



SLOVAKIA

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THE EUROPEAN POLICIES OF THE EU MEMBER-STATES



Introduction and basics

- Population: 5.4 Million
- Capital: Bratislava
- Official language: Slovak
- Currency: Euro (member of the eurozone since 1 January 2009)
- Schengen: Schengen area member since the 21st of December 2007
- NATO: Member since 29th of March 2004



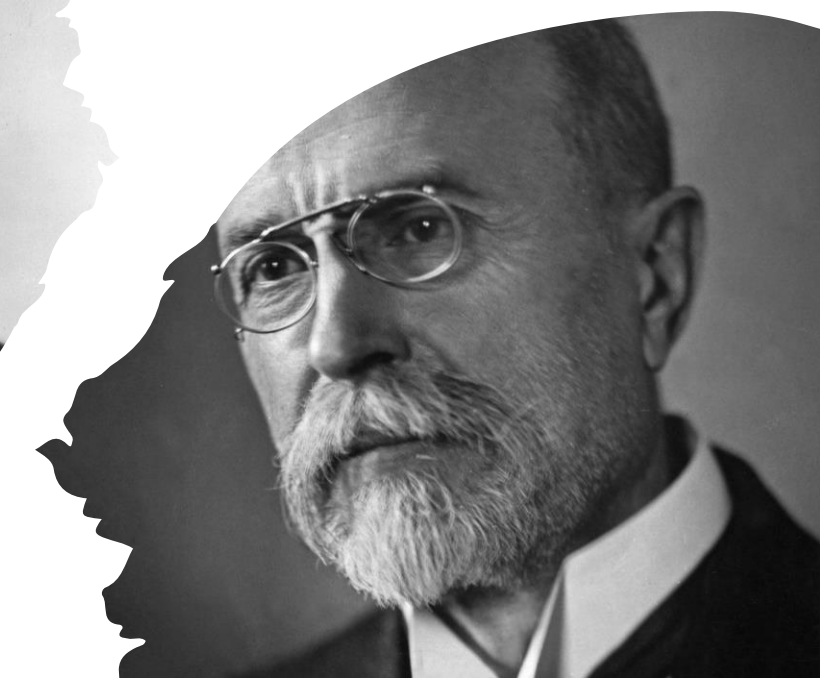
Introduction and basics

- Slovakia is a parliamentary democratic republic with a head of government - the prime minister - who holds the most executive power and a head of state - the president - who is the formal head of the executive, but with very limited powers.
- President: Zuzana Čaputová – Independent
- Prime minister: Róbert Fico – Smer-Social democracy



History of Slovakia in the 20th century

- 1918 – On the 18th of October Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, Milan Rastislav Štefánik and Edvard Beneš declared in Washington D.C. the independence for the territories of Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, Upper Hungary and Carpathian Ruthenia from the Austro-Hungarian Empire and proclaimed a common state, Czechoslovakia.
- 1919 – During the break-up of Austria-Hungary, Czechoslovakia was formed, and the borders were set by the Treaty of Trianon and Treaty of Saint Germain.



History of Slovakia in the 20th century

- During the Interwar period, democratic Czechoslovakia was allied with France, with Romania and Yugoslavia (Little Entente). Both Czechs and Slovaks enjoyed a period of relative prosperity.
- 1938 – The Munich Agreement on the 29-30th of September, which allowed the German majority of the Czech part of Sudetenland to join into Germany.
- 1938- 2 November First Vienna award which gave parts of southern and eastern Slovakia to Hungary





History of Slovakia in the 20th century

- World war II (1939-1945) – During this period Slovakia seceded from Czecho-Slovakia in March 1939 and allied itself with Nazi Germany and its coalition. This puppet state was named the First Slovak Republic
- 1948-1989 – Communist party rule: Czechoslovakia became a state under the influence of the Soviet Union and its Warsaw pact.
- The Prague Spring was a period of political liberalization and mass protest in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. It began on 5 January 1968, when reformist Alexander Dubček was elected First Secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (KSČ), and continued until 21 August 1968, when the Soviet Union and most Warsaw Pact members invaded the country to suppress the reforms.
- In 1969 Czechoslovakia became a federation of the Czech and Slovak socialist republics which was a satellite state of the Soviet Union but remained independent to a certain degree

