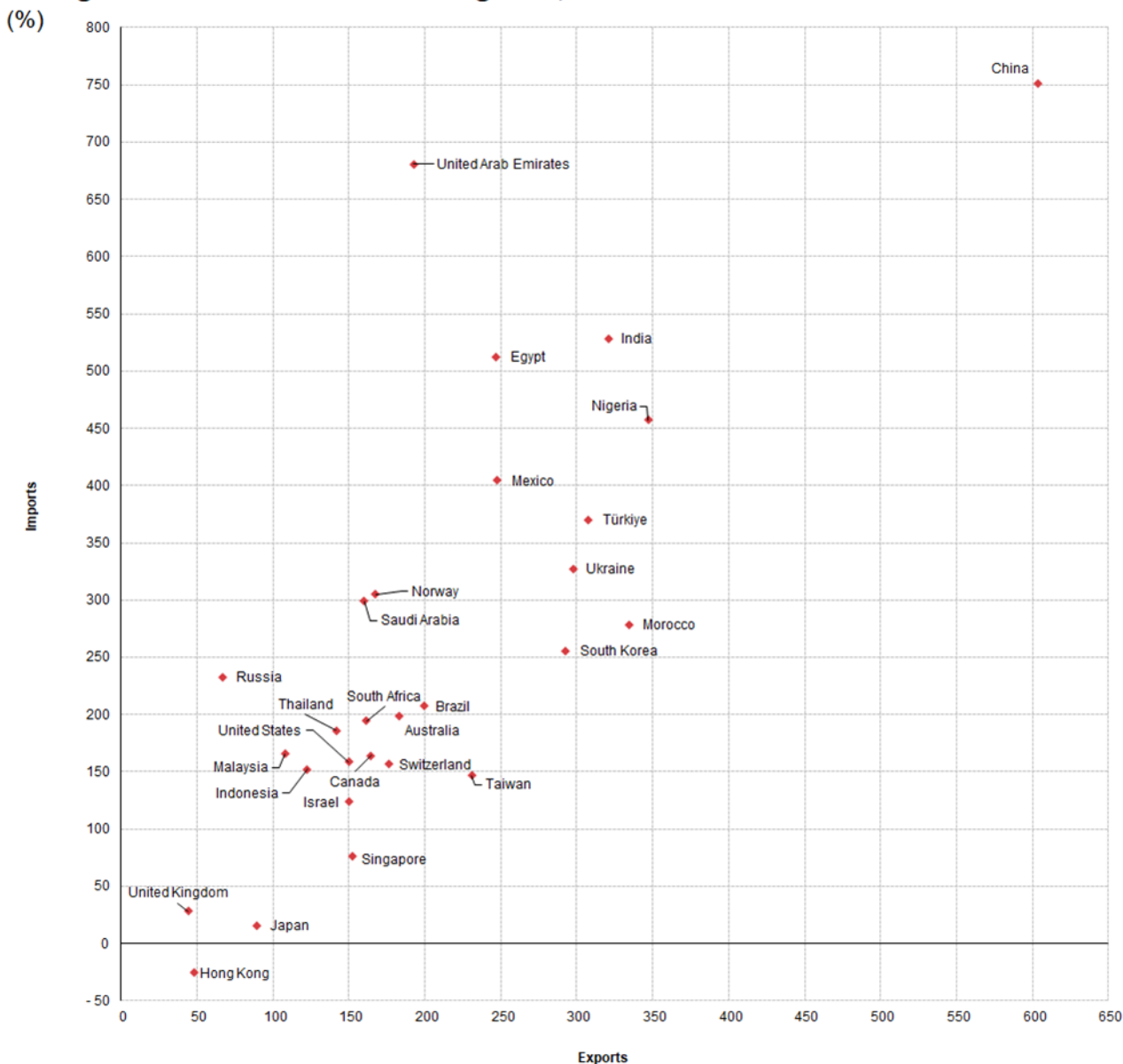
#### Realignment of the EU's principal partners for trade in goods towards emerging economies

While absolute figures show that EU trade in goods is relatively concentrated with respect to its principal partners, there has been a considerable realignment of the EU's trading relationships in recent years, with a shift in bilateral trading relationships towards emerging economies, while trade flows with traditional partners tended to develop at a much slower pace. Emerging economies have captured an increasing share of global trade which has often stimulated their domestic economic growth, sometimes leading to the emergence or expansion of a middle class, while removing parts of their populations from the risk of poverty.

On the export side, the most rapid growth for EU trade concerned an expansion in the value of goods destined for China (+603 % between 2002 and 2022), while the value of EU exports to Nigeria, Morocco, India, Türkiye, Ukraine, South Korea, Mexico, Egypt, Taiwan and Brazil also grew strongly (see Figure 4). On the import side, China (+751 % between 2002 and 2022), also had the largest growth. The value of EU imports from United Arab Emirates, India, Egypt, Nigeria, Mexico, Türkiye, Ukraine, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, South Korea, Russia and Brazil also grew strongly.

The pace of growth was generally much slower for the EU's more traditional trading partners and developed world economies. Low growth rates for both imports and exports were found for the United Kingdom, Japan and Hong Kong while due to export restrictions, exports to Russia did not grow much either.

## Change for the value of EU trade of goods, 2002-2022



Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

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**Figure 4: Change in extra-EU trade of goods for selected partners, 2002-2022 (%)** Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995

### Focus on EU trade in goods for selected partners

The following section presents information for the EU's four principal trading partners (as of 2022): the United States, China, the United Kingdom and Switzerland.

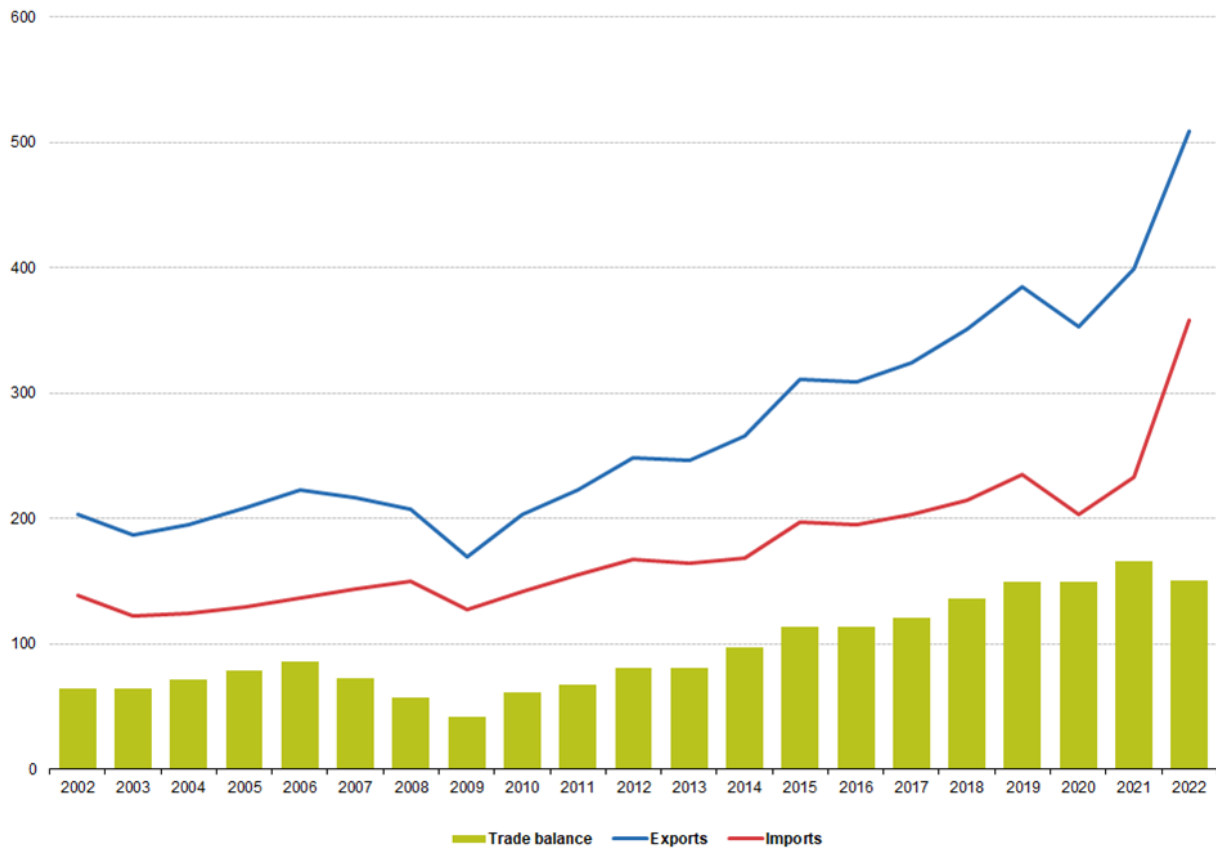
#### China overtook the United Kingdom as the EU's leading trade partner

