

CEE economies after a decade in the EU



Warsaw, April 9, 2014

James Roaf

Senior Resident Representative

IMF Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe, Warsaw

Outline



- EU membership
 - Big picture
 - Convergence
 - Trade and Financial linkages
- 2008 Financial crisis
 - Boom and bust
 - The IMF programs
- Challenges ahead
 - Economic Outlook
 - Deal with crisis legacies
 - Boost tradable sector
 - Improve investment climate

Outline

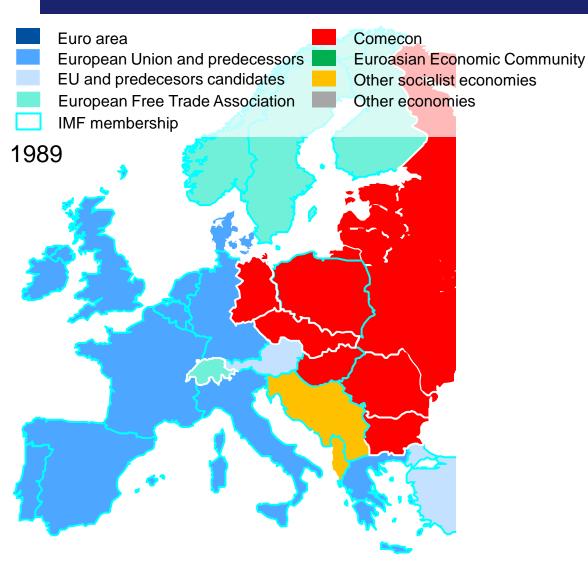


EU membership

- Big picture
- Convergence
- Trade and Financial linkages
- 2008 Financial crisis
 - Boom and bust
 - The IMF programs
- Challenges ahead
 - Economic Outlook
 - Deal with crisis legacies
 - Boost tradable sector
 - Improve investment climate