Dissolution of Czechoslovakia and the creation of the Slovak Republic

- In June 1990 after a change in the constitution the monopoly of the communist party ended and the first democratic elections were held
- Vladimír Mečiar becomes the PM and was a very controversial person and this later ended by his government failing
- After this defeat Mečiar creates a new political Party (HZDS) and 81% of Slovaks trusted his party
- The main theme of his election plan was the dissolution of Czechoslovakia
- Vladimír Mečiar and Václav Klaus met at Villa Tugendhat on 26.8.1992 and decided on the split
- Róbert Fico is today the only active politician who sat in parliament when the decision to split took place



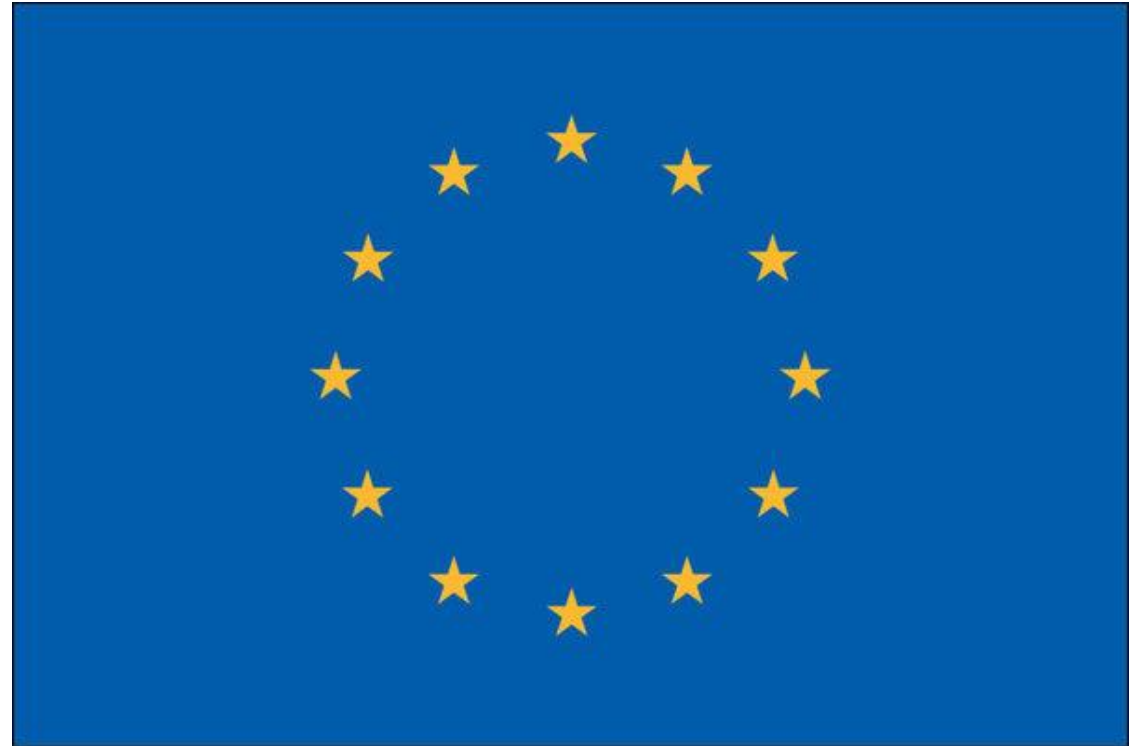
THE FALL OF RADICOVA GOVERNMENT DURING THE BAILOUT CRISIS

- After the Slovak parliamentary elections in 2010, a coalition of four parties came to power, despite the victory of the social democrat party (SMER – sociálna demokracia). However, from the beginning of her mandate, Radičová, whose popularity helped her to assume the position of Prime Minister, had to face difficulties. Due to the instability of the coalition formed out of parties of different orientations she was forced to concentrate on the search for consensus.
- Of the 124 deputies present in parliament for the vote, only 55 voted in favour of the changes, with 60 – mostly opposition Smer MPs – abstaining and 9 deputies voting against. SaS's 21 deputies did not take part in the vote, in which the government needed 76 votes to pass the changes. The result makes Slovakia the only country not to have approved the enlargement of the eurozone bailout fund