Based on an analysis of the total value of trade in goods (in other words, the sum of exports and imports), the United States overtook the United Kingdom as the EU's principal trade partner in 2015, mainly due to strong growth of exports to the United States but lost its leading position to China in 2020.

In recent years, EU exports destined for the United States have grown at a faster pace than the value of EU imports that originated from the United States; after the shock of the global financial and economic crisis, the EU trade surplus with the United States expanded from € 42 billion in 2009 to € 151 billion in 2022 (see Figure 5).

## EU trade in goods with the United States, 2002-2022

(billion €)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

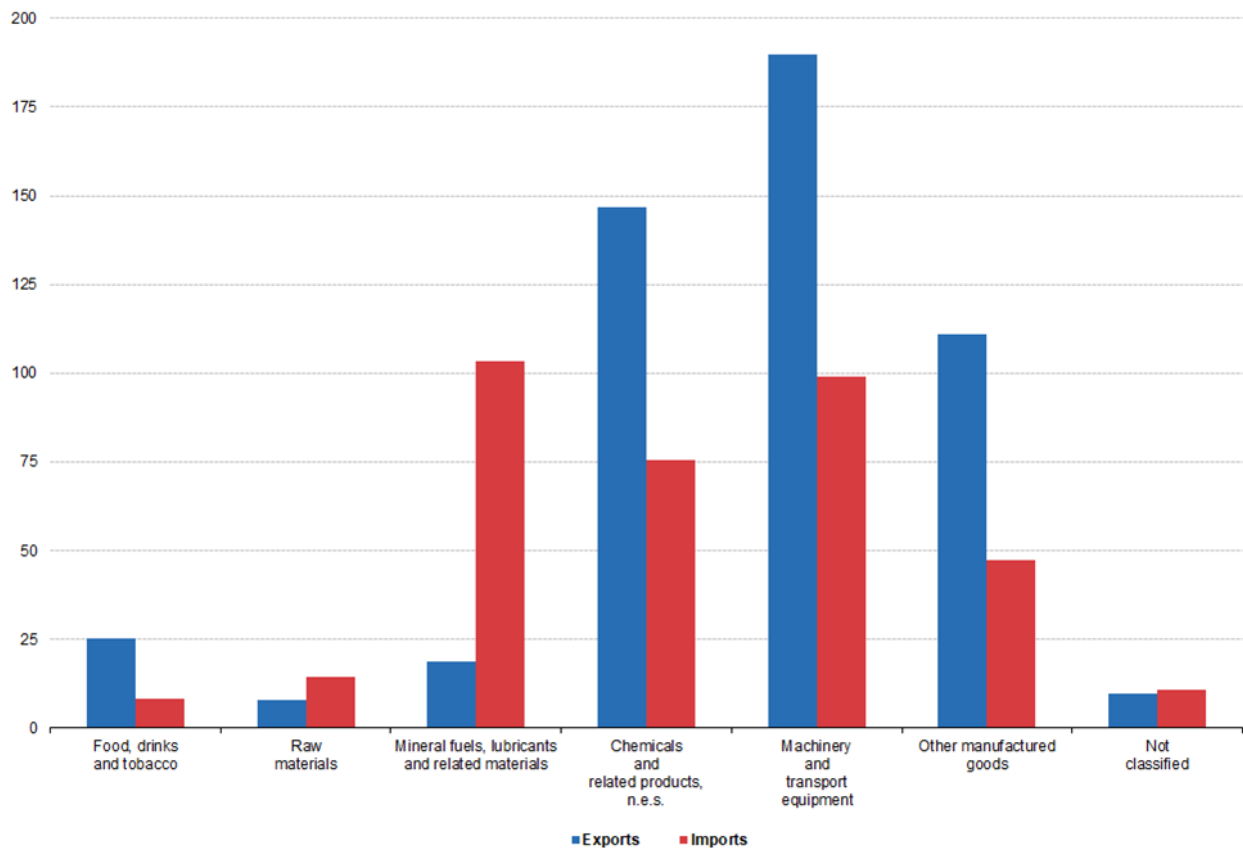
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**Figure 5: EU trade in goods with the United States, 2002-2022 (€ billion) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995**

Machinery and transport equipment were the most commonly exported products from the EU to the United States making up 37.3 % (€ 190 billion) of all EU goods. The most imported product from the United States were mineral fuels, lubricants and related minerals with a share of 28.9 % (€ 104 billion).

## EU trade in goods with the United States, 2022

(billion €)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

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**Figure 6: EU trade in goods with the United States, 2022 (€ billion) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995**

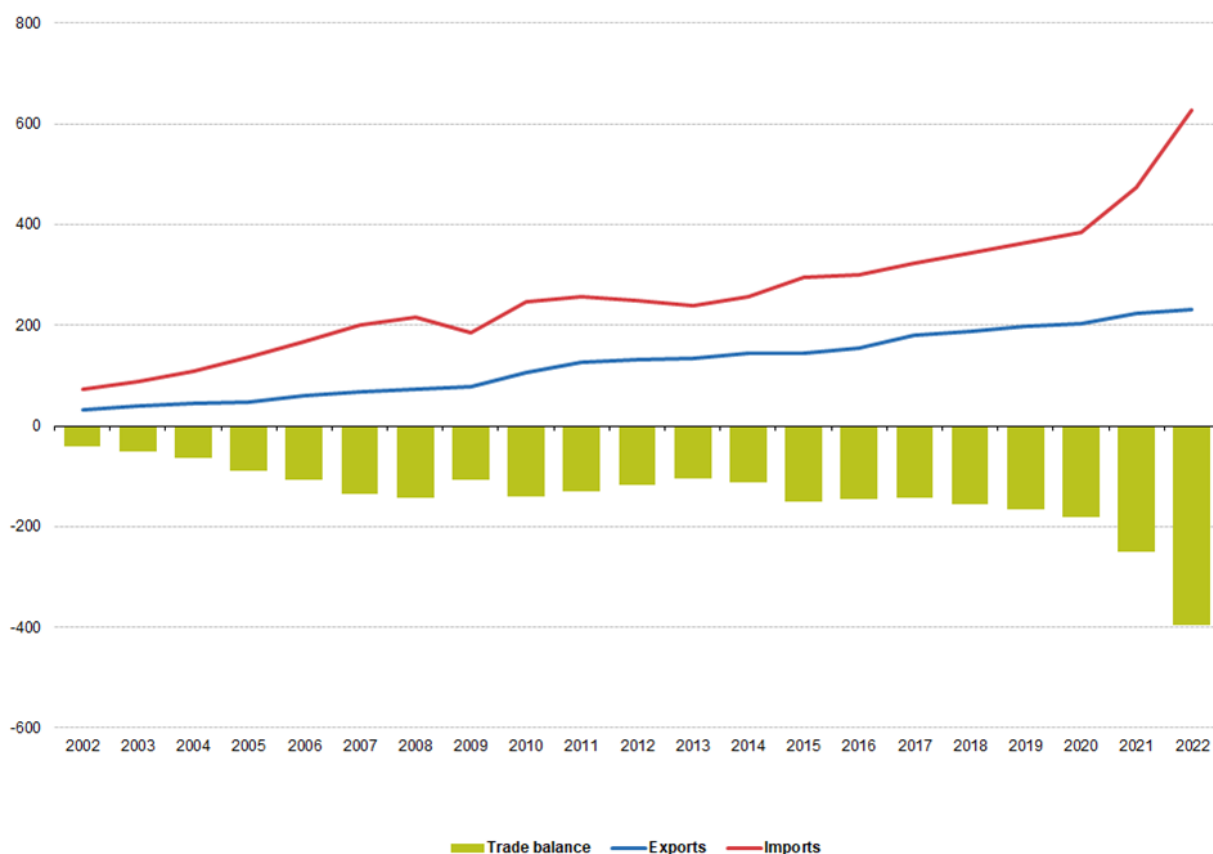
### EU trade with China is heavily skewed in favour of Chinese imports

