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This annual publication presents, in its first part, the main operating statistics for the past year and gives an outline of the structure of the nuclear plant situation, with units on line as well as units under construction.

The second part of the publication gives the monthly operating data for each nuclear power station of the Community as well as the yearly results since the first connection to the grid. The annual load diagrams are also included showing the main reasons for unavailability.

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NEWS ITEMS

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NEWS ITEMS

Sixth statistical programme of the European Communities 1985–87

The Commission has approved a new statistical programme (COM(84)364 final) which is being sent to the Economic and Social Committee.

Summary

The central aim of the new programme remains unchanged compared with the fifth statistical programme.[1] It is to provide a statistical service which will prove to be a basic and flexible instrument for the formulation, monitoring and administration of Community policies in most fields of priority according to the framework programmes drawn up annually by the Commission. The standards to be maintained or achieved are high. The statistical service of the European Community must in all essential aspects be on a par with that of its major trading partners.

Much progress has been made in setting up an extensive network of data banks. Some new data banks still remain to be developed but the emphasis in the coming years will be more on the following activities:

(i) Bringing the complete statistical service, i.e. statistical expertise as well as the statistics, closer to the user with increased attention to the linking and analysis of statistics from various sources.
(ii) Concentrating intra-Community harmonization and standardization in those fields where closer comparisons are urgently required for policy needs.
(iii) Increased recognition in statistical work of the world context in which the Community acts: the bringing closer together of Community and international standards, statistics as an instrument of innovation, statistics of high technology, development of technical cooperation in statistics.
(iv) Better coordination of the input, throughput and output of statistical information from all sources in order to promote maximum use at minimum cost, while continuing the search for the elimination or reduction of high-cost/low-benefit statistics in order to release resources to cope with new demands.

Guidelines

The following guidelines were used in drawing up the programme:

(i) Elimination of unnecessary statistics;
(ii) Maximizing the use of statistics already available;
(iii) Rationalizing the flows of statistical information;
(iv) Ensuring the maximum cooperation of the Member States;
(v) Strengthening the links between Eurostat and other Commission services.

The programme consists of seven documents:

Annex 1 — Directorate A:
Processing and dissemination of statistical information.
Annex 2 — Directorate B:
General economic statistics.
Annex 3 — Directorate C:
External trade, ACP and non-member countries, and transport statistics.

[1] COM(81) 327 final. See also Eurostat News No. 3—1981.

Annex 4 — Directorate D (part.):
Energy.
Annex 5 — Directorate D (part.):
Industry and services.
Annex 6 — Directorate E (part.):
Demographic and social statistics.
Directorate E (part.):
Agricultural statistics.

Copies may be obtained from Marije Klinkum, Bâtiment Jean Monnet, Office B3/029, Kirchberg/Luxembourg, tel. 4301-3105.

Eurostat Directory — Issue No 4, October 1984

Eurostat has prepared a new version (see Eurostat News No 1-1984) of a guide intended to help users of Eurostat statistics to contact officials who can help them find the statistics they need. This document is a kind of vade-mecum of the work of the Statistical Office.

The subject-matter areas are first divided according to directorates and then, within directorates, divisions and other administrative units, and finally within these units by work areas. The names and telephone numbers of the officials concerned are given for each work area so that the information source may be rapidly pinpointed.

The Directory is currently available in English, French and German. Copies can be obtained from Marije Klinkum, Bâtiment Jean Monnet, Office B3/029, Kirchberg/Luxembourg, tel. 4301-3105.

Fisheries in the European Communities

This short survey shows the position of the European Community in the world, outlines the major developments in the last decade (which are largely due to the extension of economic zones that took place around the beginning of this period) and indicates the position that the enlarged Community (EUR 12, i.e. including the applicant States, Spain and Portugal) might be expected to hold.

The principal source of data has been the Eurostat *Yearbook of fisheries* (1984) to which the reader is referred for greater detail. In citing certain global figures in this survey the author, on his own responsibility, has been obliged to make a number of estimates.

Catches of fishery products

The European Community occupies an important position in world fisheries. With a total reported catch of 5.3 million tonnes in 1982, the present Community (EC 10) is only behind Japan and the USSR in the volume of its catch. Two individual Member States, Denmark (with a catch of 1.9 million tonnes) and the United Kingdom (920 000 tonnes), and one of the applicant States Spain (1.35 million tonnes), appeared in the list of the top 20 fishing nations in 1982.

Although Denmark registers the largest total catch, only about 20% of this is destined for consumption (the rest being used for fish meal and oil production) and thus the United Kingdom and France (with a catch of about 770 000 tonnes) are the major contributors to the consumption market. Other sizeable contributions are made by the Netherlands (500 000 tonnes), Italy (480 000 tonnes) and the FR of Germany (310 000 tonnes). Of particular note is the Irish catch of 210 000 tonnes, more than double the mean annual catch for the period 1971–75.

Approximately 85% of the EUR 10 catch was taken from fishing grounds in the North-east Atlantic, 10% from the Mediterranean Sea, 1% from the North-west Atlantic, and lesser quantities from other such widespread parts of the world as the South-east Atlantic, North-east Pacific, the Indian Ocean and the Antarctic

Spain shows the greatest diversification in fishing grounds by operating not only in the North Atlantic and Mediterranean but by also making appreciable catches in the East-central and South-east Atlantic, that is off the West-African coasts.

Although the North-west Atlantic grounds make a relatively small contribution to the total Community catch they are extremely important for the distant-water fishing fleet and this region shows the greatest impact for the Community of the extension of economic zones that took place in the early to mid-1970s. In the period 1971-75 the annual catch on the traditional fishing grounds of the North-west Atlantic was 170 000 tonnes for EUR 10. In 1982 this had fallen to 70 000 tonnes due in part to the very limited access to American and Canadian grounds accorded to the Community. For the enlarged Community, EUR 12 (that is including the applicant States Spain and Portugal), the decrease is even more acute, from 500 000 tonnes in 1971–75 to 110 000 tonnes in 1982.

Due to the extension of economic zones and more severe stock management measures the combined annual catch by EUR 10 of eight of the more important food fish (cod, haddock, whiting, saithe, sole, plaice, redfish and herring) dropped from 2.2 million tonnes in 1971–75 to 1.3 million tonnes in 1982. Some compensation for this shortfall was obtained by increased catches of other species. For example, the rapid development of the mackerel fishery to the south and west of the British Isles resulted in increased catches for EUR 10 from 98 000 tonnes in 1971–75 to 490 000 tonnes in 1982. However, in most cases these increased catches were of species that were not generally acceptable as direct replacements of species for which shortfalls were recorded. The consequence of this will be noted in the section on international trade in fishery products.

Value of the catch

In 1982 the total value of fishery products at first sale was approximately 3 000 million ECU for EUR 10 and 4 800 ECU for EUR 12. For the Community as a whole this represented only 0.1% of the gross domestic product of market prices, with variations from 0.04% for Belgium to 0.7% for Portugal. However, it should be noted that this is a global figure which ignores the regional importance of the industry and the fact that much of the product is further processed before consumption, thereby adding to its value.

It is interesting to note that although Mediterranean waters are generally not so productive as the waters of the North-east Atlantic the value of the product is very much higher. The average value of fish in Greece and Italy, both countries fishing predominantly in the Mediterranean, was in excess of 1 500 ECU per tonne compared with the average price for the UK, Ireland, the Netherlands and Belgium, all of whom fish exclusively in the North Atlantic, of about 750 ECU per tonne.

Foreign trade in fishery products

The extension of economic zones has been a major factor in the development of international trade in fishery products which has increased from an annual mean of 7.6 million tonnes in 1971–75 to 10.2 million tonnes in 1982, an increase of 34%. Countries having reduced access to fishing grounds where traditional food species are found are obliged to seek supplies on the international market. Conversely countries now hawing preferential access to supplies of fish beyond the domestic demand seek export markets for the fish.

The increased trade is seen in the Community data. EUR 10 imports increased from 2.85 million tonnes in 1971–75 to 3.6 million tonnes in 1982. The corresponding data for EUR 12 are 3.2 and 4 million tonnes. The increase is even more marked with exports, where for EUR 10 they were 770 000 tonnes in 1971–75 and 2.26 million tonnes in 1982; for EUR 12 they were 960 000 tonnes and 2.54 million tonnes for the respective periods.

In 1982, only the Netherlands, Ireland and Denmark currently have exports of fishery products exceeding imports, both in value and volume. However, both EUR 10 and EUR 12 had overall deficits of 1.4 million tonnes (2 000 million ECU) and 1.5 million tonnes (2 350 million ECU). In terms of volume this is a distinct improvement over the situation in 1971–75 when for EUR 10 and EUR 12 the deficits were 2.0 and 2.2 million tonnes. However, in value the situation is much less satisfactory since in 1971–75 the annual deficits were only 180 and 90 million ECU for EUR 10 and EUR 12 respectively. This situation is readily explained by the Community increasing imports of the traditional and high-priced species for which catches have decreased and greatly increasing exports of, unfortunately, low-valued species for which catch exceeds domestic demand (e.g. mackerel).

The Community has a very prominent position in the international trade in fishery products, particularly as regard imports. Overall, in 1982, EUR 10 was responsible for 39% by volume and 33% by value for imports and 24% by volume and 20% by value for exports. For certain individual products the Community is dominant: for example about 75% of the fish oil on the international market is imported to the Community. Similarly the world's two biggest importers of fish meal are the United Kingdom and the FR of Germany.

Fishing fleet

Comprehensive, harmonized and accurate fleet statistics are not available for all Member States, thus making the situation difficult to summarize in a short article of this nature. The total number of motorized fishing vessels for EUR 10 has not changed greatly between 1971–75 and 1982, being in the order of 70 000. However, the total tonnage has fallen from approximately 1.3 million tonnes to approxlmately 1 million tonnes. The number of vessels of 500 GRT and over has fallen in EUR 10 from about 350 to about 200 in 1982. These large vessels are those operating in distant-water fisheries where the access to fishing grounds has been restricted as a result of the extension of economic zones. This decrease has been compensated for by an increase in the number of smaller vessels which operate in near-water fisheries. This increase is particularly noticeable in the United Kingdom and Ireland. The former, along with Germany, suffered most severely in the decrease in the distant water fisheries.

