Some figures on trade between Belgium and the Eurasian Economic Union

Valère Vangeel
valere.vangeel@economie.fgov.be
Belgian merchandise exports to the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015

- In 2015 Belgium exported €3.54 billion worth of goods to the Eurasian Economic Union, a decline by 24.2 per cent compared with 2014.
- The Eurasian Economic Union accounted for 1.0 per cent of total Belgian merchandise exports in 2015.
Belgian merchandise exports to the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015

- Belgian exports to the Eurasian Economic Union were mainly destined for the Russian Federation: of the total of € 3.54 billion, about € 3.10 billion or 87.4 per cent, were destined for the Russian Federation of Belgian exports to the area in 2015;
- Belarus: € 0.16 billion
- Kazakhstan: € 0.21 billion
- Armenia: € 0.06 billion
- Kyrgyzstan: € 0.02 billion

http://economie.fgov.be
Chemical products, pharmaceuticals and plastics constituted the most important product group in Belgian exports to the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015, with a value of € 1.76 billion, or a share of 49.5 per cent.
Main items in Belgian exports to the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015 (continued)

- Other important product groups in Belgian exports in 2015 were:
  - machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical equipment (€ 545 million, share of 15.4 per cent);
  - agricultural products and prepared foodstuffs (€ 313 million, 8.8 per cent);
  - transport equipment (€ 187 million, 5.3 per cent);
  - base metals and articles of base metal (€ 165 million, 4.6 per cent).
Belgian merchandise imports from the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015

- In 2015, Belgium imported € 8.65 billion worth of goods from the Eurasian Economic Union, a decline in current prices by 23 per cent compared with 2014.
- The Eurasian Economic Union accounted for 2.6 per cent of Belgian merchandise imports in 2015.
Belgian imports from the Eurasian Economic Union (in current prices, € billion)
Belgian merchandise imports from the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015

- The Russian Federation accounted for more than 90 per cent of Belgian imports from the Eurasian Economic Union, i.e. € 8.32 billion, or a share of 96.1 per cent.
  - Armenia: € 0.0 billion;
  - Belarus: € 0.1 billion;
  - Kazakhstan: € 0.2 billion;
  - Kyrgyzstan: € 0.0 billion.
Share in Belgian merchandise imports from the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015

- Armenia: 0.0%
- Belarus: 0.5%
- Kazakhstan: 1.1%
- Kyrgyzstan: 2.3%
- Russian Federation: 96.1%
Main items in Belgian imports from the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015

- Belgian imports from the Eurasian Economic Union mainly consisted of mineral fuels and precious stones;
- These two product categories together represented 76 per cent of the value of total Belgian merchandise imports from the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015.
Main items in Belgian imports from the Eurasian Economic Union in 2015 (continued)

- Mineral products: € 4.28 billion (49.5 per cent of Belgian imports from the EEU);
- precious stones and metals: € 2.29 billion (26.5 per cent);
- base metals and articles of base metal: € 0.91 billion (10.5 per cent);
- chemical products and plastics: € 0.78 billion (9.1 per cent);
- agricultural products and foodstuffs € 0.20 bn (2.3 per cent).
Market access issues/problems reported by Belgian companies

- August 2015: certification and conformity assessment = UE key barrier (MADB)
  - Compulsory certificates of conformity with Russian technical regulations have long been required for a wide range of goods imported into the country

- Since August 2014: embargo/ban on EU food imports (until the end of 2017)

- Since January 2014: ban on imports of pork products from the EU in connection with the discovery of African swine fever cases in Lithuania and Poland
  - WTO panel found in 2016 that measures were violating the WTO rules. Finding confirmed by Appellate Body in February 2017
Impact of Russian import ban on Belgian agricultural products

- Producer prices and total export volumes of five agricultural products are monitored every quarter and compared with the same quarter before the import ban of August 2014
  - Pigmeat
  - Apples
  - Pears
  - Tomatoes
  - Milk powder
## Impact of Russian import ban on Belgian agricultural products

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pigmeat</td>
<td>-9,3 %</td>
<td>-10,0 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apples</td>
<td>-42,9 %</td>
<td>+14,3 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pears</td>
<td>-18,0 %</td>
<td>-14,5 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomatoes</td>
<td>+37,6 %</td>
<td>-28,1 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milk powder</td>
<td>-19,6 %</td>
<td>+19,6 %</td>
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Sources: AD Statistiek - Statistics Belgium, Comext, Agricultural Federations
BE is negotiating with Russia the conclusion of a protocol on mutual recognition of certificates of non-preferential origin of the goods issued electronically and their verification.

Significance
- increasing efficiency of customs control
- simplifying customs clearance
- facilitating mutual trade
- accelerating of customs operations
- ensuring accurate collection of customs duties, taxes and other payments

Open to partners of Eurasia?