

Economic and Trade Office -Embassy of Belgium

Our office represents the three regions of Belgium in Serbia and Montenegro and the three regional agencies specialized in foreign trade - Brussels Invest & Export (www.brussels-export.be), Wallonia Foreign Trade and Investment Agency (www.awex.be) and Flanders Investment and Trade (<http://www.flandersinvestmentandtrade.com>)

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This newsletter provides the latest business news from Serbia and from Montenegro, offers from Belgian companies as well as opportunities of these markets.

Our intention is to provide you with updated market development news and opportunities, economic projections and demands that may ease your decision on the entrance to the Serbian and to the Montenegrin markets.

Fairs and business networking gatherings are also provided with its dates and places.

Useful contacts and links for more information are provided for your more profound analysis of the Serbian and Montenegrin markets' trends.

Our office remains at your disposal for all additional information.



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SERBIA

Key macroeconomic indicators

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Q1 2017	Apr 2017
Real GDP growth (in %) ¹⁾	5.4	-3.1	0.6	1.4	-1.0	2.6	-1.8	0.8	2.8	1.2	
Consumer prices (in %, relative to the same month a year earlier) ²⁾	8.6	6.6	10.3	7.0	12.2	2.2	1.7	1.5	1.6	3.6	4.0
NBS foreign exchange reserves (in EUR million)	8,162	10,602	10,002	12,058	10,915	11,189	9,907	10,378	10,205	9,730	
Exports (in EUR million) ³⁾	9,583	8,043	9,515	11,145	11,469	13,937	14,451	15,631	17,314	4,351	1,528 ⁶⁾
- growth rate in % compared to a year earlier	18.2	-16.1	18.3	17.1	2.9	21.5	3.7	8.2	10.8	10.2	6,2 ⁶⁾
Imports (in EUR million) ³⁾	18,267	13,099	14,244	16,487	16,992	17,782	18,096	18,899	19,895	5,158	1,748 ⁶⁾
- growth rate in % compared to a year earlier	18.1	-28.3	8.7	15.7	3.1	4.7	1.8	4.4	5.3	14.3	8,0 ⁶⁾
Current account balance ³⁾ (in EUR million)	-7,125	-2,032	-2,037	-3,656	-3,671	-2,098	-1,985	-1577	-1,370	-746	-79 ⁶⁾
as % of GDP	-21.1	-6.6	-6.8	-10.9	-11.6	-6.1	-6.0	-4.7	-4.0	-9.5	-
Unemployment according to the Survey (in %)	13.6	16.1	19.2	23.0	23.9	22.1	19.2 ⁷⁾	17.7	15.3	14.6	
Wages (average for the period, in EUR)	400.5	337.4	330.1	372.5	364.5	388.6	379.3	368.0	374.1	366.6	403.0
RS budget deficit/surplus (in % of GDP) ⁴⁾	-1.7	-3.2	-3.4	-4.0	-5.9	-5.2	-6.3	-2.8	-0.2	0.7	
Consolidated fiscal result (in % of GDP) ⁴⁾	-2.6	-4.4	-4.6	-4.8	-6.8	-5.5	-6.6	-3.7	-1.3	1.2	
RS public debt, (central government, in % of GDP)	28.3	32.8	41.8	45.4	56.2	59.6	70.4	74.7	72.9	69.2	
RSD/USD exchange rate (period average)	55.76	67.47	77.91	73.34	88.12	85.17	88.54	108.85	111.29	116.18	115.30
RSD/USD exchange rate (end of period)	62.90	66.73	79.28	80.87	86.18	83.13	99.46	111.25	117.14	116.13	113.37
RSD/EUR exchange rate (period average)	81.44	93.95	103.04	101.95	113.13	113.14	117.31	120.73	123.12	123.88	123.66
RSD/EUR exchange rate (end of period)	88.60	95.89	105.50	104.64	113.72	114.64	120.96	121.63	123.47	123.97	123.17
MEMORANDUM:											
GDP (in EUR million) ⁵⁾	33,705	30,655	29,766	33,424	31,683	34,263	33,319	33,491	34,115	7,859	

Most of the goods was exported to Italy, worth 975.8 million dollars, then Germany (826.5 million), Bosnia and Herzegovina (500.7 million), Russian Federation (368.8) and Romania (330.5 million) .

In imports, the main foreign trade partners were Germany from which Serbia bought goods worth \$ 1.062 billion, followed by Italy (867.4 million), the Russian Federation (715.3 million), China (674.6 million) and Hungary (394 , 9 million).

The EU Member States account for 64.9 per cent of the total exchange.

The total foreign trade of Serbia for the period January - May 2017 is:

- USD 15,018.9 million - an increase of 9.6% in relation to the same period of the previous year;
- EUR 13987.2 million - an increase of 14.0% compared to the same period of the previous year.

Goods were exported in the amount of 6547.8 mil USD, which is a growth of 9.0% compared to the same period of the previous year.

Goods were imported in the amount of 8471.1 million USD. , which is 10.0% more than in the same period of the previous year.

The export of goods expressed in euros, amounted to 6098.4 million USD, which is an increase of 13.4% compared to the same period of the previous year. Imports of goods amounted to 7888.8 million, which is an increase of 14.4% compared to the same period last year.

