



# Competitiveness and comparative advantages of Ukraine's agriculture sector in trade with the European Union

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#### Ukraine's physical agricultural potential



Ukraine has 1/3 of world's black soil stocks. 68% of Ukraine's arable land is Chernozem\*



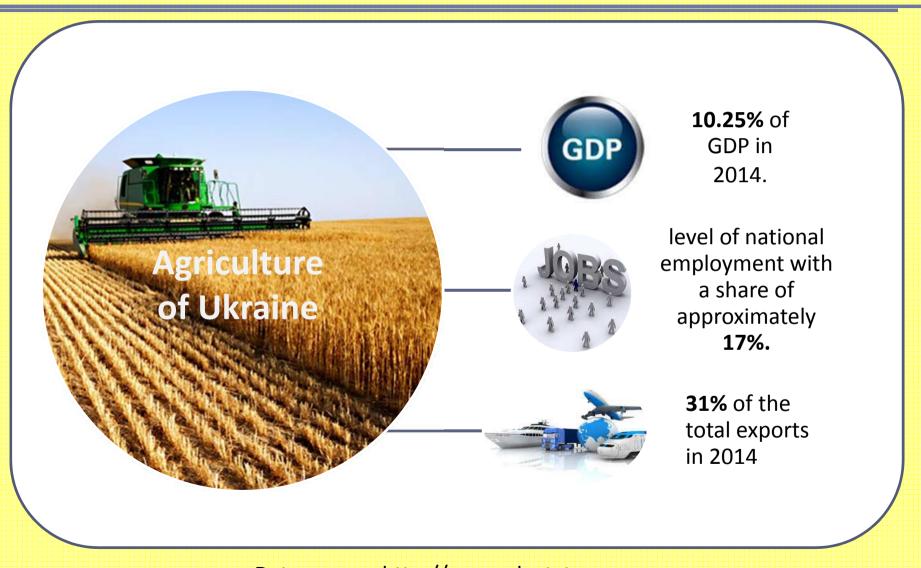


Year-round ice-free ports and proximity to key markets

Boundless fields of grain, a European breadbasket.

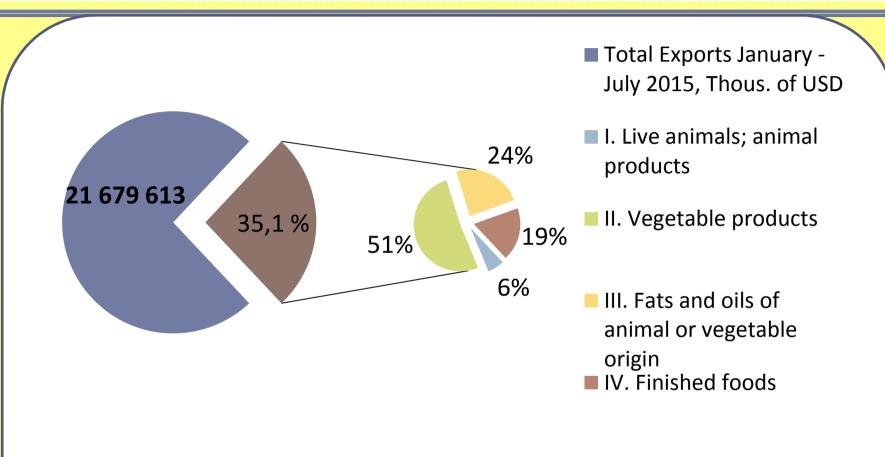
\*source: http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2014/12/05/ukraine-soil

#### The role of agriculture in the economy of Ukraine



Data source: http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua

# The share of the agricultural sector in Ukraine's export potential from January till July, 2015.



competitiveness of the agricultural products to a wide extent will determine the competitiveness of Ukraine in the world market.

Source: developed by the author, data from the UKRSTAT

#### Theoretical introduction of competition



The word "competition" (from. lat. - Concurrentia) means "contest", "collision".

**Adam Smith** 

Competition means the "invisible hand" of the market that automatically countervails the market.

**Heyne Paul** 

"Competition" is understood as "the desire to meet the criteria for access to rare goods in the best possible manner".

McConnell C. and Brue S.

define competition as the presence of a large number of independent sellers and buyers in the market who are free to enter the market and to leave it.

Friedrich Hayek mentioned that competition is the process by which people receive and transmit knowledge. He holds the opinion that, only thanks to the competition hidden becomes clear on the market.

Threat of entry of new competitors

The ability of buyers to bargain

Porter M.