Portugal and (particularly) Spain have significant fishing fleets and it is estimated that with the adhesion of these two countries to the Community the total tonnage of the EC fleet will double. The Spanish fleet has not suffered the same decline in the number of vessels of over 500 GRT (currently numbering about 140 and therefore the biggest in the Community) as observed in other countries: this is probably due to the facts that oceanic tuna fishing, in which a good proportion of the fleet operates, has not been subject to great changes in the severity of management measures in recent years and that where access has been restricted the vessels have been diverted to other waters (e.g. off the West-African coasts).

Employment in the fishing industry

This is another sector in which the statistics are generally incomplete, poorly harmonized and are often only estimates. However, there are probably in the order of 160 000 fishermen in the Community (EUR 10). This is only about 0.1% of the working population or about one fiftieth of the number of agricultural workers. However, the importance of fisheries should not be judged on these global figures. Many communities, particularly in the underprivileged regions of the Community, are heavily dependent on fisheries with few, if any, viable alternatives available. It has also been estimated that for every man at sea there are four or five men on land building and maintaining the vessels and equipment and processing the perishable product.

The available Spanish and Portuguese data suggest that, with the adhesion of those two countries, the number of fishermen will about double.

D. Cross

Remote sensing and Community agriculture

The European Commission is interested in possible applications of remote sensing in agriculture. The policies adopted might affect the various fields of study, provide the necessary guidelines and enable pilot projects to be launched and followed up. Directorate-General VI (Agriculture) is responsible for coordinating the entire field of agricultural research while Directorate-General XII (Science, Research and Development) and the Joint Research Centre take charge of the theoretical aspects and, in particular, the processing of the data obtained from sources such as radar, radiometry and satellites.

1. It would appear quite likely that, as a major world power, the Commission will one day have the use of a satellite network which will enable it to assess the agricultural resources of the other major powers or blocs, such as the United States, the Soviet Union, China and Brazil, etc. and make estimates on the basis of its own data. Information obtained in this way would enable the Commission to identify areas where there were likely to be surpluses and/or shortages as well as detecting agricultural disasters as they occur. The Commission would thus be in a position to forecast the probable volume of world trade in the basic agricultural products, such as cereals, sugars, groundnuts and soya.

2. Within Community territory and Community waters, remote sensing is an obvious source of regularly updated information on

questions concerning the environment, pollution, fisheries or the resources and potential of specific areas (including agricultural land) and barren regions. Various research projects are already underway in these fields involving climatology, cartography, water use, soil drainage, study of the Mediterranean regions, biomass and developments in mountainous areas (erosion).

3. In the case of regions concentrating exclusively on a single crop or a limited number of specific crops, remote sensing is already a source of valuable information. Techniques have been mastered for utilizing the results for specific real-time applications such as the production of an olive-growing register in Italy or the management of irrigated arable areas in Mali and the Niger delta. In the medium term there are likely to be rapid developments in applications of this kind to include forestry registers, registers of areas under vines or fruit (such as citrus fruits) and water management in irrigated areas. The Community could process and develop the various programmes in this field through technical aid in collaboration with the countries associated under the Lomé Convention, thereby contributing to the improvement of the basic agricultural statistics in certain countries.

4. Data obtained by remote sensing will one day come to play an important part in a European agrometeorological network covering aspects such as temperature, humidity, advance warning for plant protection measures, local programmes for agricultural work, the possibility of second crops, etc. The collection and processing of meteorological data will improve advance warning of exceptional climatic conditions. Ultimately, regional forecasts will be made of probable average temperature or precipitation for the next 10, 20 or 30 days. This information will help the Commission in its work on harvest forecasts for the current year.

5. The Commission does in fact have monthly harvest forecasts for planning purposes. For each Member State and for the main crops, harvest forecasts (area under cultivation multiplied by yield) are already drawn up on the basis of available survey results (in December, March, May or June depending on the Member State in question), expert opinions and meteorological data for the past month (temperature, precipitation) recorded at 120 Community measurement stations. It is quite possible that in due course remote sensing may be incorporated into the existing system with a view to improving these forecasts.

For this purpose, the information transmitted by satellite will need to be processed in such a way as to permit:

5.1 Definition of the major administrative regions of agricultural land (units of 50–100 000 km^2) of relevance to the Community harvest under consideration.

5.2 Production of a growth calendar for crops as a function of the agricultural and climatic peculiarities of the above regions. The data must cover the wide variation in climate between the north and the south of the Community, the large number of strains used for the same crops and the actual methods of cultivation used.

5.3 Classification of crops (or groups of crops) permitting adequate precision in the calculation of areas under cultivation, e.g.:

(i) Grassland and pastureland;
(ii) Winter crops (wheat, barley, colza) or land freshly ploughed in November;
(iii) Spring crops (barley, maize, fodder beet, potatoes, sunflowers) or land cleared in March or April.

Certain localized programmes are underway to examine possible classifications for crops which can be detected by remote sensing (JRC-SCEES ground-truth tests in Ardèche.[1])

[1] JRC: Commission DG XII. SCEES: Service Central des Enquêtes et Études Statistiques (Central Surveys and Statistical Studies Department), French Ministry of Agriculture.

The results obtained hitherto are very modest, i.e. at present two or three groups of crops at best could be detectable.

5.4 Determination of yield indicators, which should be available by June or July at the latest, permitting a forecast to be made of the probable size of the harvest. This will require correlating the spectral response with the state of the crop (i.e. health, volume of harvest).

5.5 Completion of the data utilization phase and immediate centralization of results (for siting of processing centres) – Impils programme.

Experience in forecasting Community harvests has shown that if increased efficiency is to be archieved the following data will need to be obtained by means of remote sensing under the Agritel programme:

(i) At the beginning of December, figures for the area under wheat and barley with a margin of error of less than 4%;
(ii) At the beginning of May, figures for the area under wheat and barley with a margin of error less than 1%, and less than 3% for each spring crop;
(iii) At the beginning of August, figures for the yield with a margin of error of the order of 3%.

6. Obviously, certain Member States, which are in a better position for developing remote-sensing applications (e.g. France) will be able to obtain appreciable results even at the most detailed level, i.e. the small agricultural regions. In this way, remote sensing will contribute towards an improvement of Community statistics as a whole and hence the planning which is our ultimate objective.

With the ever increasing power of computers, in 5, 10 or 15 years, the fact that land in Europe is divided up into relatively small lots will almost certainly pose less of a problem than the common presence of cloud cover over most of the agricultural regions of the Community, which will make effective observation of agricultural phenomena on particular dates two or three times a year somewhat difficult. Fortunately, by then all-weather radar will have come to fill some of the gaps in remote-sensing techniques.

Obviously, in agriculture remote sensing will for a long time continue to be a source of information which merely supplements the existing statistical programmes. Data on magnetic tape will be supplied within two to eight days depending on the complexity of the user's request. In 1986, the ERBS (USA) and SPOT (France)[1] satellites (the latter of which will have a resolution of 10^{m}) will provide new and regular data for the evaluation of areas and harvests with a reliability and accuracy which can be expected to be satisfactory.

At this stage, therefore, the Commission must define its requirements with a view to drawing up programmes which take account of the possibilities of remote sensing in all cases in which the total operating costs remain within reasonable budgetary limits. As regards the assessment of harvests, the crops to be studied must be identified, a sampling plan must be drawn up for the regions producing these crops (reliability and accuracy tests), a ground-level network of centres for the collection of real information must be set up in order to produce the local reference classification and, finally, a satellite data acquisition programme must be defined in order to determine priorities in the daily programmes for satellite observations.

R. Linguenheld

[1] Joint project — France, Belgium, Sweden.

The consumer price index

A — Importance

Among the economic indicators which Eurostat publishes regularly, the consumer price index, also known under the names 'Retail price index' or 'Cost of living index', is one of the most important.

Its function is to measure the changes in the level of prices for all goods and services consumed by households.

The percentage change in the consumer price index is generally considered to be the rate of inflation.

This index is thus a tool of economic analysis and is used as a criterion for assessing the economic situation in countries.

Changes in consumer prices are always observed with great attention. This applies to both national and international comparisons.

This was particularly true during the 10 years following the first oil crisis in 1973, when rises in the consumer price index were considerable and different in the various countries.

B — Use of the CPI

The main factors favouring the use of the consumer price index as the general indicator of the development of purchasing power are:

(a) In most of the countries the calculation and publication of up-to-date figures for this index is ordered by law. In general the consumer price index is published at most 20 days after the end of the month, and is thus rapid and up-to-date information.

(b) It measures the average change in prices of goods and services consumed by households, which constitutes for the majority of the population the bulk of its expenditure.

(c) The information provided by this index can be understood by the general public. The concept of the 'household basket' for those articles which are part of everyday requirements is in current use and its price changes concern the whole population.

(d) While there are other indices which could be used as an instrument for measuring the inflation (e.g. the price index for the GDP), the role of the consumer price index is uncontested, especially because it is available every month with only a short delay.

(e) No other index has such a universal character. Its applications are also universal: it is used in many countries for adjusting salaries, pensions, allowances and social assistance benefits as well as for adjusting prices in commercial and civil contracts.

(f) This index is used for the updating of purchasing power parities. These parities which are calculated on the base of an enquiry can be extrapolated with the help of the consumer price index during several years, thus avoiding expensive enquiries every year.

C — Methods of calculation

1. In most of the EC countries the consumer price index is a 'Laspeyres' index which means that its 'basket' and its weights remain unchanged during several years (in general at

least five years). The exceptions are France and the United Kingdom which use a Laspeyres chain index with an annually changing 'basket' and weighting.

2. The base years of the national indices vary from country to country. To facilitate comparisons Eurostat has chosen the year 1975 as fixed reference year for the publication of all these indices.

From 1 January 1985 the reference year for publication will be 1980.

3. The coverage of the consumer price index differs according to each country.

Differences may concern:

(a) The index population (e.g. all households, certain professional categories, specific income-groups).
(b) Geographic zones (e.g. the whole country, only big cities, only the capital).
(c) Concepts of expenditure (e.g. whether expenditures for rents, health, etc. are included or excluded).

D — Comparability

Proper international comparison would require an index calculated according to uniform methods in all countries; in spite of the efforts made in this field by different international organizations (UNO, ILO, OECD) this goal is not yet attained.

Within the Community certain Member States have been using for several years the ESA classification introduced by Eurostat (e.g. Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands and Italy).

In addition the national indices can be used for extrapolating the absolute price level within the Community and that of non-EC countries. Eurostat (Division B 3) has also developed a system in which the purchaing power parities are compared to the official exchange rates, a price level index.

