

## **Geopolitical distribution of the EU-27 food trade from 2006 to 2009**

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Food trade should not be confused with agricultural trade as the first includes fish but not non food agricultural raw materials. We have used the "Standard International Trade Classification" (SITC), in its 3<sup>rd</sup> revision. The codes of products selected for agricultural trade are: 0 (food products and live animals, excluding 03 for fish products), 11 (beverages), 121 (raw tobacco), 22 (oilseeds and oleaginous fruits), 231 (natural rubber), 261 (silk), 263 (cotton), 264 (jute), 265 (vegetable textile fibres), 268 (wool and other animal hair), 29 (crude animal and vegetable materials), 4 (animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes), 551 (essential oils). For food products we have retained the codes 0, 11, 22 and 4. The justifications of these codes are given in the paper "*Sorting the truth out from the lies in the explosion of world agricultural prices*" of June 1, 2008.

Table 1– The EU-27 food trade from 2000 to 2009

€billion	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Exports	48.58	49.425	50.559	48.987	49.210	52.453	58.442	62.562	69.217	62.662
Imports	59.066	63.311	63.802	62.341	65.266	69.445	75.378	84.318	94.357	83.004
Balance	-11.008	-13.886	-13.243	-13.354	-16.056	-16.992	-16.936	-21.756	-25.140	-20.342
" of which in fish	-9.878	-10.770	-10.274	-10.255	-9.976	-11.458	-13.404	-13.545	-13.322	-12.682

Source: Eurostat, CTCI Rev.3, codes 0, 11, 22, 4.

For the geopolitical distribution of the EU-27 food trade we have confined ourselves to the years 2006 to 2009.

The EU-27 have had an average food trade deficit of €21.7 billion from 2006 to 2009, of which of €38 billion with developing countries (DCs) as it has enjoyed a surplus of €16.2 billion with the developed countries – limited to Australia, Canada, Japan, New-Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, USA – and Russia. 78% of its imports have come from DCs which have only received 44.9% of its exports. 61% of the EU deficit is due to fish (and shellfish) and 73.5% of that fish deficit is also vis-à-vis DCs.

The largest deficit has been observed in 2008, at €27.9 billion, despite a record surplus of €25.6 billion vis-à-vis the developed countries and Russia, which implies that the deficit vis-à-vis the DCs has itself reached the record of €53.5 billion. Whereas the EU is repeating that it has the duty and the calling to feed the world, the hard facts are that it is the EU which is receiving a huge food aid from the DCs.

Table 2– Geopolitical distribution of the EU-27 food trade: average from 2006 to 2009

€million	Total	Developed countries (DC)*	Russia	DC+Russia	DCs	DCs/total
Exports	62535	27646	6821	34467	28068	44.9%
Imports	84264	17238	1008	18246	66018	78.3%
Balance	-21729	10408	5813	16221	-37950	
" in fish	-13238	-3426	-84	-3510	-9728	73.5%

Source: Eurostat, SITC Rev.3, codes 0, 11, 22, 4. \* Australia, Canada, Japan, New-Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, USA. DCs: developing countries.

Table 3 – Geopolitical distribution of the EU-27 food trade in 2006

€million	Total	Developed countries (DC)*	Russia	DC+Russia	DCs	DCs/total
Exports	58442	25104	6076	31180	27262	46.6%
Imports	75378	16379	943	17322	58056	77%
Balance	-16936	8725	5133	13858	-30794	
" in fish	-13404	-4132	-187	-4319	-9085	67.8%

Source: Eurostat, SITC Rev.3, codes 0, 11, 22, 4. \* Australia, Canada, Japan, New-Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, USA. DCs: developing countries.

Table 4 – Geopolitical distribution of the EU-27 food trade in 2007

€million	Total	Developed countries (DC)*	Russia	DC+Russia	DCs	DCs/total
Exports	62562	24596	6974	31570	30992	49.6%
Imports	84318	17512	1075	18587	65731	78%
Balance	-21756	7084	5899	12983	-34739	
" in fish	-13545	-3283	-76	-3359	-10186	75.2%

Source: Eurostat, SITC Rev.3, codes 0, 11, 22, 4. \* Australia, Canada, Japan, New-Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, USA. DCs: developing countries.

Table 5 – Geopolitical distribution of the EU-27 food trade in 2008

€million	Total	Developed countries (DC)*	Russia	DC+Russia	DCs	DCs/total
Exports	66473	37269	7948	45217	21256	32%
Imports	94357	18520	1087	19607	74750	79.2%
Balance	-27884	18749	6861	25610	-53494	
" in fish	-13322	-3078	-40	-3118	-10204	76.6%

Source: Eurostat, SITC Rev.3, codes 0, 11, 22, 4. \* Australia, Canada, Japan, New-Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, USA. DCs: developing countries.

Table 6 – Geopolitical distribution of the EU-27 food trade in 2009

€million	Total	Developed countries (DC)*	Russia	DC+Russia	DCs	DCs/total
Exports	62662	23615	6286	29901	32761	52.3%
Imports	83004	16541	928	17469	65535	79%
Balance	-20342	7074	5358	12432	-32774	
" in fish	-12682	-3212	-33	-3245	-9437	74.4%

Source: Eurostat, SITC Rev.3, codes 0, 11, 22, 4. \* Australia, Canada, Japan, New-Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, USA. DCs: developing countries.