The Big Picture

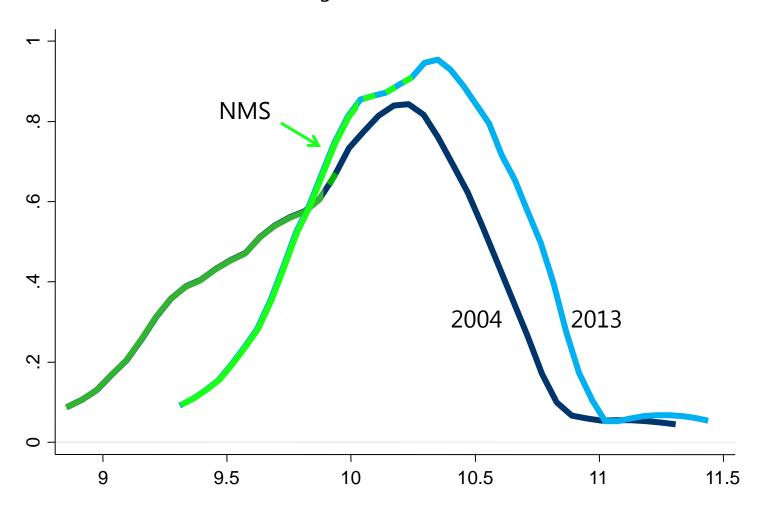




Convergence in Europe

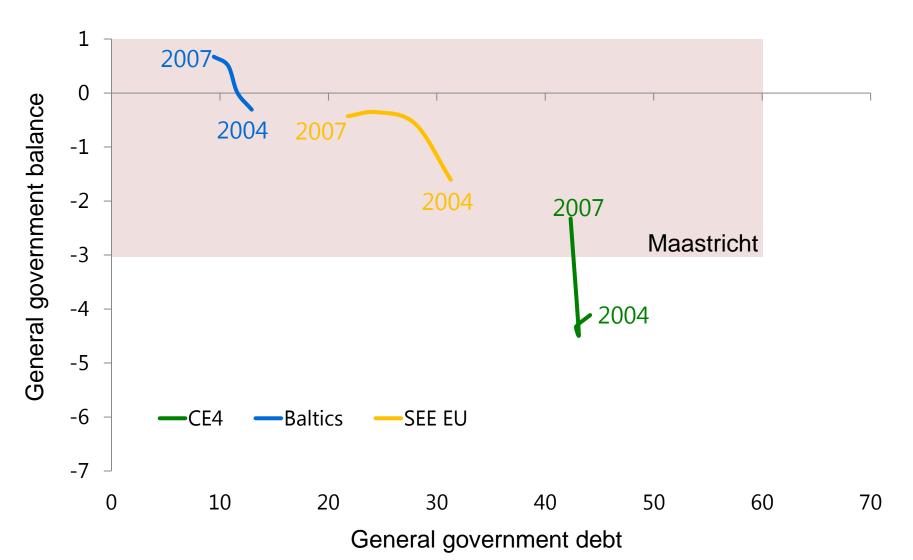


Distribution of income in EU28 (logPPP)



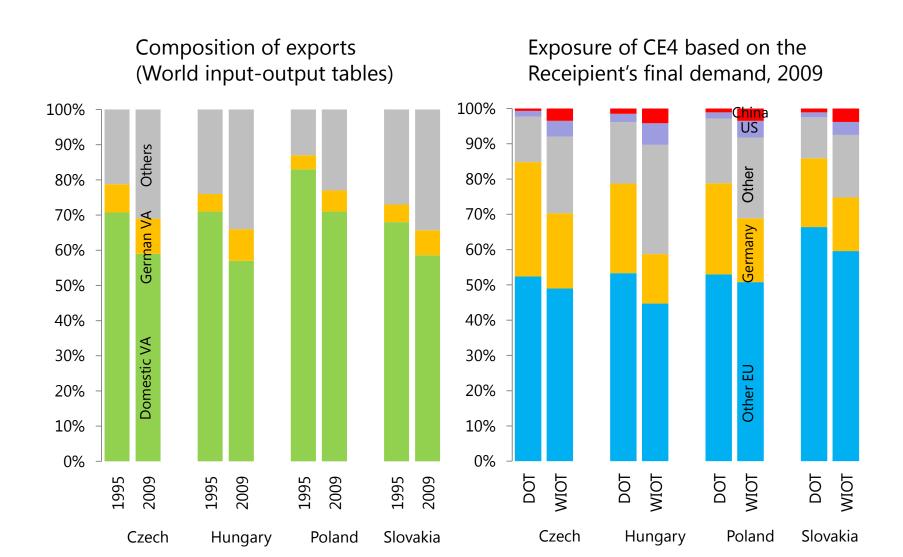
Rapid growth strengthened fiscal accounts





German supply chain became a main theme in CE4 trade





Outline

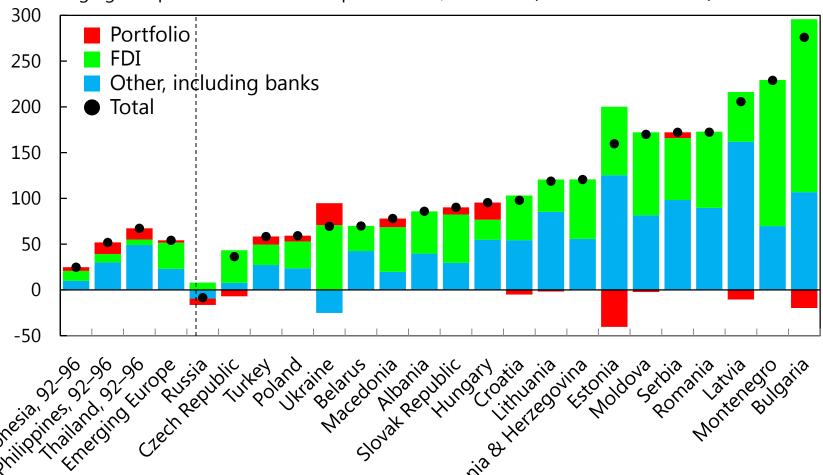


- EU membership
 - Big picture
 - Convergence
 - Trade and Financial linkages
- 2008 Financial crisis
 - Boom and bust
 - The IMF programs
- Challenges ahead
 - Economic Outlook
 - Deal with crisis legacies
 - Boost tradable sector
 - Improve investment climate

