



PRIVREDNA KOMORA SRBIJE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF SERBIA

Online conference

Business specifics and opportunities in the Balkan region

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ABOUT THE CCIS

- General representative of the business community in Serbia with a long tradition of representing and protecting interest of the domestic economy;
- Full structural and territorial coverage of the economy through the network of business associations (18) and regional chambers of commerce (17);
- Main activities: initiatives for the improvement of business framework, internationalization of the economy, connecting businesses, informative-analytical support, education and digitalization.

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REGIONAL COOPERATION

- Chamber Investment Forum– CIF, gathering all the chambers of commerce in the Western Balkans;
- Four freedoms initiative (free movement of people, goods, services and capital), also known as the „mini-Shengen“;
- Multiannual action plan for creating the regional economic integration, supported by the European Union;
- Representing the region as a single investment destination through various channels;
- Establishing the Regional Center for Economic Analysis, in cooperation with DIHK (German Chamber of Commerce).

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CONTRIBUTION TO THE ECONOMIC POLICY

- The President of the CCIS is a member of the GDP Council, a governmental body responsible for coordinating the macroeconomic policy, chaired by Prime Minister;
- Participation within the state working groups responsible for the preparation of laws, amendments and rulebooks, accepting actual standards and harmonizing the domestic legislation with the EU rules;
- Assistance in the organization of political and economic delegations within the framework of official state visits in the country and abroad;
- Organizing the public-private dialogue, analysing the economic developments, proposing solutions for detecting problems and limitations in the business environment.

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CCIS AS AN EFFICIENT SYSTEM IN CRISIS (COVID-19)

- Member of the National Task Force responsible for economy chaired by the President of the Republic;
- Establishment of informative service for the companies available 24/7 (still active);
- Stabilizing the supply chain and retail sector; issuing permits for the movement of employees and organizing transport to the factories and other working facilities during the state of emergency;
- Defining the economic support measures in line with the needs of companies;
- Helping the import of medicines and medical equipment, including donations by businesspeople and companies.

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ECONOMIC SUPPORT MEASURES

- The National Bank of Serbia: temporary moratorium on debt liabilities for citizens and companies, cutting the key policy rate (currently at 1.00%);
- The Government: transferring the minimal wages to private sectors in order to preserve the employment, temporary deferment of taxes and social contributions, access to finance through the guarantee scheme (agreed with commercial banks);
- Apart from systematic measures, a significant share of government support has been related to the most vulnerable sectors (tourism and hospitality, passenger transport companies, citizens/retired people);
- The third package is in the process of implementation (including both systematic and selective approach).



ECONOMIC RESULTS ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL

- In 2020 the GDP contracted 1.1%, which was quite favorable in comparison to the majority of European countries;
- Macroeconomic stability has been preserved: inflation is low and predictable (around 1,5% annually), FX rate is stable, large inflow of FDI (EUR 3bn in 2020), the production and export capacity of Serbia`s economy has been preserved making conditions for further growth;
- Unemployment rate stayed slightly below 10%, while the average wage has continued to increase (purchasing power of population has been preserved);
- Credit rating confirmed at „BB+“ with stable outlook for further improvement (S&P, Fitch).



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PREPARING FOR A STRONG RECOVERY

- The essence of economic support is „to bridge“ the crisis until the global market recovery starts;
- According to the IMF and World Bank, Serbia’s GDP growth has been projected at 5.0% in 2021 and around 4.0% in 2022;
- The recovery of Serbia’s economy is based on economic structure and Government support, as well as the flexibility of local entrepreneurs;
- Conditions for sustainable growth in medium term depends on: recovery of EU and the region as main trading partners, inflow of FDI, strengthening the supply chain, favorable access to finance for SMEs, regional cooperation and continuation of the EU integration process.

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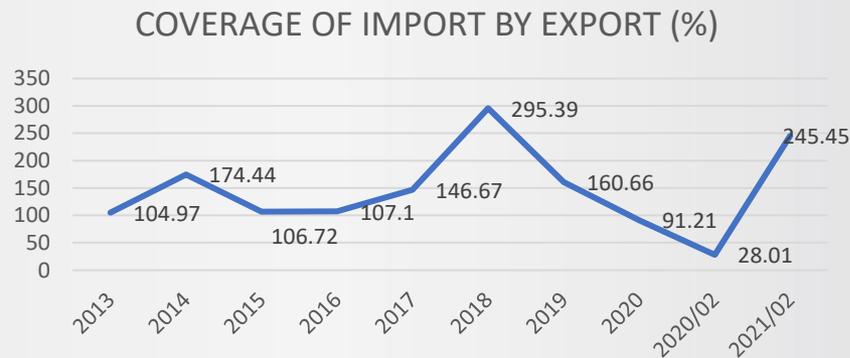
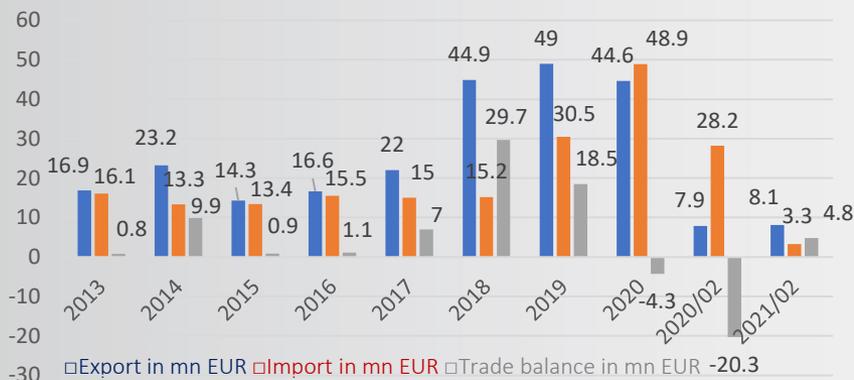
ECONOMIC COOPERATION OF SERBIA AND LITHUANIA - GENERAL DATA