Figure 7 shows the EU ran a sizeable trade deficit with China throughout the period from 2002 to 2022. Between 2002 and 2022 it grew from € 41 billion to € 396 billion. In total trade, China overtook the United States in 2020 and became the EU's largest trade in goods partner. However, in 2022 the United States retook the first position.



## EU trade in goods with China, 2002-2022

(billion €)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

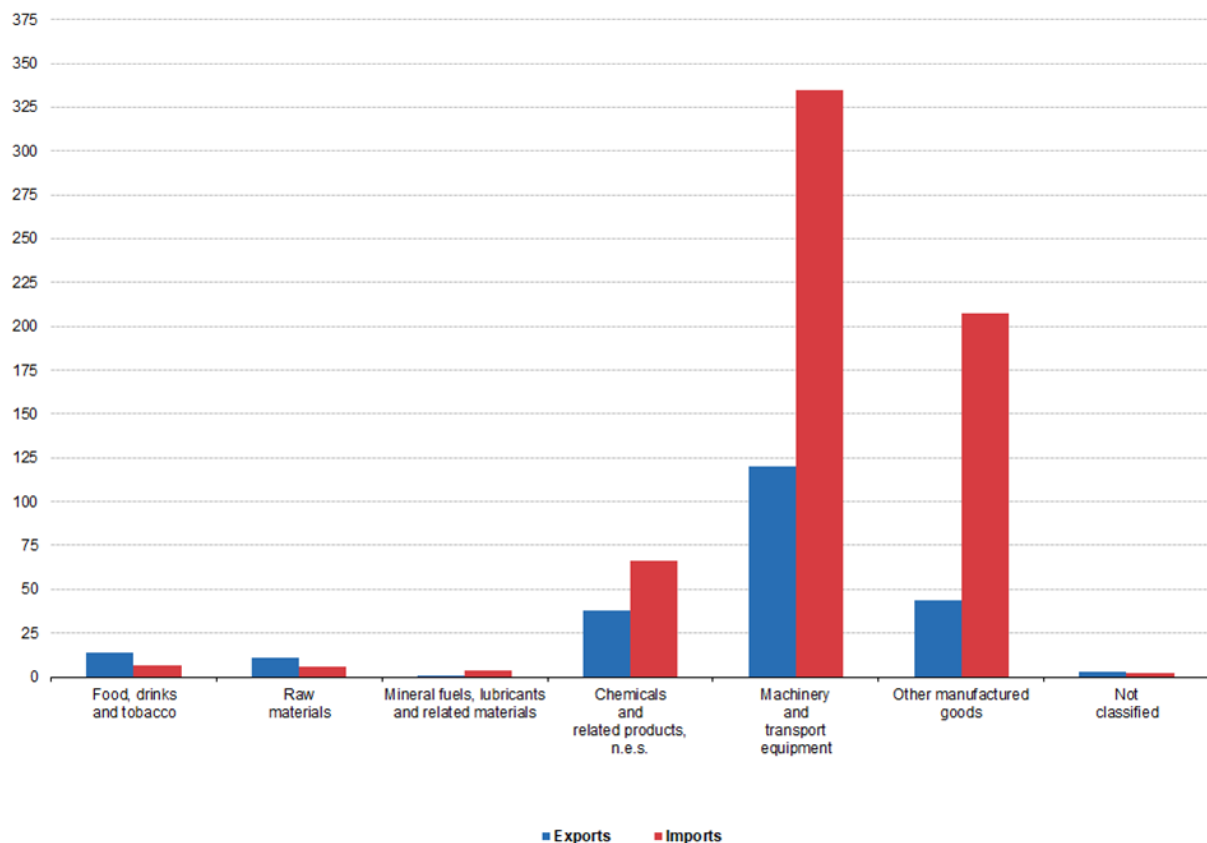
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**Figure 7: EU trade in goods with China, 2002-2022 (€ billion) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995**

Machinery and transport equipment (53.4 % or € 334 billion) together with other manufactured goods (33.1 % or € 207 billion) made up almost 90 % of all goods imported into the EU from China in 2022. Turning attention to EU exports destined for China, machinery and transport equipment also represented more than half (52.1 % or € 120 billion) of the total in 2022, while the remaining exports were more evenly spread; other manufactured goods (18.9 % or € 43 billion) and chemicals and related products (16.5 % or € 38 billion) were the only other product groups to record double-digit shares (see Figure 8).

## EU trade in goods with China, 2022

(billion €)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

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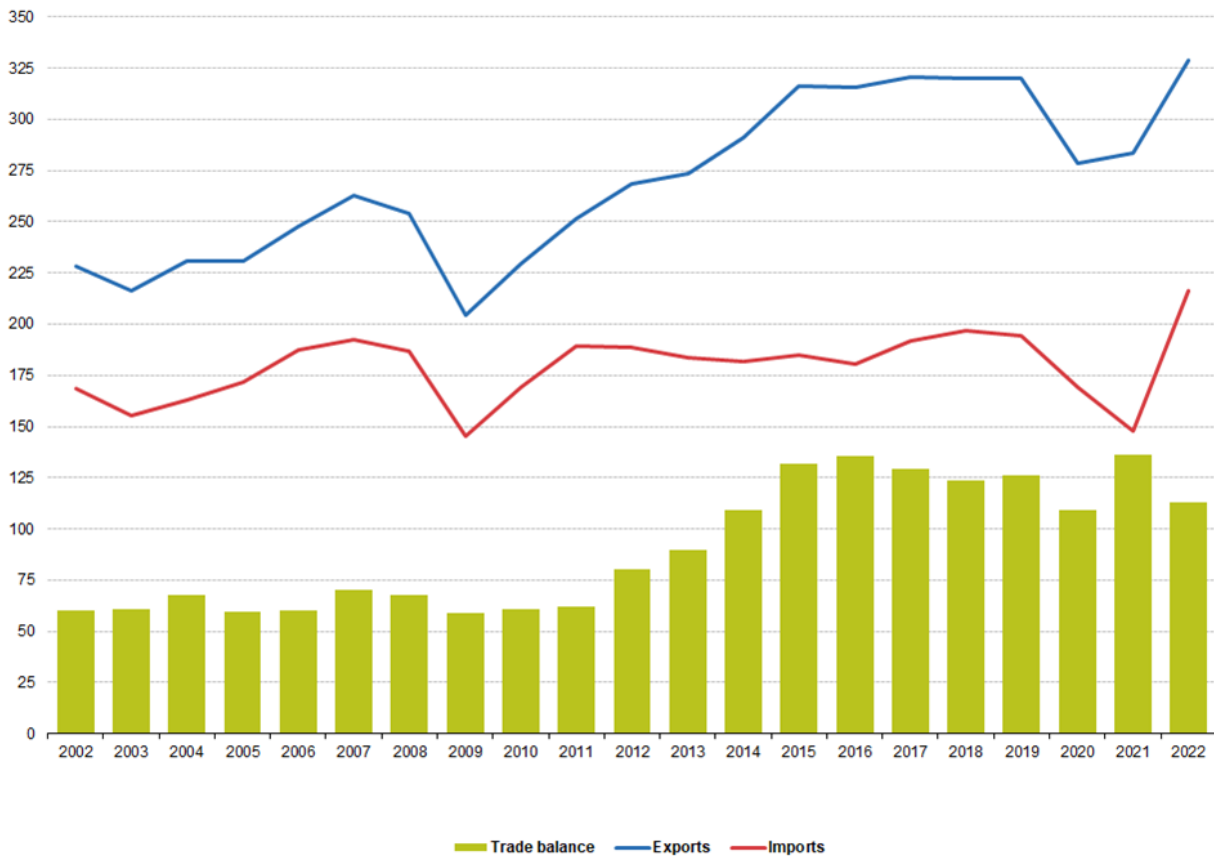
Figure 8: EU trade in goods with China, 2022 (€ billion) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995

