

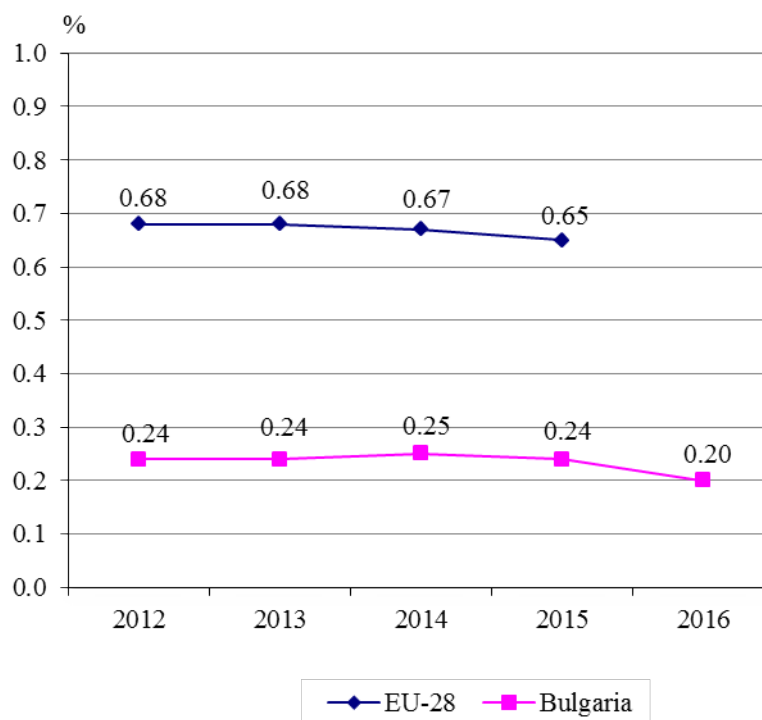


GOVERNMENT BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR R&D (GBARD), 2016

In 2016, the government budget allocations for R&D amounted to 187.5 million BGN and decreased by 11.8% compared to 2015.

The share of government budget allocations for R&D from gross domestic product (GDP) is also decreasing. In 2016, they represent 0.2% of GDP, at 0.24% in 2015. The average value of this indicator for the European Union (EU-28) is 0.65% in 2015.

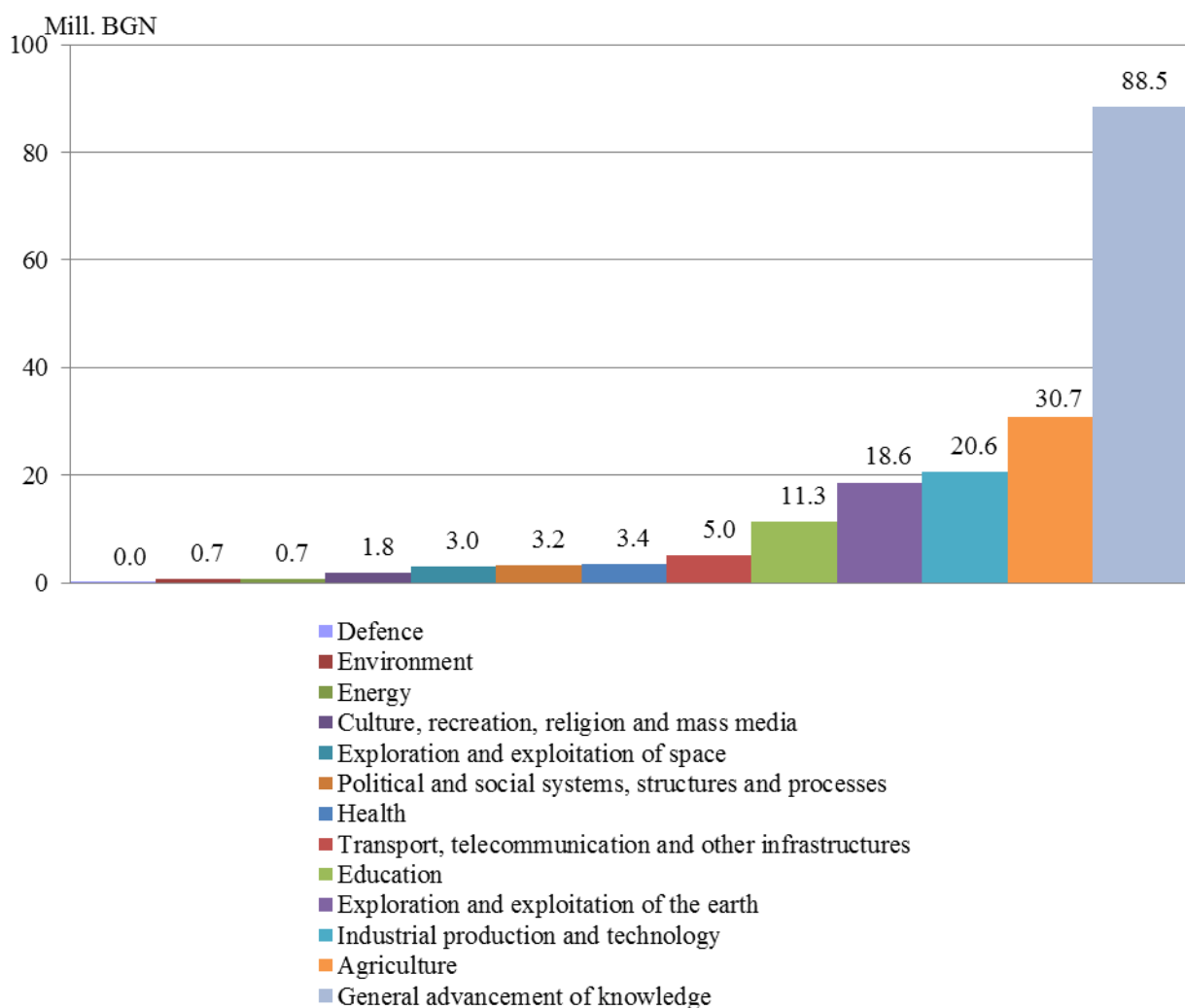
Figure 1. GBARD as a percentage of GDP¹



¹ The latest data for the EU-28 are for 2015.



