

# Challenges of European, Eurasian and a wider European Integration in View of Ukraine's Crisis

Conference „Europe current evolution“

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## Topics covered

- Two competing integrations: European Union and Eurasian Economic Union
- Regional trade and FDI patterns
- Economic consequences of the Ukraine conflict
- Summary conclusions and the way forward
- Additional reading

## Integration and disintegration: the EU vs CIS/EEU (I)

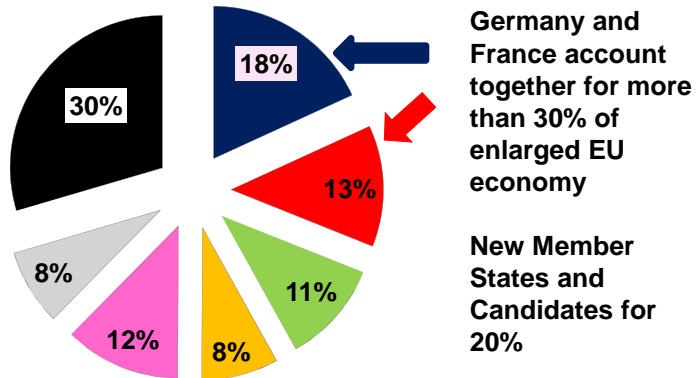
- European Union (EU) remains attractive and is expanding, notwithstanding numerous problems and crises
  - After 60 years, the EU currently has 28 member states (Croatia joined in July 2013), with more than 500 million inhabitants and aggregate GDP of €13.000 billion
  - Eurozone currently has 19 member states (Lithuania joined in January 2015)
- A number of SEE/FSU countries are candidates or aspire for EU membership (e.g. Serbia, Turkey, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine...)
- Yet some current EU members may leave (e.g. UK, Greece)

## Integration and disintegration: the EU vs CIS/EEU (II)

- Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) was established after the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991
- CIS has currently 10 member states (Georgia left in August 2008, Ukraine in 2014), with 240 million inhabitants and aggregate GDP of close to € 2.000 billion
- A number of alternative integration endeavors on the post-Soviet space, mostly Russian-led, exist (BY-RU-KZ Customs Union, SES, EurAz, GUAM, etc.)
- Customs Union and, currently, Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) comprising RU, KZ, BY and AR are the most important
- EEU is modelled on the EU example („four freedoms“, economic policy coordination, etc).

Economic dimension: Real GDP in the enlarged EU, in % of total

■ Germany ■ France ■ Italy ■ Spain ■ NMS-13 ■ 5 Candidates ■ other EU-28

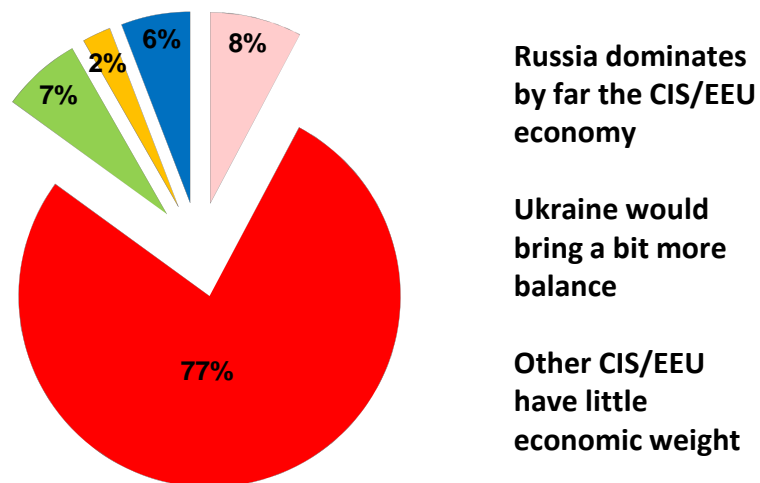


Sources: wiiw Database incorporating national and Eurostat statistics; own estimates.

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Economic dimension: GDP in the CIS/EEU, in % of total

■ Kazakhstan ■ Russia ■ Ukraine ■ Belarus ■ other 8 CIS



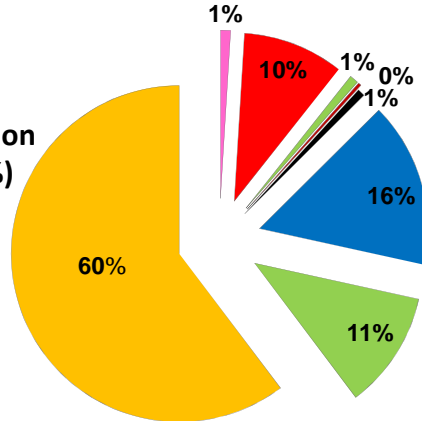
Sources: wiiw Database incorporating national and CISSTAT statistics; own estimates.

