



Single Market Scoreboard

2019 Edition

Performance per Member State

Bulgaria

Transposition of law

Transposition deficit: 0.7% (*last report: 1.3%*) – Significant decrease by 0.6 percentage point since December 2017 (the 2nd highest decrease amongst all Member States) and by 1.0 percentage point since December 2016. Bulgaria is now back under the 1.0% threshold and equals the EU average. In addition, Bulgaria has transposed 20 of 23 directives (87%) with a transposition date within 6 months before the cut-off date for calculation (1.6.2018 – 30.11.2018). This shows that this Member State monitors the timely transposition of Single Market-related directives quite well, although a number of its outstanding directives have been due for a long time (see below).

EU average = 0.7%; Proposed target (in Single Market Act) = 0.5%

Overdue directives: 7 (*last report: 13*) **One** directive on deployment of alternative fuels infrastructure (Directive 2014/94/EU) is more than 2 years overdue.

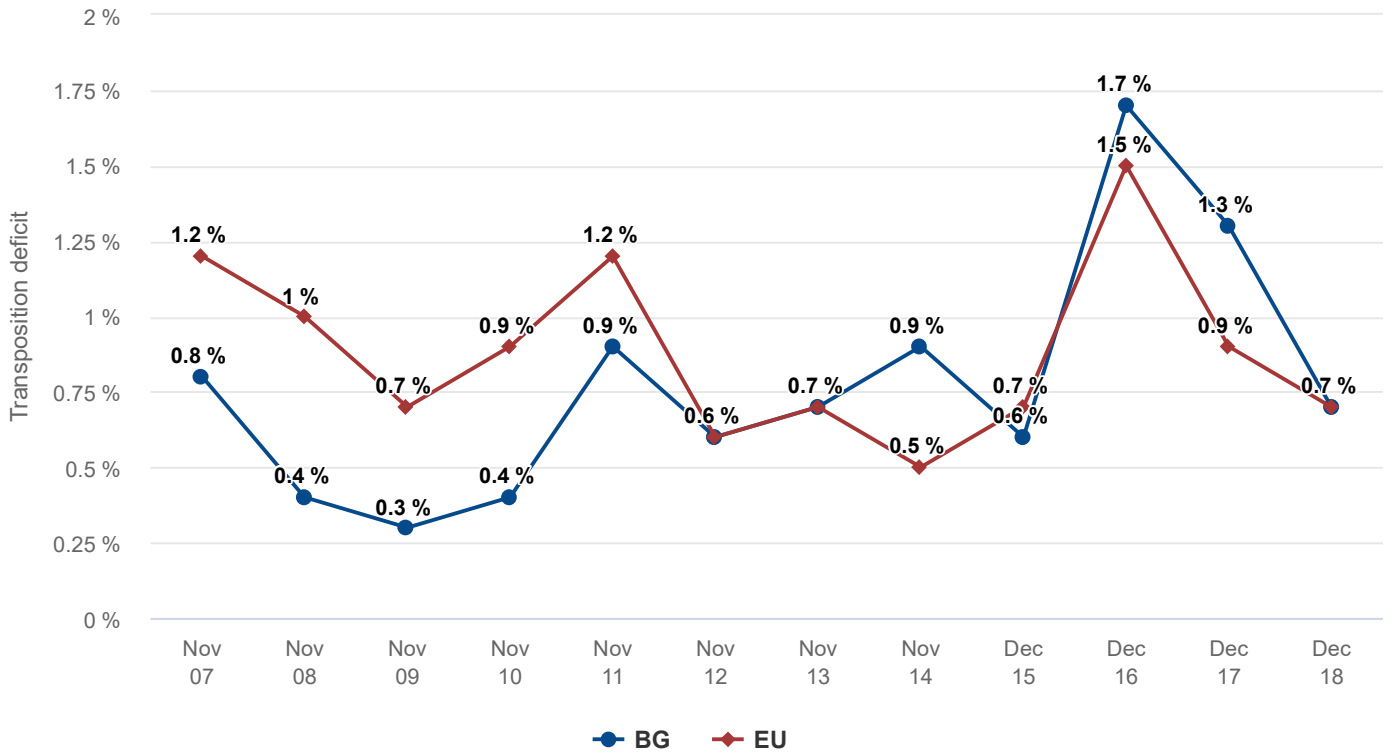
Average delay: 13.1 months (*last report: 9 months*) – Marked increase by 4.1 months, delay well above the EU average, and now the Member State with the 2nd highest duration of cases. Bulgaria has added 1 long overdue directive (due for 2 years or more) to its backlog, and half of its outstanding directives (4/7) have been due for more than 6 months, and contribute significantly to the average delay.