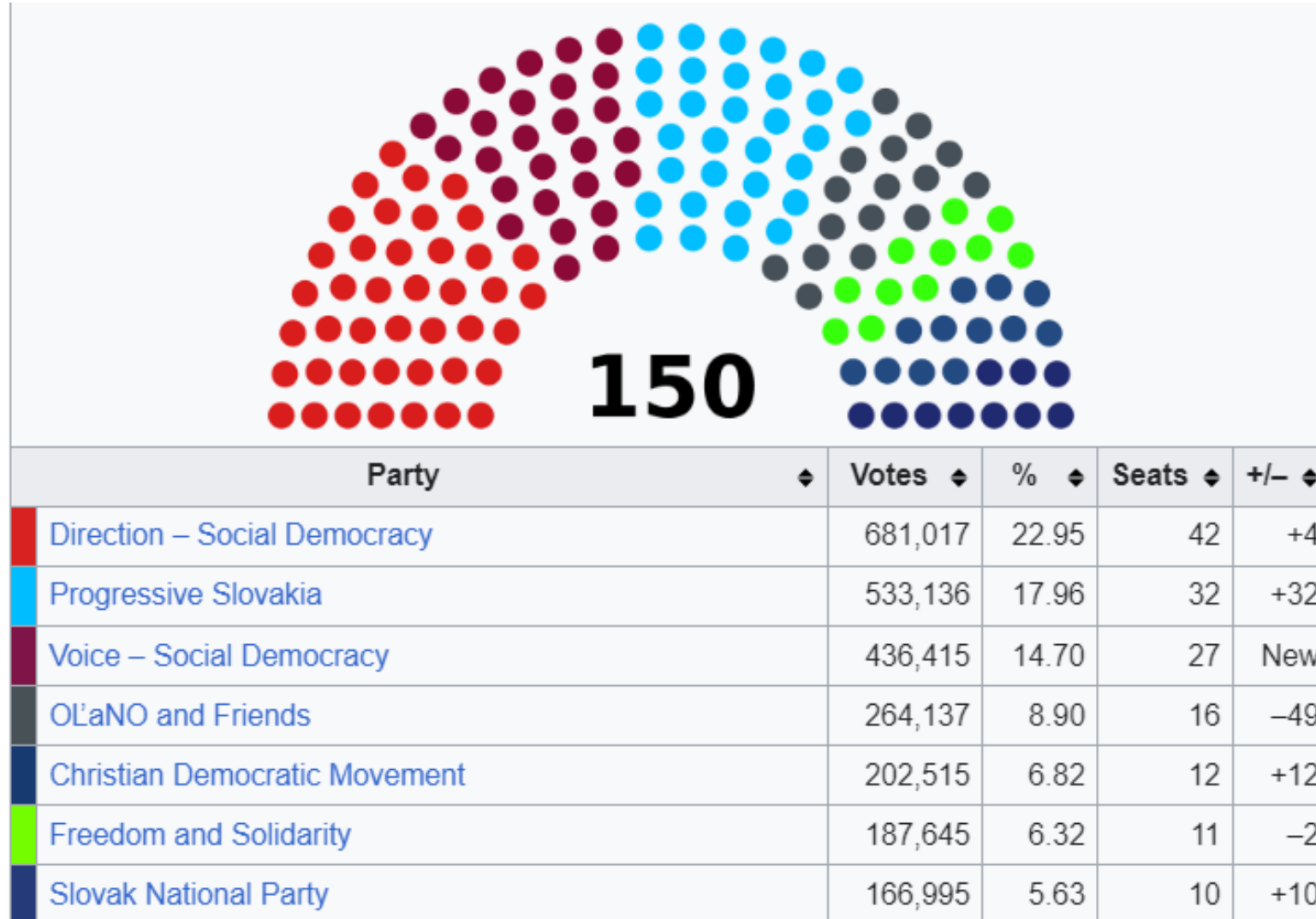


Slovakia in the eyes of the EU

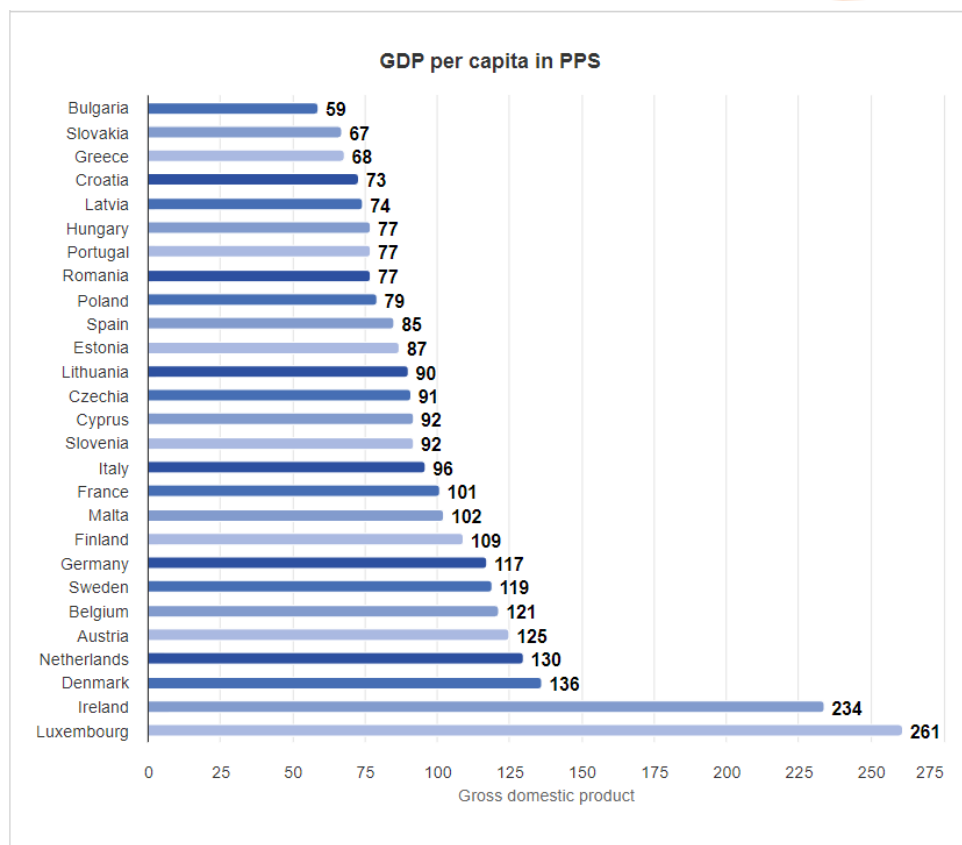
- Because of Mečiar Slovakia was deemed as a difficult county and had to be reevaluated.
- In 1999 the Luxembourg council considered the new Slovak government a step into the future and sped up the process of joining the EU
- When Slovakia joins in 2004 it tries to adopt as much as it can to the new environment of being an EU country, especially because of previous complications



Slovak Government



Trade and economy



Source: [Eurostat](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat)

Slovak Republic: Demand, output and prices

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Current prices EUR billion		Percentage changes, volume (2015 prices)			
Slovak Republic						
GDP at market prices	93.4	4.8	1.8	1.1	1.8	2.4
Private consumption	53.7	2.8	5.6	-1.8	1.0	2.3
Government consumption	19.6	4.2	-4.2	-2.5	1.2	0.8