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# Real GDP in Eurasia (Lisbon-Vladivostok), in % of total (Eurasia = enlarged EU and CIS/EEU)

Kazakhstan Russia Ukraine Belarus other CIS Germany France Rest EU

The EEU represents just a fraction (about 13%) of Eurasian economy



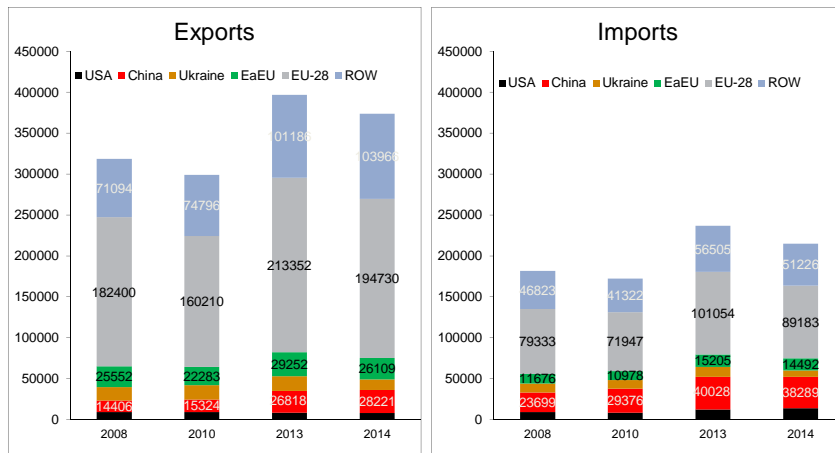
The EU is bigger market (€14000 bn) and much richer than EEU

average real per capita GDP is €27300 in the EU, compared with €7000 in the EEU

RU: €18700, KZ: €18000, BY: €13800, UA: €6400

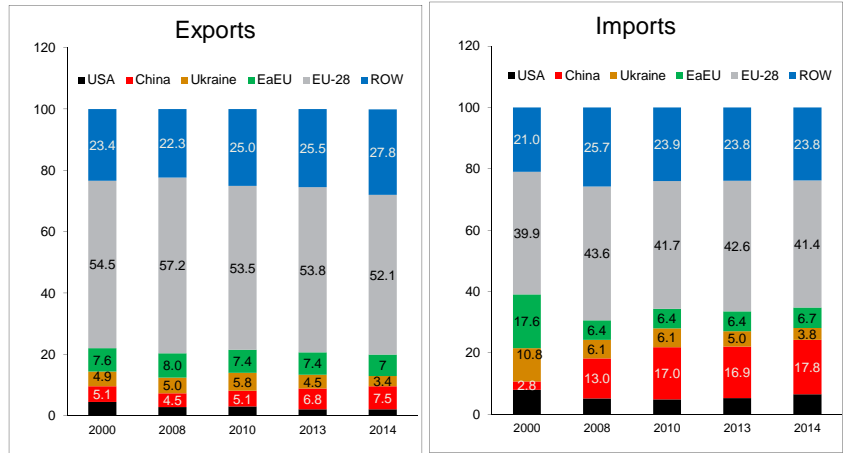
Sources: wiiw Database incorporating national, CISSTAT and Eurostat statistics; own estimates.

