

Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) March 2012

Monthly inflation in March increased +0.5%, while the annual inflation is 2.1%

Monthly inflation measured by Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices increased +0.5% in March. This was influenced mostly by the increase in prices of food (vegetables and milk, cheese and eggs), fuels and lubricants and tobacco. Annual inflation in March is +2.1%, and it is lower than in February, when it was 3.1%.

When observing the main groups, monthly growth of prices was noticed in the following groups: Food and non-alcoholic beverages (+1.4%); Transport (+1.1%); Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (+0.2%); while a decrease in prices is recorded in groups: Clothing and footwear (-0.7%); Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (-0.4%); Miscellaneous goods and services (-0.4%); Health (-0.2%); Communications (-0.1%). Prices in the groups: Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance; Recreation and culture; Education; Restaurants and Hotels remain at the same level as in the previous month.

Positive annual inflation rates in March were observed in the following groups: Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (+14.8%); Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (+6.6%); Health (+3.9%); Communications (+2.7%); Food and non-alcoholic beverages (+1.9%); Miscellaneous goods and services (+1.9%); Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance (+1.6%); Transport (+1.4%); while negative annual inflation rates were observed in the following groups: Clothing and footwear (-2.3%); Recreation and culture (-1.3%); Restaurants and Hotels (-0.4%); Education (-0.3%).

Graph 1. Harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP), annual rates

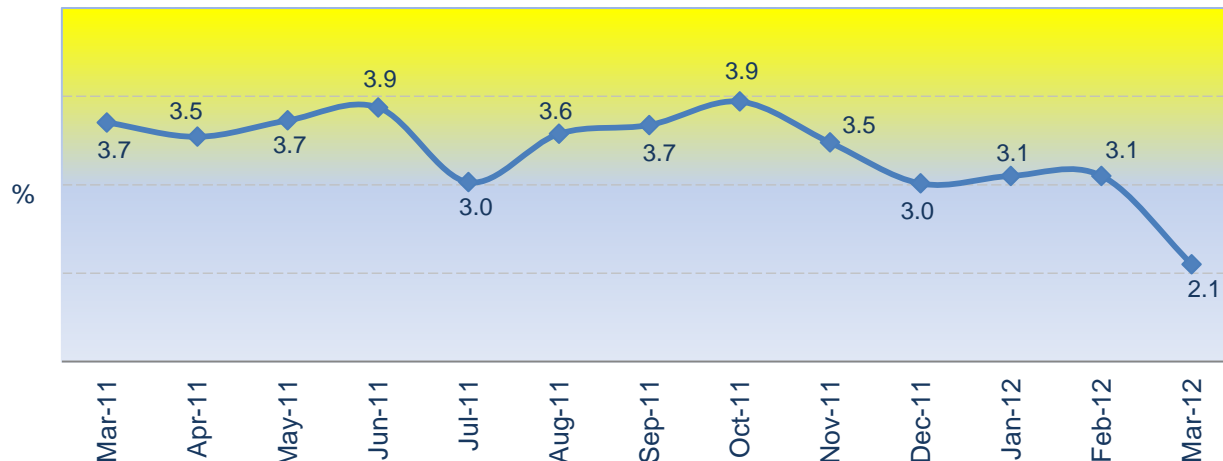
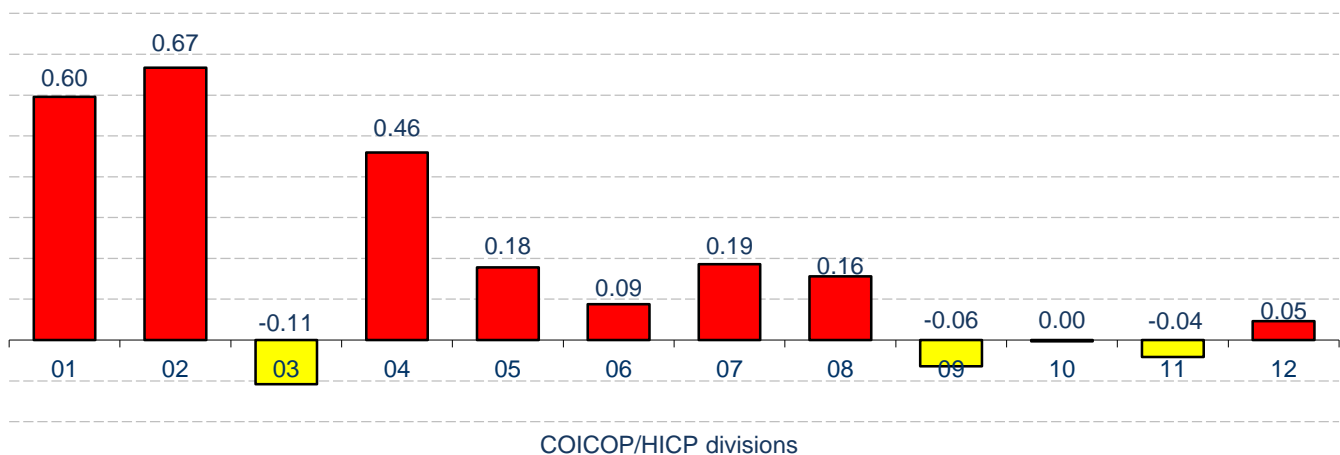