Gross fixed capital formation	18.2	3.5	4.5	6.3	4.1	3.9
Final domestic demand	91.5	3.2	3.2	-0.4	1.7	2.3
Stockbuilding ¹	0.0	2.4	-0.2	-6.4	0.5	0.0
Total domestic demand	91.4	5.9	2.8	-6.1	2.3	2.4
Exports of goods and services	79.3	10.4	3.1	-1.8	3.7	3.1
Imports of goods and services	77.3	11.6	4.5	-9.2	4.2	3.1
Net exports ¹	2.0	-0.8	-1.2	7.9	-0.5	0.0
<i>Memorandum items</i>						
GDP deflator	-	2.4	7.5	8.5	4.2	2.9
Harmonised index of consumer prices	-	2.8	12.1	11.1	5.2	3.4
Harmonised index of core inflation ²	-	3.3	8.2	9.6	4.9	3.4
Unemployment rate (% of labour force)	-	6.8	6.1	6.0	6.3	6.1
Household saving ratio, net (% of disposable income)	-	4.2	-2.5	0.1	1.0	0.7
General government financial balance (% of GDP)	-	-5.2	-2.0	-5.6	-4.4	-4.3
General government gross debt (% of GDP)	-	79.6	65.4	66.0	66.8	66.9
General government debt, Maastricht definition ³ (% of GDP)	-	61.1	57.8	58.4	59.2	59.3
Current account balance (% of GDP)	-	-2.5	-8.2	-2.2	-3.6	-3.4

