

# STATISTICAL PRESS RELEASE



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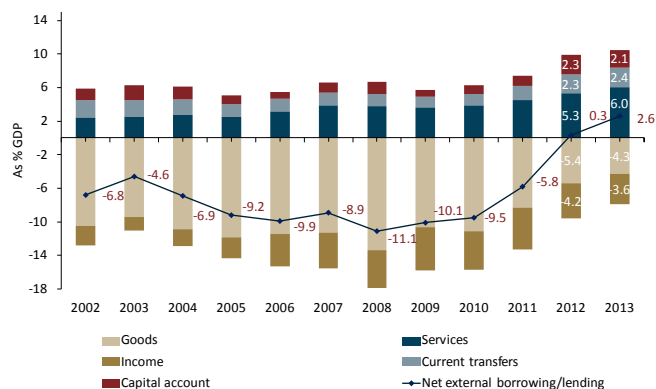
## Banco de Portugal publishes the Balance of Payments and International Investment Position statistics for 2013

### Main results<sup>1</sup>

In 2013, the net external lending of the Portuguese economy, measured by the global surplus of the current and capital accounts, was 4.3 billion euro, which corresponds to 2.6 per cent of GDP<sup>2</sup>. This surplus occurs after an upward trend observed since 2009 (chart 1).

Chart 1

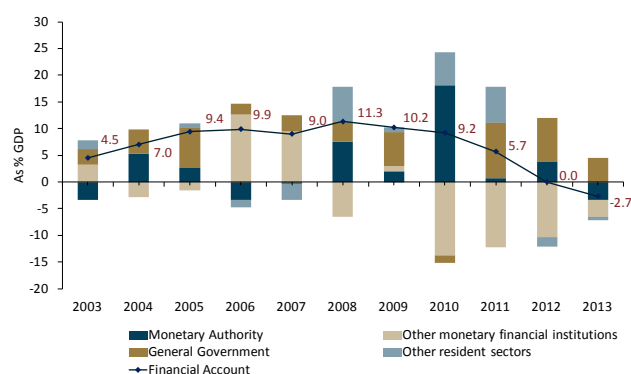
Current and capital account



In the financial account this evolution resulted in an increase of the Portuguese net external assets of 4.5 billion euro, which represents 2.7 per cent of the GDP (chart 2).

Chart 2

Financial account by institutional sector\*



\*A positive value corresponds to a net increase of liabilities or to a net decrease of assets. A negative value corresponds to a net decrease of liabilities or a net increase of assets.

Despite the increase of the Portuguese net external assets, the Portuguese international investment position, calculated as the difference of the end-of-period stocks of the financial assets and liabilities, decreased 2.7 percentage points (p.p.) compared to the position observed at the end of 2012. At the end of 2013, the IIP reached -196.6 billion euro, i.e., -118.9 per cent of GDP (chart 3). Given that the IIP is measured at

<sup>1</sup> Data available in tables A.16, A.17, A.18 and chapter C of the Statistical Bulletin, and in BPstat | Statistics online in the time series and multidimensional analysis.

<sup>2</sup> The GDP estimate for 2013 was computed by Banco de Portugal on the basis of preliminary information disseminated by Statistics Portugal.

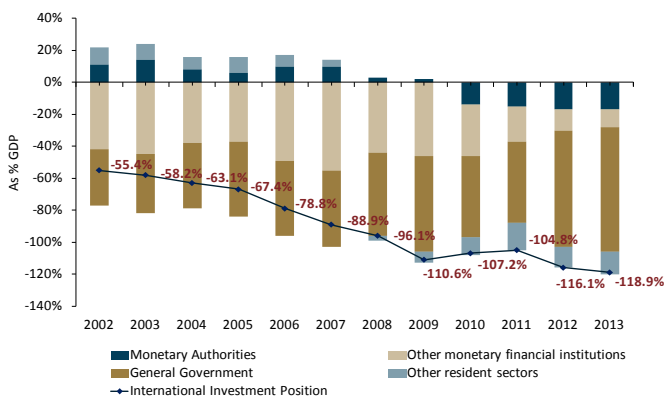
market value, its evolution is thus influenced not only by the changes in the external assets and liabilities recorded in the financial account, but also by changes in price, exchange rates and other changes of those assets and liabilities. In 2013, the price changes had a negative impact on the IIP, which more than offset the increase of net assets observed in the financial account. These price changes were mainly brought about by:

- Gold devaluation, which influenced the monetary authority reserve assets;
- Positive revaluation of the debt securities issued by the Portuguese State and held by non residents;
- Positive revaluation of the shares and other equity issued by resident banks and non-financial corporations and held by non residents.