The deficit is 1923.3 million USD, which makes an increase of 13.5% compared to the same period of the previous year. Expressed in euros, the deficit is 1790.4 million USD, which is an increase of 18.0% compared to the same period of the previous year.

Import coverage by export is 77.3% and it is lower than coverage in the same period of the previous year, when it was 78.0%.

The most exported products were : road vehicles (652.9 million dollars), electrical machines and apparatus (564.3), cereals and its products (318.0), non-ferrous metals (309.4) and vegetables and fruits (305.1). The export of these five sections accounts for 32.8% of total exports.

The first five sectors with the largest share in imports are: road vehicles (\$ 769.0 million), oil and petroleum products (519.0), electrical machinery and apparatus (420.7), medical and pharmaceutical products (304.4) and industrial machines for general use (284.8), and their imports account for 27.1% of total imports. The section of non-classified goods, which now includes goods in the customs warehouse and in the free zone, has a share in total imports of 14.3%

External Trade Serbia-Belgium for the period January – April 2017

Divisions by SITC, rev 4.		Values in 000 EUR		Index	
		Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	Total	59940	130408	94.7	97.9
00	Live animals other than animals of division 03	-	65	-	118.2
01	Meat and meat preparations	-	720	-	*
02	Dairy products and birds eggs	-	303	-	77.0
03	Fish(not marine mammals),crustaceans,molluscs and aquatic invertebrates;preparations thereof	-	2	-	-
04	Cereals and cereal preparations	43	269	38.5	168.8
05	Vegetables and fruit	8202	927	81.8	70.0
06	Sugar, sugar preparations and honey	1	183	0.3	58.7
07	Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, and manufactures thereof	15	834	147.8	97.5
08	Feeding stuff for animals (not including unmilled cereals)	146	299	146.7	65.1
09	Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	43	559	30.4	111.5
11	Beverages	15	339	69.4	195.1
12	Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	9756	7503	139.7	33.4
21	Hides,skins and furskins,raw	32	-	-	0.0
22	Oil-seeds and oleaginous fruits	445	0	95.5	70.1
23	Crude rubber (including syntetic and reclaimed)	-	807	0.0	118.1
24	Cork and wood	158	105	114.7	388.0
26	Textile fibres and their wastes	117	3517	-	91.6
27	Crude fertilizers, other than those of Division 56, and crude minerals	-	15	0.0	72.1
28	Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	-	0	0.0	-
29	Crude animal and vegetable materials, n.e.s.	184	3592	673.4	184.4
33	Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	1	2170	663.2	113.3
41	Animal oils and fats	-	62	-	*
42	Fixed vegetable fats and oils, crude, refined or fractionated	32	35	5.3	290.1
43	Animal or vegetable fats and oils, processed; waxes of animal or vegetable origin, n.e.s.	-	12	-	-
51	Organic chemicals	1652	1591	361.3	156.9
52	Inorganic chemicals	2	123	191.7	60.7
53	Dyeing, tanning and colouring	-	1038	0.0	114.9

	materials				
54	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	4284	12622	173.7	247.8
55	Essential oils and resinoids and perfume materials;toilet,polishing and cleansing preparations	831	736	244.2	110.0
56	Fertilizers(other than crude)	-	10	-	7.4
57	Plastics in primary forms	269	11706	49.9	231.6
58	Plastics in non-primary forms	134	1372	120.0	124.6
59	Chemical materials and products, not elsewhere specified	218	5018	117.7	118.2
61	Leather,leather manufactures, n.e.s., and dressed furskins	1549	1	84.5	244.6
62	Rubber manufactures, not elsewhere specified	395	1618	105.3	122.3
63	Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture)	1579	413	124.3	296.3
64	Paper,paperboard and articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard	857	436	119.7	131.4
65	Textile yarn,fabrics,made-up articles, n.e.s., and related products	7133	3561	123.1	137.6
66	Non-metallic mineral manufactures, not elsewhere specified	22	572	60.7	85.4
67	Iron and steel	1947	1996	*	133.3
68	Non-ferrous metals	793	1473	127.5	270.7
69	Manufactures of metals,not elsewhere specified	3274	1562	90.7	262.8
71	Power-generating machinery and equipment	440	48	*	44.7
72	Machinery specialized for particular industries	101	5874	197.5	105.4
73	Metalworking machinery	-	232	0.0	43.2
74	General industrial machinery and equipment, n.e.s., and machine parts, n.e.s.	2720	2303	223.1	136.4
75	Office machines and automatic data-processing machines	477	75	119.6	100.3
76	Telecommunications and sound-recording and reproducing apparatus and equipment	248	234	104.6	347.1
77	Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, n.e.s., and electrical parts thereof	1789	2726	148.5	128.7
78	Road vehicles(including air-cushion vehicles)	4961	10198	29.1	42.1
79	Other transport means and equipment	9	430	-	*

81	Prefabricated buildings; sanitary, plumbing, heating and lighting fixtures and fittings,n.e.s.	482	52	104.5	41.1
82	Furniture and parts thereof;bedding,mattresses,cushions and similar stuffed furnishings	3090	55	120.3	282.1
83	Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	13	4	*	84.6
84	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	31	18	18.4	360.0
85	Footwear	13	39	9.9	124.4
87	Professional, scientific and controlling instruments and apparatus,n.e.s.	32	154	134.1	58.4
88	Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches and clocks	-	276	0.0	117.6
89	Miscellaneous manufactured articles,not elsewhere specified	1009	1728	124.7	92.5
99	Unclassified goods	394	37796	28.6	108.4

BUSINESS NEWS

April 2017

Goša company sold to Cyprus' company.