Exceptional pre-crisis capital inflows

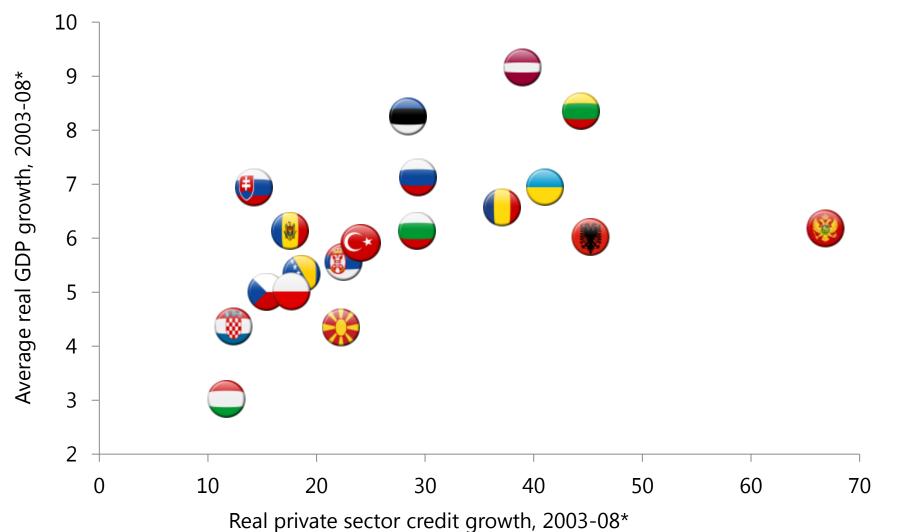


Emerging Europe: Cumulative Net Capital Inflows, 2003–08* (Percent of 2003 GDP)



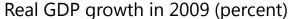
Credit boom fueled strong GDP growth

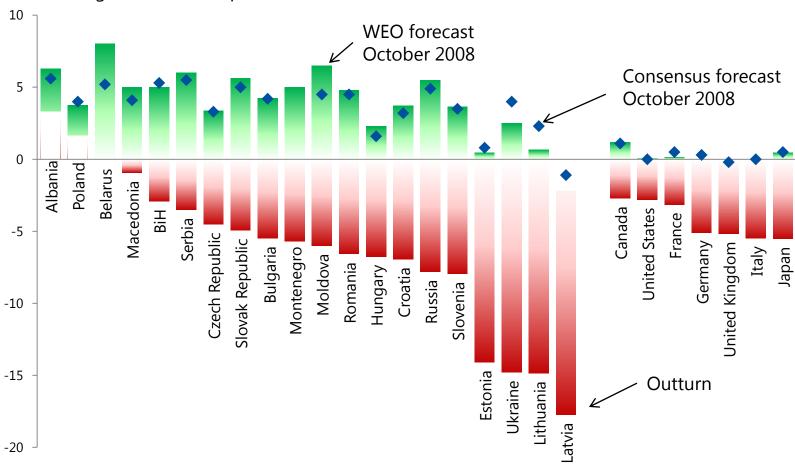




2009 recession came as a surprise...