### The EU trade surplus with the United Kingdom increased by € 54 billion between 2002 and 2022

Between 2003 and 2008, the development of trade between the EU and the United Kingdom rose at a steady pace for both exports and imports (see Figure 9). There was a marked downturn in the value of EU trade with the United Kingdom in 2009. This was followed by a rapid expansion from 2009 to 2011. After that exports to the United Kingdom continued to grow while imports remained stable. In 2020 a combination of Brexit and the COVID-19 pandemic led to a decrease of trade between the EU and the United Kingdom. In 2021 exports grew slightly while imports continued to drop, causing the EU's trade surplus with the United Kingdom to peak at € 136 billion. However, in 2022 both exports (+€ 46 billion) and especially imports (+€ 69 billion) grew strongly, reducing the trade surplus to € 113 billion.

## EU trade in goods with the United Kingdom, 2002-2022

(billion €)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

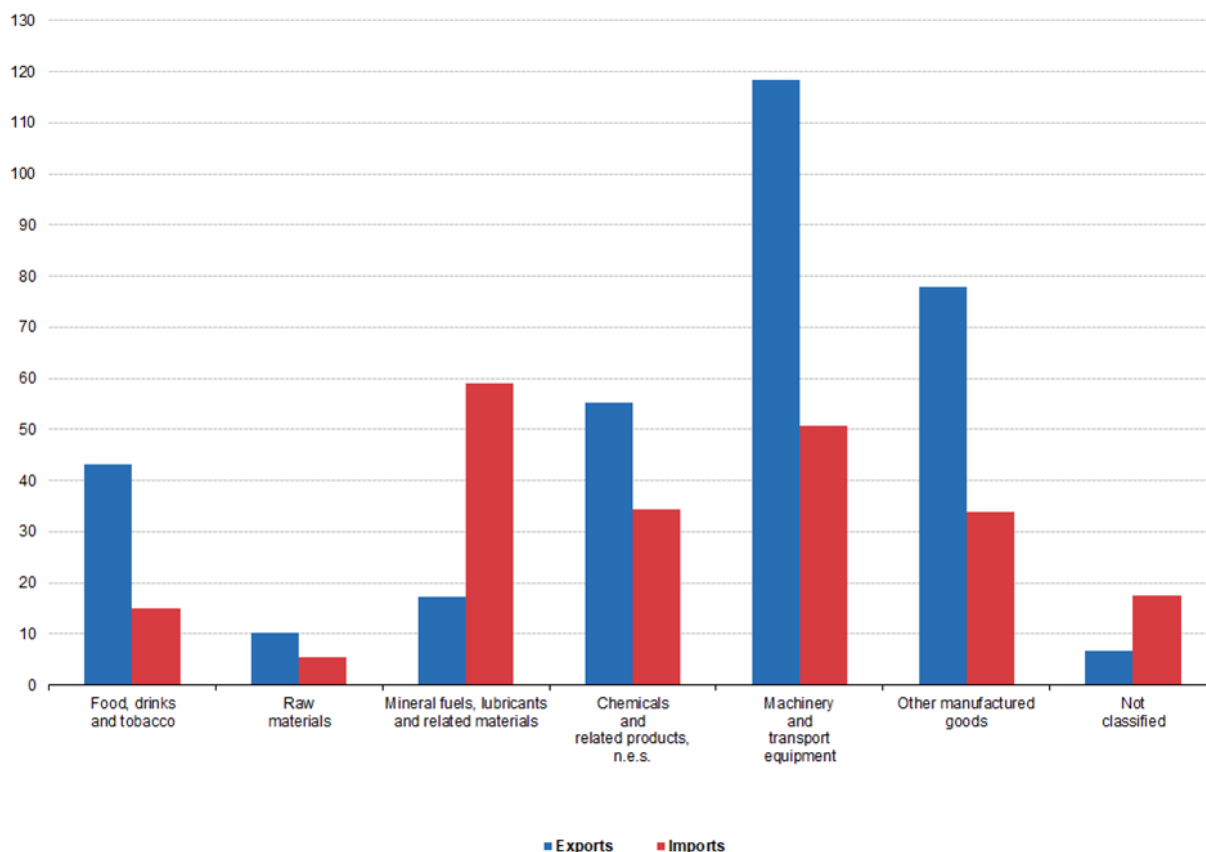
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**Figure 9: EU trade in goods with the United Kingdom, 2002-2022 (€ billion) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995**

Figure 10 shows the structure of EU trade with the United Kingdom in 2022 in more detail. The highest value of EU exports to the United Kingdom was recorded for machinery and transport equipment (€ 118 billion) and other manufactured goods (€ 78 billion). On the import side, the highest value of goods imported into the EU that originated from the United Kingdom was for mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (€ 59 billion) followed by machinery and transport equipment (€ 51 billion). Combining these data for 2022, it shows that the EU ran sizeable trade surpluses with the United Kingdom for machinery and transport equipment (€ 68 billion) and for other manufactured goods (€ 44 billion), whereas it had a deficit of € 42 billion for mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials.

## EU trade in goods with the United Kingdom, 2022

(billion €)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

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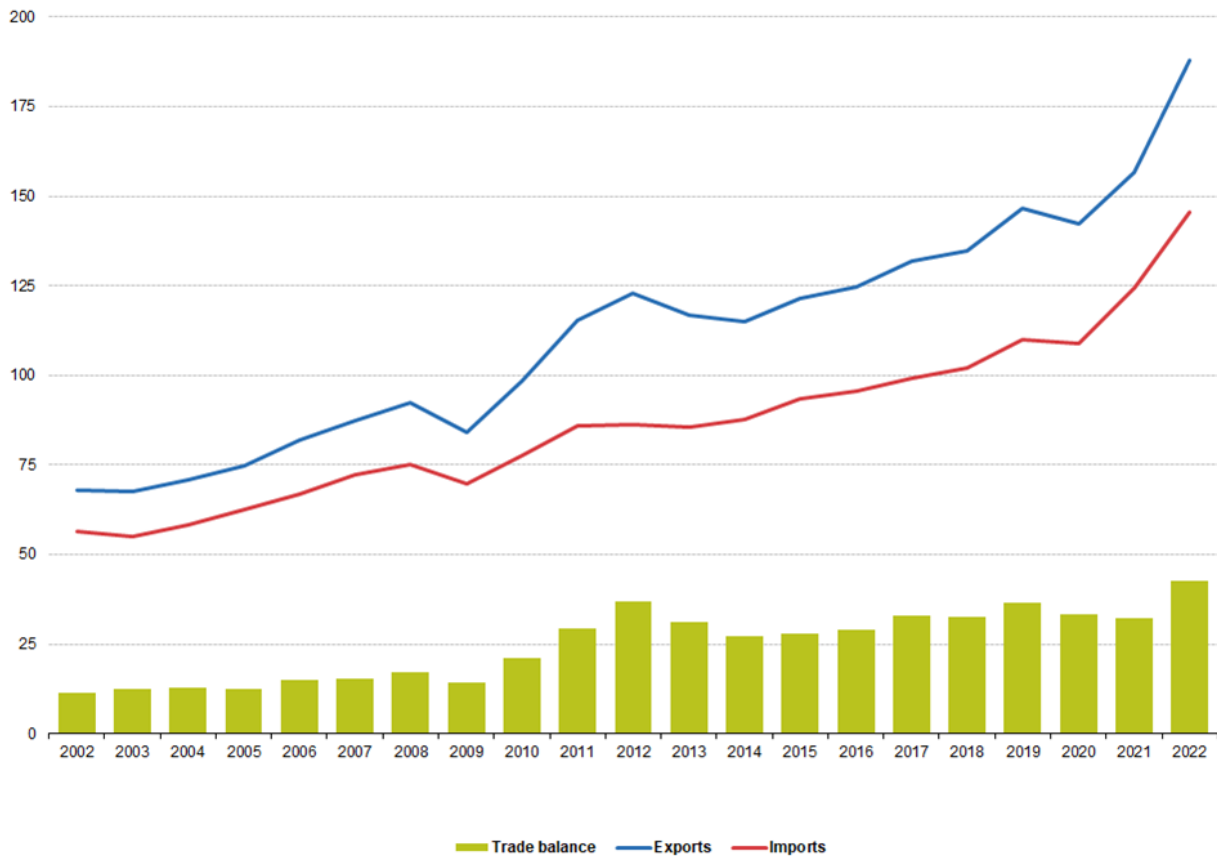
Figure 10: EU trade in goods with the United Kingdom, 2022 (€ billion) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995