Cyprus' Lisnart Holdings Limited company is the new owner of the factory for railway vehicles. Goša from Smederevska Palanka, daily Politika wrote on Wednesday. Slovakia's Zos Trnava company transferred 100% of capital and assets to the Cyprus' company, while workers are informed about it on Tuesday, the daily also wrote. Slovakia's company filed the requirements for changing the data with the Business Registers Agency (APR) on March 29, a day before the start of the general strike in Goša, and on Monday the transactions was registered. Chair of Goša Independence trade union Ljubomir Savic said that the Director General remained the same, as the main office of the Slovakia's company was based in Cyprus, but they did not see the sales contract yet. The workers of Goša factory have been on strike for ten days, seeking payment of overdue salaries, verification of their health cards and regular salaries. Zos Trnava owes around EUR 4 million in taxes and contributions to the state of Serbia as well as around EUR 1.8 million to the workers for their salaries.

Serbian Development Agency receives 70 regional development project applications.

Some 70 projects by teams from university schools across Serbia have been submitted to the Serbian Development Agency which called a competition for project ideas for regional development late in December. The reward fund totals four million Dinars and the top ranked project will receive a million Dinars. The idea behind the competition is to present an investment project in one region or a part of a region in Serbia as a potential for economic development, primarily regional and overall.

Best animal feed premixes in Europe being made in Feketic – Belgian company Ravago invested EUR 5 million

Thanks to the investment of the Belgian company Ravago worth EUR 5 million, Serbia now has the most up-to-date animal feed premix factory in Europe, which will greatly contribute to enhancing food safety and quality of livestock breeding in the country and the region. Ravago, a multinational company headquartered in Belgium, which has 5,500 employees in over 200 companies globally, has started producing the premix in the factory close to Feketic, the municipality of Mali Idjos. The production capacity is 12,000 tons a year, which amounts to a fourth of the region's total needs for the product.

Belgian company ARBOR at the Horticultural Fair in Belgrade

International Fair of Horticulture - Beoplantfair, with the slogan "Garden in the heart of the city", was held at Belgrade Fair from 6th to 9th April in Halls 3 and 3a. The Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia is a patron, but also one of the most active participants and motivators of this manifestation. More interesting lectures within the professional accompanying program marked the second day of the Horticulture Fair on Friday, April 7. "Brest - a long neglected tree species" and "Floral-decorative wood species" were the themes of the highly-attended lecture by Klaus van Dyck from the Belgian company Arbor Nurseries. Arbor Nurseries also received the Fair Award for Quality and Assortment of Imported Planting Material

China's ATB plans to move part of its production from Austria and Germany to Serbia.

Immediately after the holidays the ATB Sever from Subotica, as it was announced, will employ ten engineers, and the intention of the company is to become a center for research and development of the whole ATB Group, website eKapija wrote. The plan of China's owner includes new investments as well - to move a part of the production program from Austria and Germany to Serbia, the company said. ATB Sever Subotica, a manufacturer of electric motors and generators, part of the ATB group that belongs to Shanghai-based Wolong, also known as the Siemens of the East, has three factories in Serbia - in Subotica and Bor.

Number of new companies growing and those which are prospering.

The number of newly-opened companies is by 10% bigger compared to the previous period and among small and middle-sized companies the number of profitable ones has increased, shows the annual report of the Business Registers Agency (APR), said the director of that Agency Zvonko Obradovic for Radio Television Serbia (RTS). He said that the annual bulletin of the APR was comprised of 157,000 statistical reports of people working in the economy and that it represented a financial image of the companies' health. There are 305 major companies in Serbia, 1,267 middle-sized ones, and about 9,000 small companies, while the rest are micro companies, shows the APR data.

Don Don opening another plant in Zajecar.

The Slovenian Don Don company which makes bread and bakery products in Zajecar that it will open another production plant with an investment of half a million Euro to employ 40 people. Don Don has been present in Serbia for nine years and has invested about 50 million Euro into the development of the bakery industry.

Agricultural platform AgriSens won Investment of the Year award

The company Logit Solutions is the winner of the Aurea 2017 investment of the year award, handed out by the eKapija portal for the ninth year in a row, and the winner was presented with the award at the ceremony held in Aeroklub Belgrade by the acting director of the Development Agency of Serbia, Zeljko Sertic. Logit Solutions has developed a unique technological platform called AgriSens, performing agricultural area survey processing and data analysis, based on a variety of information techniques

World Bank projects economic growth of Serbia of 3% in 2017 – Employment increases by 7.2% in 12 months

The economic growth in Serbia and Albania contributed the most to the gross domestic products of the Western Balkans' growing by 2.8% in 2016, as stated in the report on the state of the economies of the Western Balkans by the World Bank. The growth of the economies, as they say at the World Bank, has contributed to the growth of the number of the employed as well. Nevertheless, the unemployment rate is still worryingly high, and new jobs are often found in the black market. In Serbia, as many as 570,000 people work without social insurance. The GDP of Serbia will grow by 3% in 2017 and by 3.5% in 2018, the report states. It adds that the economic growth will lead to new jobs as well.