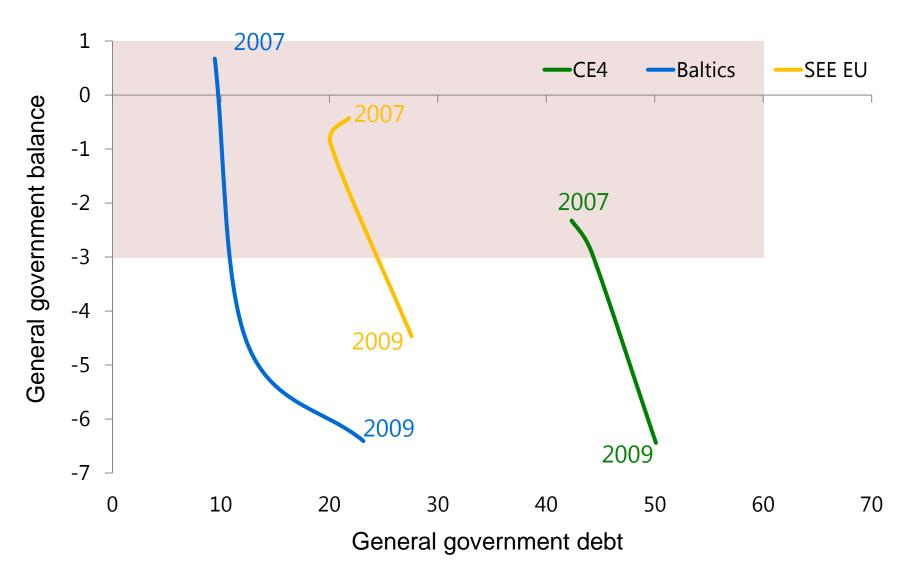






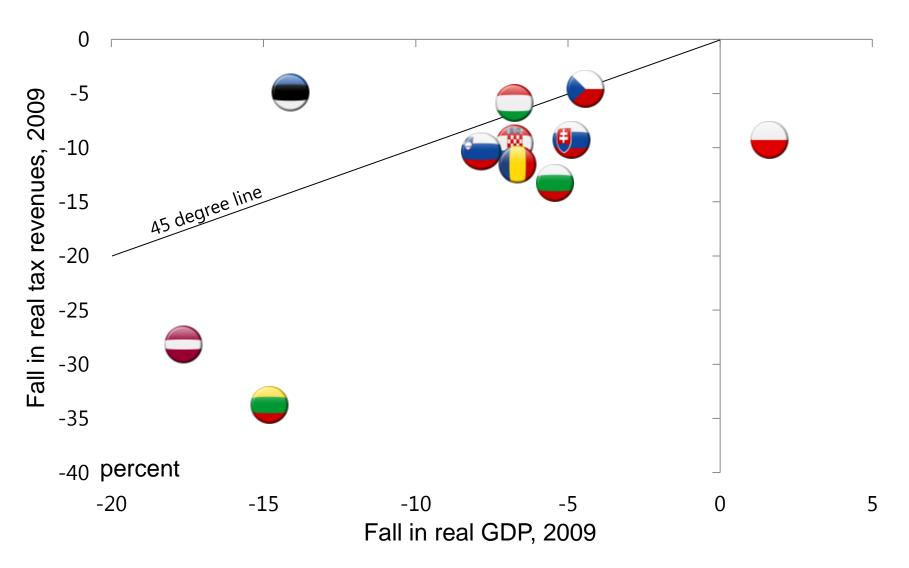
...depleting fiscal buffers...





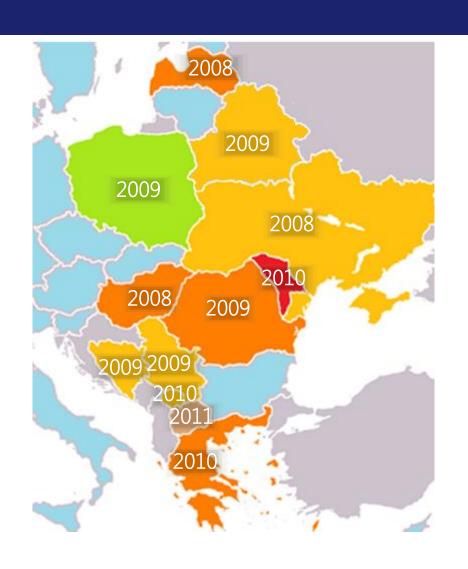
...as tax revenues collapsed.