E — Calculation of the EUR 10 index

For several years Eurostat has published for all its series of consumer price indices an index for the Community as a whole (EUR 10).

These EUR 10 indices are the arithmethic averages of the national indices weighted by the relative share of each country in the final consumption of households as obtained in the comparison in real values of the aggregates of the ESA for 1975. (1975 has been derived from the new 1980 results.)

F — The series published by Eurostat

Eurostat regularly publishes consumer price indices for the Member States and certain other countries, covering the overall index and detailed indices for eight main groups.

In principle, the indices for the countries are reproduced as they are published by the countries, although studies into the comparability of these price indices have shown that they are not entirely comparable.

The base year of the national indices varies from country to country but Eurostat transformed the indices to one fixed reference year, which is at present 1975. This transformation is a simple rebasing of each series independently.

The national indices converted to base 1975 are then used for the calculation of a Community index.

These indices are published around the 20th of each month for the preceding month in the form of a press notice, with a short commentary, some graphs and tables showing the changes over 1 month and over 12 months.

Beside the figures for the EC countries this bulletin also contains the corresponding figures for Spain, Portugal and the United States, as well as the general index for

Canada, Japan, Switzerland, Austria, Norway and Sweden.

This data are also published monthly in *Eurostatistics,* and annually in *Basic statistics* and in *Eurostat review.*

In 1983 Eurostat completed a programme with the assistance of the Member States to extend the number of detailed series of the consumer price index.

These series have been selected in accordance with the ESA classification; this is a classification of consumption by purpose and not by groups of products.

This means that Eurostat can now provide also monthly and annual figures for more than 20 detailed series (base 1975 = 100).

These series have recently been published in a publication entitled *Consumer price indices 1976–1983.*

The series are the following:

A — Consumer prices — general index.

B — Food (excl. drinks and meals out):
- B.1 Bread and cereals.
- B.2 Meat.
- B.3 Dairy products, eggs, oils and fats.
- B.4 Fruits, vegetables, potatoes.

C — Drinks (home consumption) and tobacco:
- C.1 Drinks (home consumption).
- C.2 Tobacco.

D — Clothing and footwear (incl. repairs):
- D.1 Clothing (incl. repairs).
- D.2 Footwear (incl. repairs).

E — Rent, heating and lighting:
- E.1 Rents and water charges.

F — Household goods and services:
- F.1 Furniture, floor coverings, household textiles.
- F.2 Household appliances, utensils and services.

G — Transport and communications:
- G.1 Private transport.
- G.2 Public transport.
- G.3 Communications.

H — Recreation and education, etc.:
- H.1 Recreational goods.
- H.2 Recreational services.
- H.3 Books, newspapers and magazines.

J — Other goods and services:
- J.1 Expenditure in hotels, pubs and restaurants.

K — Energy products.

J. H. Nijenhuis

The calculation of purchasing power parities and comparisons in real values of aggregates of the national counts

The meaning of purchasing power parities

For some time now it has been standard practice, not merely in the Community Member States, but throughout the world, to calculate purchasing parities in order to make comparisons in real values.

The need for this procedure became apparent once it was realized that international comparisons of gross domestic product (GDP) and its components based on conversions into a common currency (the dollar at world level, and the ECU for the Community Member States) using exchange rates did not give an accurate indication of the volume of goods and services intended for ultimate consumption in the individual countries.

The reason is that the exchange rate does not necessarily reflect the actual purchasing power of a currency in the national territory, this rate being largely determined on the one hand by the supply of, and demand for, currency to make payment for goods and services traded between countries, and on the other hand by other factors such as flows of capital, whether or not a country belongs to a monetary system, speculation, and the political and economic situation of a country. The comparison of data converted on the basis of exchange rates is therefore subject to major distortions, varying from one country or sector to another, hence there is an increasing tendency to use purchasing power parities as conversion rates.

These parities are calculated on the basis of the national accounts, since the aim is to compare GDP and its components, i.e.:

(i) the final consumption of households;
(ii) the public consumption of general government and private administrations;
(iii) gross capital formation;
(iv) the balance of exports and imports.

Each of these uses is broken down into groups of homogenous products (or basic headings) resulting in a classification of approximately 300 basic headings for the whole of GDP. This classification serves a twofold purpose, in that it affords a basis on which to collect the prices needed for the calculation of the parities and also provides the expenditure figures to which the parities are applied.

The procedure for determining parities

The determination of purchasing power parities entails several stages, as described below.

The list of products and the collection of prices

Two fundamental criteria govern the selection of the 2 000 or so products comprising the sample used in the survey, i.e. the representativeness of the product and its comparability or even its actual identity. Detailed definition of the products then serves to establish their technical and economic characteristics so that the product on the market can be precisely identified.

There are two approaches which may be adopted when selecting the list of products. On the one hand it is possible to compile one overall list for all the countries (the multilateral approach) which means that all the products must have a price in all the countries. This approach is feasible if the countries to be compared have a very similar pattern of consumption (Luxembourg and Belgium, for instance). It is then possible to work with very rigid definitions at the same time and maintain a significant degree of representativeness.

However, this is not usually the case, even within the Community, where patterns of consumption often differ very considerably between countries (Greece and Ireland, for instance). Given this situation, the use of one overall list for all the countries would create both practical and conceptual problems, for example, the products would not be on the market everywhere and the degree of representativeness would vary. There is known to be a negative correlation between prices and quantities and, if products were not equally representative, the results would be distorted since the selection of unrepresentative products would cause the volumes of the countries to be underestimated.

One means of ensuring that products were representative might be to broaden the definitions, but there would then be a danger of not comparing the same products. In order to avoid these problems, it was decided to adopt, an approach entailing adherence to fairly strict definitions — that means that we work very often with identical products — while at the same time ensuring that the products are highly representative of the individual countries. This approach is called the binary approach because it favours those price collections — and therefore those price ratios — carried out between pairs of countries solely on the basis of representative products.

Proceeding in this way it may, of course, be that there is no common product for one or more pairs of countries and therefore no direct common link. In such instances, the link will be established indirectly by using the links for representative products existing between these countries and a third or fourth country. To take an example, if, say, 10 products have been selected within a basic heading in the classification, and a pair of countries (for example France and Ireland) do not have a common representative product. The link between France and Ireland will be made by using for instance the link Ireland/United Kingdom and United Kingdom/France or even Ireland/United Kingdom, United Kingdom/Belgium, Belgium/France.

Obviously, if this approach is adopted, the number of prices recorded, and accordingly the cost of the overall operation, will be reduced without impairing the quality of the results. It is, however, vital to ensure that all the countries are linked satisfactorily by referring to a table of price records drawn up in advance.

The price collection for final household consumption is carried out by the national statistical offices with some technical help from Eurostat. The number of price quotations varies according to the nature of the product. For the public tariffs for instance, one quotation is sufficient, whereas in other fields, such as clothing and footwear, about 15 quotations distributed over the different types of shops are suitable.

For gross fixed capital formation which covers the equipment goods as well as construction and civil engineering, prices are provided by engineers and architects. (Concerning construction, the bills of quantities of about 20 works are evaluated.)

Although the recording of prices for final consumption by households and for gross fixed capital formation does not entail major problems, since the products making up this aggregate — whether consumer goods, capital goods for use in industry or construction works — have a market price, this is not so in the case of public consumption by general government. The products of this aggregate are non-market products which are not sold at market prices, and their 'price levels' are compared by referring to the cost incurred to produce them. These largely comprise expenditure on civil servants' salaries and the purchase of goods and services.

Before the parities are going to be calculated, the prices are analysed in detail by Eurostat and some corrections are done. As the price surveys are carried out only in the capital cities, we must bear in mind that these prices have to be extrapolated to the national average and this is done with the spatial coefficients provided by the countries. Also, as the surveys for a given benchmark year takes place at different periods of the year (for the benchmark year 1985 they are evenly spread over the years 1984, 1985 and 1986), the annual average must be calculated by using the national price indices.

The calculation of parities and real values

Purchasing power parities between two currencies are merely the ratio between the amounts of national currency needed to purchase the same quantity of goods (for instance, a kilo of rice of a given quality) in the two countries concerned. They are therefore calculated from the price ratios between one country and another for the selected products.

The parities are calculated on the basis of two sets of data, annual national average prices for the products in the 'shopping basket' and the expenditure figures for the about 300 basic headings.

There are two very distinct stages in the calculation, the first involving calculating the parities for the basic headings.

The method adopted for this is closely linked to the method of selecting the products, and ensures — for the various pairs of countries — that only the prices of representative products are included in the calculation. This calculation procedure entails constructing first a Laspeyres-type estimate by calculating the simple geometric mean of the price ratios of products which, among the common products, are those which are most representative of the patterns of consumption in the reference country (if only one product is selected, the Laspeyres-type estimate will obviously consist solely of the price ratio based on that product). A Paasche-type estimate is then made in the same way on the basis of typical products in the partner country (which may of course differ in number from those which were used to construct the Laspeyeres estimate). Finally, a Fisher-type estimate can be calculated as a simple geometric mean of the aforementioned Laspeyres and Paasche estimates.

The parity for the basic heading for a pair of countries will therefore not necessarily be deduced from the price ratios of all the products nor from all the available price ratios for these two countries — price ratios which may be partly inaccurate and lead to distorted results — but the parity will be calculated solely with reference to a minimum of price ratios for products which are equally representative in the two countries. If for a pair of countries there is no reliable price ratio available for the direct calculation of the parity, this will be calculated indirectly using a third or even a fourth country as bridge country as has already been described.

The second stage in the calculation entails aggregating the parities obtained for the basic headings into parities for increasingly large groups of products until the parity for the individual aggregates and eventually that for GDP are obtained. This is done by referring to the structure of the expenditure figures of GDP.

The aggregation method must meet certain requirements to ensure the additivity and the transitivity of the results. It is based on the concept of average price, which entails calculating an average price for the group and expressing the parities for each country in relation to this average price rather than taking a group of countries as base.

A decision then has to be made on the currency unit in which the parities and real values obtained by applying these parities to the nominal expenditure figures are to be expressed. Instead of taking a given country as reference and expressing the parities for the other countries in terms of its currency, the Community, and therefore the ECU, was taken as reference.