1. Contributions to changes in real GDP, actual amount in the first column.

2. Harmonised index of consumer prices excluding food, energy, alcohol and tobacco.

3. The Maastricht definition of general government debt includes only loans, debt securities, and currency and deposits, with debt at face value rather than market value.

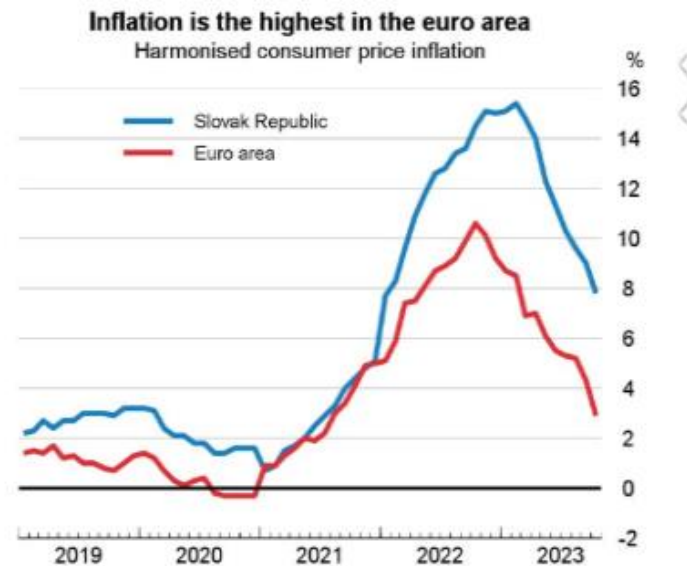
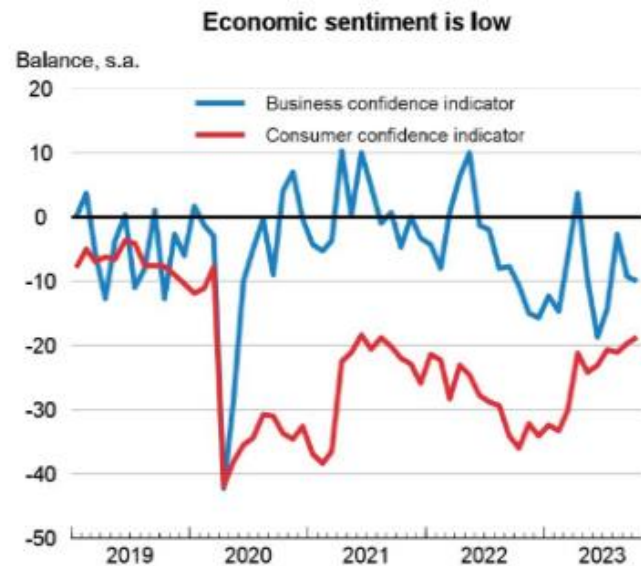
Source: OECD Economic Outlook 114 database.

Trade and economy

Economic growth is subdued and inflation is high

Economic growth slowed in the third quarter of 2023 to 0.2% quarter-on-quarter. High-frequency indicators point to continued modest growth in the last quarter of 2023. Business and consumer sentiment remain subdued. Production and exports in the automotive sector have strengthened alongside an easing of supply chain bottlenecks, with firms working through order backlogs, but remain subdued in other industries. Harmonised consumer price inflation peaked in early 2023 but remains the highest among euro area countries, at 7.8% in October. Core inflation, at 7.7% in October, is also abating but at a slower pace. The labour market continues to be resilient with the unemployment rate close to the pre-pandemic level. Average annual nominal wage growth has risen to around 10%.

Slovak Republic



Source: Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic; and Eurostat Harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP) database.