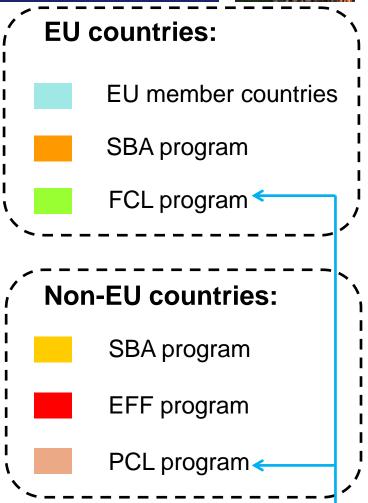




The IMF was quick to provide assistance







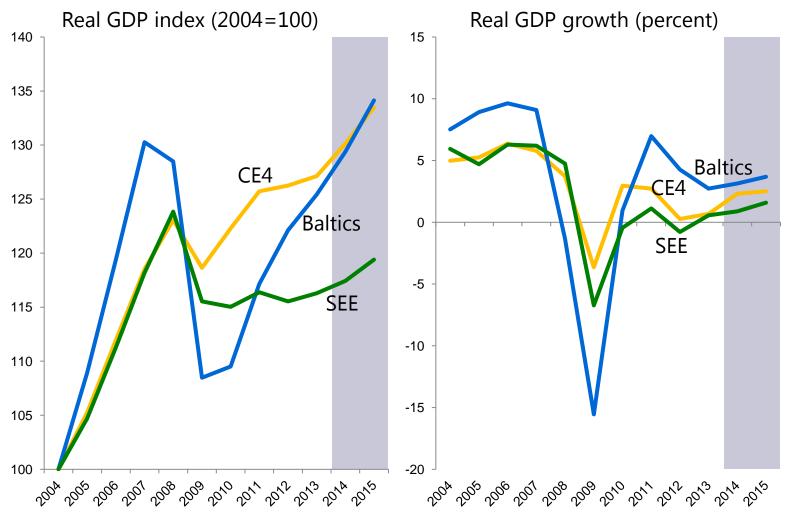
Outline



- EU membership
 - Big picture
 - Convergence
 - Trade and Financial linkages
- 2008 Financial crisis
 - Boom and bust
 - The IMF programs
- Challenges ahead
 - Economic Outlook
 - Deal with crisis legacies
 - Boost tradable sector
 - Improve investment climate