Table 1. Inflation rates measured by Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices, in %

Name	Weights ‰	Mar 2012 Ø 2010	Mar 2012 Feb 2012	Mar 2012 Mar 2011	Mar 2012 Dec 2011
00 HICP - total	100.0	5.8	0.5	2.1	1.8
01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages	312.7	9.3	1.4	1.9	3.8
02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	45.2	24.1	0.2	14.8	6.4
03 Clothing and footwear	47.8	-4.2	-0.7	-2.3	-4.2
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	69.9	6.4	-0.4	6.6	5.5
05 Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance	114.3	-0.1	-	1.6	0.1
06 Health	22.6	12.8	-0.2	3.9	-0.4
07 Transport	133.5	9.2	1.1	1.4	1.5
08 Communications	57.3	3.1	-0.1	2.7	-0.2
09 Recreation and culture	51.1	-0.5	-	-1.3	-0.1
10 Education	10.4	-0.5	-	-0.3	-
11 Restaurants and hotels	110.1	1.2	-	-0.4	-
12 Miscellaneous goods and services	25.1	1.4	-0.4	1.9	0.8
Special aggregates					
Products	757.5	6.9	0.7	2.6	2.3
Services	242.5	2.3	-	0.6	0.1
HICP - excluding food, alcoholic beverages and tobacco	670.9	3.1	0.1	1.3	0.5
Energy	103.5	12.8	1.1	3.8	5.0
Administrative inflation ¹	55.3	9.5	-	6.3	4.7

Graph 2. Impacts of divisions on the annual inflation rate (in %), March 2012

¹ Inflation which measures trend of administratively established prices, and the following prices are covered under this: bread, electricity, water supply, sewerage collection, refuse collection, public pre-primary institutions, obligatory insurance of vehicles, and issuing of administrative documents, such as birth certificate.

Table 2. Inflation rates presented by divisions, groups and sub-groups measured by HICP, in %

COICOP /HICP	Naziv	Ponderi ‰	Mar 2012 Ø 2010	Mar 2012 Feb 2012	Mar 2012 Mar 2011	Mar 2012 Dec 2011
00	HICP – total	1000.0	5.8	0.5	2.1	1.8
01	FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	312.7	9.3	1.4	1.9	3.8
011	Food	283.9	9.7	1.4	2.0	4.1
0111	Bread and cereals	43.6	9.2	-0.1	1.6	0.3
0112	Meat	65.8	-2.7	-0.7	0.8	-0.1
0113	Fish	5.6	-0.7	0.2	1.1	1.8
0114	Milk, cheese, and eggs	53.7	0.1	1.0	1.5	1.6
0115	Oils and fats	9.3	17.7	-0.4	-1.4	-1.1
0116	Fruit	29.3	22.0	-0.8	10.5	15.5
0117	Vegetables	53.1	23.9	7.6	-4.2	11.0
0118	Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	15.8	11.0	0.9	4.0	1.5
0119	Food products n.e.c.	7.7	6.0	2.3	2.8	1.7
012	Non-alcoholic beverages	28.8	5.2	0.5	0.4	0.7
0121	Coffee, tea and cocoa	7.6	15.7	0.4	3.0	-0.3
0122	Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	21.2	1.6	0.5	-0.5	1.0
02	ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	45.2	24.1	0.2	14.8	6.4
021	Alcoholic beverages	26.0	10.0	-0.6	3.5	1.2
0211	Spirits	4.6	8.8	-0.3	10.7	0.6
0212	Vine	4.1	4.2	0.6	4.0	1.8
0213	Beer	17.3	12.2	-0.9	2.5	1.2
022	Tobacco	19.2	45.3	1.3	31.4	13.8
0220	Tobacco	19.2	45.3	1.3	31.4	13.8
03	CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	47.8	-4.2	-0.7	-2.3	-4.2
031	Clothing	35.0	-4.7	-0.7	-2.4	-5.4
0311	Clothing material	0.9	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0
0312	Garments	32.3	-5.9	-0.9	-3.3	-5.9
0313	Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	1.6	10.5	-	9.4	-
0314	Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.2	6.2	-	-	-
032	Footwear	12.8	-3.2	-0.7	-1.9	-1.1
0321/2	Shoes and other footwear, repair and hire of footwear	12.8	-3.2	-0.7	-1.9	-1.1
04	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	69.9	6.4	-0.4	6.6	5.5

