

Supply Chain Resilience Bulletin in the context of Russian military aggression against Ukraine

December 2022

Supply Chain Task Force – – Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW)

Supply Chains: Impact on Industrial Ecosystems updates

CHEMICALS (EEI)

- Increased imports of caustic soda from other countries have compensated the reduced imports from Russia and also covered more than half of the domestic production shortfall induced by plummeting capacity utilisation in EU.
- The return of gas prices to more palatable levels allowed the re-entry on-stream several previously mothballed facilities, so that by November 2022 well over half of EU capacity was in operation.
- Although smaller than in previous years, external trade balance of the EU in chemicals recorded a surplus in the period January-August 2022, even when excluding pharmaceuticals (where the EU's trade surplus is always very high).



HORIZONTAL ISSUES

HIGH ENERGY COSTS

 High energy costs have impact over all industrial ecosystems. However, although production costs remain high, especially for energy-intensive industries, recently there has been a stabilisation of gas prices.

RESTRICTIONS TO DIVEST FROM RUSSIA

President Putin approved a list of companies (energy and banking primarily) for which any transactions with their shares are prohibited. Any exemption from the list has to be approved by the President himself.

TOURISM

 All the major companies of the ecosystem announced the suspension of their activities or their withdrawal, except for hoteliers which were only freezing new development and investments.

AGRI-FOOD

 The European Agricultural Machinery Association (CEMA) latest barometer (November 2022) confirms a strong improvement of the business climate. Despite price increases and some bottlenecks on the supplier side, the recent easing is observable, and manufacturers are increasingly able to realize their orders.



Divestment from Russia

TOP-100 companies by global revenue in the world and their status in Russia

Amazon	American Broad	c Mercedes	s-Benz	Allianz	UPS	Eneos	Sony	Bank	Dis	ney	Siem LVN		H Edeka		HP (Shell		Deut	Кос	Ene
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Completed withdrawal from Russia

Curtailed operations in Russia

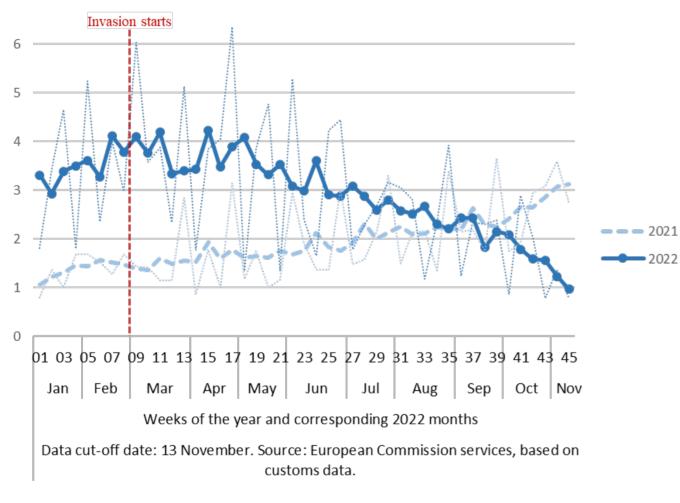
Reduced
operations in
Russia and hold
off new
investments

Continue operations in Russia

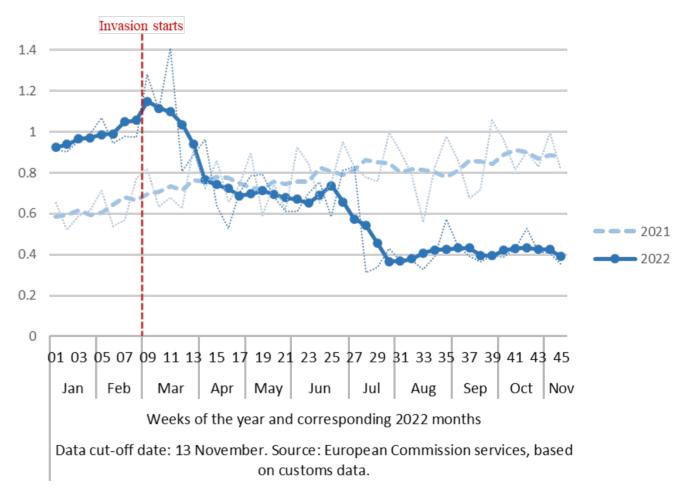


EU imports from Russia (as of 13/11/2022)





Import from Russia, excluding energy (€bn, 5-week moving average)



Energy imports still account for most of the weekly imports from RU, but are decreasing rapidly.

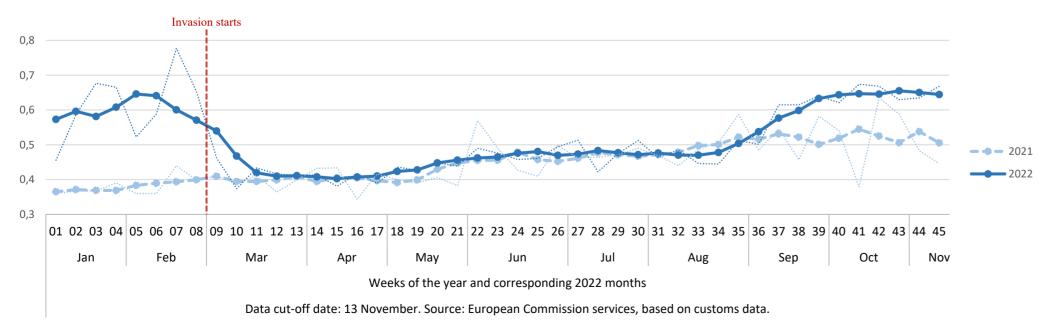


Overall trade trends with Ukraine (as of 13/11/2022)

Export to Ukraine (€bn, 5-week moving average)



Import from Ukraine (€bn, 5-week moving average)



 Exports in goods to UA bounced back in the course of the year, after a sudden fall following the Russian invasion (week 8). They are now stable;

 Imports from Ukraine remain close to 2021 levels, below the levels of the first weeks of 2022.