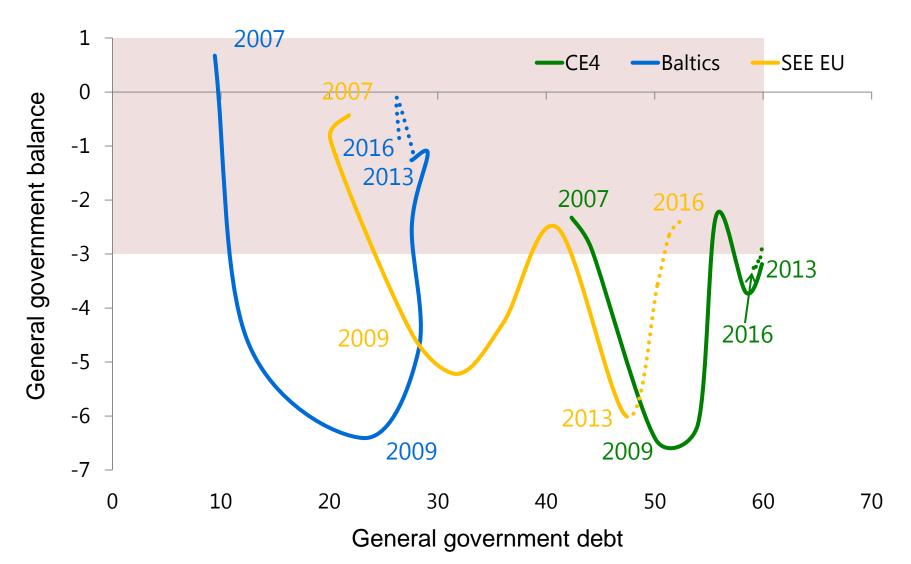
Growth is expected to recover





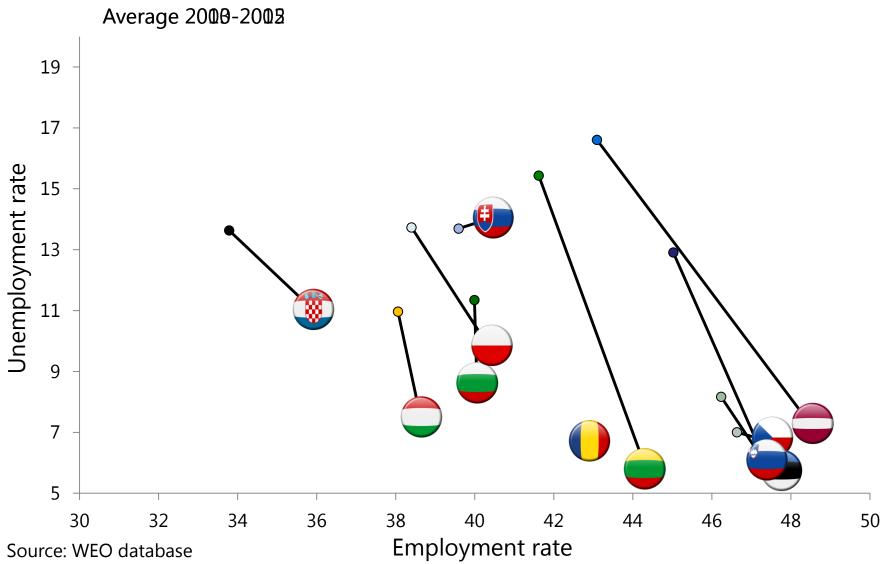
Crisis legacies: Rebuild fiscal buffers





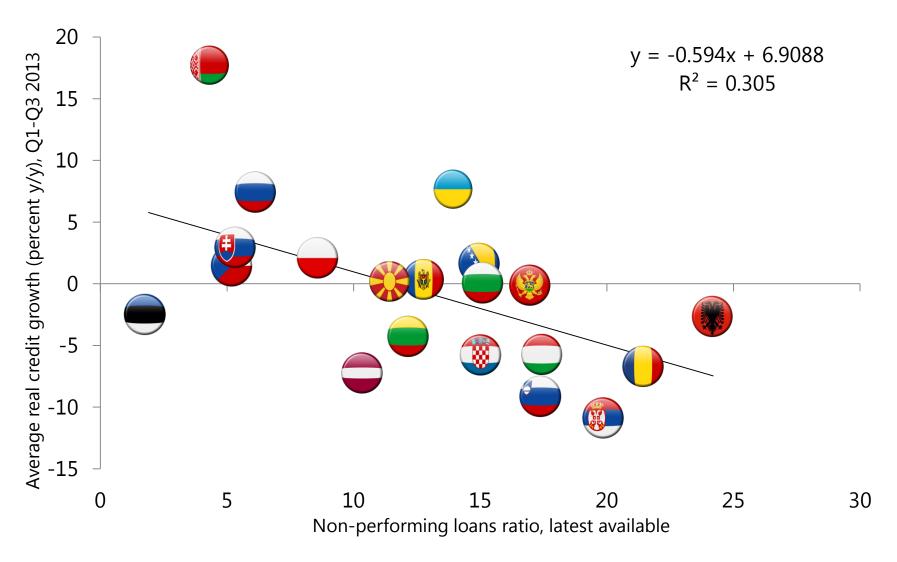
Crisis legacies: Labor market is yet to recover





Crisis legacies: Address high NPLs





Boost tradable sector

Λ



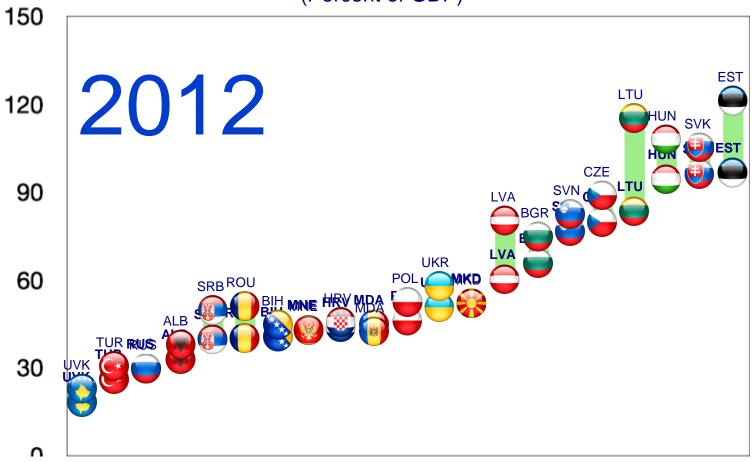
Exports of Goods and Services (Percent of GDP)