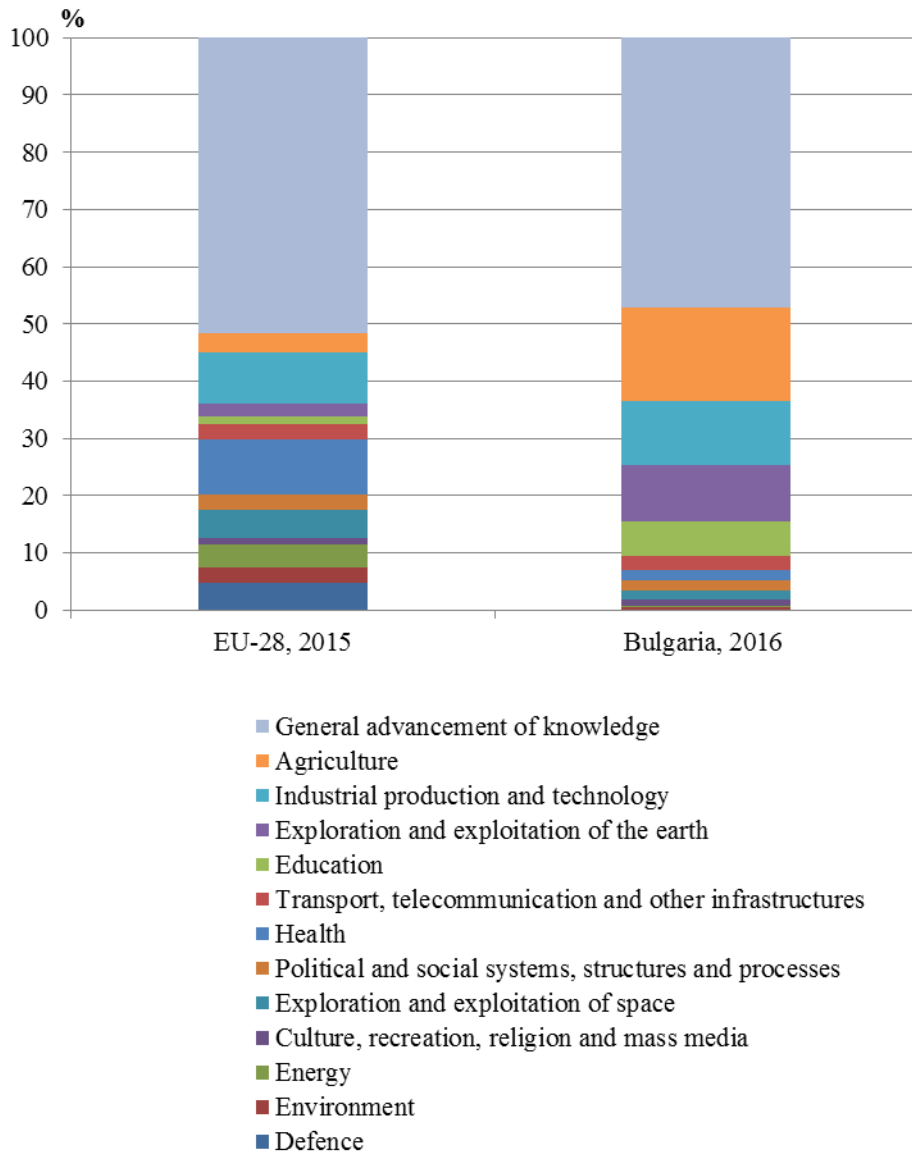
Figure 2. GBARD by socio-economic objectives, 2016



The structure of government budget allocations for R&D by socio-economic objectives varied slightly from the previous 2015. The largest share (47.2%) of state support for research aimed at ‘General advancement of knowledge’, which mainly includes the research realized by the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and by universities. This socio-economic objective is essential too for the European Union in 2015, with a share of 51.7%.



Figure 3. Structure of GBARD by socio-economic objectives¹



¹ The latest data for the EU-28 are for 2015.



Methodological notes

The purpose of the statistical survey on government budget allocations for R&D (GBARD) by socio-economic objectives is to provide internationally comparable information about the characterization of the government support for R&D activities, and the priority research areas to which appropriations for science are targeted.

The indicator ‘Government budget allocations for R&D (GBARD)’ measures the government support for R&D performed both within the country and abroad. This means that annual membership dues in the budget of international scientific organizations as well as payments from the budget related to the participation of Bulgaria in bilateral and multilateral research programmes are also treated as government budget expenditure on R&D.

The Government budget allocations for R&D include both current costs and capital expenditure on R&D.

According to the purpose of the R&D programmes or projects GBARD are distributed to the socio-economic objectives on the basis of the Nomenclature of analysis and comparison of scientific programmes and budgets (NABS 2007).