EU average = 8.4 months

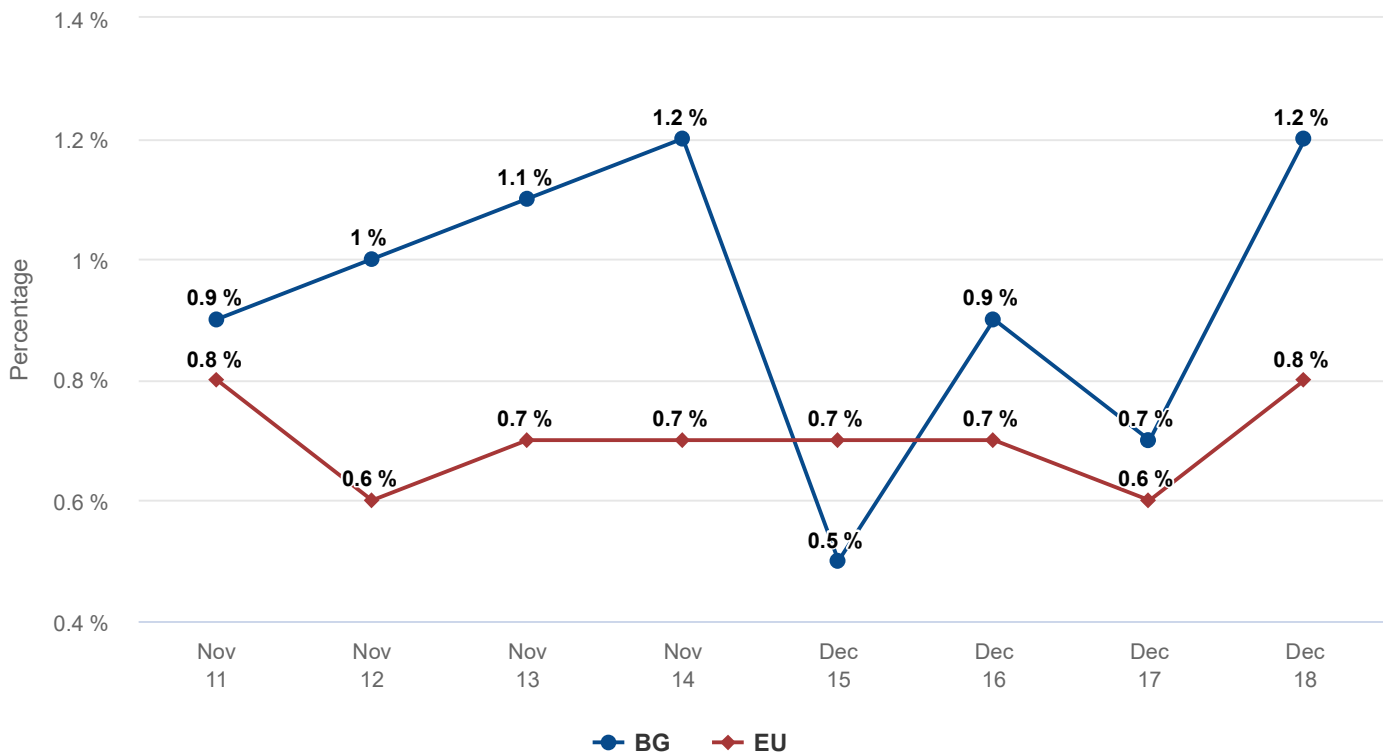
Conformity deficit: 1.2% (*last report: 0.7%*) – Significant increase by 0.5 percentage point and deficit well above the EU average. With 12 directives presumably incorrectly transposed, Bulgaria is in the group of Member States that increased their conformity deficit most, back to its level of November 2014.