BRANCH COMPETITORS

The rivalry among existing competitors

The ability of suppliers to bargain

The threat of appearance of substitute goods and services

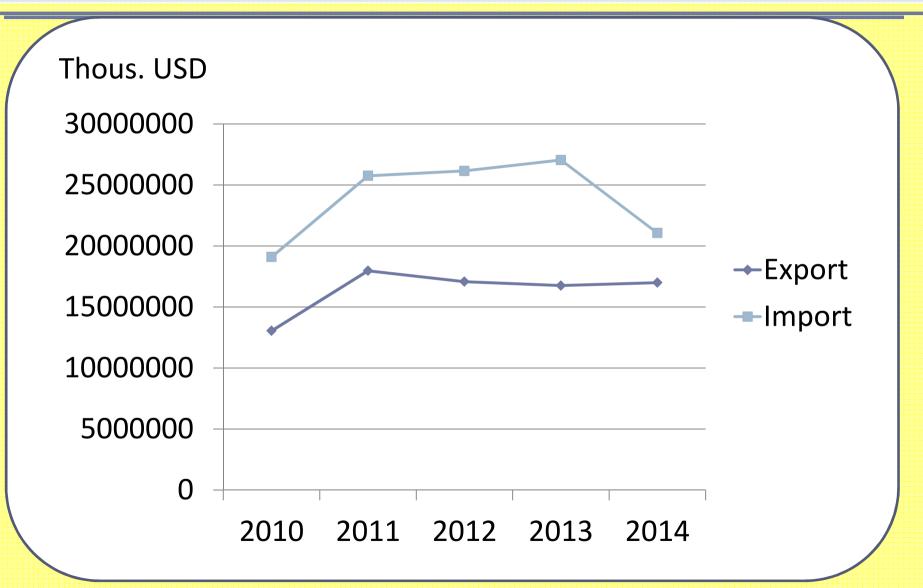
Carrying-out of the analysis of the main widespread definitions of the competition enable us to conclude that as a scientific concept the competition is multidimensional, therefore it is necessary to determine its content in each specific case depending on the purposes owing to which it was formed.

# Concept of competitiveness - the basis for analysis.

"the ability of companies, industries, regions, countries and supranational regions to generate the higher factor of revenues and the factor of employment level on continuing basis, at the same time remaining open for international competition."

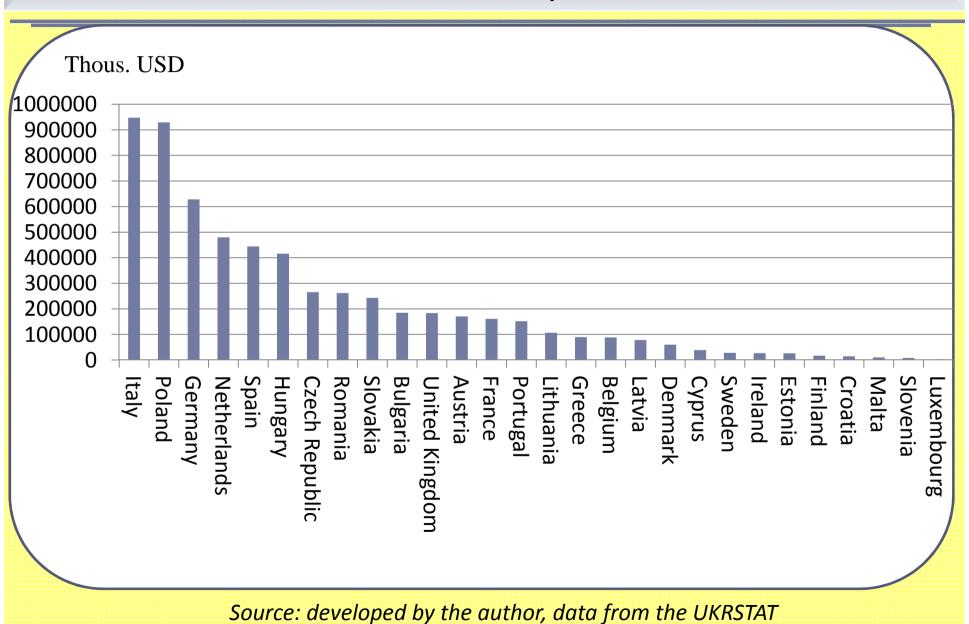
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

