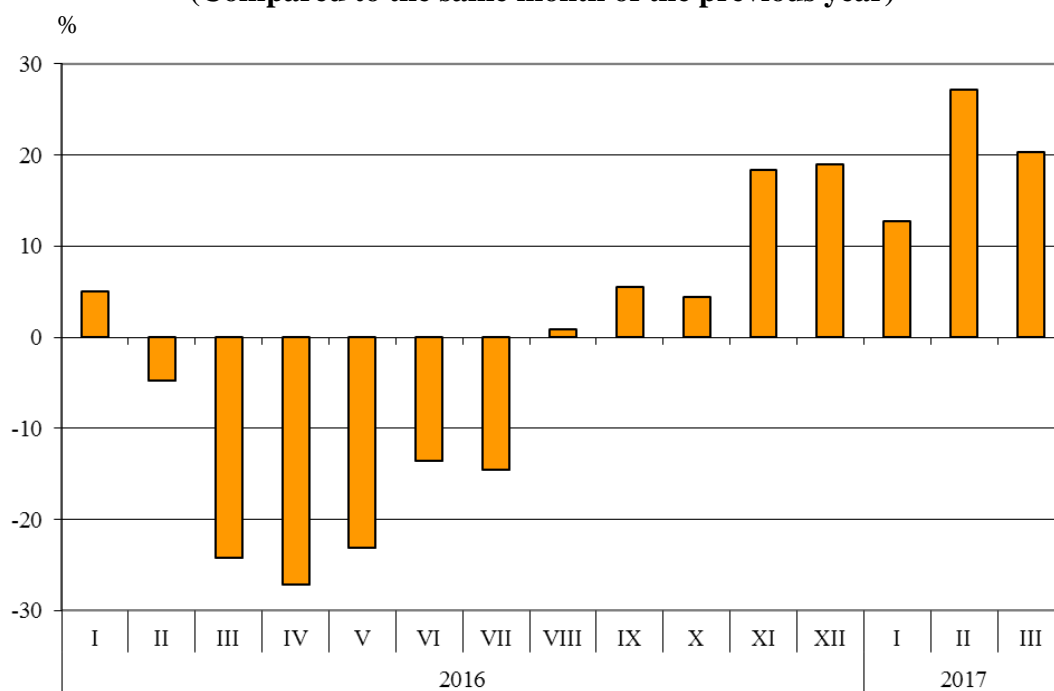


BULGARIAN TRADE WITH THIRD COUNTRIES IN THE PERIOD JANUARY - MARCH 2017 (PRELIMINARY DATA)

In the period **January - March 2017** Bulgarian **exports to third countries** increased by 20.1% in comparison with the corresponding period of the previous year and amounted to 4 243.3 Million BGN (Annex, Table 1 and 2). Main trade partners of Bulgaria were Turkey, China, Egypt, Serbia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Russian Federation, which accounted for 52.9% of the exports to non EU countries (Annex, Table 3).

In March 2017 Bulgarian **exports to third countries** increased by 20.3% compared to the corresponding month of the previous year and amounted to 1 411.0 Billion BGN.

**Figure 1. Nominal value¹ change of exports of Bulgaria to non EU countries
in the period 2016 - 2017
(Compared to the same month of the previous year)**



In the period **January - March 2017** compared to the same period of 2016 in the exports of Bulgaria to third countries distributed according to the **Standard International Trade Classification** the largest growths were recorded in the sections 'Mineral fuel, lubricants and related materials' (47.1%) and 'Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (36.2%) (Annex, Table 4). The most notable fall was reported in section 'Crude materials, inedible (except fuel)'² (8.8%).

¹ Value changes at current prices.