EU average = 0.8%; Proposed target (in Single Market Act) = 0.5%.

Evolution of transposition deficit – Bulgaria



Evolution of conformity deficit – Bulgaria



Infringements

Pending cases: 21 (7 new cases, including 3 on taxation and 1 case closed; last report: 15 pending cases) – Marked increase by 6 cases (+40%, the 4th highest percentage increase within a year). Bulgaria is no longer in the group of Member States with the lowest number of Single Market-related cases but remains under the EU average.

EU average = 25 cases

Problematic sectors: environment (6 cases) and taxation (5) = 52% of all pending cases.

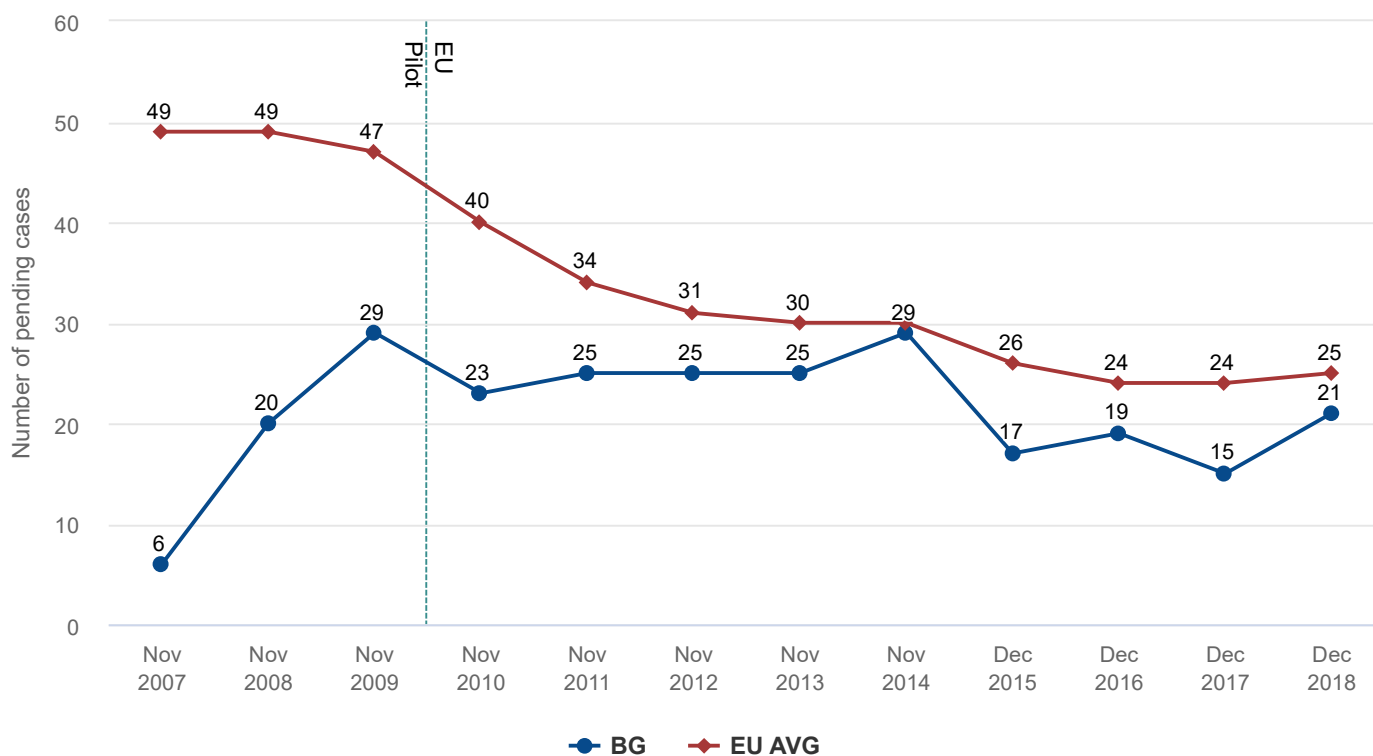
Average case duration: 39.3 months for the 18 cases not yet sent to the Court (*last report: 49.3 months*) – Fifth highest decrease in case duration among the Member States (-10 months). The number of Bulgarian cases that have been pending for a long time is offset by the launch of 7 new cases (whose average duration is less than 12 months). As the total number of cases is moderate, these 7 cases with short duration have a big impact on average duration.

