

International Competitiveness in EU based on balanced domestic trade estimates

Topic: Globalisation and some effects on SUT compilation relevant for users

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A new methodology for balancing international domestic trade was developed at the European Commission, Eurostat, during the FIGARO project. As a result, a reference data set for trade statistics was built which contains a consolidated view broken down into quasi-transit trade, domestic trade and re-exports. The QDR methodology is able to provide information for several indicators but probably the most important is that of domestic exports, in other words, exports between a country of origin and a country of destination that originated in the economy of the exporting country.

This paper examines the development of domestic trade in EU countries over the 2010-2017 period. International competitiveness for a selected group of commodities will be assessed over the balanced domestic trade estimates, instead of the usual raw estimates of one of the trade flows, providing a more accurate view on international competitiveness.