quarterly monitor

OF ECONOMIC TRENDS AND POLICIES IN SERBIA

Issue 40 • January–March 2015

PUBLISHER

The Foundation for the Advancement of Economics (FREN)

Kamenička 6, Beograd Tel/Fax: 011 3021 069 E-mail: office@fren.org.rs

http://www.fren.org.rs

EDITORIAL COUNCIL

Mihail Arandarenko (for the Publisher)

Jurij Bajec Pavle Petrović Branko Urošević Boško Živković

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Milojko Arsić

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Saša Ranđelović

AUTHORS

Milojko Arsić

Aleksandra Anić, Employment and Wages
Danko Brčerević, Economic Activity
Mirjana Gligorić, Balance of Payments and Foreign Trade
Milan Pejić, Prices and the Exchange Rate
Saša Ranđelović, Fiscal Flows and Policy
Svetozar Tanasković, Monetary Flows and Policy

ASSOCIATES IN THIS ISSUE

Slobodan Minić Pavle Petrović Mladen Stamenković

TRANSLATION

Darko Popović Dragica Mihajlović Marjeta Pevec Vladica Đukić

DESIGN OF INNER PAGES

Stefan Ignjatović

PRINTING PREPARATION

Maja Tomić

COVER DESIGN

Nikola Drinčić

PRINTING OFFICE

Alta Nova

VOLUME

100 copies

Quarterly Monitor of Economic Trends and Policies in Serbia (QM) was created by Kori Udovički, who was the Editor-in-Chief of the first six issues of QM. For issues seven to twenty three, the Editor-in-Chief of QM was Prof. Pavle Petrović. Diana Dragutinović was the Editor-in-Chief of QM24. Since issue QM25-26 the Editor-in-Chief of QM is Milojko Arsić.

Table of Contents

From the Editor 5	HIGHLIGHTS
	Highlights 1
TRENDS	Highlight 1. Fiscal Consolidation 2012-14
	Vs 2015-17: is this Time any Different?
1. Review	Pavle Petrović i Slobodan Minić
2. Economic Activity	Highlights 2
3. Employment and Wages 19	Integration of construction land usage fee
4. Balance of Payments and Foreign Trade 26	into property tax in Serbia:
,	results and lessons learned
5. Prices and the Exchange Rate	Saša Ranđelović
6. Fiscal Flows and Policy 41	
7. Monetary Flows and Policy	Highlights 3
	Demographic trends and the number
	of employees in primary and secondary schools . 67
	Mladen Stamenković
	Highlights 4
	What is necessary for the sustainable growth
	of the Serbian economy?
	Milojko Arsić

Analytical and Notation Conventions

Values

The data is shown in the currency we believe best reflects relevant economic processes, regardless of the currency in which it is published or is in official use in the cited transactions. For example, the balance of payments is shown in euros as most flows in Serbia's international trade are valued in euros and because this comes closest to the measurement of real flows. Banks' credit activity is also shown in euros as it is thus indexed in the majority of cases, but is shown in dinars in analyses of monetary flows as the aim is to describe the generation of dinar aggregates.

Definitions of Aggregates and Indices

When local use and international conventions differ, we attempt to use international definitions wherever applicable to facilitate comparison.

Flows – In monetary accounts, the original data is stocks. Flows are taken as balance changes between two periods.

New Economy – Enterprises formed through private initiative

Traditional Economy - Enterprises that are/were state-owned or public companies

Y-O-Y Indices – We are more inclined to use this index (growth rate) than is the case in local practice. Comparison with the same period in the previous year informs about the process absorbing the effect of all seasonal variations which occurred over the previous year, especially in the observed seasons, and raises the change measure to the annual level.

Notations

CPI – Consumer Price Index

Cumulative – Refers to incremental changes of an aggregate in several periods within one year, from the beginning of that year.

H – Primary money (high-powered money)

IPPI – Industrial Producers Price Index

M1 – Cash in circulation and dinar sight deposits

M2 in dinars – In accordance with IMF definition: cash in circulation, sight and time deposits in both dinars and foreign currency. The same as M2 in the accepted methodology in Serbia

M2 – Cash in circulation, sight and time deposits in both dinars and foreign currency (in accordance with the IMF definition; the same as M3 in accepted methodology in Serbia) NDA - Net Domestic Assets

NFA – Net Foreign Assets

RPI - Retail Price Index

y-o-y - Index or growth relative to the same period of the previous year

Abbreviations

CEFTA - Central European Free Trade Agreement

EU - European Union

FDI - Foreign Direct Investment

FFCD - Frozen Foreign Currency Deposit

FREN – Foundation for the Advancement of Economics

GDP - Gross Domestic Product

GVA – Gross Value Added

IMF - International Monetary Fund

LRS - Loan for the Rebirth of Serbia

MAT – *Macroeconomic Analyses and Trends*, publication of the Belgrade Institute of Economics

NES - National Employment Service

NIP - National Investment Plan

NBS - National Bank of Serbia

OECD – Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

PRO – Public Revenue Office

Q1, Q2, Q4, Q4 – 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarters of the year

QM – Quarterly Monitor

SORS - Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia

SDF – Serbian Development Fund

SEE – South East Europe

SEPC – Serbian Electric Power Company

SITC - Standard International Trade Classification

SME - Small and Medium Enterprise

VAT – Value Added Tax