

DIRECT INVESTMENT (January – March 2016)¹

According to preliminary data, *foreign direct investment in Bulgaria* presented according to the *directional principle* amounted to EUR 371.3 million (0.8% of GDP²) in January – March 2016, dropping by EUR 214.7 million (36.6%) from January – March 2015 (EUR 586 million, 1.3% of GDP)³. In March 2016 *foreign direct investment in Bulgaria* grew by EUR 78.6 million, compared with an increase of EUR 99.6 million in March 2015.

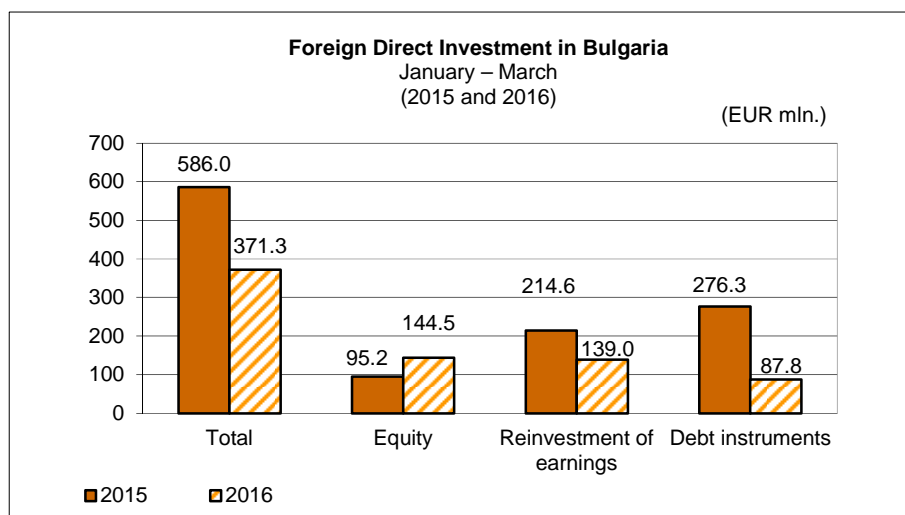
	2015				2016				(EUR million)
	Jan	Feb	March	Q1	Jan	Feb	March	Q1	2016/2015 Jan – Mar
Direct investment, net	-328.0	-152.2	-79.3	-559.4	-86.9	-173.6	-90.8	-351.3	208.1
Direct investment abroad *	-4.5	10.8	20.3	26.6	12.9	19.3	-12.1	20.0	-6.5
Equity	9.1	3.1	24.2	36.3	2.8	4.7	2.3	9.8	-26.6
Reinvestment of earnings	-2.4	-3.3	-4.1	-9.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.8
Debt instruments	-11.2	11.0	0.3	0.0	10.1	14.6	-14.4	10.3	10.2
Foreign Direct Investment	323.4	163.0	99.6	586.0	99.8	192.9	78.6	371.3	-214.7
Equity	12.8	18.3	64.1	95.2	-22.3	108.3	58.5	144.5	49.3
Reinvestment of earnings	71.5	71.5	71.5	214.6	46.3	46.3	46.3	139.0	-75.5
Debt instruments	239.1	73.2	-36.1	276.3	75.8	38.2	-26.2	87.8	-188.5

Data presented following the directional principle and compiled in accordance with the methodological requirements of the Sixth Edition of the *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (IMF, 2008)*.

Source: direct investment companies, banks, notaries, National Statistical Institute, Central Depository, Privatisation Agency.

A positive sign denotes an increase in assets and liabilities; a negative sign denotes a decrease in assets and liabilities.

Equity (acquisition/disposal of shares and equities in cash and contributions in kind by non-residents in/from the capital and reserves of Bulgarian enterprises, and receipts/payments from/for real estate deals in the country) amounted to EUR 144.5 million in January – March 2016. It grew by EUR 49.3 million (51.9%) in comparison with that attracted in January – March 2015 (EUR 95.2 million).



¹ Preliminary data. The data for January – March 2016 are to be revised with the April 2016 report. The 2014 and 2015 data are subject to revisions with the annual NSI data and reports from foreign direct investment enterprises.

