

	Nominal export growth, EUR 1994-2001, %		Nominal import growth, EUR 1994-2001, %	
	Goods	Services	Goods	Services
Bulgaria	73.2	158.9	125.8	101.1
Czech Republic	177.6	81.2	178.9	56.9
Estonia	264.6	327.1	248.6	247.7
Hungary	385.2	226.6	249.9	147.7
Lithuania	219.8	376.8	256.7	147.5
Latvia	189.0	141.2	259.2	212.0
Poland	201.1	93.3	245.5	207.9
Romania	174.5	175.3	224.4	162.0
Slovenia	81.3	44.2	84.2	66.7
Slovakia	151.0	64.3	195.8	91.9

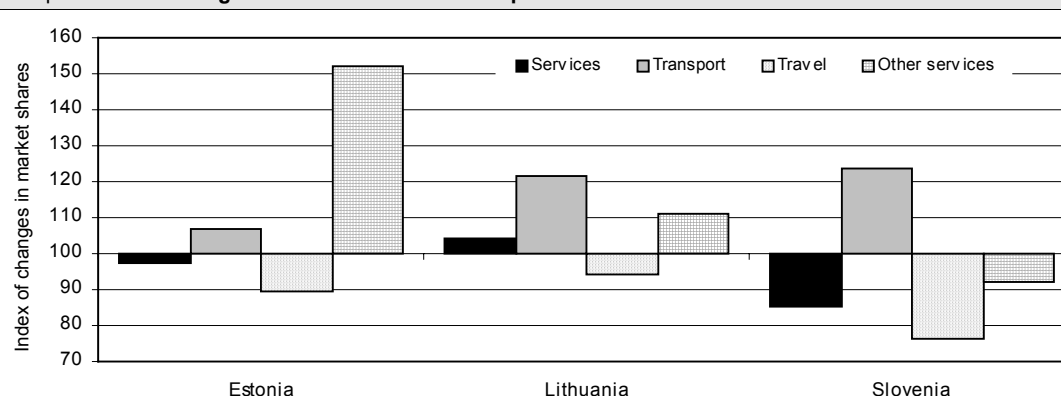
*Source of data: Eurostat, NewCronos-Theme 2.*

The EU accession countries are lagging behind the EU member-states as regards the **level of service sector development**. This is revealed by comparing the indicators of international trade in services with the indicators of trade in goods, as well by a low share of services containing high value added in GDP and the gaps in value added per employee in the service sectors compared to other sectors. Figures for **1994-2001** show that exports of goods rose much faster than exports of services in most of the selected countries. Similar trends were seen on the import side, where each country recorded stronger growth in imports of goods than in imports of services. This was partly due to bigger barriers imposed on trade in services. Out of all selected countries, Slovenia least increased its exports of services, however, this was partly due to the fact that Slovenia had already been more integrated into international trade in services than other accession countries. Nevertheless, Slovenia's exports of services increased very moderately. A similar situation can be seen on the import side, where only the Czech Republic recorded lower growth in imports of services than Slovenia.

Since **data** on trade in services broken down by trading partners are **unavailable for accession countries**, it is difficult to assess the competitiveness of exports of services in EU markets. According to figures from Eurostat, Slovenia is the only country to have a data series for 1994-2001, while most other countries only have data for 2001. We examined changes in the market shares of total exports of services and three main groups of services in the imports of the 15 EU members from non-members. The latter have a different status compared to EU members, for which the free movement of services applies. The **competitiveness of Slovenia's exports of services** in EU markets seen in terms of the market share can only be compared to **Lithuania and Estonia** for 1997-2001.

The previous analysis of market shares (see SEM 12/2002:18) showed that the **competitiveness of Slovenia's exports of services to EU markets declined**, according to the market-share criterion; however, some positive shifts were seen in the export competitiveness of some types of services (insurance, communications, personal, cultural and recreation services). If we look at the countries for which data are available, the graph shows that the export competitiveness of services fell the most in Slovenia, slightly less in Estonia, while Lithuania increased the competitiveness of its services exported to the EU. All three countries increased their competitiveness in exports of transport services, with Slovenia achieving the most, while they reduced their competitiveness in exports of travel, where Slovenia performed the worst. Estonia and Lithuania increased their market shares in exports of other services, while Slovenia's market share shrank, suggesting a fall in the competitiveness of exports of other services. Despite the unavailability of data for other accession countries, this comparison reveals relatively negative trends in the market share of Slovenia's exports of services in EU markets.

**Graph: Index of changes in the market share of exports of services to the EU in 1997-2001**



*Source of data: Eurostat, NewCronos-Theme 2.*