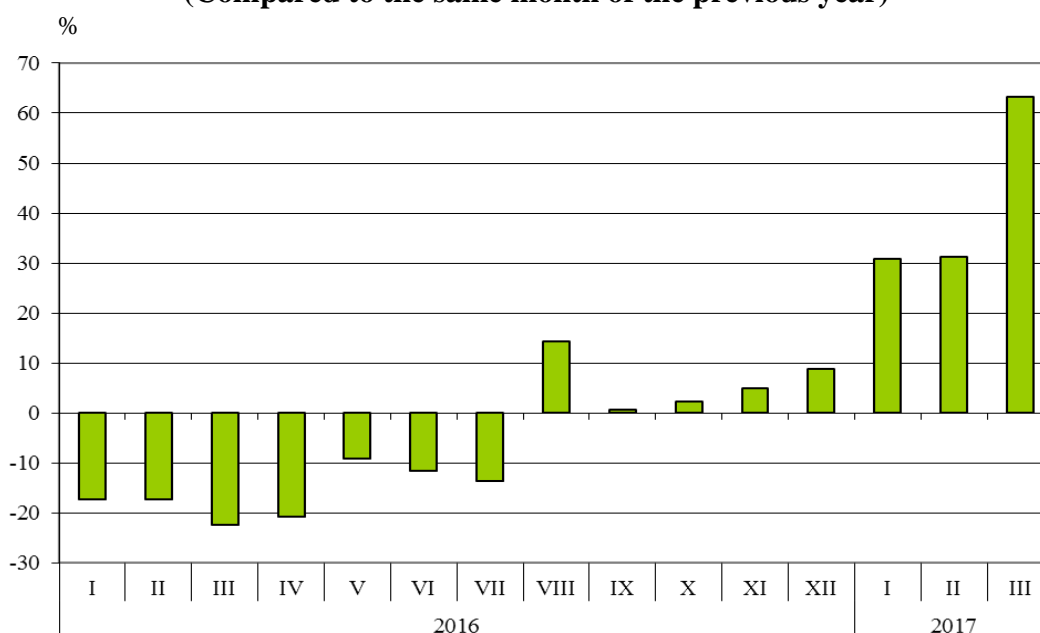
² The section includes following divisions: raw hides, skins and furskins; oil-seeds and oleaginous fruits; crude rubber; cork and wood; pulp and waste paper; textile fibres and their wastes; crude fertilizers and crude minerals; metalliferous ores and metal scrap; crude animal and vegetable materials, n.e.s.



Bulgarian imports from third countries in the period **January - March 2017** increased by 41.8% in comparison with the corresponding period of the previous year and added up to 5 158.3 Million BGN (at CIF prices) (Annex, Table 1 and 2). The largest amounts were reported for the goods imported from the Russian Federation, Turkey, China and Serbia (Annex, Table 3).

In March 2017 Bulgarian imports from third countries increased by 63.3% compared to the corresponding month of the previous year and amounted to 1 977.7 Billion BGN.

Figure 2. Nominal value¹ change of imports of Bulgaria to non EU countries in the period 2016 - 2017
(Compared to the same month of the previous year)



In the period **January - March 2017** compared to the same period of 2016 in the imports of Bulgaria from third countries distributed according to the **Standard International Trade Classification** the largest growths were recorded in the sections ‘Mineral fuel, lubricants and related materials’ (79.7%) and ‘Crude materials, inedible (except fuel)’ (71.1%) (Annex, Table 4). A fall was observed only in sector ‘Beverages and tobacco’ (22.6%).

The foreign trade balance of Bulgaria (export FOB - import CIF) **with third countries** in the period January - March 2017 was negative and added up to 915.0 Million BGN (Annex, Table 1). The trade balance at FOB/FOB prices (after elimination of transport and insurance costs on imports) was also negative and amounted to 653.2 Million BGN.

In March 2017 the foreign trade balance of Bulgaria (**export FOB - import CIF**) with third countries was negative and amounted to 566.7 Million BGN.

¹ Value changes at current prices.