Thus, the figures for a given country are expressed first of all in ECU and then in real terms, the unit in which these new figures are expressed being called the 'Purchasing power standard' (PPS). This is the 'real' ECU.

The extrapolation of parities

Parities are calculated on the basis of full-scale price surveys at five-yearly intervals. However, since price trends — and therefore price levels — and exchange rates are not the same in all countries, parities have also to be estimated between the base years. The parities calculated for a base year are usually updated by reference to the price indices for the countries. The use of these indices means that parities are inconsistent in time because the parities obtained for two base years by means of full-scale price surveys differ from those obtained by extrapolating the parities for one base year to the other using price indices.

This inconsistency between calculated parities and parities extrapolated by means of indices is due to a number of factors, including the improvement in the basic data generated by price surveys, the revision of the data in the national accounts and the fact that national price indices are not an entirely appropriate yardstick for extrapolating parities. The criteria used in the construction of these temporal indices differ from those used in the construction of spatial indices, the two types of indices do not cover the same field and they are not sufficiently harmonized within the Community.

Some results

In order to give a clearer idea of the significance and importance of calculating purchasing power parities and real values, the principal results for 1980 are shown in the table below by way of example. These relate to the whole of GPD and, more particularly, per capita GDP, this being the most commonly used indicator of the standard of living, despite some reservations.

1980

	D	F	I	NL	B	L	UK	IRL	DK	GR
Purchasing power parity — 1 PPS = ... national currency	2.74	6.05	876	2.92	42.3	39.9	0.562	0.532	8.57	40.9
Exchange rate — annual average: 1 ECU = ... national currency	2.52	5.87	1 189	2.76	40.6	40.6	0.598	0.676	7.83	59.3
General price index — (EUR 10 = 100)	112	107	76	109	108	102	97	81	113	71
Per capita volume index — (EUR 10 = 100)										
— on the basis of values in ECU	128	117	67	115	114	122	90	50	125	41
— on the basis of values in PPS	115	110	88	105	106	120	93	62	111	57
— % differences based on values in PPS	− 10.2	− 6.0	31.3	− 8.7	− 7.0	− 1.7	3.3	24.0	− 11.2	39.0

In this table, the exchange rates and the parities for each country are expressed in relation to the ECU and PPS respectively. Thus, in 1980, for instance, it cost LIT 1 189 to purchase one ECU on the basis of the exchange rate whereas, on the basis of parities, LIT 876 was sufficient to obtain the quantity of products equal to one PPS. The actual purchasing power of the lira is therefore very much higher in this instance than its exchange rate suggests.

Exchange rates between countries may be deduced from exchange rates for the ECU, and the same procedure can be adopted to obtain the parities between countries. Thus, for instance, DM 1, which at the official exchange rate was equal to LIT 472 in 1980, was worth only LIT 318 when expressed in terms of the purchasing power parity for that year. This also means that prices in Germany were generally 48% higher than in Italy. In other words, the exchange rate for the mark was overvalued in relation to that of the lira.

The ratio of the parity in PPS to the exchange rate in ECU makes it possible to calculate what is termed the price level index for a given country. This index measures the difference between the price level in the country in question and the Community average and can also be used to make a direct comparison of price levels in the individual countries.

This price level index also shows how much it costs to purchase the same quantity of goods in each of the countries (for instance, 71 ECU in Greece and 113 ECU in Denmark, i.e. 59% more in the latter) or the country in which it is possible to buy the largest quantity of goods and services for the sum of 100 ECU (this being Greece, which has the lowest price level of all the countries in the Community, almost 30% below the average).

The most significant indicator resulting from the calculation of parities is the index of per capita GDP which is undoubtedly the most commonly used indicator in international comparisons. This index expresses in the form of rates the per capita GDP of each country in relation to average per capita GDP for all the countries in the Community, this being 7 500 ECU in 1980.

On the basis of values expressed in ECU, the 1980 per capita GDP of the Federal Republic of Germany was 28% above the Community average, i.e. 9 600 ECU. However, in terms of real values Germany's per capita GDP was only 15% above the Community average, i.e. 8 625 PPS.

The vast difference recorded between Greece and the Federal Republic of Germany in the indices in ECU (41 compared with 128) means that the ratio for per capita GDP is 1:3 + . On the other hand, in real values, this ratio is only 1:2 on the basis of the 1980 figures.

(If all the components of GDP are analysed in this way the results for the various groups of products and aggregates making up GDP repay close study.)

It can therefore be said that indices based on figures in PPS considerably reduce the differences between standards of living in the individual countries, and the more prosperous countries are shown to be less affluent than figures converted on the basis of exchange rates suggest, whereas the less prosperous countries are less poor than conventional methods of calculation, based on exchange rates, infer.

Comparisons in real values therefore change the sequence of the countries in terms of relative per capita GDP: in 1980 the per capita GDP of the Federal Republic of Germany expressed in ECU was far higher than that of the other countries but, in terms of PPS, Luxembourg was in first place for instance.

It is worth noting that for countries whose per capita GDP in ECU is above the average (these are also the countries whose price index is over 100), the per capita GDP in PPS is below that in ECU, whereas the reverse applies to the other countries.

These brief remarks are demonstrating that the use of exchange rates causes the prosperity of a country to be overestimated or underestimated and highlight the need for, and importance of, comparisons in real values, which are an invaluable and essential tool for economic analysis on a world-wide scale.

Prospects

Eurostat's work on the international front

The SOEC's work on purchasing power parities is part of a worldwide International Comparison Project (ICP) carried out by the United Nations. The preliminary work was done in the 1950s at the University of Pennsylvania, but it was not until 1970 that calculations were made at regular intervals.

The reference year for phase V of this project is 1985. It will cover some 80 countries comprising several geographical areas, such as Europe (Eastern Europe and Western Europe), Latin America, Africa and the countries of East Asia. In addition to this subdivision by area, there are economic and political groupings such as the OECD countries and the Community Member States.

Eurostat has become increasingly involved in this project over the years and can now claim to play a leading role in the development of methodology, the compilation of lists and definition of products, as well as covering a large number of countries. Eurostat covers the 10 Member States, the two prospective members (Spain and Portugal), Austria, Israel and about 20 African countries, as well as providing technical assistance to many other countries.

The utilization of parities

Increasing use is being made of the parities both within Eurostat and in the other Commission departments.

Broadly speaking, it can be said that they are used in areas where comparisons used to be made between countries on the basis of data converted into ECU using exchange rates. The main purposes for which these parities are used are the national accounts (this is also the most logical area in which to use them since the parities are calculated on the basis of the national accounts) and, more particularly, the comparison of GDP for which the principal results have just been analysed.

However, there is also an increasing tendency to use these parities for other purposes such as energy statistics (energy prices), social statistics (earnings per hour), agricultural statistics (agricultural economic accounts, index of sectoral income, standard gross margins) or the weighting values of the EUR 10 indices, which are now expressed in PPS rather than in ECU. It should be stressed, nonetheless, that the figures in PPS are not used in place of the figures in ECU but are published in conjunction with them.

When these parities are used particularly for purposes other than the national accounts, it has to be decided which rate should be applied. Should the overall rate of GDP be adopted or should specific rates existing for the 300 or so basic headings of GDP be selected according to the type of value to be converted or should, in some instances, specific rates, which are not obtained in the course of regular calculations of the parities but which would have to be calculated to meet specific requirements — as for agricultural income, for instance — be used?

Quite apart from the fact that this last type of specific parity is very difficult to calculate, Eurostat tends to apply only the overall GDP parity, which is easy to use, eliminates the impact of differences in the general level of prices and, above all, avoids the uncontrolled proliferation of numerous parity rates.

The case for using the parities is gaining ground in the other Commission departments, particularly the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs, which uses them in Community-level economic forecasts and analyses, or in other sectors in which per capita GDP is used as a criterion for breaking down Community income and expenditure (Social Fund, ERDF, Community loans).

The use of the parity in conjunction with the exchange rate as a conversion rate has encountered a number of obstacles since its inception. It is a relatively new statistical instrument which has not always been properly understood and interpreted in all quarters, with the result that it has met with some mistrust. The reservations which prevailed in some quarters are now disappearing and the usefulness of, and need for, the parities are becoming increasingly recognized.

Statisticians now have to make this tool even more reliable and effective.

M. De March

Eurostat — Europe and the world in figures

In the present unfavourable economic climate it is more important than ever that the decision-making process be based on rational arguments. This applies equally to politicians and the top decision-makers in the industrial sector. The monitoring of past fluctuations of key indicators such as exchange rates, the balance of payments, external trade and unemployment is an essential factor in the recognition of current or future trends.

The general public has hitherto taken very little notice of the corresponding mass of data that is simply waiting to be used. Eurostat, for its part, gathers information on the economic situation of the Member States and their trading partners. It does not collect these data itself; they are received from the statistical offices of the Member States and other national or international institutions such as central banks, the OECD, the IMF and the World Bank.

Eurostat harmonizes and aggregates these data wherever this is feasible and necessary. In the past the data were mainly issued in the form of printed publications, and this form of dissemination is still an important aspect of Eurostat's activities. There are approximately 100 publications. These appear at various intervals and cover the following sectors:

(i) economic accounts, finance, balance of payments;
(ii) population and social indicators;
(iii) industry and services;
(iv) agriculture and forestry, fisheries;
(v) external trade.

In recent years an increasing proportion of the data on which these publications are based has been managed by means of the various computer systems at Eurostat's disposal. The creation of the national and international data transmission networks (Euronet, PSS, Transpac, etc.) has provided a new means of ensuring the availability of statistical data by giving the end user direct access to them. The advantages of such networks, compared with printed publications, are considerable. They greatly enhance the degree of detail, the data can relate to long periods of time and users can receive retroactive corrections; above all, however, they ensure that the data are absolutely up to date.

Eurostat has developed a whole range of data bank systems adapted to the contents in each case. The data in three of these data bank systems are currently available to the general public.

Cronos contains 750 000 macroeconomic time-series covering every part of the economy. The data normally relate to the EC Member States and are also available, in many cases, for Japan, the United States, Spain and Portugal. The periodicity of these time-series is monthly, quarterly, half-yearly or yearly, depending on the statistical field covered.

It is a particular advantage of Cronos, in the model-building context, that many of the time-series stretch back over an extended period: certain series date back as far as 1950. The content of Cronos is broken down into 23 domains, and one or several domains extend over a specific part of the economy (e.g. economic accounts, balances of payments, industry, agriculture, social indicators, etc.).