ATB planning to move part of production from Austria and Germany to Serbia – Electric engine manufacturer announces new employments in Subotica

Immediately following the holidays, Subotica's ATB Sever, as announced, will employ ten engineers, and the company intends to become the research and development center of the entire ATB Group. The Chinese owner is also planning to make new investments – to move part of the production from Austria and Germany to Serbia, as said by the Chamber of Commerce of Serbia (CCIS) on the occasion of their visit to Subotica. The president of the CCIS talked to the Regional Chamber of Commerce of Subotica with representatives of 50 companies about overcoming obstacles related to gray economy, VAT refunds, debt repayment deadlines, lack of qualified workforce and problems faced by transportation companies.

May 2017

Serbia's GDP increased by 1% in Q1 of 2017.

Serbia's GDP increased in real terms in the first quarter by 1% per annum, according to the flash estimate of the Bureau of Statistics. Last year, Serbia's economic growth was 2.8%, while the budget projected the GDP growth of 1.75%. A 3% increase was planned for this year

IKEA planned to be open in summer

IKEA store in Belgrade, which should be open in the next few months, would start filling up with goods in the next four to six weeks and it would have 9.500 commodities by prices that would be affordable to a large number of people, director for development of Swedish IKEA company in Southeast Europe Vladislav Lalic said. He said that the store would be the same as those in Vienna, Paris, London or Tokyo. Lalic said that it was expected that the store would make a good business here and that it would have approximately 2.5 million visitors per year. On the long-term, IKEA planned to open another store in Belgrade but also one in Nis.

Belgian „Lutosa“ at the agriculture fair in Serbia presented its business

At the traditional „Novi Sad Agricultural Fair“ realized from 13-19 May 2017, among present companies its business presented Belgian company Lutosa. This year, the Agricultural Fair visited 130.000 visitors.

Reforms in Serbia are giving results, EU emphasizes

An economic growth that Serbia achieved last year was the result of the ambitious reforms that were giving results, European Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs Elzbieta Bienkowska emphasized in Belgrade, Tanjug news agency reported. She said that Serbia so far also improved business environment for small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) and simplified procedures. An Agreement was signed in the Government, within the EU program COSME, which secured 200 million EUR that would be at the disposal of approximately 4.000 SMEs in Serbia, as a favorable loan in the next three years. Bienkowska also said that the trade between Serbia and EU was increasing and that it increased nine percent last year.

Business of 3.2 Billion EUR in Worth to be Signed with China, Minister Mihajlovic Claims

Serbian delegation during the visit to China signed two agreements and contract on modernization of Belgrade – Budapest railway with the total value of 3.2 billion EUR, Serbian Minister of Civil Engineering, Traffic and Infrastructure Zorana Mihajlovic said on Thursday for Radio and Television of Serbia (RTS). These would be a section between Novi Sad and Subotica, with the value of 700 million USD and two agreements regarding Corridor 11: continuation from Preljina to Pozega and between Pozega and Boljare, the Minister said.

Yazaki factory in Sabac to start working as of June

Completion of construction of the factory of the Japan's Yazaki manufacturer of cables for the automotive industry in Sabac, where it already employs 300 workers, is expected in May, so that it could be put into operation next month, Ambassador of Japan to Serbia Juichi Takahara said at a meeting with Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic, the Serbian government posted on its website on Monday. Yazaki company also announced the imminent arrival of a delegation of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), which, he assessed, is evidence of the increased interest of Japanese businessmen to invest in Serbia.

Aunde Italia Group to open a new production plant in Jagodina - jobs for another 400 workers

The Aunde Italia Group company, which has had a factory for the production of automotive seats in Jagodina since March 2014, will open a new production hall, news agency Tanjug was told by the city assembly representatives. It is a production hall, within the expansion of existing factory, whose construction began in late October 2016, and in which new 400 workers will get job, as agreed before the construction had begun. Ministry of Economy approved a subsidy of EUR 3,461 per employee for the new Aunde hall.

Carmeuse has achieved cooperation with around 300 companies from Serbia - Since the year of production of lime, EUR 9.6m has been invested

Carmeuse company, recognizing the potential of the Serbian market, has established cooperation with around 300 companies from Serbia, said Director Carmeuse Serbia Darko Križan. The lime industry is particularly important because it provides a key raw material, without which it is impossible to do business in other strategic industries such as metallurgy, energy and the construction industry - he said, adding that "during the new investment in the production of alternative fuels in the value of 2,5m EUR".

The company allocates a significant part of its resources to the use of new technologies that produce incomparably less pollution, as well as in ecological projects that minimize total pollution in their own plants and partners, says the company's announcement.

As it is added, Carmeuse is one of the two largest world companies in the field of lime production, which, since its arrival in Serbia in 2013, invested 9.6m EUR in the quarry Jelen Do, and continues to invest in security and improvement of production standards.

