

HINTS FOR ACCESS TO THE wiiw DATABASES

Data from *COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION 2004*, both in significantly greater detail and continuously updated as new information is being released, are also accessible via wiiw databases either online or on CD-ROM. These databases are publicly available by subscription (see also the wiiw homepage for more details – www.wiiw.ac.at).

The labels listed in the first column of the tables in chapters II-VIII of the handbook refer to original time series in the Vienna Institute's **wiiw Annual Database Eastern Europe**, so the handbook may serve in effect also as a detailed index to the online access. The database, currently with almost 9,000 time series, contains the most important annual economic data on Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia and Montenegro (former Yugoslavia), the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Ukraine.

Coverage: The annual statistics on the economies of the above countries include general demographic data, as well as time series on GDP/GNP, production, investment, consumption, labour market, wages and prices, financial data, national budgets, foreign trade by partners and commodity groups, balance of payments, external debt, and various indicators of living standard. Many of the time series reach back as far as the 1960s. Series on 'new countries' (Croatia, the Czech and Slovak Republics, Macedonia, Russia, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia and Ukraine) are available from 1989 onwards. Time series are updated as soon as the statistical sources become available. A detailed listing of all series in the database is available online.

Sources: The **wiiw Annual Database Eastern Europe** is based on data and information provided mainly by the national statistical offices and national banks of the respective countries. These and additional sources also serve as a basis for wiiw's own research, estimates and projections. Texts, footnotes and explanations on the time series are in English.

Access: Host of the **wiiw Annual Database Eastern Europe** is the Computing Centre for Economics and Social Sciences (Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaftliches Rechenzentrum, WSR) in Vienna, which provides online access for external subscribers. Besides, the database can also be accessed via Thomson Financial Ltd, London and Global Insight Inc., Washington.

In addition to the **wiiw Annual Database Eastern Europe**, which contains solely annual data, wiiw maintains also the more timely **wiiw Monthly Database Eastern Europe**, which serves as a tool in analysing current economic trends and fits the specific needs of wiiw Members. More than 1,200 leading indicators contained in that database monitor the latest key economic developments in the following countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russia, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Ukraine. Time series start usually in 1990/91 and are continuously revised and updated. A selection of recent monthly statistics from this database is presented in chapter IX of the handbook. The sources used for the **wiiw Monthly Database Eastern Europe** are the same as those for the **wiiw Annual Database Eastern Europe**. Texts and notes accompanying the time series are again in English.

Access: The **wiiw Monthly Database Eastern Europe** is available to validated users directly from wiiw via the Internet. Time series from the monthly database can be easily downloaded to any personal computer with MS Excel or another compatible software package, thus permitting a wide range of indigenous analyses. Alternatively, it can again be accessed online via Thomson Financial and Global Insight Inc.

The **wiiw Industrial Database Eastern Europe** contains more than 8,700 time series on production, employment, wages, unit labour costs, productivity and foreign trade with the European Union. The countries covered are Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic and Slovenia. The annual data relate to the period 1989-2003 and are arranged according to the NACE rev. 1 sections of industry and 14 subsections of manufacturing (C, D, E; DA, DB ... DN). For Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Slovenia we provide even more disaggregated data of manufacturing at the level of NACE rev. 1 divisions (15, 16 ... 37) comprising 23 industries which are identical with industries at the 2-digit level of the ISIC rev. 3 code. A selection of data from this database is presented in chapter III/3 of the handbook.

Access: The **wiiw Industrial Database** is available on CD-ROM (annual updates) directly from wiiw. Using MS Excel software this CD-ROM allows for easy comparison of key industry variables across countries and individual industries over time.

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