It has also proved necessary, for the purposes of EC agreements with non-member countries (e.g. the Lomé Convention), to ensure the availability of the most important statistical data in respect of the various countries concerned. Hence the presence in two domains of Cronos, for approximately 150 countries, of demographic statistics and data relating to the balance of payments, debt, production and external trade.

The following are a few typical queries that can be answered with the help of Cronos:

(i) What is the monthly trend of the four main economic indicators, i.e. consumer prices (inflation), the global or branch-related index of industrial production, unemployment and the trade balance? (see Table 1.)

(ii) What is the significance of a specific branch of industry (on the basis of production, turnover and labour costs) in relation to the national economy or the same branch of industry in other countries?

(iii) What is the productive capacity of a specific branch of industry, considered from the standpoint of investment and external trade?

(iv) What is the state of penetration of the European market for textiles or for household products (ratio of imports to total consumption)?

Table 1: Main economic indicators for the EC (EUR 10)

Month	Price index (change from previous year)	Unemployment rate (%)	Production index (change from previous year)	Trade balance (mio ECU)
7. 1983	8.4	10.0[1]	1.1	− 1 428.4
8. 1983	8.3	10.1[1]	3.1	− 2 801.3
9. 1983	8.5	10.4[1]	2.2	− 1 486.4
10. 1983	8.4	10.5[1]	2.6	− 649.2
11. 1983	8.1	10.6[1]	5.2	70.1
12. 1983	8.1	10.8[1]	5.7	− 1 182.6
1. 1984	8.0	11.2[1]	5.4[1]	− 4 652.6
2. 1984	8.0	11.2[1]	3.6[1]	− 1 307.9
3. 1984	7.9	11.0[1]	3.3[1]	− 1 598.8
4. 1984	7.7	10.7[1]	1.4[1]	− 3 060.1
5. 1984	7.5	10.5[1]	3.3[1]	− 2 364.0
6. 1984	7.5	10.4[1]	−0.3[1]	− 3 447.7
7. 1984	7.0	10.6[1]	3.7[1]	
8. 1984	7.0	10.7[1]	4.3[1]	
9. 1984	6.6	10.9[1]		

[1] Estimated values.
Source: Eurostat — Cronos.

Classification of Eurostat publications 1985

Themes	Sub-themes
1. General statistics (grey covers) (5 publications)	1. General statistics 2. Regional general statistics 3. Third-country statistics
2. National accounts, finance and balance of payments (violet covers) (17 publications)	1. National accounts 2. Accounts of sectors 3. Accounts of branches 4. Money and finance 5. Regional accounts and finance 6. Balance of payments 7. Prices
3. Population and social conditions (yellow covers) (14 publications)	1. Population 2. Social conditions 3. Education and training 4. Employment 5. Social protection 6. Wages and incomes
4. Industry and services (blue covers) (22 publications)	1. Industry, general 2. Energy 3. Iron and steel
5. Agriculture, forestry and fisheries (green covers) (17 publications)	1. Agriculture, general 2. Agriculture, production and balances 3. Agriculture, prices 4. Agriculture, accounts 5. Agriculture, structure 6. Forestry 7. Fisheries
6. Foreign trade, transport (red covers) (17 publications)	1. Nomenclature 2. Community trade, general 3. Transport 4. Trade with developing countries
9. Miscellaneous (brown covers) (3 publications)	1. Miscellaneous statistics 2. Miscellaneous information

Abbreviations:

A	=	annual
B	=	biennial
HY	=	half-yearly
Q	=	quarterly
M	=	monthly
n.p.	=	non-periodical
s.i.	=	special issue

Programme of publications for 1985

Theme 1 — General statistics

(grey covers)

Sub-themes	Titles	Frequency
1. General statistics	1. EUROSTAT REVIEW (dark blue cover)	A
	2. BASIC STATISTICS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY	A
	3. EUROSTATISTICS — Data for short-term economic analysis	M
2. Regional general statistics	1. YEARBOOK OF REGIONAL STATISTICS	A
3. Third-country statistics	1. ACP — BASIC STATISTICS	A

Theme 2 — National accounts, finance and balance of payments

(violet covers)

Sub-themes	Titles	Frequency
1. National accounts	1. NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ESA — Aggregates	A
	2. INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AND OF PURCHASING POWER — 1980	n.p.
	3. STUDIES OF NATIONAL ACCOUNTS	n.p.
2. Accounts of sectors	1. NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ESA — Detailed tables by sector	A
	2. GENERAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS AND STATISTICS	A
3. Accounts of branches	1. NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ESA — Detailed tables by branch	A
4. Money and finance	1. MONEY AND FINANCE	Q
5. Regional accounts and finance	1. REGIONAL ACCOUNTS — The Community's financial participation in investments	A
	2. REGIONAL ACCOUNTS ESA — Detailed tables by branch	A
6. Balances of payments	1. BALANCES OF PAYMENTS — Geographical breakdown	A
	2. BALANCES OF PAYMENTS — Quarterly data	Q
	3. BALANCES OF PAYMENTS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES' INSTITUTIONS	A
	4. BALANCES OF PAYMENTS — Methodology of Ireland	n.p.
	5. BALANCES OF PAYMENTS — Methodology of the Netherlands	n.p.
	6. BALANCES OF PAYMENTS — Methodology of Italy	n.p.
	7. BALANCES OF PAYMENTS — Methodology of Greece	n.p.
7. Prices	1. CONSUMER PRICE INDICES	Q

Theme 3 — Population and social conditions

(yellow covers)

Sub-themes	Titles	Frequency
1. Population	1. DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS	A
2. Social conditions	1. FAMILY BUDGETS: Comparable tables Netherlands/Belgium/Ireland/Denmark/ Spain	n.p.
	2. STANDARDIZATION OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURY STATISTICS FROM FOUR COUNTRIES	n.p.
3. Education and training	1. EDUCATION AND TRAINING	n.p.
4. Employment	1. EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT	A
	2. EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT — Statistical bulletin	n.p.
	3. UNEMPLOYMENT — Monthly bulletin	M
	4. LABOUR FORCE SAMPLE SURVEY	A
	5. STATISTICAL STUDIES OF EMPLOYMENT	n.p.
5. Social protection	1. SOCIAL PROTECTION (Receipts and expenditure) (Results by schemes)	A
6. Wages and incomes	1. EARNING IN INDUSTRY AND SERVICES	HY
	2. EARNING OF MANUAL WORKERS IN AGRICULTURE 1984	B
	3. STRUCTURE OF EARNINGS 1978/79 — Main results	n.p.
	4. EARNINGS DIFFERENTIALS IN THE MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES	n.p.

Theme 4 — Industry and services

(blue covers)

Sub-themes	Titles	Frequency
1. Industry, general	1. INDUSTRY STATISTICS YEARBOOK	A
	2. STRUCTURE AND ACTIVITY OF INDUSTRY 1982	A
	3. STRUCTURE AND ACTIVITY OF INDUSTRY — Data by size of enterprise — 1981	A
	4. INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION	HY
	5. EC NON-MINERAL RAW MATERIALS BALANCE SHEETS	B
	6. RAW MATERIALS SUPPLY BALANCES	A
	7. INDUSTRIAL SHORT-TERM TRENDS	M
	8. ANNUAL INVESTMENTS IN FIXED ASSETS — 1975–1982	A
	9. RETAIL SALES — INDEX NUMBERS	M
	10. STEEL CONSUMPTION BY BRANCH IN THE EC	n.p.
2. Energy	1. ENERGY STATISTICS YEARBOOK	A
	2. OPERATION OF NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS	A
	3. USEFUL ENERGY BALANCE SHEETS	n.p.
	4. ANALYSIS OF ENERGY INPUT-OUTPUT TABLES	s.i.
	5. COAL — Monthly bulletin	M
	6. ELECTRICAL ENERGY — Monthly bulletin	M
	7. HYDROCARBONS — Monthly bulletin	M
	8. ELECTRICITY PRICES	A
	9. GAS PRICES	A
3. Iron and steel	1. IRON AND STEEL YEARBOOK	A
	2. IRON AND STEEL — Quarterly bulletin	Q
	3. IRON AND STEEL — Monthly bulletin	M

Theme 5 — Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

(green covers)

Sub-themes	Titles	Frequency
1. Agriculture, general	1. YEARBOOK OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS	A
2. Agriculture, production and balance	1. FEED BALANCE SHEET 1973-84	A
	2. ANIMAL PRODUCTION	Q
	3. CROP PRODUCTION	Q
3. Agriculture, prices	1. EC AGRICULTURAL PRICE INDICES (Output and input)	HY
	2. AGRICULTURAL PRICES 1973-84	A
	3. AGRICULTURAL PRICES (microfiches)	Q
	4. AGRICULTURAL PRICES: Selected series from the Cronos data bank	Q
	5. CATALOGUE OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF AGRICULTURAL PRICE SERIES STORED IN CRONOS	n.p.
4. Agriculture, accounts	1. ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS — AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY	B
5. Agriculture, structure	1. SURVEY ON THE STRUCTURE OF AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS 1983	n.p.
	2. SURVEY ON THE STRUCTURE OF AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS 1979/80	n.p.
	3. STUDY ON THE RESULTS OF COMMUNITY SURVEY OF ORCHARD FRUIT TREES	n.p.
	4. SURVEY ON WINE	n.p.
	5. SURVEY ON WINE (microfiches)	n.p.
6. Forestry	1. FORESTRY STATISTICS	A
7. Fisheries	1. FISHERIES — STATISTICAL YEARBOOK	A

Theme 6 — Foreign trade

(red covers)

Sub-themes	Titles	Frequency
1. Nomenclature	1. GEONOMENCLATURE	A
2. Community trade, general	1. ANALYTICAL TABLES OF EXTERNAL TRADE NIMEXE — Exports (13 volumes)	A
	ANALYTICAL TABLES OF EXTERNAL TRADE NIMEXE — Imports (13 volumes)	A
	2. ANALYTICAL TABLES OF EXTERNAL TRADE CTCI — Exports (6 volumes)	A
	ANALYTICAL TABLES OF EXTERNAL TRADE CTCI — Imports (6 volumes)	A
	3. NIMEXE — EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS Countries-products SCE 2112 (microfiches)	Q
	4. CTCI — EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS Countries-products SCE 2311 (microfiches)	Q
	5. NIMEXE — EXTERNAL STATISTICS Products-countries SCE 1111/1112 (microfiches)	Q
	6. CTCI — EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS Products-countries SCE 1311/1312 (microfiches)	Q
	7. NIMEXE — EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS Products-countries SCE 1118/1119 (microfiches)	Q
	8. NIMEXE — EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS Products-countries SCE 2119 (microfiches)	Q
	9. EXTERNAL TRADE — ECSC PRODUCTS (microfiches)	A
	10. MONTHLY EXTERNAL TRADE BULLETIN	M

Sub-themes	Titles	Frequency
3. Transport	1. STATISTICAL YEARBOOK TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS, TOURISM	A
	2. CARRIAGE OF GOODS	n.p.
4. Trade with developing countries	1. YEARBOOK OF EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS	B
	2. YEARBOOK OF EXTERNAL TRADE INDICES	A
	3. TRADE: ANALYSIS OF THE EC TRADE	n.p.
	4. TRADE: ANALYSIS OF THE EC TRADE	n.p.