² GDP amounting to EUR 46,346 million for 2016 (BNB forecast), and EUR 44,161.6 million for 2015 (NSI data as of 8 March 2016) according to ESA 2010.

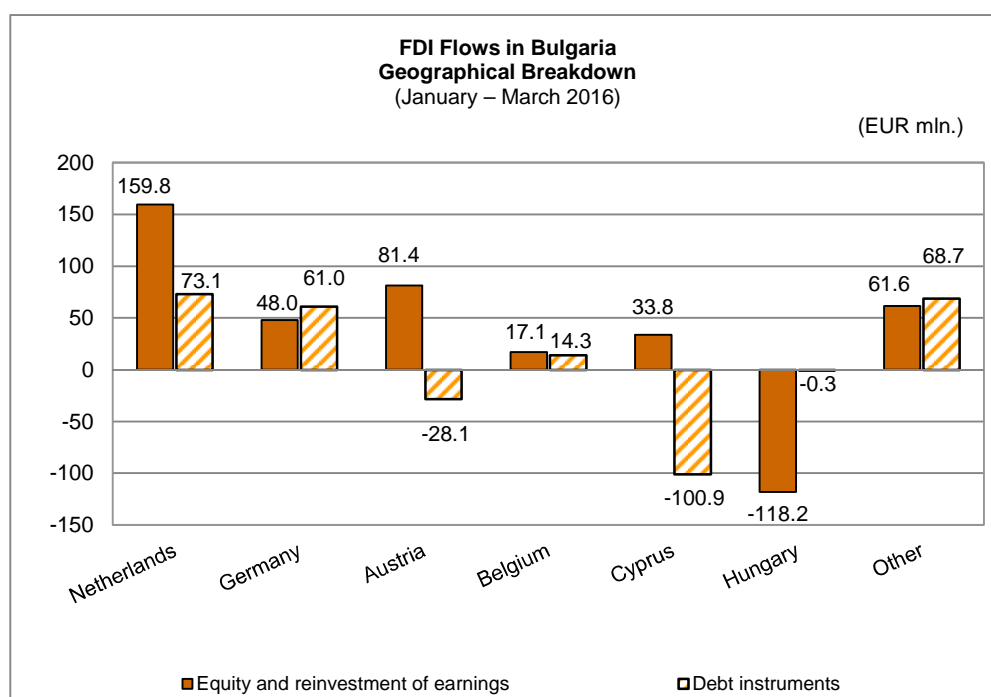
³ When comparing the data year-on-year it should be taken into account that the initial FDI data for January – March 2015, published in the BNB press release on 15 May 2015, have been subsequently revised (www.bnb.bg, section Press Office/Statistical Press Releases/Balance of Payments).

Real estate investments of non-residents totalled EUR 9.3 million, compared with EUR 15.8 million attracted in January – March 2015. The largest inflow of real estate investment was from Russia – EUR 2.2 million (23.9% of the total amount for January – March 2016), Norway – EUR 1.4 million (15.4%), the USA (EUR 1 million, (11%), and Germany (EUR 1 million, 10.8%).

Reinvestment of earnings (the share of non-residents in the undistributed earnings/ loss of the enterprise based on preliminary profit and loss data) were estimated at EUR 139 million for January – March 2015, compared with EUR 214.6 million in the same period of 2015.

The net *debt instruments* (the change in the net liabilities between affiliated enterprises on financial loans, suppliers' credits and debt securities) totalled EUR 87.8 million in January – March 2016, compared with EUR 276.3 million in January – March 2015⁴.

The largest net direct investment inflow in Bulgaria for January – March 2016 was from the Netherlands (EUR 232.9 million).



According to preliminary data, *direct investment abroad* totalled EUR 20 million in January – March 2016, compared with EUR 26.6 million in January – March 2015. In March 2016 it dropped by EUR 12.1 million, compared with an increase of EUR 20.3 million in March 2015.

⁴ The data on *debt instruments* are based on preliminary information from foreign direct investment enterprises on credits extended/received to/from nonresidents. The data for 2014 and 2015 are subject to revisions with their quarterly and annual reports.