### The EU trade surplus with Switzerland almost quadrupled between 2002 and 2022

Between 2003 and 2008, the development of trade between the EU and Switzerland rose at a steady pace for both exports and imports (see Figure 11). There was a marked downturn in the value of EU trade with Switzerland in 2009. This was followed by a rapid expansion from 2009 to 2011. Both EU imports from and exports to Switzerland peaked in 2019, before falling slightly in 2020. However, in 2022 and 2023 they grew strongly with imports peaking in 2023 at € 145 billion and exports at € 188 billion.

## EU trade in goods with Switzerland, 2002-2022

(billion €)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

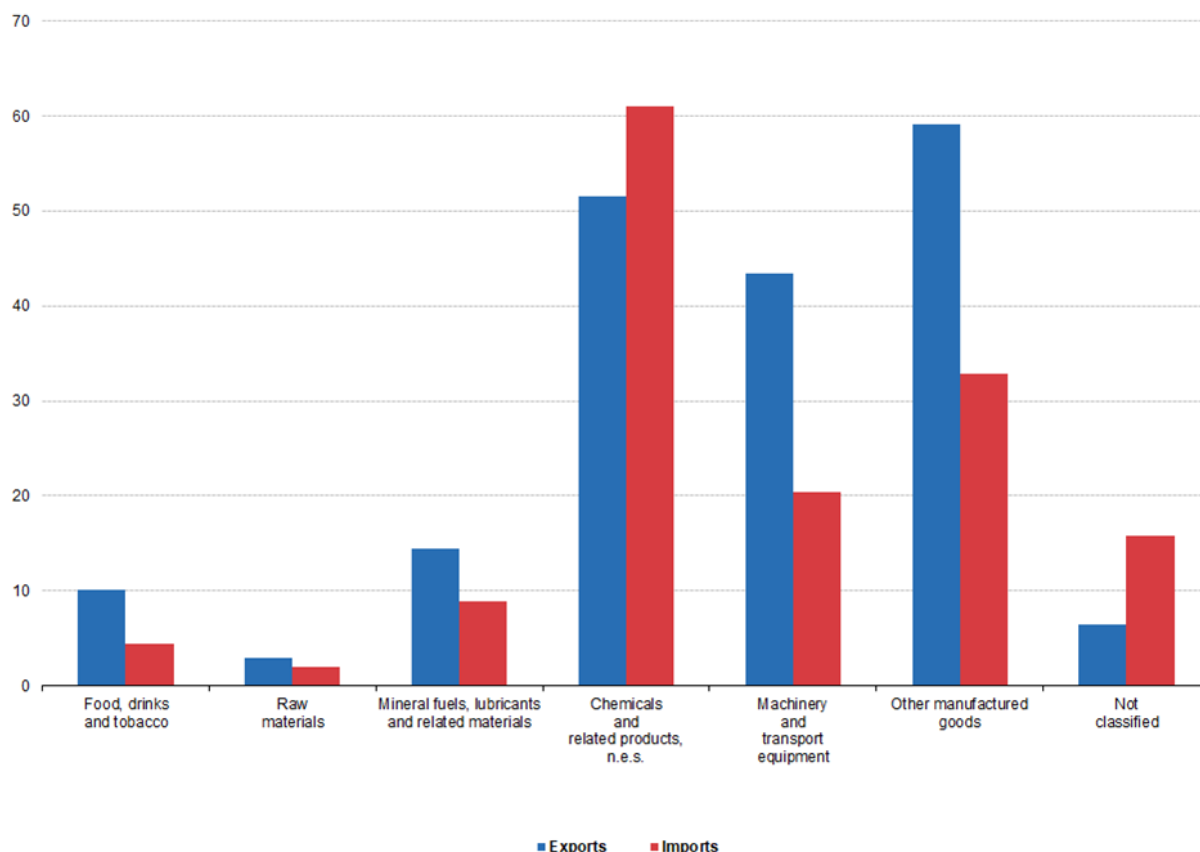
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**Figure 11: EU trade in goods with Switzerland, 2002-2022 (€ billion) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995**

Figure 12 shows the structure of EU trade with Switzerland in 2022 in more detail. The highest value of EU exports to Switzerland was recorded for other manufactured goods (€ 59 billion), chemicals (€ 52 billion) and machinery and transport equipment (€ 43 billion). On the import side, the highest value of goods imported into the EU that originated from Switzerland was for chemicals (€ 61 billion) followed by other manufactured goods (€ 33 billion) and machinery and transport equipment (€ 20 billion). Combining these data for 2022, it shows that the EU ran sizeable trade surpluses with Switzerland for other manufactured goods (€ 26 billion) and for machinery and transport equipment (€ 23 billion), whereas it had a deficit of € 9 billion for chemicals.

## EU trade in goods with Switzerland, 2022

(billion €)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

eurostat 

Figure 12: EU trade in goods with Switzerland, 2022 (€ billion) Source: Eurostat Comext DS-018995

### Focus on trade in goods for individual EU Member States

Having analysed extra-EU trade developments for some of the EU's main trading partners, this next section identifies the leading trade partners for individual EU Member States (considering both intra-EU and extra-EU partners), detailing the four principal trade partners for both exports (see Figure 13) and imports (see Figure 14).

#### In 2022, 15 EU Member States reported that Germany was their largest export market for goods ...

In 2022, Germany was among the four most important export markets (in value terms) for all but two of the (other) EU Member States, the exceptions being Estonia and Cyprus. This is perhaps unsurprising given that Germany has the highest number of inhabitants in the EU and is also located relatively centrally. Germany occupied the position of the leading export partner for 15 of the Member States and when this was not the case, the exceptions were all located around the periphery of the EU — the Baltic Member States, Sweden, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Croatia and Cyprus. The United States was the leading market for goods exported from Germany and Ireland, while the other countries mostly had neighbouring countries as their largest partner for exports.