150 2007 120 SVN CZE LTU 90 UKR MKD 60 30

Boost tradable sector

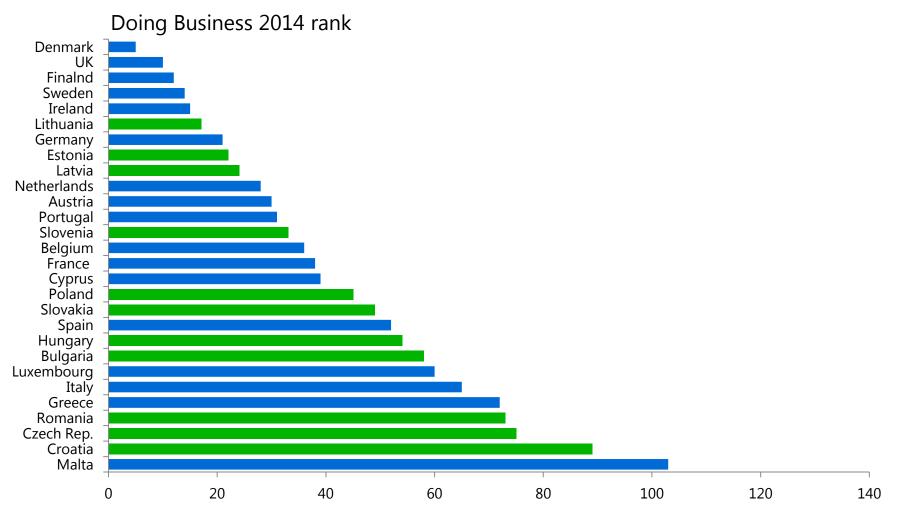


Exports of Goods and Services (Percent of GDP)



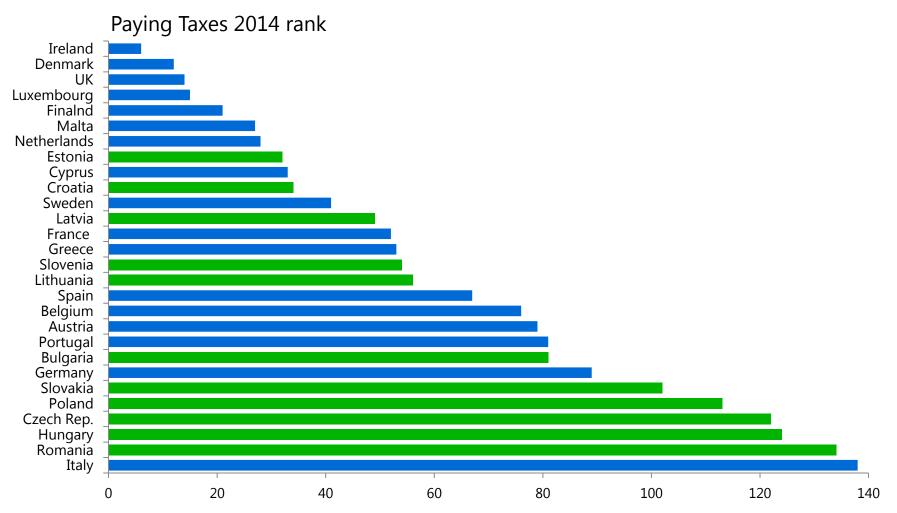
Tax system is a weakness in most CEE countries





Tax system is a weakness in most CEE countries





IMF policy priorities in the region



Policy area	Priority*	Common policy recommendations
Fiscal		 Composition of fiscal consolidation should be more balanced Improve tax compliance
Monetary		 Monetary policy should remain supportive, while being alert to inflation and exchange rate pressures
Financial system		Address high NPLs problemStrengthen financial sector supervision and regulation
Labor market		Improve labor market participation and reduce skill mismatchesConsider active labor market policies
Business environment		Improve contracts enforcmentStrenghten insolvency framework
Social security		Consider parametric reform of pension systemEnsure fairness and counter abuses of the system

^{*} Prevalence of calls for policy action in latest IMF Article IV staff appraisals





Thank you