During the working visit of the Belgian Ambassador Leo D'Aes was followed by his Economic adviser - Economic and Trade Counsellor Mrs Marijana Milošević - Tufegdžić and the Mayor of Pozega Milan Bozi. It was said that thanks to the constant investments, the attitude towards the local community, the standards introduced in the process of production and environmental protection, Carmeuse was recognized as a long-term partner Improvement of economy and economic development in Serbia and the region. Belgian Ambassador Leo D'Aes was followed by his Economic adviser - Economic and Trade Counsellor Mrs Marijana Milošević – Tufegdžić visited also factory CROP S & PARTNERS.

Serbia's new president, Aleksandar Vučić, on May 31st took the oath of office before the Serbian National Assembly in Belgrade

Aleksandar Vučić took over the presidential duties from Tomislav Nikolic. Vucic formally stepped down from his prime minister's post and took over his new role after his landslide win in April's election Vucic took his oath in the Assembly on a special copy of the Constitution, placed on top of a copy of Miroslav's Gospel, promising to work for peace and stability in the war-weary Balkans while strengthening the country's armed forces..

June 2017

Visit of Belgian Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Kingdom of Belgium

Serbian Minister of Foreign Affairs Ivica Dačić met on 27th June with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Kingdom of Belgium Didier Reynders. The two ministers agreed that bilateral relations are good, and that there is room for their improvement, especially when it comes to economic cooperation and increased trade. Minister Dačić expressed his satisfaction with the visit of Minister Reynders and the opportunity to exchange views on bilateral relations and possibilities for their improvement, and he also noted the interest of Belgian investors to participate in major infrastructure projects in the Republic of Serbia.

Companies from Belgium, Israel and USA interested in construction in Serbia

As the Government of Serbia has provided additional incentives to private investors looking to invest in renewable energy sources, three foreign companies are prepared to start building big wind farms soon.

Even though the Ministry of Mining and Energy has not confirmed this, according to the information of the Belgrade-based newspaper, the companies in question are based in the USA, Israel in Belgium and are very interested in investing in this lucrative business. Everyone interested in taking part in RES projects in Serbia can count on incentives. More precisely, Elektroprivreda Srbije (EPS) is obliged to purchase electricity from such producers at prices far higher than those at which EPS itself produces and sells electricity. This is the reason why bills in Serbia are higher – EPS is already buying electricity from certain RES producers.

Slobodan Ruzic, former deputy minister of energy, said that the incentives adopted by the Government of Serbia last year are good and useful and that they will enable the construction of wind farms in the country soon. He said: "At the moment, we already have two or three wind turbines, but their power is small, not exceeding ten megawatts. Since

the state has provided additional guarantees to investors, there's now a real possibility of starting to raise at least one big wind farm this autumn and to have one such facility of 100 to 150 MW of power fully constructed and connected to the distribution network by the end of the next year. This would be important for Serbia for numerous reasons“.

GDP in the first quarter of 2017 realistically increased by 1.2%

The real growth of gross domestic product (GDP) in the first quarter of 2017, compared to the same period of the previous year, amounted to 1.2%, the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia announced. Seasonally adjusted data show that GDP in the first quarter of 2017 is higher by 0.1% compared to the previous quarter. Significant real growth in gross value added was recorded in the sector of financial activities and insurance activities - 4.5%, the statement said. It is added that in the wholesale and retail trade sector, motor vehicle, transport and storage services, housing and food services, real growth of gross added value is 2.8%, and 1.3% in the industry and water supply and wastewater management sector. In the construction sector, it is said that gross value added is lower by 5.1%. The planned GDP growth of Serbia in 2017 is 3%, and in 2016 it was 2.7%.

Interest in investments in Serbia doubles – DAS receives 50 letters of intent in 2017.

Serbia has received 50 letters of intent for investments this year, nearly twice as much as 2016, which used to be the most successful year with 22 agreements signed on investments worth EUR 240 million, the director of investments department of the Development Agency of Serbia, Rados Gazdic

American company Ametek opens business campus in Subotica

Jobs for 500 people. The American engine manufacturer Ametek opened a business campus in Subotica on June 7. A total of 500 people will be employed at the campus. Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic thanked the American embassy for, as he said, constantly working on attracting new investors. The new factory, which has 10,000 square meters and which will employ 500 workers, is a result of precisely those efforts to attract new investors, and the Government of Serbia did not provide subsidies this time – Vucic said

Kosava wind park construction started at Vrsac - The first project stage totals EUR 124 m

MK Fintel Wind has started near Vrsac construction of the third wind park in Serbia. Wind park Kosava is the largest investment so far in the field of renewable energy sources in Serbia. The first stage will comprise 20 wind turbines which will generate electricity for 40,000 households. This part of the project, which will be completed by the end of 2018, totals EUR 124 m, MK Fintel Wind announced. Along with Kosava, MK Fintel Wind has already built wind parks Kula and La Piccolina.

The official opening of the construction was attended by Aleksandar Antić, Minister of Mining and Energy, Tiziano Giovannetti, CEO of Fintel Energia Spa and MK Fintel Wind, investors and numerous guests.