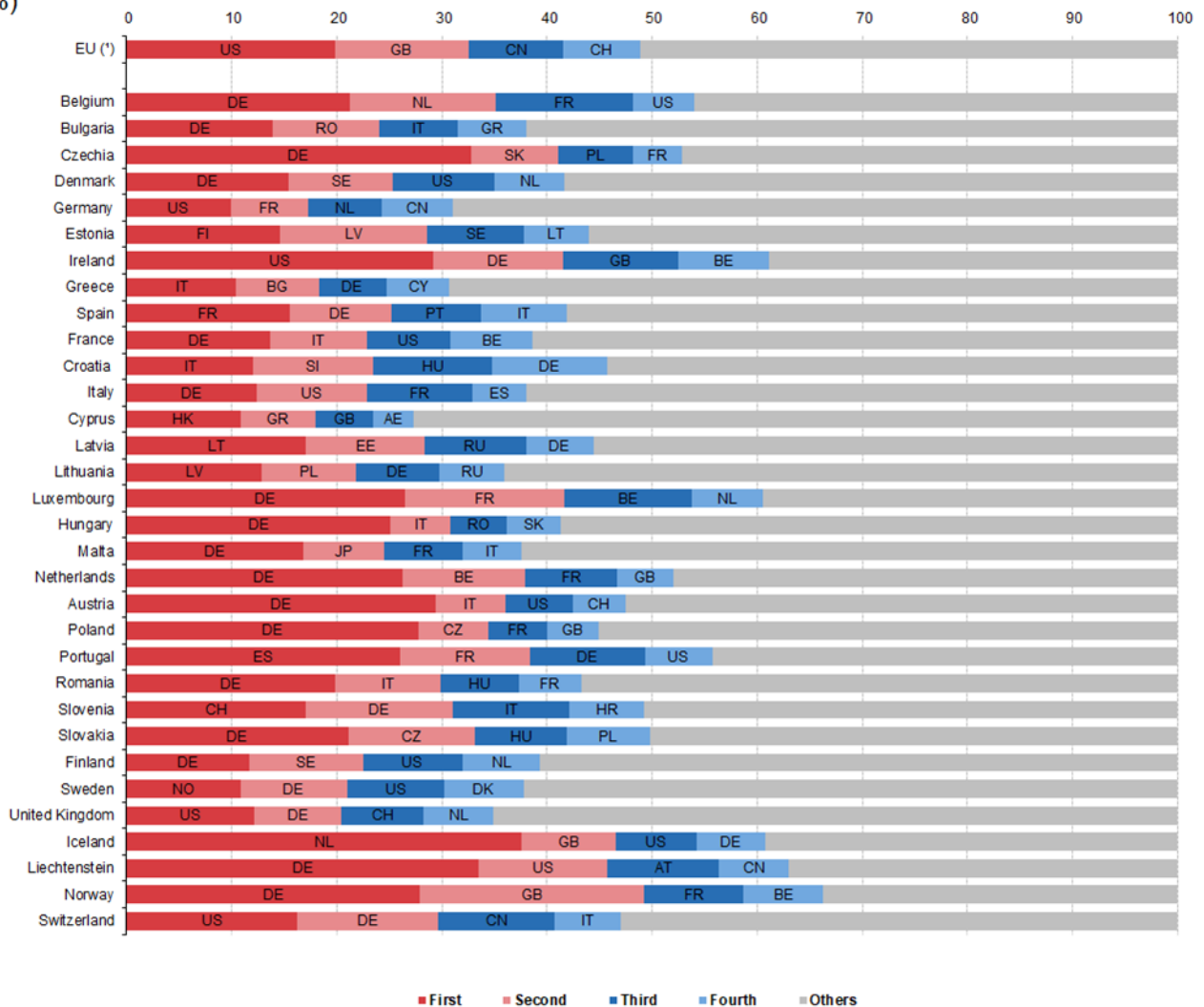
#### ... and Germany was also the main origin of imported goods in 16 EU Member States

Germany was also the main origin of imported goods for 11 of the EU Member States in 2020, while Germany featured among the top four import partners for each of the remaining Member States except Ireland, Cyprus and Malta. The highest share of German imported goods originated from the Netherlands. In those cases where Germany was not the leading import partner, this position was usually occupied by a neighbouring country — for example, the Netherlands was the main origin of imports from Belgium, Spain for Portugal, Lithuania for Latvia and

Greece for Cyprus.

### Top four trading partners for exports of goods, 2022

(%)



Note: based on a selected list of partners (see methodological notes in the introduction for more details). See annex (at the end of the publication) for a list of ISO codes.

(\*) Ranking based on extra-EU partners only.

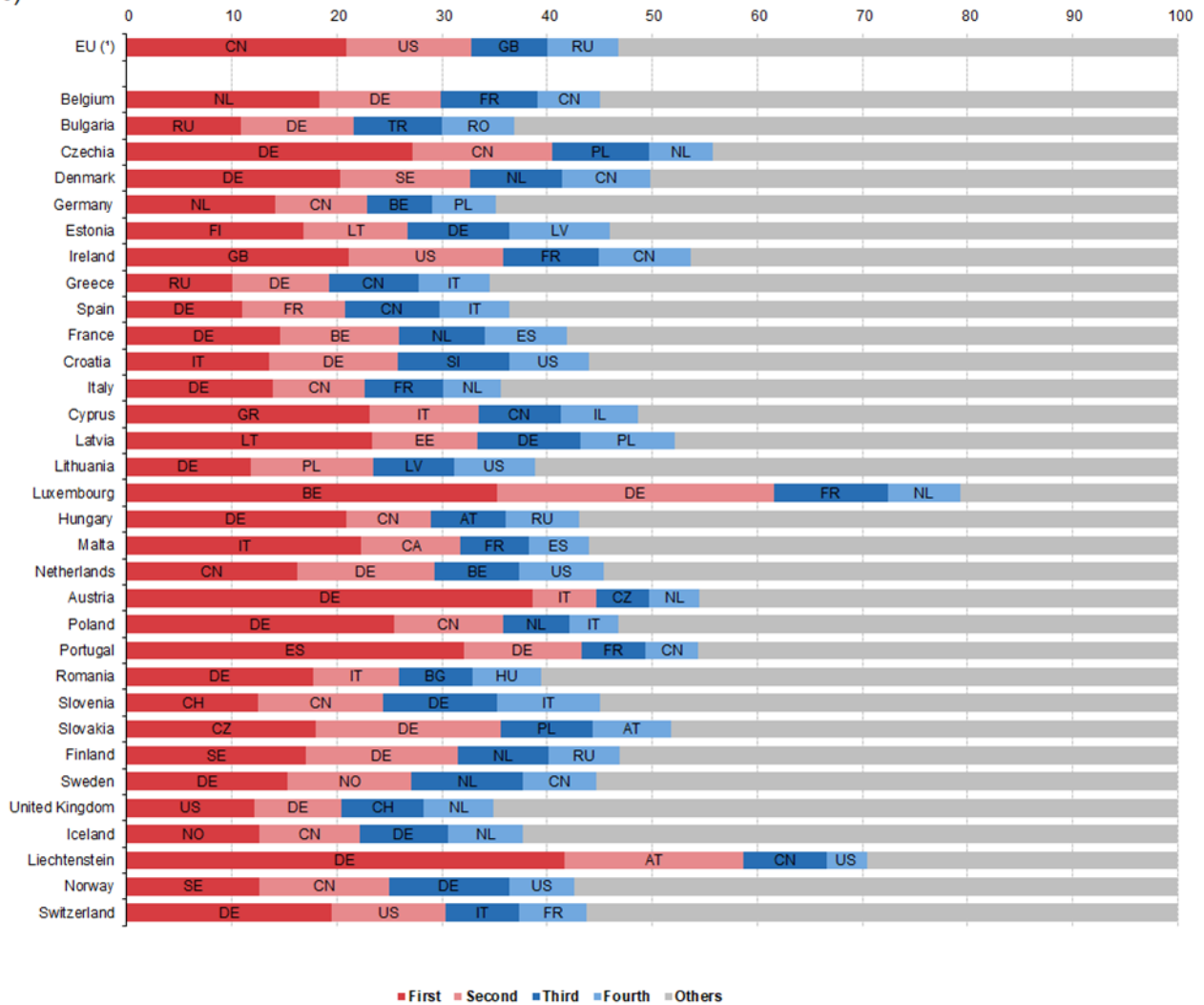
Source: Eurostat (online data codes: DS-018995 and DS-043227) and UN Comtrade



**Figure 13: Top four trading partners for exports of goods, 2022 (%), Country codes** Source: Eurostat (DS-018995) and (DS-043227) and UN Comtrade

## Top four trading partners for imports of goods, 2022

(%)



Note: based on a selected list of partners (see methodological notes in the introduction for more details).