# The development of trade flow between Ukraine and the European Union



Source: developed by the author, data from the UKRSTAT

# The geographical structure of Ukraine's foreign trade with the EU countries, the first half of 2015



## Comparative Advantage Indexes defined by Balassa (1965)

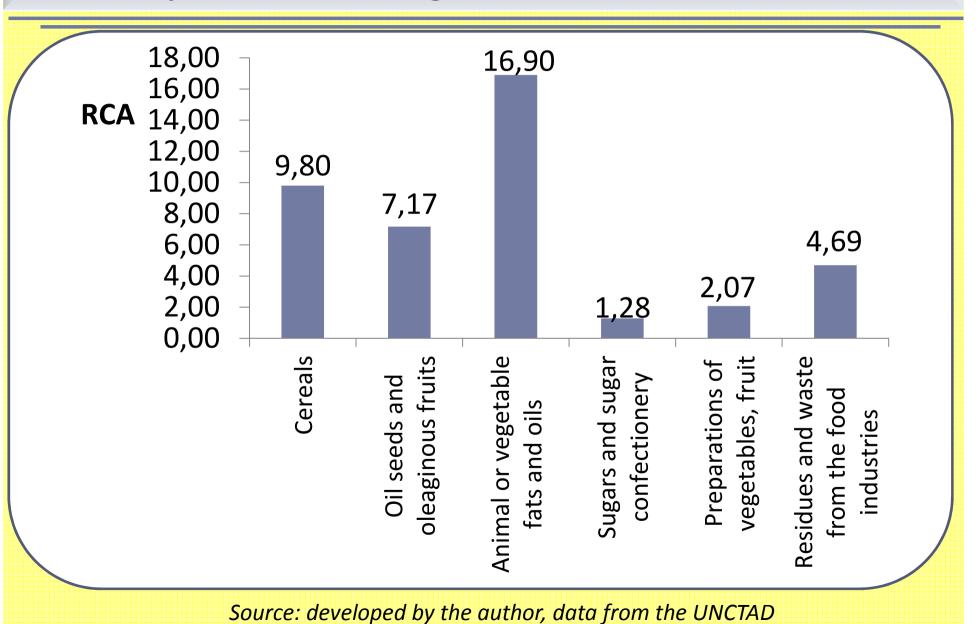
$$RCA_{ij} = (x_{ij} / X_{j}) / (x_{iw} / X_{w})$$

$$RXA_{ij} = (X_{ij} / \sum_{I,I \neq j} X_{ij}) / (\sum_{k,k \neq j} X_{kj} / \sum_{k,k \neq 1} \sum_{I,I \neq j} X_{kI})$$

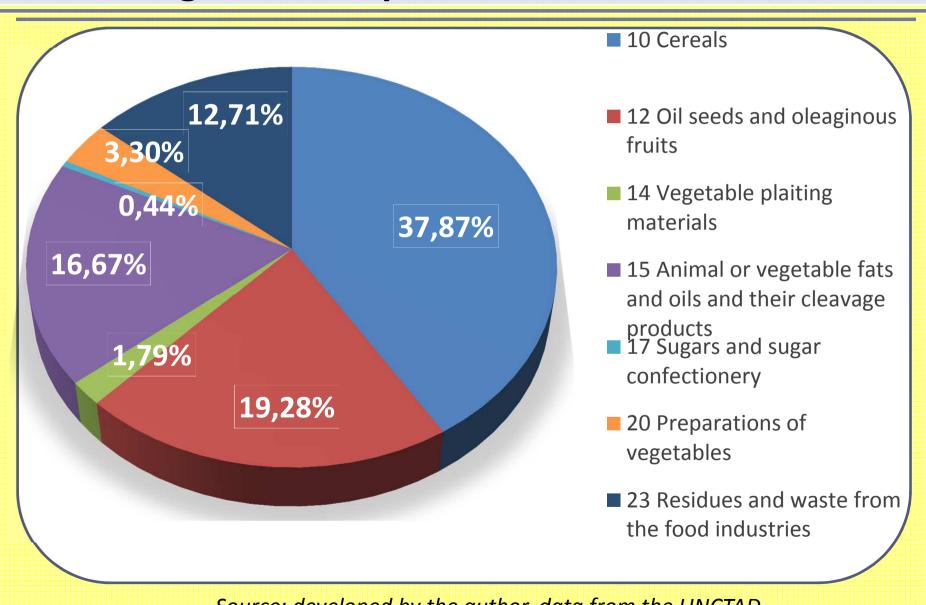
$$RMP_{ij} = (M_{ij} / \sum_{I,I \neq j} M_{iI}) / (\sum_{k,k \neq i} \sum_{I,I \neq j} M_{kI})$$

$$RTA_{ij} = RXA_{ij} - RMP_{ij}$$

## The main commodity groups of Ukraine revealed comparative advantages in trade with EU in 2014



# The share of RCA commodities in Ukraine's agro-food export to EU-28 in 2014, %



Source: developed by the author, data from the UNCTAD

### The geographical structure in trade of Ukraine's RCA commodities with EU countries in 2014