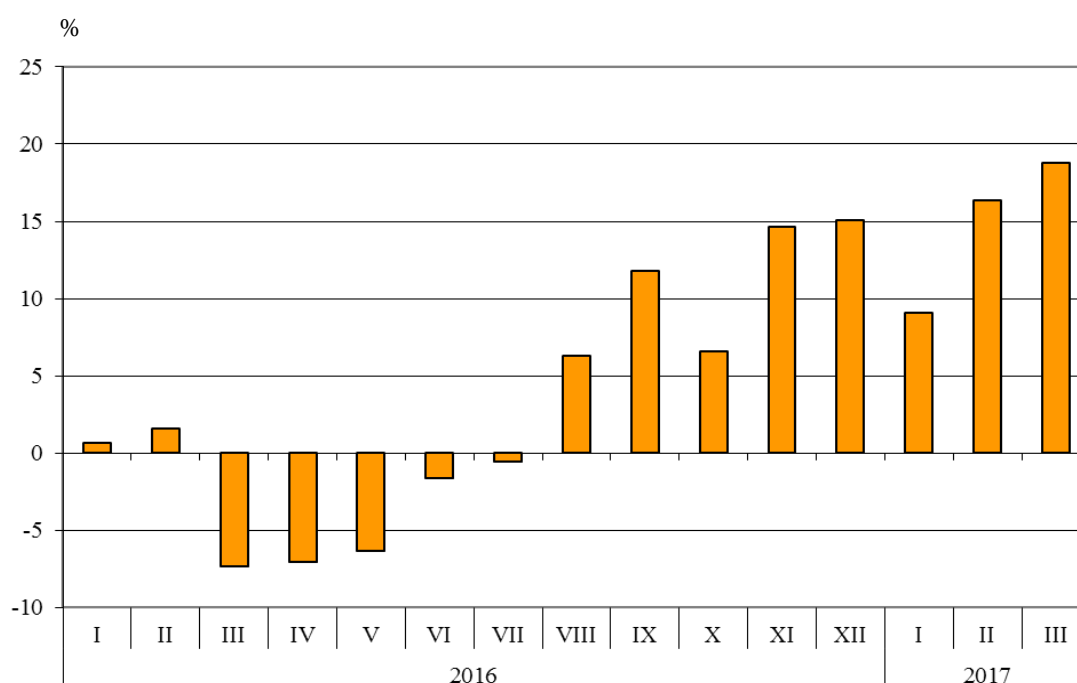


Bulgarian trade with third countries and EU - total

In the period **January - March 2017** the value of **all exported goods** from Bulgaria amounted to 12 161.3 Million BGN and in comparison with the corresponding period of the previous year the exports increased by 14.8% (Annex, Table 1 and 2).

In **March 2017** the total exports added up to 4 371.8 Billion BGN and increased by 18.8% compared to the corresponding month of the previous year.

**Figure 3. Nominal value¹ change of exports of Bulgaria in the period 2016 - 2017
(Compared to the same month of the previous year)**



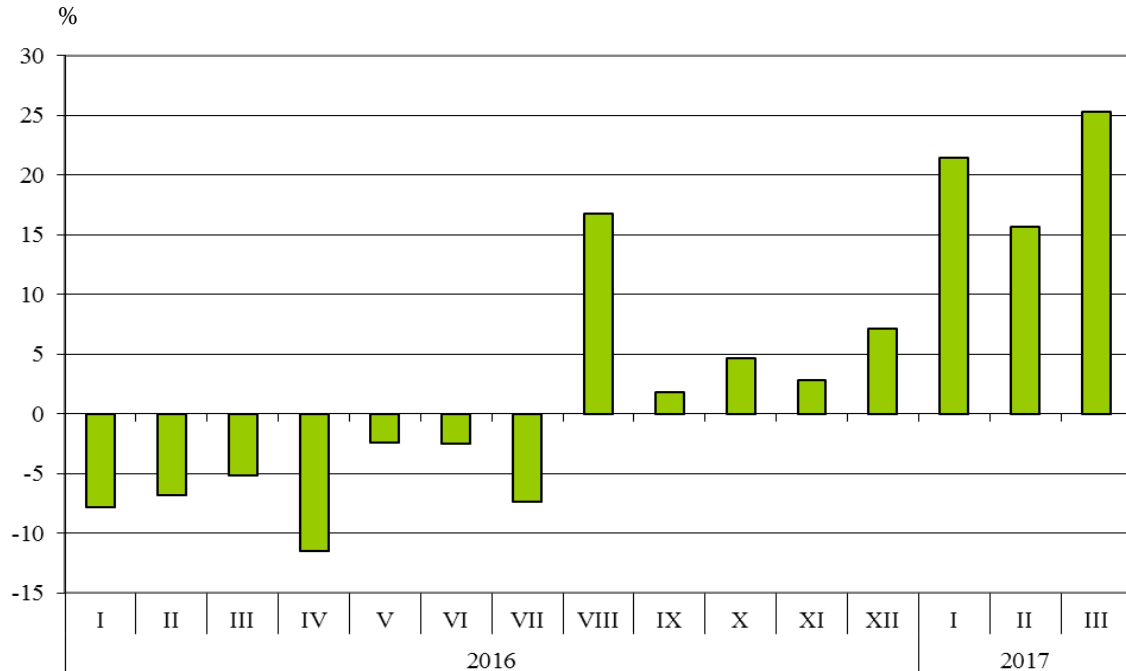
The total value of **all the goods imported** in the country in the period **January - March 2017** amounted to 13 927.7 Million BGN (at CIF prices), or by 21.0% more than the same period of 2016 (Annex, Table 1 and 2).

In **March 2017** the total imports increased by 25.3% compared to the same month of the previous year and added up to 5 285.9 Billion BGN.

¹ Value changes at current prices.