See annex (at the end of the publication) for a list of ISO codes.

(\*) Ranking based on extra-EU partners only.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: DS-018995 and DS-043227) and UN Comtrade

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**Figure 14: Top four trading partners for imports of goods, 2022 (%), Country codes Source: Eurostat (DS-018995) and (DS-043227) and UN Comtrade**

### In 2022, nine EU Member States recorded their largest trade surplus for goods with the United States

Tables 1 and 2 provide a similar set of information but focus instead on the largest trade surpluses and trade deficits for each of the EU Member States. In 2022, a minority (10) of the Member States recorded their largest bilateral trade surpluses for goods with another Member State; in four of these cases, Germany was the partner. There were nine Member States where the largest trade surplus was recorded with the United States as a partner and four with the United Kingdom.



## Four largest trade surpluses for goods, 2022

(based on values in billion €)

	First	Second	Third	Fourth
EU (*)	United States	150.7	United Kingdom	112.9
Belgium	Germany	60.2	France	24.7
Bulgaria	Romania	1.1	Germany	0.7
Czechia	Germany	14.4	Slovakia	7.0
Denmark	United States	7.0	United Kingdom	2.5
Germany	United States	85.8	France	41.7
Estonia	United States	0.9	Latvia	0.6
Ireland	United States	38.9	Belgium	13.8
Greece	Cyprus	2.7	Bulgaria	1.5
Spain	Portugal	15.7	France	15.6
France	Singapore	6.7	United Kingdom	6.4
Croatia	United Kingdom	0.1	Israel	0.1
Italy	United States	40.2	United Kingdom	19.0
Cyprus	Hong Kong	0.4	United Arab Emirates	0.1
Latvia	United Kingdom	1.0	Sweden	0.5
Lithuania	Latvia	1.6	Estonia	0.9
Luxembourg	Austria	0.2	Spain	0.2
Hungary	Germany	3.6	Croatia	3.4
Malta	Japan	0.2	Hong Kong	0.1
Netherlands	Germany	130.2	France	54.8
Austria	United States	8.3	France	3.1
Poland	United Kingdom	11.9	Czechia	9.0
Portugal	France	3.0	United Kingdom	2.7
Romania	United Kingdom	1.6	United States	0.9
Slovenia	Switzerland	3.0	Germany	2.2
Slovakia	United States	2.8	Germany	2.8
Finland	United States	4.8	Japan	1.4
Sweden	United States	10.1	Finland	5.0
United Kingdom	Switzerland	20.1	Ireland	19.8
Iceland	Netherlands	2.0	United Kingdom	0.3
Liechtenstein	United States	0.3	Germany	0.3
Norway	Germany	60.5	United Kingdom	50.7
Switzerland	United States	25.5	China	21.5
			India	11.5
			Switzerland	42.7
			Nigeria	7.0
			Egypt	0.4
			United Kingdom	5.7
			Japan	1.7
			United Kingdom	40.7
			Norway	0.6
			Germany	13.5
			United Kingdom	1.3
			United Kingdom	10.4
			Hong Kong	4.3
			Switzerland	0.1
			France	14.1
			Nigeria	0.0
			Denmark	0.4
			United States	0.7
			Mexico	0.2
			United Kingdom	2.9
			Germany	0.1
			Belgium	38.5
			Slovakia	2.5
			United Kingdom	7.1
			United States	1.6
			France	0.6
			Croatia	1.8
			United Kingdom	2.7
			Switzerland	1.0
			United Kingdom	3.3
			Utd. Arab Em.	14.6
			France	0.2
			France	0.2
			France	21.5
			Belgium	21.5
			India	11.5
			United Arab Emirates	
			Luxembourg	
			France	
			France	
			Romania	
			Belgium	
			Greece	
			Belgium	
			Morocco	
			Switzerland	
			Australia	
			United States	
			Denmark	
			United States	
			Denmark	
			Türkiye	
			Romania	
			Singapore	
			Italy	
			United Kingdom	
			Romania	
			Morocco	
			Israel	
			Poland	
			France	
			United Kingdom	
			United Kingdom	
			Denmark	
			Singapore	
			Spain	
			China	
			Belgium	
			Türkiye	

Note: based on a selected list of partners (see methodological notes in the introduction for more details).

(\*) Ranking based on extra-EU partners only.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: DS-018995 and DS-043227) and UN Comtrade

eurostat 

**Table 1: Top four partners for trade in goods surpluses, 2022 (based on values in (€ billion)) Source: Eurostat (DS-018995) and (DS-043227) and UN Comtrade**

### The 'Rotterdam effect'

Extra-EU imports and exports are reported by the EU Member State according to where the customs declaration is lodged, usually this is the place where the goods cross the EU's external frontier (their point of entry/exit).

The geographical allocation of extra-EU flows is therefore biased insofar as the entry/exit Member State is not the actual importing/exporting Member State. This issue particularly impacts on the transshipment of extra-EU imports into some of the EU's leading ports such as Rotterdam (in the Netherlands) or Antwerp (in Belgium). As such, the trade flows of some Member States may be over- or underestimated due to the so-called 'Rotterdam effect' ( [quasi-transit](#) trade). For example, goods which arrive in Dutch (or to a lesser degree Belgian) ports, but which are bound for other EU Member States, should according to EU rules be recorded as extra-EU imports in the Netherlands (or Belgium), where they may be released for free circulation around the single market. This phenomenon in turn increases intra-EU trade flows between the Netherlands (and Belgium) and those Member States where the goods ultimately arrive.

At an aggregate level, the EU's largest trade deficit for goods in 2022 was recorded with China. This pattern was repeated in nine of the individual EU Member States, while there were an additional ten Member States where China occupied either second, third or fourth position in a ranking of trade deficits by bilateral trading partner. There were four Member States where the largest trade deficit was recorded with Germany which occupied a second, third or fourth position in another eleven Member States. The largest deficits in Sweden and Germany were recorded in relation to the trading of goods with the Netherlands, which also featured in second, third or fourth position for an additional eleven Member States; this may at least in part, reflect the dominant position of Rotterdam as the EU's leading maritime port, acting as an entry point into the EU's single market for a wide range of goods from the rest of the world.

## Four largest trade deficits for goods, 2022

(based on values in billion €)