Theme 9 — Miscellaneous

(brown covers)

Sub-themes	Titles	Frequency
1. Miscellaneous statistics	1. GOVERNMENT FINANCING OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	A
2. Miscellaneous information	1. EUROSTAT NEWS	Q
	2. STATISTICAL NEWS AND GRAPHS	s.i.

It will be realized that Cronos can provide answers to practically every macroeconomic query at the level of the individual countries. However, users requiring data at regional level must consult the Regio data bank. The latter contains information on the main aspects of the economic life of the various regions of the EC Member States. The regional breakdown into three different levels is based on a special nomenclature (NUTS). At the first level there are 54 Community regions (e.g. Yorkshire and Humberside in the United Kingdom) while the third level comprises 742 regions (e.g. counties in the United Kingdom).

The data in Regio relate to population structure, employment, economic accounts, agricultural production and industrial structure. The data are stored in tabular form and are normally available from 1970 or 1975; apart from unemployment statistics (monthly), the periodicity of all these data is annual.

The following are a few typical queries that can be answered with the help of Regio:

(i) Are comparable statistics on the structure and age of the population, unemployment trends and productivity available for the regions of Bavaria, Brittany, Scotland and Lombardy? (See Table 2.)

(ii) How is energy production distributed over the territory of the European Community (coal mines, oil refineries, nuclear power stations, etc.)?

(iii) What is the relative importance of the various transport networks (road, rail, waterway) for goods transport in the East Midlands and the South-West?

(iv) Which regions are affected by a reform of the Community's agricultural policy? Where are the Community's dairy cow herds concentrated? What is the trend of agricultural production and yields in the various regions (e.g. for wheat or sugar beet)?

Table 2: Key regional indicators

	Area		Population		Population density (in h./km²)	Birth rate (%)	Unemployment rate (%)
	Total	Woodland	< 25	Total			
	(1000 ha)		(1000)				
Bavaria	7 055	2 374	3 761	10 928	155	10.7	3.0
Brittany	2 751	314	1 330	2 689	98	14.7	8.1
Lombardy	2 385	472	3 125	8 945	375	9.4	5.1
Scotland	7 878	917	1 963	5 150	65	13.4	12.7

Source: Eurostat — Regio.

Like regional policy, external trade plays an important role in the relations between the EC Member States (e.g. in tariff negotiations). Hence the existence at Eurostat of a considerable volume of relevant data, stored in the Comext data bank. Comext contains the statistics of external trade between the EC Member States and of their trade with some 200 non-member countries. These trade data are broken down on the basis of the European nomenclature (Nimexe) into 7 500 different goods. Export and import data are given in each case in ECU (European currency units), in tonnes and in specific units of measurement (e.g. litres, single items, pairs, etc.).

The periods for which the data can be accessed on-line are 18 months for the monthly statistics and three years for the quarterly figures. Comext will shortly include external trade data for the United States, Canada and Japan, but the breakdown of the information on these countries will be based on the SITC international classification of goods.

The following are a few typical queries that can be answered with the help of Comext:

(i) What is the monthly trend of the balance of external trade in crude oil products (imports, exports, balance) of various EC Member States?
(ii) What are the respective shares of the EC's main trading partners in the Community's imports of crude oil?
(iii) What was the trend of the EC Member States' total external trade over the period 1976–1983 (absolute values and index with base year 1975 = 100)?
(iv) Which 30 countries are the EC Member States' main trading partners for exports of agricultural products? (See also Table 3.)
(v) What is the trend of external trade in steel products with the United States, as compared with other non-member countries?

Table 3: Exports of agricultural products from the Federal Republic of Germany in 1983

Trading partner	Value ('000 ECU)	Market share (% by value)	Volume ('000 kg)
World	11 016 768	100.00	22 199 277
Italy	2 429 199	22.05	2 590 164
Netherlands	1 466 420	13.31	9 746 334
France	1 228 068	11.15	962 347
Belgium/Luxembourg	722 557	6.56	793 408
United Kingdom	663 592	6,02	669 992
USA	475 992	4.32	286 109
Denmark	475 885	4.32	1 017 741
Austria	447 726	4.06	707 809
Greece	299 291	2.72	148 982
Switzerland	289 384	2.63	406 825
USSR	256 922	2.33	731 868
Iran	138 608	1.26	143 929
Sweden	135 138	1.23	215 559
Algeria	127 084	1.15	258 350
Saudi Arabia	123 014	1.12	265 426
Japan	101 465	0.92	87 768
Nigeria	100 925	0.92	193 652

Source: Eurostat — Comext.

To facilitate direct access by private clients to the data banks we have described, Eurostat has concluded contracts with various on-line information suppliers. The 'host' organizations receive the contents of the data banks at regular intervals (fortnightly, monthly or quarterly, depending on the nature of the information) on magnetic tape and use them to update the information stored on their computers. The hosts' computers are all connected to the abovementioned data transmission networks and can therefore be accessed by every user whose own terminal is also connected to one of these networks. This means, in practice, that the Eurostat data banks can be directly accessed from the United Kingdom, from all the other countries of Europe and, furthermore, from the United States, Japan and Australia. The authorized hosts for the Cronos data bank are currently

CISI (in France, with its offshoot SIA in the United Kingdom), Datacentralen (Denmark), GSI-ECO (France) and ADP (Netherlands). Dissemination contracts for the Comext data bank have been concluded with CISI (France) and Euris (Belgium). Public dissemination of the Regio data bank by various hosts is scheduled to commence at the beginning of 1985.

In addition to user-friendly interrogation languages for the various data banks, the hosts can provide extra services such as computing functions, modelling, output of tables and graphs and access to other national (e.g. CSO Databank) or international (e.g. OECD) data banks. Various hosts have recently begun to offer software permitting the transfer of selected data from the data bank ot the user's own computer (down-loading).

To maximize the dissemination of its data, Eurostat has decided to open up new channels in addition to those already described.

Since mid-1984, a selection of key short-term economic indicators for the EC Member States has been disseminated via the private data transmission network of the Reuter's news agency, to which some 40 000 subscribers throughout the world are linked by their special terminals. The statistical information thus supplied by Eurostat consists mainly of indices (prices, wages and salaries, unemployment) and data relating to trade balances and energy supplies. The data also include the results of a monthly survey of the economic situation (production, new orders and stock position) of 20 000 companies. Generally speaking, the 20 or so tables stored by the system contain data for recent months and details of changes in the current month compared with the same period in the previous year. The tables are updated daily from a VDU keyboard at Eurostat.

Another new service combines the advantages of the original host service, which can provide very long time series, with those of the Reuter's service, which has the edge when it comes to rapid updating. Hence the creation, in the Cronos data bank, of a new domain, Eurostatus, which contains the most important economic indicators not only for the EC Member States but also for Spain, Portugal, Japan and the United States. This domain contains some 650 time-series from the fields of economic accounts, finance, balance of payments, prices, employment, industry, energy and external trade. The data are updated daily by the hosts by the online transfer of a file containing the latest values. This enables the public at large, too, to access the latest data relevant to the economy of Europe.

Further information regarding Eurostat data banks is obtainable from the author of this article at the following adress:

Statistical Office of the European Communities
Division A2 — Dissemination
BP 1907
L-1019 Luxembourg

A. Szauer

Parliamentary questions

Written Question No 134/84
by Mr André Damseaux (L—B)
to the Commission of the European Communities

(13 April 1984)

(84/C 240/24)

Subject: Growth of the data-processing sector

Could the Commission supply a comparative table of the trade balances of the Community's 10 Member States in the data-processing sector?

Taking the growing development in this sector into account, what percentage of supplies on the Community market of large computers, medium-capacity computers and mini-computers is accounted for by Community industry on the one hand and non-Community industry and the other?

What steps does the Commission propose to take to develop the Community's industrial potential?

What Community programmes exist to encourage research in the data-processing sector?

Answer given by Mr Davignon on behalf of the Commission

(2 July 1984)

Realizing some years ago the importance that had to be attached to data processing, the Commission instructed the SOEC to obtain certain information, including industrial production figures for each Member State, from the national offices.

In order to obtain comparable data, it was necessary to establish a common terminology; the classification does not distinguish between large computers, medium-capacity computers and mini-computers.

The definitions adopted distinguish between machines and installations for automatic data processing and compact processing units comprising in the same housing at least a central processing unit and an input/output unit (much the same as 'low-capacity' computers).

The following tables giving production and import data for these types of hardware cover the years 1980, 1981, 1982 and the first three quarters of 1983.

To complement the Esprit research programme, the Commission will shortly be presenting to the Council proposals on telecommunications and information technologies that are needed and even essential for the establishment in the Community of information technology and telecommunications industries capable of competing on an equal footing with American and Japanese companies.

The multiannual data processing programme (1979 to 1983) approved by the Council on 11 September 1979[1] included in its general measures activities to promote cooperation in research and development. These have helped to encourage and coordinate research, mainly in the public sector, in two specific fields. In the proposal for the extension of the general measures, this type of action is extended to other fields.

The Esprit programme is intended to stimulate precompetitive research in information technology for industrial purposes. A pilot programme was approved by the Council on 21 December 1982[2] and the main programme on 28 February 1984.[3]

[1] Decision 79/783/EEC — OJ L 231, 13. 9. 1979, p. 23.
[2] Decision 82/878/EEC — OJ L 369, 29. 12. 1982, p. 37.
[3] Decision 84/130/EEC — OJ L 67, 9. 3. 1984, p. 54; COM(83) 258 final.