After construction of 20 turbines, the second stage where will build additional 19 turbines have been in preparation and which will total EUR 100 m - Tiziano Giovannetti, Executive Manager at Fintel Energia Spa and MK Fintel Wind. AIK bank supported financially Kosava project. Apart from increasing total energy capacity in Banat, Vojvodina and Podunavlje, MK Fintel Wind is planning to invest in wind energy in Serbia an dregion, it was stated in the announcement.

Serbia has a new government

www.brussels-in-serbia.com

Serbian lawmakers elected Ana Brnabic as prime minister on 29th of June, making history by choosing both the conservative Balkan nation's first female prime minister and its first openly gay leader. Parliament voted 157-55 to approve the government of the 41-year-old Brnabic and she and her ministers were sworn in. Brnabic, a business marketing expert who previously served in Vucic's government as the local administration minister, has no party affiliation and has a record of working in the non-government sector, including with USAID. During the two-day parliamentary debate, nationalist lawmakers accused Brnabic of being installed under Western pressure. The current cabinet is in greater part similar to the second cabinet of Aleksandar Vučić and has 21 members (two more than previous cabinet), 18 with a ministry and 3 without portfolio.

EVENTS

Cocktail of European Chambers of Commerce

Belgrade recently hosted a large business meeting of eight European Chambers of Commerce present in Serbia, with a cocktail party attended by 250 people – Chamber's members, domestic and foreign entrepreneurs and managers. This is the first and so far the most important meeting of European Chambers of Commerce organized for the purpose of networking of members and strengthening of inter-chamber cooperation. The event was attended by members of the Franco-German-Serbian and Serbian Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber of Italian-Serbian Chamber of Commerce, Belgian-Serbian Business Association, the Slovenian and Croatian Business Club, Hellenic Business Association and the Nordic Business Alliance.

Buyers Mission – Safety and Security Sector

Our office, in cooperation with AWEX Brussels, organized the Buyers Mission in sector of Safety and Security 14-16.6.2017 in Mons. Two Serbian companies- Tesla Sistemi and Almaks visited Mons, together with around 20 companies from other countries. The participants met with Walloon companies active in the safety and security sector, interested in finding new partners and exchanges know how.

Brussels Best Exporters 2017

The 'Brussels Best Exporters 2017' awards were presented at the Brussels Centre for Fine Arts (Bozar) on Wednesday 28 June 2017, by the Brussels State Secretary for Foreign Trade, in the presence of Brussels Export & Invest international economic and trade attaché network, international entrepreneur network and official partners. It was an enjoyable evening, concluded by a walking dinner, with an atmosphere filled with inspiring meetings that will stimulate your exporter's spirit. The winners were ERTMS Solutions and SatADSL.

FAIRS – June - September 2017

Belgrade fair www.sajam.rs

16TH PACKTECH EXPO BALKAN SEPTEMBER 13 – 15, 2017

The International Fair of Packaging, packing Machines and Food Processing Equipment is a very well visited event, since the representatives of all economic branches are interested in it. Beside the equipment and devices used in the food processing industry, PACKTECH EXPO BALKAN features packaging, machines and packing equipment intended for all industrial branches.

COOL & FRUVEG EXPO BALKAN 2017

SEPTEMBER 13 – 15, 2017

COOL & FRUVEG EXPO BALKAN is the shortened title of the International Specialized Fair of Cooling Equipment, Air Conditioning, Ventilation and Heating Equipment, as well as the Fruits and Vegetables Processing Equipment.

Grafima

SEPTEMBER 27 – 30, 2017

39th INTERNATIONAL GRAPHIC, PAPER AND CREATIVE INDUSTRY FAIR – GRAFIMA

The International Fair Of Graphic And Paper Industry, at Belgrade Fair, is the leading fair event of this type in the region.

Biroexpo

SEPTEMBER 27 – 30, 2017

25th INTERNATIONAL IT AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT FAIR – BIROEXPO

The Biro Expo event became the most important market in the region it features and from which both the latest equipment and stationery necessary for office furnishing and operation and the business goods and gifts before the forthcoming New Year are bought accordingly.

Novi Sad Fair

<http://www.sajam.net>

30. September - 7. October

INTERNATIONAL FAIRS 'LORIST'

50th International Fair of HUNTING, FISHING AND SPORT ufi

24th International Fair of HORTICULTURE

30. September - 2. October

8th International FAIR OF HORSE BREEDING

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MONTENEGRO

The total foreign trade of Montenegro in the first four months, according to the preliminary data of Monstat, amounted to EUR 748.3 million, which is 14.5 percent more than the same period last year. Foreign trade exceeds 14.5% Monstat said it had exported goods worth 112.6 million euros, which is 28.2 percent more than in the same period last year. Import was higher 12.4 percent and amounted to 635.7 million euros. "The coverage of imports by exports was 17.7 percent and is higher than the same period last year, when it amounted to 15.5 percent". In the structure of exports, crude matter is the highest in the amount of 33.2 million euros, which makes mineral ores and metal scrap 25 million euros and cork and wood 5.8 million euros. In the structure of imports, machines and transport equipment are the most represented in the amount of 151.2 million euros, comprising road vehicles 47.9 million EUR and industrial machines for general use 28.6 million euros. The largest foreign trade partners in the export were Serbia with 20 million euros, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) with 15.3 million euros and Hong Kong 12.8 million euros. In imports, the largest foreign trade partners were Serbia with 136.2 million euros, China with 58.8 million euros and Germany 54.8 million euros. Foreign trade was the largest with the signatories of the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA) and the European Union (EU).

