



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK  
EUROSYSTEM

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*President*

Mr Sven Giegold  
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### **Questions on the public debt of Member States of the European Union**

Dear Mr Giegold,

Thank you for your letter regarding developments in government debt in the Member States of the European Union (EU), which was passed on to me by Ms Bowles, Chair of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee, under cover of a letter dated 1 December 2010.

With regard to your request for data on the accumulated sovereign debt of EU Member States, I am pleased to send you the relevant information.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

**Table 1 Government EDP debt (as a percentage of GDP)**

	<b>1999</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>EDP debt acumulation (1999 - 2009)</b>	<b>EDP debt 2010 (EC projections)</b>
Belgium	113.7	96.2	-17.5	98.6
Germany	60.9	73.4	12.5	75.7
Estonia	6.0	7.2	1.2	8.0
Ireland	48.5	65.5	17.0	97.4
Greece	94.0	126.8	32.8	140.2
Spain	62.3	53.2	-9.2	64.4
France	58.8	78.1	19.3	83.0
Italy	113.7	116.0	2.2	118.9
Cyprus	51.8	58.0	6.2	62.2
Luxembourg	6.4	14.5	8.1	18.2
Malta	57.1	68.6	11.5	70.4
Netherlands	61.1	60.8	-0.4	64.8
Austria	67.2	67.5	0.3	70.4
Portugal	49.6	76.1	26.5	82.8
Slovenia	-	35.4	-	40.7
Slovakia	47.8	35.4	-12.4	42.1
Finland	45.7	43.8	-1.9	49.0
Bulgaria	77.6	14.7	-62.9	18.2
Czech Republic	16.4	35.3	18.9	40.0
Denmark	58.1	41.4	-16.7	44.9
Latvia	12.5	36.7	24.2	45.7
Lithuania	22.7	29.5	6.8	37.4
Hungary	59.8	78.4	18.6	78.5
Poland	39.6	50.9	11.3	55.5
Romania	21.7	23.9	2.2	30.4
Sweden	64.4	41.9	-22.5	39.9
United Kingdom	43.7	68.2	24.5	77.8

Source: European Commission

**Table 2 Government debt in euro area countries by holder in 2009 and 1999 (as a percentage of total debt)**

2009

	Residents			Non-residents
	Total	Central bank and non-financial residents	Resident financial institutions	
Belgium	43.0	6.2	36.9	57.0
Germany	50.1	12.6	37.5	49.9
Ireland	28.1	-	-	71.9
Greece	-	-	-	-
Spain	57.1	17.8	39.3	42.9
France	41.5	4.2	37.3	58.5
Italy	57.3	19.2	38.1	42.7
Cyprus	59.5	28.1	31.4	40.5
Luxembourg	80.8	21.2	59.6	19.2
Malta	92.9	33.0	59.9	7.1
Netherlands	31.7	2.9	28.8	68.3
Austria	21.3	1.8	19.5	78.7
Portugal	25.1	8.9	16.2	74.9
Slovenia	48.4	5.4	43.0	51.6
Slovakia	64.8	0.8	64.0	35.2
Finland	17.0	5.1	11.9	83.0
Euro area	46.5	11.4	35.0	53.5

Source: ESCB.

1999

	Residents			Non-residents
	Total	Central bank and non-financial residents	Resident financial institutions	
Belgium	71.3	7.6	63.7	28.7
Germany	66.4	11.2	55.2	33.6
Ireland	64.7	-	-	35.3
Greece	-	-	-	-
Spain	69.6	14.2	55.4	30.4
France	74.5	9.6	64.9	25.5
Italy	66.3	27.5	38.8	33.7
Cyprus	72.8	26.8	46.0	27.2
Luxembourg	96.6	8.3	88.3	3.4
Malta	91.2	30.5	60.7	8.8
Netherlands	73.1	7.1	66.0	26.9
Austria	51.9	1.8	50.1	48.1
Portugal	53.7	21.6	32.1	46.3
Slovenia	53.2	3.0	50.2	46.7
Slovakia	62.9	9.1	53.8	37.1
Finland	30.2	4.1	26.1	69.8
Euro area	67.4	15.5	52.0	32.6

Source: ESCB.