Production and import extra EEC by value of machines and installations for automatic data processing

('000 000 ECU)

		1980	1981	1982	1983		
					I	II	III
D	Production	2 676	3 151	3 592	1 008	1 068	1 117
	Import extra EC	995	1 288	1 453	429	476	472
F	Production	2 879	3 532	3 974	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	714	921	1 128	282	290	274
I	Production	988	1 037	1 107	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	353	445	492	103	120	133
NL	Production	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	279	367	564	161	223	242
BLEU	Production	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	161	175	204	49	60	53
UK	Production	1 901	1 903	2 077	566	618	660
	Import extra EC	1 035	1 366	1 724	498	604	609
IRL	Production	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	147	278	382	106	115	134
DK	Production	43	40	47	13	26	—
	Import extra EC	83	111	129	35	44	37

NB: — = data confidential or unavailable.

Production and import extra EEC by value of compact processing units comprising in the same housing at least a central processing unit and an input/output unit

('000 000 ECU)

		1980	1981	1982	1983		
					I	II	III
D	Production	536	629	271*	79	90	86
	Import extra EC	100	114	134	36	39	47
F	Production	109	106	118	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	15	32	40	16	11	16
I	Production	420	367	300	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	19	12	10	2	1	1
NL	Production	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	61	66	80	22	48	35
BLEU	Production	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	7	6	12	4	3	4
UK	Production	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	109	66	63	20	29	24
IRL	Production	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	34	64	76	23	21	17
DK	Production	1	0	0	—	—	—
	Import extra EC	5	6	8	4	3	3

NB: * = break in the series.
— = data confidential or unavailable.
0 = data less than the unit used.

Written Question No 574/83
by Mr Thomas von der Vring (S—D)
to the Commission of the
European Communities

(22 June 1983)

Subject: Excessive work involved in statistical surveys carried out by the Community

In 1982 a clothing firm in Oldenburg (Lower Saxony) with a staff of 200 was required to complete a questionnaire sent by the Lower Saxony State Administration in accordance with Council Regulation (EEC) No 1596/81[1] relating to the organization of a survey of labour costs. This unquestionably involved an excessive amount of work for the company, since it was necessary for the head of the sales department and a senior personnel clerk to work for 73 hours and 52 hours respectively, that is to say a total of 16 man days, in order to reply to the 36 questions (survey of labour costs in the services sector in 1981). The staff costs involved totalled DM 4 073. This task therefore put the sales department, with its staff of four-and-a-half, to considerable trouble and inconvenience.

Can the Commission reply to the following:

1. Before submitting such proposals for regulations does the Commission take account of the practical inconvenience to the companies concerned in providing answers to certain questions?
2. Was the volume of information required by the Lower Saxony State Administration useful for the purpose of Community statistics and was it reasonable to expect such information to be supplied?
3. Was the survey of a comprehensive nature or was it carried out by sampling within the meaning of Article 2 of the regulation?
4. In the case of sampling, should the firms concerned not receive compensation for any exceptional inconvenience caused to them?
5. To what extent does the Commission consider that it would be possible to reduce the inconvenience caused by Community statistical surveys, in particular for medium-sized undertakings?
6. Is the Commission prepared to answer these important questions within the prescribed period of one month?

[1] OJ L 159, 17. 6. 1981, p. 1.

Answer given by Mr Burke
on behalf of the Commission

(1 September 1983)

The Commission would point out to the honourable Member that statistical surveys for Community purposes are organized under the Statistical Programme of the European Communities, which is examined and updated at regular intervals in agreement with the national statistical offices. The technical details of the surveys are determined by working parties set up by the Statistical Office of the European Communities, and the relevant national authorities (and on labour matters, the employers' and employees' organizations) are represented on these working parties. The question of what effort the reporting units can reasonably be expected to make is a key factor both in the decisions taken in the above context and in the adoption by the Council of any special legal provisions that are required.

One of the basic problems for the Commission, and no doubt also for the relevant authorities in the Member States, is the steady increase in the statistical requirements which it has to meet, coupled with growing emphasis on the need to protect the reporting units from the burdens imposed by statistical surveys.

The Commission would reply as follows to the honourable Member's individual questions.

1. Yes.

2. 3 and 4. On these questions, which relate specifically to the Community labour cost survey, it should be pointed out that the Member States are responsible for carrying out the survey, using a Community questionnaire which is adjusted to national requirements and sent to the firms included in the random sample. It should also be pointed out that the survey is carried out only at intervals of several years. In so far as the volume of information required by the Lower Saxony State Administration relates to questions contained in the Community model of the questionnaire, such information is necessary for the purposes of Community statistics, and, in view of what has been said above, it is reasonable to expect it to be supplied. Member States receive a lump sum from Community funds towards the cost of carrying out the survey. The manner in which these monies are applied is totally at the discretion of the individual Member State, the Community having no say in its use.

5. The Commission always endeavours to keep to a minimum the inconvenience caused to reporting units in the Member States. On this point, it would refer the honourable Member to its answer to Written Question No 2150/82 by Mr Wedekind.[1]

6. The Commission has made every effort to reply as quickly as possible.

[1] OJ C 141, 30. 5. 1983, p. 11.

PUBLICATIONS

Theme 2

EUROPEAN SYSTEM OF INTEGRATED ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS — ESA — 2nd edition

ISBN 92-825-4290-4 (DA)

Format A 4, 243 pages, price BFR 1 500

The second edition of the *European System of Integrated Accounts* is an updated version of the original text; it incorporates the amendments, clarifications and additions made since 1970 by the Working Group on National Accounts, as well as a number of editorial improvements.

The main new features are the changeover to a system of net recording of VAT and the introduction of a ninth chapter on the measurement of changes in price and volume. **(2. 1. 3/84)**

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS METHODOLOGY OF FRANCE

ISBN 92-825-4266 (EN/FR)

Format C 5, 123 pages, price BFR 1 000

This publication explains the concepts, definitions and methods used for the compilation of the balance of payments of France. **(2. 6. 4/83)**

THE DEGREE OF SIMILARITY IN THE ECONOMICS OF THE EEC COUNTRIES 1975 AND 1970/1981

Studies of national accounts No 6

ISBN 92-825-4950-X (EN/FR)

Format A 4, 126 pages, price BFR 200

The study uses the data of national accounts, and particularly the input-output tables for 1975 and the series of detailed data by branch for the period 1970–1981, so as to provide answers to the following questions:

— To what extent does the structure of final demand and that of production resemble in the different countries?

— Over the period 1970–1981 has the degree of bilateral similarity between these structures in the different countries increased or diminished? **(2. 1. 5/84)**

Theme 3

A GUIDE TO CURRENT SOURCES OF WAGE STATISTICS IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

ISBN 92-825-4832-5 (EN), ISBN 92-825-4833-3 (FR)

Format A 4, 170 pages, price BFR 500

This handbook describes the principal statistical series in the wide field of statistics of earnings for the Community and member countries following a uniform design.

The following are covered: statistics of average wages and incomes, wage rates, labour costs, structure of earnings etc.

For each statistical series is given, the way in which it is established, the breakdowns it contains (e.g. worker/employee, male/female, Industry or service sector, region) and the period for which it is available.

The handbook is invaluable for social and economic research workers risking to make comparisons in this field. **(adaptation)**

Theme 4

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION 3-1984

(DE/EN/FR)

Format A 4, 155 pages, price BFR 225

Quarterly and annual statistics in physical units of production of: man-made fibres, textiles, clothing, leather and footwear, pulp, paper and board, office machines, data-processing equipment, domestic electrical appliances. **(4. 1. 3/84)**

OPERATION OF NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS 1983

ISBN 92-825-4537-7 (EN/FR)

Format A 4, 186 pages, price BFR 600

This annual publications presents, in its first part, the main operating statistics for the past year and gives an outline of the structure of the nuclear plant situation, with units on line as well as units under construction.

The second part of the publication gives the monthly operating data for each nuclear power station of the Community as well as the yearly results since the first connection to the grid. The annual load diagrams are also included showing the main reasons for unavailability. **(4. 2. 3/84)**

Theme 5

AGRICULTURAL PRICES 1972–1983

ISBN 92-825-5072-9 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, 320 pages, price BFR 800

This publication provides annual series for the selling prices of the main agricultural (crop and animal) products and the purchase prices of the means of agricultural production. The information relates to all 10 Community Member States. The prices are expressed in national currencies and in ECU. The publication also contains a brief description of the various price series. A supplement to this publication contains the rates of VAT in agriculture levied in each country. **(5. 3. 3/84)**

COMMUNITY SURVEY OF ORCHARD FRUIT TREES 1982

ISBN 92-825-4985-2 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, 90 pages, price BFR 300

The publication contains the most recent statistics (reference period 1982) on the 590 000 hectares of commercial orchards under apples, pears, peaches and oranges in the EEC. The tables provide details of age of orchard and density of plantation for the main fruit varieties of each species in individual Member States and production zones. The information was collected by special surveys under Council Directive 76/625/EEC. **(5. 5. 2/84)**

To be published

COMPARISON OF NATIONAL ACCOUNTS AGGREGATES BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

ISBN 92-825-4535-0 (EN)

Format A 4, approximately 48 pages, price BFR 150

The study presents the work carried out in the field of purchasing power parities and volume comparisons for Israel and the European Community as well as Spain and Portugal.

The results are provided for domestic product (GDP) and its uses and they make it possible to express in real terms the share of each country for each aggregate. **(2. 1. 2/83)**

COMPARISON OF NATIONAL ACCOUNTS AGGREGATES BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

ISBN 92-825-4538-5 (DE/EN)

Format A 4, approximately 120 pages, price BFR 450

The study presents the work carried out in the field of purchasing power parities and volume comparisons for Austria and the European Community as well as Spain and Portugal.

