

## Explanatory note on the database creation

Data from 2010 up to 2022 have been downloaded from the [COMEXT DATA](#) folder at the EU Commission web-page. The COMEXT download facility allowed us to download large amounts of International Trade in Goods Statistics (ITGS) which then have been imported into R/R Studio for further analysis, compilation and transformation into CSV/XLS-readable format.

Our databases are drawn up based on '*fullYYYY52.7z*' files from the subfolder [PRODUCTS](#), starting from the year 2010 with annual trade values (in Euro) and quantities (in kg and, if applicable, in supplementary quantity), according to the product codes of the Statistical Classification of Products (CPA 2008).

Visegrad group countries (Slovakia, Hungary, Poland and Czechia) are of our interest, we have chosen them among declarants (reporting country that is compiling and sending data to Eurostat).

The trade flow can be an import (1) or an export (2). We calculate total annual trade values and quantities as import plus export. Trade value is expressed in Euro. It corresponds to the amount that would be invoiced in the event of sale or purchase at the national border of the reporting country. It is said to be a FOB valuation for exports and a CIF valuation for imports. Quantity in kg is the weight of the goods in kilograms without packaging.

We have computed so-called foreign trade unit values as the trade value / quantity<sup>1</sup>. As a next step, we have calculated year-on-year unit values indexes and put them into a single tables where rows are products and columns are years. This was done for each commodity and V4 country. As a result, we obtain annual «price index» series (2011-2022) of selected products for each of V4 countries.

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<sup>1</sup> For cases in which total annual trade value was below 15 mil. EUR were considered as unreliable (u).

### Suggested citation

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