	First		Second		Third		Fourth
EU (*)	China	-396.1	Russia	-148.3	Norway	-92.3	Malaysia
Belgium	China	-27.6	Netherlands	-25.5	Ireland	-19.9	Norway
Bulgaria	Russia	-5.5	China	-2.4	Türkiye	-1.8	Netherlands
Czechia	China	-27.5	Netherlands	-5.2	Poland	-4.4	South Korea
Denmark	Germany	-5.3	China	-4.5	Sweden	-2.6	Netherlands
Germany	Netherlands	-100.6	Norway	-46.2	Belgium	-31.0	Ireland
Estonia	Germany	-1.2	Lithuania	-1.2	Finland	-1.1	Russia
Ireland	United Kingdom	-7.4	France	-5.4	Israel	-3.8	Switzerland
Greece	Russia	-9.2	China	-7.5	Germany	-5.1	Netherlands
Spain	China	-34.0	Germany	-12.7	Netherlands	-12.6	United States
France	Belgium	-41.8	Netherlands	-39.2	Germany	-33.6	China
Croatia	Italy	-2.8	United States	-2.6	Germany	-2.5	Slovenia
Italy	China	-41.1	Russia	-21.3	Netherlands	-18.0	Germany
Cyprus	Greece	-2.3	Italy	-1.1	China	-0.9	Israel
Latvia	Lithuania	-2.6	Poland	-1.7	Germany	-1.3	China
Lithuania	Germany	-2.7	Poland	-2.1	Saudi Arabia	-2.0	China
Luxembourg	Belgium	-6.9	Germany	-2.3	Netherlands	-0.6	Japan
Hungary	China	-10.9	Russia	-9.6	South Korea	-5.5	Austria
Malta	Italy	-1.6	Canada	-0.8	Spain	-0.4	Greece
Netherlands	China	-120.3	United States	-30.9	Russia	-26.3	Norway
Austria	Germany	-26.3	Netherlands	-6.9	Russia	-5.5	China
Poland	China	-34.6	Russia	-10.3	Netherlands	-7.1	South Korea
Portugal	Spain	-14.7	China	-4.9	Germany	-3.7	Brazil
Romania	China	-6.3	Bulgaria	-5.2	Germany	-4.2	Poland
Slovenia	China	-7.4	Türkiye	-2.2	South Korea	-1.6	Saudi Arabia
Slovakia	Czechia	-6.9	Russia	-5.6	South Korea	-3.8	Austria
Finland	Sweden	-6.9	Russia	-4.1	Norway	-3.9	Germany
Sweden	Netherlands	-11.4	Germany	-10.3	China	-6.7	Norway
United Kingdom	China	-71.1	Germany	-46.9	Norway	-31.5	Russia
Iceland	Norway	-0.8	China	-0.7	Denmark	-0.3	Sweden
Liechtenstein	Czechia	0.0	Croatia	0.0	Netherlands	0.0	Slovakia
Norway	China	-7.4	Canada	-2.0	Russia	-1.5	United States
Switzerland	Germany	-15.0	South Africa	-5.1	United Arab Emirates	-3.0	Ireland

Note: based on a selected list of partners (see methodological notes in the introduction for more details).

(\*) Ranking based on extra-EU partners only.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: DS-018995 and DS-043227) and UN Comtrade

eurostat 

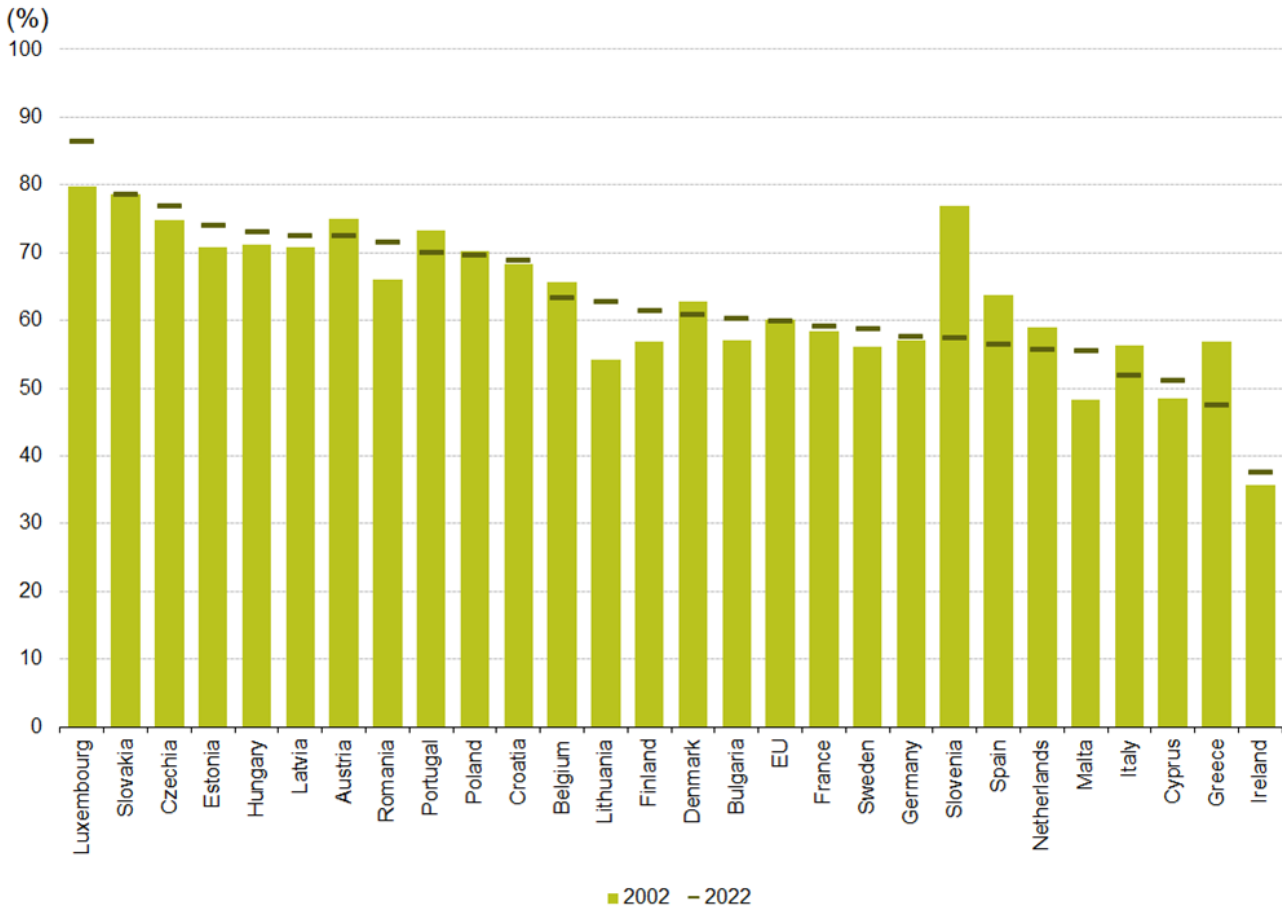
**Table 2: Top four partners for trade in goods deficits, 2022 (based on values in (€ billion)) Source: Eurostat (DS-018995) and (DS-043227) and UN Comtrade**

**The fastest growth rates for intra-EU trade were recorded among those Member States that joined the EU in 2004 or later ...**

The article [International trade in goods for the EU - an overview](#) already provided evidence that a majority of the EU's trade in goods takes places within the single market, and the share of intra-EU trade in total trade was relatively stable between 2002 and 2022 (around 60 %). Note that the statistics presented in this publication have been standardised to present consistent aggregates for the whole of the EU throughout the time period under consideration (generally from 2002 to 2022).

There were 16 Member States where the share of intra-EU imports and exports increased between 2002 and 2022. Among those were 11 of the 13 Member States that joined the EU in 2004 or more recently (Figure 15); the two exceptions were Poland and Slovenia. The share grew most in Lithuania (+8.4 pp), Malta (+7.3 pp) and Luxembourg (+6.6 pp). The share dropped most in Slovenia (-19.4 pp) and Greece (-9.6 pp).

## Intra-EU trade in goods as a share of total trade in goods, 2002 and 2022



Source: Eurostat (online data code: ext\_lt\_intratrd)

eurostat

Figure 15: Intra-EU trade in goods as a share of total trade in goods, 2002 and 2022 (%) Source: Eurostat (ext\_lt\_intratrd)

### Source data for tables and graphs

- [International trade in goods by partner: tables and figures](#)

### Other articles

- [Globalisation patterns in EU trade and investment](#)

### Main tables

- [International trade in goods](#) , see:

International trade in goods - long-term indicators

### Database

- [Comext database](#)
- [International trade in goods](#) , see:

International trade in goods - aggregated data

International trade in goods - long-term indicators

International trade in goods - detailed data

## Dedicated section

- [Economic globalisation](#)
- [International trade in goods](#)

## Methodology

- [International trade in goods](#) (ESMS metadata file — ext\_go\_agg\_esms)

## External links

- [European Commission — reflection paper on harnessing globalisation \(COM\(2017\) 240\)](#)