**External Trade Montenegro-Belgium
January – April 2017**

<i>CN \ FLOW</i>	1: Import	2: Export
02:MEAT AND EDIBLE MEAT OFFAL	1,337,964	0
06:LIVE TREES AND OTHER PLANTS; BULBS, ROOTS AND THE LIKE; CUT FLOWERS AND ORNAMENTAL FOLIAGE	48	0
07:EDIBLE VEGETABLES AND CERTAIN ROOTS AND TUBERS	27,940	0
10:CEREALS	23	0
11:PRODUCTS OF THE MILLING INDUSTRY; MALT; STARCHES; INULIN; WHEAT GLUTEN	20	0
12:OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUITS; MISCELLANEOUS GRAINS, SEEDS AND FRUIT; INDUSTRIAL OR MEDICINAL PLANTS; STRAW AND FODDER	6,314	0
15:ANIMAL OR VEGETABLE FATS AND OILS AND THEIR CLEAVAGE PRODUCTS; PREPARED EDIBLE FATS; ANIMAL OR VEGETABLE WAXES	11	0
17:SUGARS AND SUGAR CONFECTIONERY	4,455	0
18:COCOA AND COCOA PREPARATIONS	10,183	0
19:PREPARATIONS OF CEREALS, FLOUR, STARCH OR MILK; PASTRYCOOKS' PRODUCTS	23,866	0
20:PREPARATIONS OF VEGETABLES, FRUIT, NUTS OR OTHER PARTS OF PLANTS	136,047	0
21:MISCELLANEOUS EDIBLE PREPARATIONS	18,221	0
22:BEVERAGES, SPIRITS AND VINEGAR	53,932	0
23:RESIDUES AND WASTE FROM THE FOOD INDUSTRIES; PREPARED ANIMAL FODDER	46,295	0
25:SALT; SULPHUR; EARTHS AND STONE; PLASTERING MATERIALS, LIME AND CEMENT	1,124	0
27:MINERAL FUELS, MINERAL OILS AND PRODUCTS OF THEIR DISTILLATION; BITUMINOUS SUBSTANCES; MINERAL WAXES	82,791	0
28:INORGANIC CHEMICALS; ORGANIC OR INORGANIC COMPOUNDS OF PRECIOUS METALS, OF RARE-EARTH METALS, OF RADIOACTIVE ELEMENTS OR OF ISOTOPES	385	0
29:ORGANIC CHEMICALS	4,436	0
30:PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS	137,997	0
31:FERTILISERS	7,753	0
32:TANNING OR DYEING EXTRACTS; TANNINS AND THEIR DERIVATIVES; DYES, PIGMENTS AND OTHER COLOURING MATTER; PAINTS AND VARNISHES; PUTTY AND OTHER MASTICS; INKS	109,933	0
33:ESSENTIAL OILS AND RESINOIDS; PERFUMERY, COSMETIC OR TOILET PREPARATIONS	68,046	142,674

34:SOAP, ORGANIC SURFACE-ACTIVE AGENTS, WASHING PREPARATIONS, LUBRICATING PREPARATIONS, ARTIFICIAL WAXES, PREPARED WAXES, POLISHING OR SCOURING PREPARATIONS, CANDLES AND SIMILAR ARTICLES, MODELLING PASTES, "DENTAL WAXES" AND DENTAL PREPARATIONS WITH A	37,282	0
35:ALBUMINOIDAL SUBSTANCES; MODIFIED STARCHES; GLUES; ENZYMES	21,521	0
37:PHOTOGRAPHIC OR CINEMATOGRAPHIC GOODS	62,500	0
38:MISCELLANEOUS CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	487,036	0
39:PLASTICS AND ARTICLES THEREOF	125,777	0
40:RUBBER AND ARTICLES THEREOF	24,685	0
42:ARTICLES OF LEATHER; SADDLERY AND HARNESS; TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS; ARTICLES OF ANIMAL GUT (OTHER THAN SILKWORM GUT)	3,917	0
44:WOOD AND ARTICLES OF WOOD; WOOD CHARCOAL	29,991	0
48:PAPER AND PAPERBOARD; ARTICLES OF PAPER PULP, OF PAPER OR OF PAPERBOARD	62,006	0
49:PRINTED BOOKS, NEWSPAPERS, PICTURES AND OTHER PRODUCTS OF THE PRINTING INDUSTRY; MANUSCRIPTS, TYPESCRIPTS AND PLANS	3,130	20
54:MAN-MADE FILAMENTS; STRIP AND THE LIKE OF MAN-MADE TEXTILE MATERIALS	1,741	0
57:CARPETS AND OTHER TEXTILE FLOOR COVERINGS	106,039	0
58:SPECIAL WOVEN FABRICS; TUFTED TEXTILE FABRICS; LACE; TAPESTRIES; TRIMMINGS; EMBROIDERY	793	0
59:IMPREGNATED, COATED, COVERED OR LAMINATED TEXTILE FABRICS; TEXTILE ARTICLES OF A KIND SUITABLE FOR INDUSTRIAL USE	6,465	0
60:KNITTED OR CROCHETED FABRICS	2,855	0
61:ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES, KNITTED OR CROCHETED	179	0
62:ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES, NOT KNITTED OR CROCHETED	3,301	0
63:OTHER MADE-UP TEXTILE ARTICLES; SETS; WORN CLOTHING AND WORN TEXTILE ARTICLES; RAGS	1,090	300
64:FOOTWEAR, GAITERS AND THE LIKE; PARTS OF SUCH ARTICLES	101	120
66:UMBRELLAS, SUN UMBRELLAS, WALKING STICKS, SEAT-STICKS, WHIPS, RIDING-CROPS AND PARTS THEREOF	450	0
68:ARTICLES OF STONE, PLASTER, CEMENT, ASBESTOS, MICA OR SIMILAR MATERIALS	78,718	0
69:CERAMIC PRODUCTS	14,883	0
70:GLASS AND GLASSWARE	22,454	0