- Lithuania and Serbia have cooperated in industrial sector, in which a great number of significant contracts have been implemented (automotive industry, agricultural machinery, food processing equipment, textile etc.).
- The total trade between Serbia and Lithuania in 2020 amounted to EUR 93.5 mln. Serbia's total exports to Lithuania in 2020 amounted to EUR 44.6 mln. Import from Lithuania for the same period amounted to EUR 48.9 mln. Export 2/2021: EUR 8.1 mln, higher by EUR 200,000 compared to 02/2020. Import 2/2021: EUR 3.3 mln, lower by EUR 24.9 mln compared to 02/2020.
- Leading export products of Serbia to Lithuania in 2020 are: ignition cable sets, vehicle sets (44%); polyethylene (6%); cartridges with ink for insertion into appliances (4%); tires, new, for passenger cars (4%) and grills (3%) and others. The top ten products accounted for 71% of total exports to the Lithuanian market.
- Leading import products from Lithuania to Serbia in 2020 are: apparatus for purifying and filtering the gases (24%); rollers of cotton (13%); parts and accessories of liquid gas consumption meters (12%); heat exchangers (11%) and unclassified goods (2%) etc. The top ten products accounted for 72% of total import to the Serbian market.



ECONOMIC COOPERATION OF SERBIA AND LITHUANIA - GENERAL DATA

In 2020, 669 companies in Serbia achieved a trade exchange with Lithuania. Of this number, 153 only exported goods, 516 only imported, while 20 economic entities did foreign trade in both directions.



There are 10 companies operating in Serbia (companies, associations, representative offices) whose owners are Lithuanian citizens or business entities registered in Lithuania. We can change that, together. Total investments of Lithuania in Serbia amounts to close to EUR 9 mln: EUR 8.689 mln.



MAIN SECTORS FOR POTENTIAL COOPERATION - SERBIAN WOOD INDUSTRY

- The total forest area in Serbia is 2.25 million ha or 29% of the territory.
- By ownership, 53% of forests is in state ownership, and 47% in private.
- The total volume of forests amounts to 363 million m³, while the annual growth is 9 million m³.
- The dominant species is beech (40%), then oak (27%), fir (12%), poplar and acacia 5%.
- The annual volume of wood cutting for commercial purposes: approximately 2,636,000 million cubic meters, of which around 1,300,000 m³ logs per year (690,000 beech and oak; 380,000 poplar; 210,000 fir) - all processing in domestic processing plants.

36,606 WORKERS

13,687 in furniture industry and
22,919 in timber industry

3,445 COMPANIES

More than 90% of enterprises
are privately owned and mainly
located in the central and
southern areas of Serbia

24.4% PRODUCING FURNITURE

75.6% PRODUCING TIMBER



MAIN SECTORS FOR POTENTIAL COOPERATION - SERBIAN FOOD INDUSTRY

MAJOR PRODUCTS IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY SECTOR

Meat of all types	about 450,000 tons
Milk and dairy products	about 1.4 mil. liters
Sugar	about 400,000 tons
Sunflower oil	about 200,000 tons
Confectionery products	about 140,000 tons
Mineral water	about 6 mil. hl
Soft drinks	about 6.5 mil. hl
Beer	about 5 mil. hl
Wine	about 420.000 hl
Cheese	about 4.7 th. tons
Honey	about 12 th. tons

SERBIA

1	Biggest world producer of raspberries
2	Second biggest world producer of plum
3	Tenth biggest world exporter of maize
4	Third biggest soybean producer in Europe
5	Biggest apple exporter to the Russian Federation

- Sector of primary milk production includes between 18 and 20 thousand farms.
- 3.5 million hectares of arable land of which 74.3% is the agricultural land
- Lowest usage of fertilizers and pesticides in Europe
- Serbia has 798,000 beehives and in 2019, it produced the record 12,200 tons of honey; there is a melliferous potential for a larger number of beehives - over 1.2 mil.



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