**Figure 4. Nominal value¹ change of imports of Bulgaria in the period 2016 - 2017
(Compared to the same month of the previous year)**



The **total foreign trade balance** (exports FOB - import CIF) was negative in the period January - March 2017 and amounted to 1 766.4 Million BGN (Annex, Table 1 and 2). At FOB/FOB prices (after elimination of transport and insurance costs on imports) in the period January - March 2017 the total foreign trade balance was also negative and added up to 1 068.7 Million BGN.

In **March 2017** the total foreign trade balance (exports FOB - import CIF) was negative and added up to 914.1 Million BGN. The trade balance at FOB/FOB prices was also negative and amounted to 647.2 Million BGN.

¹ Value changes at current prices.

Table 1

Exports, imports and trade balance of Bulgaria in the period January - March 2016¹ and 2017¹ by months

(Million BGN)

Months/Periods	Exports - FOB			Imports - CIF			Imports - FOB ²			Trade balance - FOB/CIF			Trade balance - FOB/FOB ²		
	Total	EU	Non EU	Total	EU	Non EU	Total	EU	Non EU	Total	EU	Non EU	Total	EU	Non EU
I.2016	3427.3	2263.0	1164.3	3471.9	2267.7	1204.2	3301.1	2154.8	1146.3	-44.6	-4.7	-39.9	126.2	108.2	18.0
II.2016	3481.7	2286.3	1195.4	3824.7	2601.5	1223.2	3644.8	2481.3	1163.5	-343.0	-315.2	-27.8	-163.1	-195.0	31.9
III.2016	3680.5	2507.4	1173.1	4217.0	3005.6	1211.4	4021.0	2864.8	1156.2	-536.5	-498.2	-38.3	-340.5	-357.4	16.9
I - III.2016	10589.5	7056.7	3532.8	11513.6	7874.8	3638.8	10966.9	7500.9	3466.0	-924.1	-818.1	-106.0	-377.4	-444.2	66.8
I.2017	3738.1	2426.0	1312.1	4216.0	2641.1	1574.9	4004.0	2508.7	1495.3	-477.9	-215.1	-262.8	-265.9	-82.7	-183.2
II.2017	4051.4	2531.2	1520.2	4425.8	2820.1	1605.7	4207.0	2682.0	1525.0	-374.4	-288.9	-85.5	-155.6	-150.8	-4.8
III.2017	4371.8	2960.8	1411.0	5285.9	3308.2	1977.7	5019.0	3142.8	1876.2	-914.1	-347.4	-566.7	-647.2	-182.0	-465.2
I - III.2017	12161.3	7918.0	4243.3	13927.7	8769.4	5158.3	13230.0	8333.5	4896.5	-1766.4	-851.4	-915.0	-1068.7	-415.5	-653.2

¹ Data are preliminary as of 10-th May 2017.

² By data of BNB for the transport costs.

Table 2

Value changes of exports and imports of Bulgaria in the period January - March 2017¹ compared to the same period of the previous year

(Per cent)

Months/Periods	Exports - FOB			Imports - CIF			Imports - FOB		
	Total	EU	Non EU	Total	EU	Non EU	Total	EU	Non EU
I	9.1	7.2	12.7	21.4	16.5	30.8	21.3	16.4	30.4
II	16.4	10.7	27.2	15.7	8.4	31.3	15.4	8.1	31.1
III	18.8	18.1	20.3	25.3	10.1	63.3	24.8	9.7	62.3
I - III	14.8	12.2	20.1	21.0	11.4	41.8	20.6	11.1	41.3

¹ Data are preliminary as of 10-th May 2017.



Table 3
Exports, imports and trade balance of Bulgaria with main non EU partner countries¹
in the period January - March 2016² and 2017²