EU average = 38.1 months

Compliance with court rulings: 9.9 months for the 2 cases at this stage of the procedure and closed in the 5 last years (*last report: same*) – Status quo compared to December 2017: Bulgaria is the Member State with the 3rd shortest delay for compliance and is in a group of 5 Member States that stayed under the 18-month threshold.

EU average = 28.2 months

Evolution of infringement cases – Bulgaria



EU Pilot

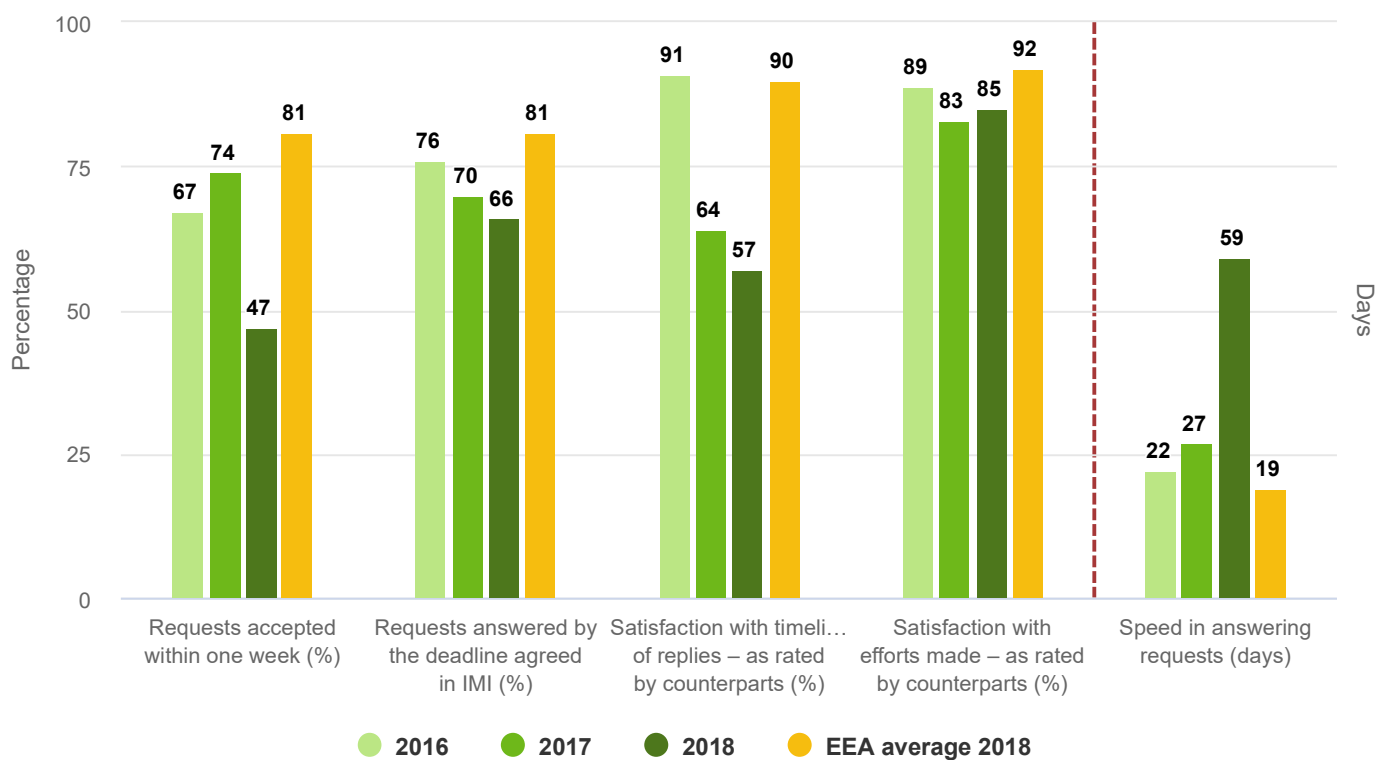
Bulgaria's average response time currently complies with the 70-day time limit in EU Pilot.