Trade and economy








- The most important sectors of Slovakia's economy in 2020 were industry (24.1%), wholesale and retail trade, transport, accommodation and food services (18.4%) and public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities (16.8%).
- Intra-EU trade accounts for 79% of Slovakia's exports (Germany 22%, Czechia 11% and Poland 8%), while outside the EU 4% go to both the United States and the United Kingdom and 3% to China.
- In terms of imports, 80% come from EU countries (Germany 20%, Czechia 18% and Austria 9%), while outside the EU 4% come from South Korea and China and 3% from Russia.
- Biggest industry in the recent years the automotive industry and since 2007 Slovakia has been the biggest producer of automobiles per capita.

Preliminary data from January till October 2023

From January till October 2023, compared to the same period in 2022, exports increased by 6.8% to EUR 91.3 billion and imports decreased by 0.8% to EUR 87.1 billion. The balance of foreign trade was positive in the amount of EUR 4.2 billion. In the first ten months of 2022, the balance was negative in the amount of EUR 2.3 billion.

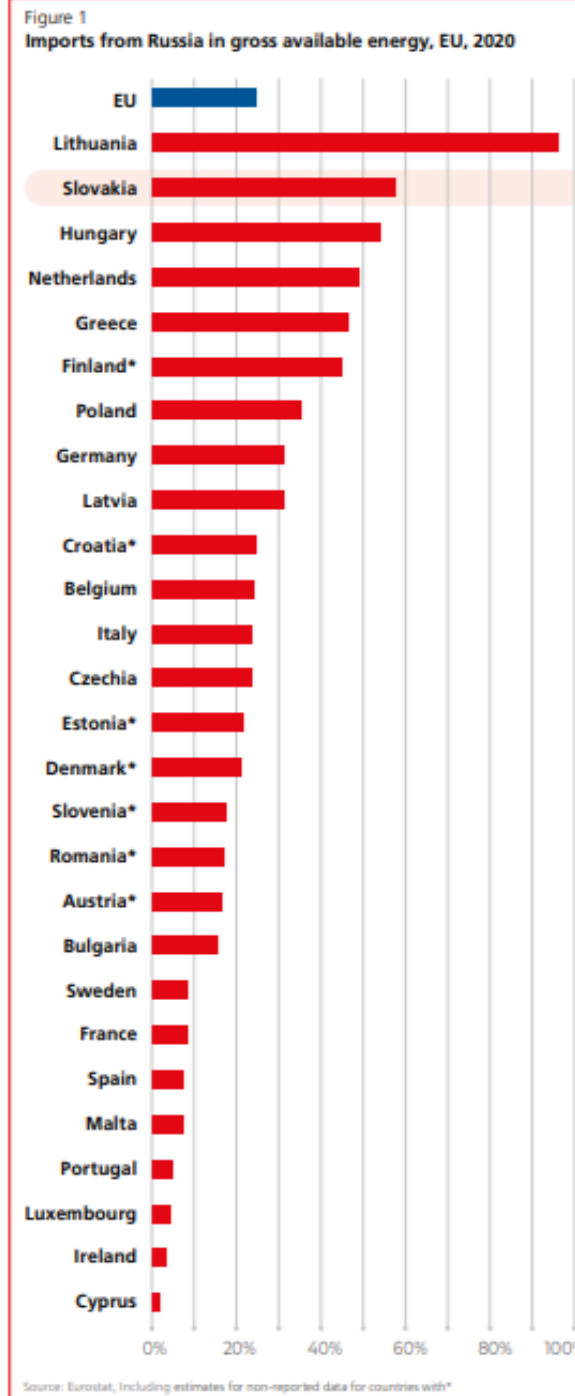
Adjusted detailed data from January till September 2023

In total, from January till September 2023, compared to the same period in 2022, exports increased by 7.3% to EUR 81.5 billion and imports decreased by 0.7% to EUR 77.8 billion. The balance of foreign trade was positive in the amount of EUR 3.7 billion, last year the balance of foreign trade ended with a deficit of EUR 2.5 billion in the first nine months.