## Russian foreign trade by regions (EUR mn): overall surplus yet rising deficit with China



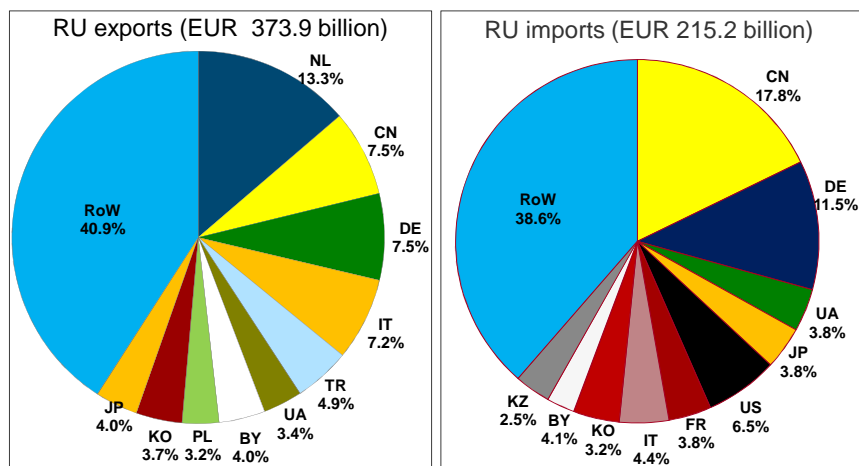
Source: wiiw Database incorporating national and Eurostat statistics.

Russian foreign trade by regions (% of total): diversification from the EU not easy



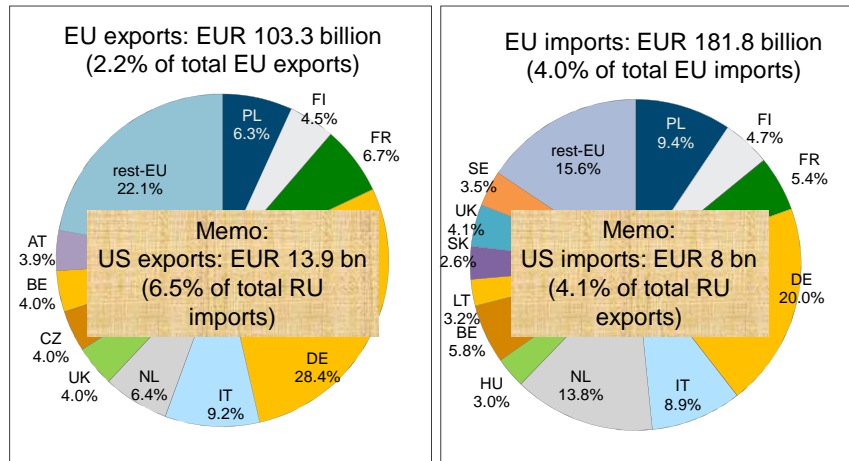
Source: wiiw Database incorporating national and Eurostat statistics.

Russia's main trading partners, 2014, in % of total



Source: wiiw Annual Database, national statistics.

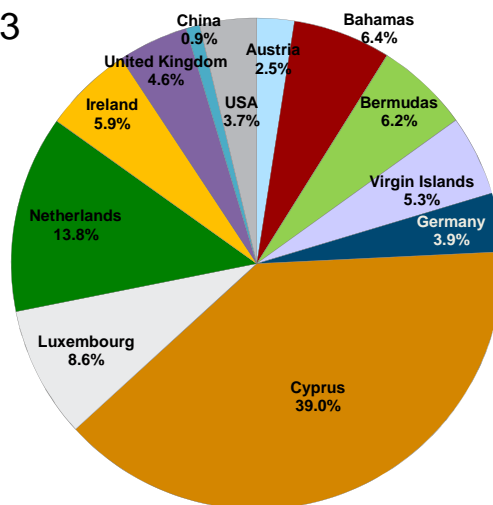
## Russia's main trading partners in the EU, 2014 in % of total EU trade with Russia



Source: wiiw Annual Database, ROSSTAT

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## Russian inward FDI stocks: USD 566.5 billion, end-2013



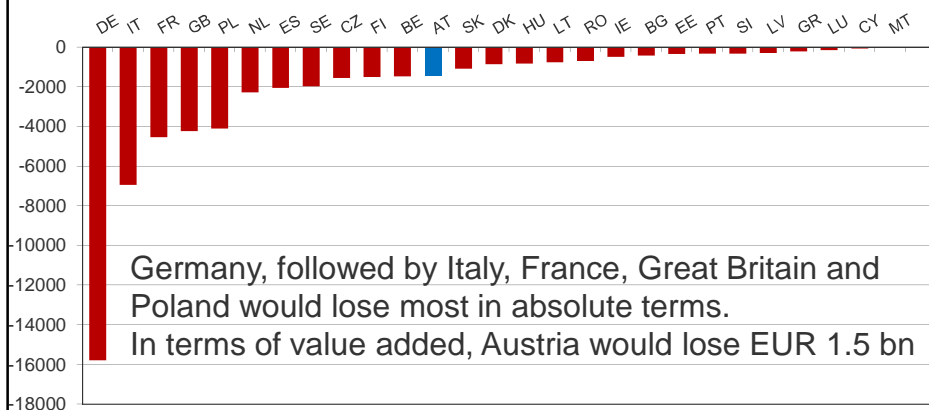
Sources: wiiw FDI Database incorporating national statistics (CBR); own estimates.