Countries	Exports - FOB			Imports - CIF			Trade balance - FOB/CIF	
	2016	2017	Change compared to the same period of the previous year - %	2016	2017	Change compared to the same period of the previous year - %	2016	2017
	Million BGN			Million BGN			Million BGN	
Third countries - total	3532.8	4243.3	20.1	3638.8	5158.3	41.8	-106.0	-915.0
of which:								
Albania	24.3	32.8	35.0	4.1	7.7	87.8	20.2	25.1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	30.3	36.0	18.8	18.3	17.9	-2.2	12.0	18.1
Brazil	8.9	6.3	-29.2	11.3	10.9	-3.5	-2.4	-4.6
Canada	23.6	19.3	-18.2	19.1	20.6	7.9	4.5	-1.3
China	242.9	324.6	33.6	509.9	532.2	4.4	-267.0	-207.6
Egypt	99.6	305.5	206.7	72.7	254.6	250.2	26.9	50.9
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	192.8	196.6	2.0	97.8	139.1	42.2	95.0	57.5
Georgia	41.8	58.2	39.2	42.9	149.2	247.8	-1.1	-91.0
Gibraltar	0.4	27.1	6675.0	0.1	0.0	x	0.3	27.1
India	30.2	87.3	189.1	61.7	65.7	6.5	-31.5	21.6
Indonesia	14.7	13.5	-8.2	15.8	21.4	35.4	-1.1	-7.9
Iran, Islamic Republic of	39.0	36.0	-7.7	12.5	65.8	426.4	26.5	-29.8
Israel	37.2	37.0	-0.5	40.1	24.0	-40.1	-2.9	13.0
Japan	14.4	16.2	12.5	39.9	44.5	11.5	-25.5	-28.3
Kazakhstan	9.6	11.2	16.7	8.3	13.1	57.8	1.3	-1.9
Korea, Republic of	38.7	14.2	-63.3	58.5	53.9	-7.9	-19.8	-39.7
Libya	25.9	29.1	12.4	2.5	2.6	4.0	23.4	26.5
Morocco	16.2	44.9	177.2	35.7	43.6	22.1	-19.5	1.3
Namibia	11.4	25.8	126.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.4	25.8
Norway	17.5	10.5	-40.0	13.0	11.9	-8.5	4.5	-1.4
Peru	1.5	7.2	380.0	15.8	12.7	-19.6	-14.3	-5.5
Russian Federation	155.1	173.9	12.1	922.9	1430.8	55.0	-767.8	-1256.9
Serbia	174.3	203.5	16.8	148.0	275.0	85.8	26.3	-71.5
Singapore	56.8	97.5	71.7	14.4	19.1	32.6	42.4	78.4
South Africa	45.1	28.4	-37.0	11.4	19.6	71.9	33.7	8.8
Switzerland	66.5	49.0	-26.3	83.7	92.8	10.9	-17.2	-43.8
Syrian Arab Republic	11.4	23.0	101.8	0.6	0.0	x	10.8	23.0
Taiwan	7.6	10.5	38.2	49.2	56.5	14.8	-41.6	-46.0
Turkey	866.1	1039.0	20.0	695.7	874.0	25.6	170.4	165.0
Ukraine	54.0	33.7	-37.6	181.3	204.3	12.7	-127.3	-170.6
United Arab Emirates	123.9	119.6	-3.5	12.1	15.0	24.0	111.8	104.6
United States	166.5	141.4	-15.1	99.1	105.8	6.8	67.4	35.6
Viet-Nam	12.0	10.1	-15.8	16.7	21.5	28.7	-4.7	-11.4

¹ Partner country:

- In case of exports (or dispatches) is the country (or Member State) of final destination of the goods.

- In case of imports (or arrivals) is the country (or Member State) of consignment of the goods.

² Data are preliminary as of 10-th May 2017.

'x' - category not applicable.

'-' - no case.

'0' - figure less than half the unit used.



Table 4

**Exports, imports and trade balance of Bulgaria with non EU countries by sections of SITC, rev. 4
in the period January - March 2016¹ and 2017¹**

Sections by SITC	Exports - FOB			Imports - CIF			Trade balance - FOB/CIF	
	2016	2017	Change compared to the same period of the previous year - %	2016	2017	Change compared to the same period of the previous year - %	2016	2017
	Million BGN			Million BGN			Million BGN	
Third countries - total	3532.8	4243.3	20.1	3638.8	5158.3	41.8	-106.0	-915.0
Food and live animals	342.8	379.9	10.8	198.4	223.8	12.8	144.4	156.1
Beverages and tobacco	114.4	131.9	15.3	31.4	24.3	-22.6	83.0	107.6
Crude materials, inedible (except fuel)	277.3	252.9	-8.8	313.3	536.1	71.1	-36.0	-283.2
Mineral fuel, lubricants and related materials	553.3	814.1	47.1	901.3	1619.4	79.7	-348.0	-805.3
Animals and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	43.9	42.0	-4.3	12.3	15.4	25.2	31.6	26.6
Chemical and related products n.e.c.	375.9	411.5	9.5	415.1	424.7	2.3	-39.2	-13.2
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	655.8	893.5	36.2	773.3	1035.8	33.9	-117.5	-142.3
Machinery and transport equipment	622.0	660.4	6.2	676.0	909.4	34.5	-54.0	-249.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	538.2	649.5	20.7	310.5	361.2	16.3	227.7	288.3
Commodities and transactions n.e.c.	9.2	7.6	-17.4	7.2	8.2	13.9	2.0	-0.6

¹ Data are preliminary as of 10-th May 2017.