Internal Market Information System

Performance – Bulgaria's performance has fallen and remains poor.

- Bulgaria performed worse in 4 out of 5 indicators.
- The percentage of requests accepted within 1 week was extremely low.
- Efforts need to be made to improve performance, especially on the timeliness of replies.

Internal Market Information System – Bulgaria



EURES

National provider: [NEA](#) (Bulgarian National Employment Service)

EURES advisers (nationally): 20

Performance: good.

Your Europe

The EU has set up a **single digital gateway** providing access to information, to procedures and to assistance and problem-solving services.

The specific regulation setting up the single digital pathway is Regulation 2018/1724 of 2 October 2018. Article 29 of the Regulation establishes a group to coordinate work on the gateway. The gateway coordination group will meet in three configurations, one devoted to information, meeting twice a year. The other two configurations are dedicated to ICT and e-procedures and assistance services.

The information group will largely continue the work of the Your Europe Editorial Board. This is to ensure that the gateway coordination group's work does not overlap with that of other expert groups or sub-groups.

National equivalent?

Portal in Bulgarian and English: www.egov.bg

Record for this period

- active participation in Editorial Board work
- responsive to most of the requests for information for the website
- promotional activities and back-linking from national websites to Your Europe

Recommended action

Continue to:

- ensure stable representation in the single digital gateway information group
- attend the single digital gateway information group meetings twice a year
- provide information, when requested, on how the country applies single market rules
- raise awareness about Your Europe within the national administration and among potential end users
- link national websites to Your Europe

Make an effort to:

- provide all missing information on how the country applies single market rules (specifically on vehicles and residence)

SOLVIT

- **Caseload – large**

Submitted cases: 290 (225 in 2017)

Received cases: 26 (10 in 2017)

- **Resolution rate: 95%** (100% in 2017)