	European Union	Euro area	Slovakia	
Inflation rate (% change compared to previous year)	9.2% (2022)	8.4% (2022)	12.1% (2022)	
Unemployment rate (as % of the active population aged 15 - 74 years)	6.2% (2022)	6.8% (2022)	6.1% (2022)	
GDP per capita (Euro per inhabitant)	28 950€ (2022)	31 800€ (2022)	16 340€ (2022)	
Government gross debt (as % of GDP)	83.5% (2022)	90.9% (2022)	57.8% (2022)	
Government deficit / surplus (as % of GDP)	-3.3% (2022)	-3.6% (2022)	-2.0% (2022)	
Renewable energy (as % in gross final energy consumption)	21.9% (2021)	N/A	17.4% (2021)	
Electricity prices (Euro per MWh, incl. taxes)	279.4€ (2022-S2)	288.4€ (2022-S2)	189.1€ (2022-S2)	

RUSSIA- UKRAINE WAR

- Slovakia, which shares a border with Ukraine in its east, had sent military aid in 13 packages and worth 671 million euros (\$718.24 million) to Kyiv since Russia's attack in February 2022 before Fico's appointment.
- However Slovakia continues supporting Ukraine in the means of healthcare and peace packages such as Demining equipment.
- Since the start of the war Slovakia accepted roughly 400 000 refugees
- **Crude Oil Imports from Russia in Slovakia averaged 454.99 Thousand Tonnes from 2008 until 2023, reaching an all time high of 590.00 Thousand Tonnes in August of 2023 and a record low of 186.00 Thousand Tonnes in May of 2010**



EUROSCEPTICISM IN SLOVAKIA

Gerulata Node ID	Title	Type	Activity Category	Impact Category	Influence Category	Threat Category
3345509527	Luboš Blaha	Facebook Page	medium	catastrophic	extreme	catastrophic
9621918752	Slobodný vysielateľ	Facebook Page	high	high	extreme	catastrophic
272275368	Veľvyslanectvo Ruska na Slovensku/ Посольство России в Словакии	Facebook Page	extreme	medium	extreme	extreme
8799273843	Extraplus (extraplus.sk)	Web	extreme	n/a	extreme	extreme
4952167164	Tomáš Taraba - predseda ŽIVOT NS	Facebook Page	medium	extreme	high	extreme
911785421	DAV DVA	Facebook Page	extreme	high	medium	extreme
9357350490	Hlavné Správy	Facebook Page	high	medium	high	extreme
3390562675	nocomment.sk	Facebook Page	medium	high	high	extreme
8515467263	Hlavný denník (hlavnydennik.sk)	Web	high	n/a	high	extreme
6955415866	Slovenské Hnutie Obrody	Facebook Page	medium	medium	extreme	high

8766189209	Milan Uhrík • Republika	Facebook Page		low	extreme	extreme		high
7558265631	Blog investigatívnej žurnalistiky	Facebook Page		extreme	medium	medium		high
6256802347	Hlavné správy (hlavnespravy.sk)	Web		extreme	n/a	medium		high
4587968579	Hlavný denník	Facebook Page		catastrophic	high	low		high
3559939781	Eduard Chmelár	Facebook Page		low	high	extreme		high
7492753507	Štefan Harabin	Facebook Page		low	high	extreme		high
2213788472	Róbert Švec • Slovenské Hnutie Obrody	Facebook Page		medium	medium	high		high
9140108057	MAGAZÍN 1 (magazin1.sk)	Web		medium	n/a	high		high
1065745669	Extra plus	Facebook Page		catastrophic	medium	low		medium
721505297	Zdroj	Facebook Page		high	low	high		medium
4119005682	Televízia Slovan	Facebook Page		low	medium	extreme		medium
469782484	Hrica Lubos	Facebook Page		low	medium	extreme		medium
9502953503	InfoVojna	Facebook Page		medium	medium	medium		medium
9959579816	Marián Mišún - spoločne pre národ	Facebook Page		medium	medium	medium		medium
618190437	Prečo média milčia	Facebook Page		medium	medium	medium		medium
8026922584	Armáda Ruskej Federácie	Facebook Page		medium	medium	medium		medium
6891829825	BRAT za BRATA	Facebook Page		medium	medium	medium		medium
8487305235	Milan Mazurek • Republika	Facebook Page		low	extreme	medium		medium
2655246498	Katarína Boková • Slovenské Hnutie Obrody	Facebook Page		low	medium	high		medium
4303482737	Odboj V4	Facebook Page		high	medium	low		medium



THANK YOU