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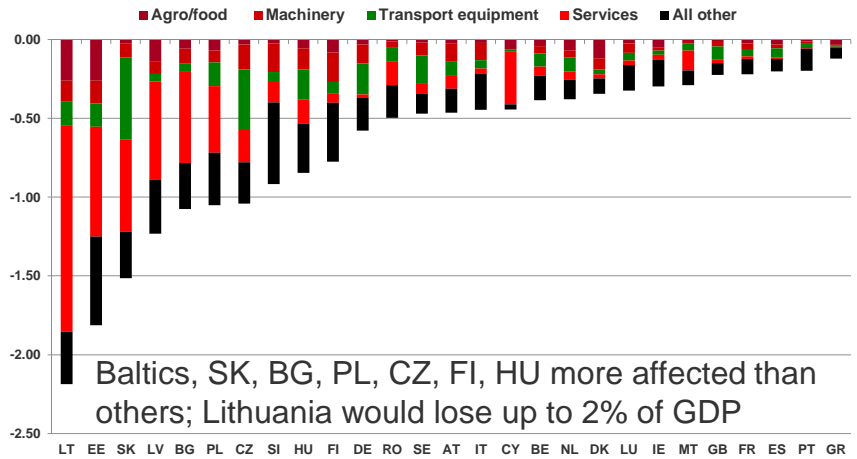
## Effects of Eurasian integration

- There seems to be little (economic) justification for Russia prompting Ukraine to join the Customs Union;
- Economic dominances have serious implications for integration success and sustainability (viz Germany-EU and Russia-EEU);
- Estimates of Customs Union, EU accession, EU Single Market, DCFTA, EU-USA Free Trade Agreements, etc. differ widely;
- Long-run effects estimates are always bigger than short-run !
- Effects of non-tariff barriers are always more important than plain customs duties reductions !
- Estimation methods, data sources and model assumptions matter a lot in evaluations/interpretations of integration effects!
- See selected references attached for additional reading.

**Scenario (II): Overall EU losses could add up to EUR 55 billion if goods and services exports to Russia drop by 50%**



## Scenario (II) sectoral impacts: estimated loss of GDP (in %) if gross exports to Russia drop by 50%



Source: Own estimates (Havlik, 2014).

## Russia 'stuck in transition' already before Ukraine crisis escalated

- Energy exports revenues and growth sustainability
  - Increased pressures on energy supply diversification (both in the EU and RU)
  - Sectoral sanctions bite, no longer largely symbolic
  - Investment climate suffers, imports and FDI down, capital flight up
- Diversification and modernisation of the economy under threat
  - Growing reform pressures owing to lower oil price and sanctions?
  - Yet modernisation definitely more difficult without more FDI!
- Stability of the ruling elite threatened ?
  - Putin's ratings grow, Russia's ratings fall, rouble and MICEX fluctuate
  - Yet this may change with more hardship ...
- Integration on the post-Soviet space derailed/fails?
  - Crimea and Donbas not really helpful for Putin's Eurasian integration project
  - New design/reset of EU neighbourhood policies?
  - Pivot to China ?

## Impact of sanctions on the Russian economy



In extreme case, the impact of sanctions could add up to 8-10% of Russian GDP according to estimates of Moscow's Institute of Economic Forecasting (Alexander Shirov, IIASA Workshop, 20 Nov. 2014).

## Preliminary conclusions and the way forward

- Both Russia and the EU should abstain from geopolitical games over the influence in the Eastern Neighbourhood;
- EU-Russia negotiations should not be about Ukraine or other Eastern Partnership countries but involve the latter in the process;
- FTA negotiations should focus less and only selectively on costly harmonisations ('acquis takeover' for non-EU membership candidates);
- Visa liberalisation procedures, human contacts and other confidence-building measures on the European continent should be fostered;
- Closer integration of the enlarged EU, Russia, EEU and other Eastern Partnership countries would boost trade, investment and growth in a wider Europe;
- Wider Eurasian integration – from Lisbon to Vladivostok – would relieve Ukraine and other Eastern Partnership countries from 'impossible either/or choices'.

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**Thank you for your attention!**