- **Handling time (home centre)**

Reply in 7 days: 91% (92% in 2017) – **good**

Cases prepared in 30 days: 91% (95% in 2017) – **good**

Solutions accepted in 7 days: 84% (87% in 2017) – **good**

- **Handling time (lead centre)**

Cases accepted within 7 days: 73% (80% in 2017) – **poor**

Cases closed in 10 weeks: 81% (70% in 2017) – **good**

- **Staffing**

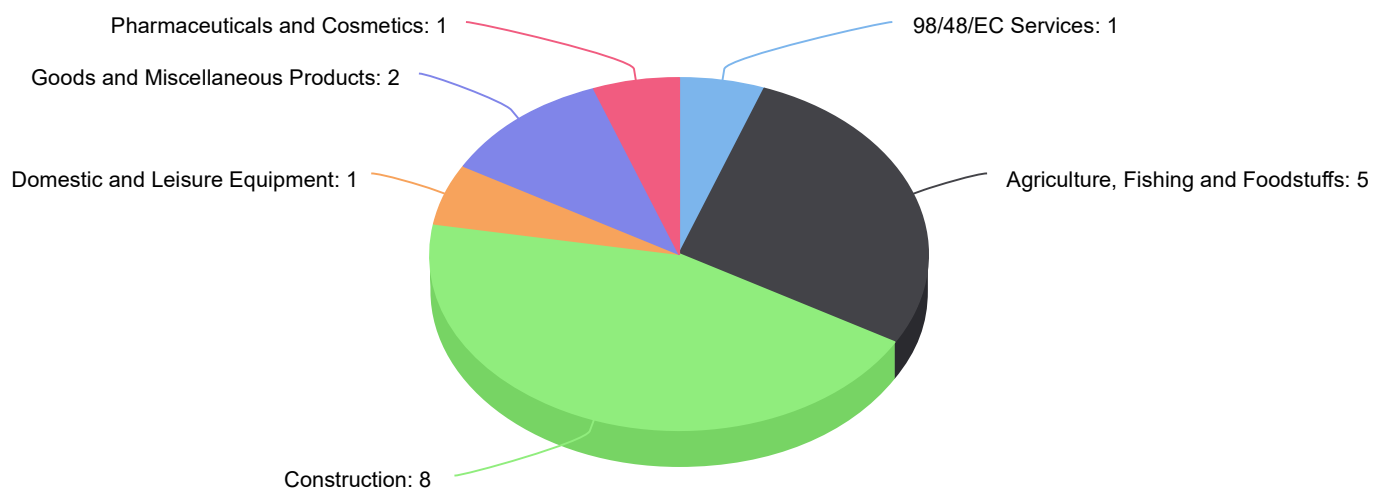
Continuity – yes

Sufficient for current caseload? no

Technical Regulations Information System

Notifications per sector

18 notifications



Points of Single Contact

- 9 out of 20 analysed procedures (9 do not exist) are available fully online.
- High level of deregulation of tested procedures, especially those related to specific services, contributed to the very high score in digitisation.
- Uses systematically user feedback to improve its services.
- Points identified for improvement:
 - cross-border accessibility of online procedures;
 - procedures to be explained in more detail.

Public procurement

Overall, Bulgaria's performance in 2018 was **unsatisfactory**. For further information and the methodology applied, please see the section on [Public procurement performance](#).

Postal services

For easier analysis, EU countries are divided into 3 groups reflecting absolute GDP per capita and EU accession date (as in the [EU postal sector study \(2010–13\)](#)):

- **Western** – Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden, the UK
- **Southern** – Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain
- **Eastern** – Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia.

- **Transit time performance D+1**: quality of service continued to decline reaching 53.1% in 2017.



Some countries' reference figures for the previous period may differ slightly from those in the last Scoreboard. This is because these countries updated their data after publication.

Trade in goods and services

Bulgaria's trade integration in the single market for goods is above the EU average. Its trade integration for services is only slightly above the EU average. In 2017, Bulgaria's trade integration in goods increased slightly, whereas its trade integration in services dropped markedly.

		Goods	Services
Intra-EU trade integration	% GDP 2017	33.1	7.8
	Change 2016 – 2017	4.0	-4.2
Intra-EU imports	% GDP 2017	34.0	5.9
	Change 2016 – 2017	3.7	-5.0

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

In 2017, Bulgaria's share of intra-EU FDI inflows increased slightly whereas its share of outflows remained unchanged. The shares of both intra-EU FDI inward and outward stock remained unchanged.

	Share of intra-EU FDI Flows		Share of intra-EU FDI Stocks	
	inward	outward	inward	outward
% FDI 2017	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.0
Change 2016 – 17 (in pp)	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0

In 2017, Bulgaria's shares of intra- and extra-EU FDI inflows increased slightly. Its shares of. Its shares of of both extra-EU FDI inward and outward stock remained unchanged.

	Share of extra-EU FDI Flows		Share of extra-EU FDI Stocks	
	inward	outward	inward	outward
% FDI 2017	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Change 2016 – 17 (in pp)	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0