At the end of 2013 the net external debt stood at 170.4 billion euro, equivalent to 103.0 per cent of GDP, that is, 0.5 p.p. higher than the one observed at the end of 2012.

Chart 3

## International investment position

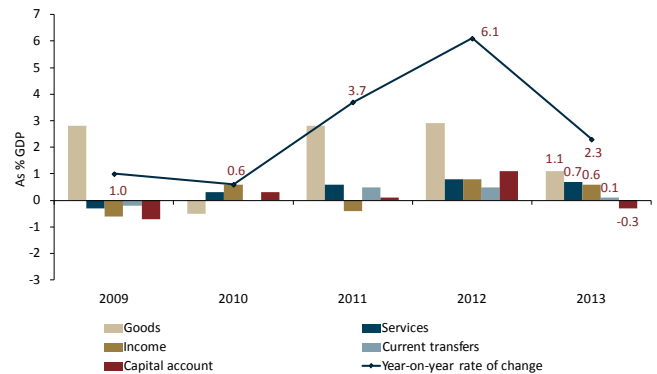


## Current and capital account

In 2013, the surplus of the current and capital accounts increased 2.3 p.p. of GDP compared with the value observed in 2012. For this increase contributed the reduction of the goods account deficit, by 1.1 p.p., and of the income account deficit, by 0.6 p.p., and also the increase of the surpluses of the services account and of the current transfers account by 0.7 p.p. and 0.1 p.p., respectively (chart 4).

Chart 4

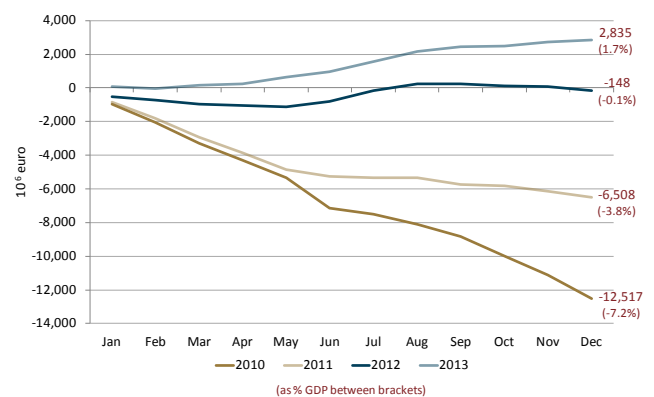
Current and capital account – decomposition of the annual variation of the total surplus



The commercial account (goods and services accounts) exhibited a surplus throughout most of the months of the current year. In 2013, this surplus was of 2.8 billion euro (chart 5), due to a 5.7 per cent increase in goods and services exports. The imports increased 1.1 per cent.

Chart 5

## Commercial account



The goods account deficit decreased about 20 per cent, to -7 billion euro in 2013. This behaviour resulted from the growth of exports, by 4.9 per cent (representing 47.6 billion euro, more 2.2 billion than the one observed in 2012), and from the slight decrease of imports, by 0.8 per cent (representing 54.7 billion euro, more 0.5 billion than the one observed in 2012).

The services account registered a surplus of 9.9 billion euro in 2013, which corresponds to an increase of 1.2 billion euro when compared to 2012. All items of the services account contributed to this evolution. In particular, the increase in the travel item surplus amounted to 0.5 billion euro.

## Financial account

In 2013, the net external lending of the Portuguese economy translated, at the financial account level, into an increase of the net external assets. In this context, the other financial monetary institutions recorded redemption of liabilities which was partially offset by a decrease in assets in the form of loans and deposits.

The increase observed in the direct investment in Portuguese non financial corporations in 2013 resulted in a negative contribution of the direct investment in terms of net external assets.

Regarding the general government sector, it is worth mentioning the increase of the liabilities in the form of external loans of about 9.8 billion euro, mainly associated with the Financial and Economic Assistance Program, albeit in smaller amounts than those recorded in the previous year.