71:NATURAL OR CULTURED PEARLS, PRECIOUS OR SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES, PRECIOUS METALS, METALS CLAD WITH PRECIOUS METAL, AND ARTICLES THEREOF; IMITATION JEWELLERY; COIN	52	0
72:IRON AND STEEL	59	76,579
73:ARTICLES OF IRON OR STEEL	51,283	0
74:COPPER AND ARTICLES THEREOF	8,670	0
76:ALUMINIUM AND ARTICLES THEREOF	4,014	0
82:TOOLS, IMPLEMENTS, CUTLERY, SPOONS AND FORKS, OF BASE METAL; PARTS THEREOF OF BASE METAL	915	0
83:MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES OF BASE METAL	1,029	0
84:NUCLEAR REACTORS, BOILERS, MACHINERY AND MECHANICAL APPLIANCES; PARTS THEREOF	376,798	1,316
85:ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT AND PARTS THEREOF; SOUND RECORDERS AND REPRODUCERS, TELEVISION IMAGE AND SOUND RECORDERS AND REPRODUCERS, AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES OF SUCH ARTICLES	97,456	285
87:VEHICLES OTHER THAN RAILWAY OR TRAMWAY ROLLING STOCK, AND PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF	602,332	39,138
90:OPTICAL, PHOTOGRAPHIC, CINEMATOGRAPHIC, MEASURING, CHECKING, PRECISION, MEDICAL OR SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS; PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF	78,184	0
91:CLOCKS AND WATCHES AND PARTS THEREOF	342	0
93:ARMS AND AMMUNITION; PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF	1,923	0
94:FURNITURE; BEDDING, MATTRESSES, MATTRESS SUPPORTS, CUSHIONS AND SIMILAR STUFFED FURNISHINGS; LAMPS AND LIGHTING FITTINGS, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INCLUDED; ILLUMINATED SIGNS, ILLUMINATED NAMEPLATES AND THE LIKE; PREFABRICATED BUILDINGS	26,145	0
95:TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTS REQUISITES; PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF	213	0
96:MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	4,934	0
97:WORKS OF ART, COLLECTORS' PIECES AND ANTIQUES	8,866	0
Total:	4,437,914	260,431

BUSINESS NEWS

Opening of marina and first hotel in Lustica in 2018 – Construction of Centrale settlement to start next year as well

A unique city at the Montenegrin seaside – Lustica Bay, close to Tivat, expects a marina and a marina-settlement, as well as the first hotel, to open next year. The company Lustica Development announces the beginning of the construction of the key part of the complex – the Lustica Bay Centrale settlement, for 2018 as well. Lustica Bay is a joint endeavor of the Government of Montenegro and the Swiss company Orascom Development Holding. The project has been estimated at total of EUR 1.1 billion, making it the biggest investment in this part of Europe.

Construction of tunnel and bridge on Bar-Boljare highway route to begin – Investment worth EUR 809 million

The Ministry of Sustainable Development of Montenegro has issued a building permit for the construction of the section and the tunnel on the Bar-Boljare highway route. The section consists of the Zagradje bridge and tunnels Djurilovac and Mrki Krs, with accompanying open route parts on the priority section of the Bar-Boljare highway from Smokovac to Matesevo. These sections, as stated in the decision by the Ministry of Sustainable Development, are located in the area of cadastre municipalities of Lopate and Lijevo Rijeka. The construction of this section will cost Montenegro EUR 809 million, and 16 tunnels, 13 bridges, 5 viaducts and 4 interchanges will be built.

Montenegro is steadily progressing towards the European Union (EU), said the head of the EU Delegation in Podgorica, Aivo Orav

At the conference "Five years of accession negotiations - what we have achieved", speaking on the achievements and upcoming challenges of Montenegro on the road to the EU, Orav said that the country has entered deep into the process of European integration. He pointed out that Montenegro had opened 28 chapters in the past five years, and last week temporarily closed the third chapter. The steady progress of the country in the negotiations testifies to the arduous and dedicated work of payoff and that reforms guarantee that the process will continue.

FAIRS IN MONTENEGRO April 2017- October 2017

Adriatic Fair - <http://www.adriafair.co.me/files/kalendar/kalendar2017.pdf>

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