Selected weekly updates from Member States



• All Swedish companies have now left Russia and Swedish trade with Russia has more or less ceased. During the third quarter, imports from Russia fell, from just over SEK 7 billion in 2021 to SEK 0.5 billion in 2022 (– 93 %). Swedish export of goods to Russia has also decreased, from just over SEK 5 billion to SEK 1.4 billion (– 73 %).



- Pulpwood and firewood prices increased significantly in the third quarter of 2022. Compared with the previous quarter, softwood log prices were on a downward trend in the third quarter, while hardwood log prices remained on the rise.
- The construction market continues to be affected by high construction costs. The total production value of Estonian construction enterprises in Estonia and abroad combined fell by 3 percent at constant prices, on year to the third quarter of 2022 (Q3 2022).



• The boycott of the Russian market by large Czech breweries continues, although the daily Hospodarske noviny found that their beer is still available there at much higher prices (which could support the theory that there are middlemen involved). Beer exports to Russia fell y/y by 36% in the first nine months of this year, but some smaller Czech breweries have either resumed exports to Russia or never halted them. Russia represented one of the largest export markets for CZ before the war.

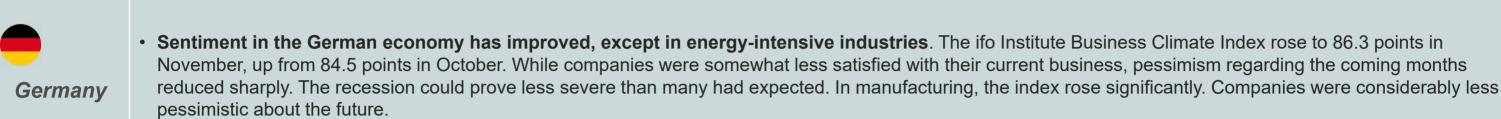


- Poland's government has announced that it is taking over Gazprom's assets in the country, meaning the Russian firm's share in the company managing the Polish section of the Yamal gas pipeline. Poland argues that the move will ensure the security of the country's critical infrastructure amid Russia's aggression against Ukraine.
- **Slovakia**
- The largest domestic chemist and the only large Slovak producer of fertilizers, has started all its production again. This may have happened thanks to the reduction in natural gas prices in recent times.
- More and more builders are falling into bankruptcies. Between January and October, 41 construction companies in Slovakia went bankrupt. This is the largest number of bankruptcies in at least six years. This is due to (1) the increase (60-100%) in the price of building materials, (2) outflow of Ukrainian labour (to find other workers is complicated and expensive) and (3) fewer public orders

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Source DG GROW

Selected weekly updates from Member States



• A study from the federal ministry of economy on **Belgian strategic products dependencies** from extra EU countries shows that for the 135 strategic products identified, main partner countries in values imported are Singapore, the United States and Russia. Without surprises, dependency from Russia appears to be in the oil products and steel with a particular mention of Wallonia which imports a substantial share of steel from Russia

The US Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has published its set of guidelines for implementing the policy on limiting crude petroleum prices originating in the Russian Federation, which lists rules that must be followed in order not to come under sanctions. The document lists derogations and exemptions, including for Croatia. Namely, it is possible for Croatia to purchase, import or transfer vacuum gas oil originating or exported from Russia in cases when no alternative supply is available. Croatia has already informed the European Commission of this, and the Commission provided no objections.

The Greek government has cancelled the privatization of the port of Alexandroupolis and Kavala in Northern Greece, a process that had started already in 2017. The Greek government has now announced that the port is too important to be entrusted to a private investor. The war in Ukraine has played a major role to the decision to cancel the privatization.

• The Commission has authorized Portugal to support the electro-intensive industries with EUR 175 m for the so-called "indirect costs" of CO2 (produced using coal or natural gas) that companies depend on to stay in operation, following the energy crisis caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine.



Belgium





Portugal

Source DG GROW

Updates on relevant DG GROW work

PARTNERSHIP ON RAW MATERIALS

The first Review meeting of the EU-UA Strategic Partnership on Raw Materials took place. The partners discussed the progress on the implementation of the Strategic Partnership, which aims at achieving closer integration of raw material and battery value chains, and the roadmap for the next two years.

INTEGRATING
UKRAINE IN THE
SINGLE MARKET

EU and Ukraine agreed to revise and extend the priorities for 2023-2024 under the framework of the Deep and Coprehensive Free Trade Agreement. Relevant workstreams include public procurement, standardisation, industrial cooperation, Technical Barriers to Trade, and the negotiation of an Agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA agreement).

WINTERISATION Ongoing contacts with networks,

industry associations, Industrial
Forum members to help
Ukrainians cope with this winter.
Stock of available light bulbs
found. Companies ready to sell
generators to Ukraine found.
Network of European cities ready
to donate generators following
joint message with CoR and EP.

SMP

The negotiations for an agreement for Ukraine's association to the Single Market Programme are progressing well and Ukraine is expected to join the programme soon, which will provide funding for Ukrainian SMEs and help a better integration of Ukraine in the single market.