The results are provided for gross domestic product (GDP) and its uses and they make it possible to express in real terms the share of each country for each aggregate. **(2. 1. 6/83)**

THE METHODOLOGY OF THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS OF THE BELGO—LUXEMBOURG ECONOMIC UNION (BLEU)

ISBN 92-825-4970-4 (EN/FR/NL)

Format C 5, approximately 200 pages, price BFR 200

This publication sets out the contents and the methods used in drawing up the balance of payments of the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union (BLEU). It was prepared by the Banque Nationale de Belgique in cooperation with the Statistical Office of the European Communities. **(2. 6. 4/83)**

SOCIAL INDICATORS FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY — SELECTED SERIES — 1984

ISBN 92-825-4829-5 (EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 128 pages, price BFR 750

Indicators of some of the principal features of the social situation in the European Community, including: unemployment, employment, the position of women, regional indicators, comparison with other major countries in the world, etc. **(3. 2. 1/83)**

FAMILY BUDGETS — COMPARATIVE TABLES: FR OF GERMANY, FRANCE, ITALY, UNITED KINGDOM

ISBN 92-825-4958-5 (EN/FR)
ISBN 92-825-4959-3 (DE/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 140 pages, price BFR 200

The present publication contains the first standardized results, derived from national family budget surveys, available for the FR of Germany, France, Italy and United Kingdom. The data are presented according to a series of comparative tables elaborated by Eurostat in collaboration with the member countries of the European Community.

Results for other countries will be published later. **(3. 2. 4/83)**

IRON AND STEEL YEARBOOK 1984

ISBN 92-825-4550-4 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, 182 pages, price BFR 900

Yearly statistics on the structure and the economic situation of the Community's iron and steel industry: employment, size of enterprises, plants, crude steel, iron and scrap balances, production of iron ore, pig-iron, crude steel, finished steel and end products, consumption of raw materials, works deliveries and receipts, external trade of scrap and ECSC products, indirect foreign trade, steel consumption, investments of the iron and steel industry, prices and levy. **(4. 3. 1/84)**

STRUCTURE AND ACTIVITY OF INDUSTRY OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES — 1981

ISBN 92-825-4697-7 (DA/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, approximately 280 pages, price BFR 900

The publication contains the main results for 1980 and 1981 of the coordinated annual inquiry into industrial activity, carried out by the Member States pursuant to a Council Directive of 6 June 1972. **(4. 1. 2/84)**

EC RAW MATERIALS BALANCE SHEETS 1979–1982

ISBN 92-825-4542-3 (DE/FR/EN)

Format A 4, approximately 240 pages, price BFR 550

Description of the method and of the system of raw material balances of the SOEC. Application of this system for 21 vital mineral raw materials. Analysis of Community balances (ratios) and comparisons with certain third countries. World reserves, self-sufficiency of the EC and its Member States, the dependency of third countries, foreign trade of raw materials, development and structure of raw materials consumption. **(4. 1. 4/84)**

GAS PRICES 1978–1984

ISBN 92-825-4518-0 (EN), ISBN 92-825-4519-9 (FR)
ISBN 92-825-4517-2 (DE), ISBN 92-825-4520-2 (IT)

Format A 4, approximately 180 pages, price BFR 500

This publication is an updating of the annual inquiries on gas prices in the countries of the Community, with a time-series back to 1978. Gas prices are recorded in approximately 30 locations for both domestic and industrial uses, with a breakdown by type of consumers. The text explains definitions, tariff systems and taxation, and gives an analysis of results together with an international comparison.

(4. 2. 9/83)

GENERAL INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (NACE) — 1970

ISBN 92-825-5073-7 (IT), ISBN 92-825-5074-5 (NL)

Format A 4, approximately 100 pages, price BFR 150

The general industrial classification of economic activities within the European Communities (NACE) is an instrument necessary for the collection and presentation of statistical data which are compiled and harmonized within the scope of the Community.

Different statistics of the Community are covered by regulations or directives referring to NACE.

EC—LATIN AMERICA TRADE: RECENT TRENDS

ISBN 92-825-4698 (EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 176 pages, price BFR 250.

This study is an updated version of an analysis published in 1981. It therefore concentrates on recent trends in EC—Latin America trade, paying particular attention to those which have emerged:

— at global and geographical level;
— at the level of large groups of products;
— at the level of the main products.

A detailed statistical annex gives full information on these aspects.

(6. 3. 3/84)

Periodicals

► Monthly bulletins

EUROSTATISTICS — DATA FOR SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC ANALYSIS (THEME 1)

ISSN 0252-8266 (DE/EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 90 pages, price BFR 1 250 annual subscription

This publication is produced essentially by an automatic photocomposition process after an extraction from the Cronos data bank. Four kinds of information are published in Eurostatistics: an article 'In brief' which looks at the latest trends in the available, a visual presentation of the most important economic series for the Community and the Member States, 'Community tables' containing data harmonized by Eurostat on the basis of common criteria and 'Country tables' with a selection of the economic indicators most often used in each country. The bulletin appears at the beginning of each month in a trilingual edition.

(1. 1. 3/84)

UNEMPLOYMENT — MONTHLY BULLETIN (THEME 3)

ISSN 0252-9890 (DE), 0252-9920 (EN), 0252-9912 (FR), 0252-9904 (IT)

Format A 4, approximately 10 pages, price BFR 480 annual subscription

This bulletin, which appears on about the 20th of each month, shows the total of registered unemployed in each of the Member States of the European Community as at the end of the previous month.

Figures are given for the total of unemployed together with unemployed persons under 25 years broken down by sex.

These data are presented in absolute terms, as percentage changes, and as a proportion of the civilian working population. Figures are also shown for unemployed foreigners, the numbers of vacancies and vacancies filled during the month.

In addition to the data the main features of and trends in the labour market are commented on briefly and illustrated by a graph. **(3. 4. 3/84)**

INDUSTRIAL SHORT-TERM TRENDS (THEME 4)

ISSN 0254-0231 (DE/EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 60 pages, price BFR 800 annual subscription

Publication of the indicators forwarded by the Member States pursuant to Council Directive 72/211, in particular: indices of industrial production, turnover, orders received, number of employees, gross wages and salaries by branch of industry and for industry as a whole, and indices of the value of imports and exports for the same branches. A short special chapter is devoted to the short-term indicators for the building and civil engineering sector, as laid down in Council Directive 78/166. As from 1984, a supplementary chapter will be introduced, containing indices of producer prices of industrial products. Certain issues may include, in the form of an annex or supplementary chapter, statistics which are not published regularly. Supplements on methodology and/or containing retrospective series complete the ordinary publication. **(4. 1. 5/84)**

COAL — MONTHLY BULLETIN (THEME 4)

ISSN 0378-357X (DE/EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 24 pages, price BFR 480 annual subscription

Monthly update of the principal statistical series characterizing the short-term movements in the coal industry. Depending on availability, supplementary tables and commentary will cover the most important developments in this sector. **(4. 2. 5/84)**

ELECTRICAL ENERGY — MONTHLY BULLETIN (THEME 4)

ISSN 0378-3561, approximately 16 pages, price BFR 480 annual subscription

Monthly update of the principal statistical series characterizing the short-term movements in the electrical economy in general and fuel consumption in power stations in particular. Depending on availability, supplementary tables and commentary will cover the most important developments in this sector. **(4. 2. 6/84)**

HYDROCARBONS — MONTHLY BULLETIN (THEME 4)

ISSN 0378-3731 (DE/EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 32 pages, price BFR 950 annual subscription

Monthly update of the principal statistical series characterizing the short-term movements in the petroleum and gas industries. Depending on availability, supplementary tables and commentary will cover the most important developments in this sector. **(4. 2. 7/84)**

MONTHLY BULLETIN — IRON AND STEEL (THEME 4)

ISSN 0378-7559 (DE/EN/FR/IT)

Format A 4, approximately 17 pages, price BFR 720 annual subscription

Short-term economic statistics (monthly) on production of pig-iron, crude steel, steel mill products, consumption and receipts of scrap and number of short-time workers. **(4. 3. 3/84)**

MONTHLY EXTERNAL TRADE BULLETIN (THEME 6)

ISSN 0378-3723 (DA/DE/EN/FR/GR/IT/NL)

Format A 4, approximately 200 pages, price BFR 2 840 annual subscription

General summary of foreign trade of the European Community by country and by product. Trends in EC trade by country and by product. Trade of the main non-EC countries. Indices. **(6. 2. 7/84)**

► Quarterly bulletins

MONEY AND FINANCE (THEME 2)

ISSN 0255-6510 (EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 60 pages, price BFR 1 100 annual subscription

This publication consists of two parts: one containing a number of structural financial indicators, covering the period 1973 to 1983 and a second part in which annual, quarterly and monthly time-series data will be provided.

The structural indicators will refer to the evolution of certain financial aggregates in relation to the GDP, the consolidated balance sheets of credit institutions, the money supply, the public finance, the exchange rates and the foreign reserves.

As regards the time-series, they contain data for the short-term economic analysis and covers the following subjects: money supply, capital markets, public finance, interest rates, exchange rates and official reserves. Moreover, a chapter of the bulletin will provide statistics related to the European Monetary System.

(2. 4. 1/84)

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS — QUARTERLY DATA (THEME 2)

ISSN 0251-1800 (EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 90 pages, price BFR 480 annual subscription

This publication provides the latest available quarterly and annual data on the global balance of payments (flows) of each European Community country, as well as for the Community as a whole (EUR 10 and EUR 9), of each of the candidate countries (Spain and Portugal) and of the United States and Japan. The publication includes comparative tables with the main balance items of a certain number of industrialized countries.

The data are expressed in millions of European currency units (Mio ECU); they are presented according to the Eurostat's balance-of-payments schema and cover the three latest annual and the nine latest quarterly available periods. **(2. 6. 3/84)**

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION (THEME 4)

ISSN 0254-0649 (DE/EN/FR)

Format A 4, approximately 200 pages, price BFR 660 annual subscription

Statistics of industrial production by product. Annual and quarterly data on production of industrial products in the Member States of the EC. **(4. 1. 3/84)**

QUARTERLY IRON AND STEEL BULLETIN (THEME 4)

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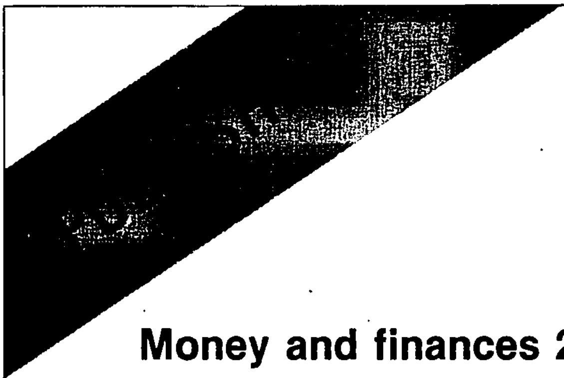
(5. 3. 1/84)



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