041	Actual rentals	9.7	-7.8	-	1.1	1.1
0411/2	Actual rentals paid by tenants and other actual rentals	9.7	-7.8	-	1.1	1.1
043	Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	7.7	2.4	-	-3.1	-
0431	Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.6	8.8	-	-0.1	0.1
0432	Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.1	-2.5	-	-5.3	-
044	Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	4.9	39.2	-	36.9	-
0441	Water supply	2.7	52.5	-	49.0	-
0442	Refuse collection	1.2	-	-	-	-
0443	Refuse collection	1.0	58.6	-	55.1	-
045	Electricity, gas, and other fuels	47.6	4.8	-0.5	4.7	7.3
0451	Electricity	36.7	3.3	-	3.3	7.3
0452	Gas	1.3	29.2	-	0.6	-
0454	Solid fuels	9.6	7.9	-2.7	10.5	9.6
05	Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance	114.3	-0.1	-	1.6	0.1
051	Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	31.0	-2.0	-	-0.8	-0.6
0511	Furniture and furnishings	28.5	-2.3	-	-0.9	-0.6
0512	Carpets and other floor coverings	2.5	2.0	-	0.8	-0.4
052	Household textiles	5.1	6.2	-	7.0	2.5
0520	Household textiles	5.1	6.2	-	7.0	2.5
053	Household appliances	25.8	0.2	-	-0.1	-
0531/2	Major household appliances whether electric or not and small electric household appliances	24.3	-0.1	-	-0.1	-
0533	Repair of household appliances	1.5	17.4	-	-	-
054	Glassware, tableware and household utensils	11.4	2.8	-	5.5	-0.2
0540	Glassware, tableware and household utensils	11.4	2.8	-	5.5	-0.2
055	Tools and equipment for house and garden	15.2	-1.5	-	5.0	-
0551/2	Major tools and equipment and small tools and miscellaneous accessories	15.2	-1.5	-	5.0	-
056	Goods and services for routine household maintenance	25.8	0.3	-	-0.1	0.6
0561	Non-durable household goods	24.8	0.3	-	-0.1	0.6
0562	Domestic services and household services	1.0	1.5	-	1.5	-

06	Health	22.6	12.8	-0.2	3.9	-0.4
061	Medical products, appliances and equipment	12.5	15.7	-0.3	3.8	-0.8
0611	Pharmaceutical products	10.2	17.4	-0.4	4.6	-1.0
0612/3	Other medical products and therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.3	8.2	-	0.1	-
062	Out-patient services	10.1	6.8	-	3.7	-
0621/3	Medical services and paramedical services	6.8	2.8	-	4.1	-
0622	Dental services	3.3	27.6	-	1.4	-
07	TRANSPORT	133.5	9.2	1.1	1.4	1.5
071	Purchase of vehicles	38.5	0.3	-	-	-
0711	Motor cars	37.1	-	-	-	-
0712/3/4	Motor cycles and bicycles	1.4	5.4	-1.3	-0.7	-1.3
072	Operation of personal transport equipment	80.0	14.7	1.9	2.8	2.5
0721	Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	16.1	4.2	0.6	2.6	0.8
0722	Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	55.9	18.9	2.6	3.2	3.3
0723	Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	6.0	-0.7	-	-0.1	-
0724	Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.0	-4.1	-	0.6	0.5
073	Transport services	15.0	8.4	-	-2.3	0.4
0731	Passenger transport by railway	2.1	-2.9	-	-	-
0732	Passenger transport by road	12.2	9.9	-	-2.7	0.5
0733	Passenger transport by air	0.7	3.9	-	2.1	-
08	COMMUNICATIONS	57.3	3.1	-0.1	2.7	-0.2
081	Postal services	2.0	13.1	-	9.3	-
0810	Postal services	2.0	13.1	-	9.3	-
08.x	Telephone and telefax equipment and telephone and telefax services	55.3	2.3	-0.1	2.2	-0.2
082/30	Telephone and telefax equipment and telephone and telefax services	55.3	2.3	-0.1	2.2	-0.2
09	RECREATION AND CULTURE	51.1	-0.5	-	-1.3	-0.1
091	Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	20.4	-3.2	0.2	-3.2	-
0911	Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	8.2	-7.1	-	-3.8	-0.2
0912	Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	1.4	7.9	-	3.3	-

0913	Information processing equipment	8.4	1.8	0.4	-1.4	0.3
0914	Recording media	2.2	-11.8	-	-11.5	-
0915	Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.2	10.5	-	-	-
092	Other major durables for recreation and culture	3.8	4.6	-	0.5	-
0921/2	Major durables for outdoor recreation and musical instruments and major durables for indoor recreation	3.8	4.6	-	0.5	-
093	Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	6.8	0.8	-	-0.9	-
0931	Games, toys and hobbies	1.8	2.8	-	-2.5	-
0932	Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	3.0	-0.3	-	-	-
0933	Gardens, plants and flowers	1.8	-1.1	-	0.1	-
0934	Pets and products and services for pets	0.2	-	-	-	-
094	Recreational and cultural services	6.9	7.1	0.1	1.1	0.2
0941	Recreational and sporting services	1.1	-10.9	-	-	-
0942	Cultural services	5.8	8.8	0.1	1.2	0.3
095	Newspapers, books and stationery	13.2	-3.3	-0.4	-	-0.7
0951	Books	4.8	-4.1	-1.2	-0.4	-1.2
0952	Newspapers and periodicals	4.5	-2.0	-	-0.9	-0.9
0953/4	Miscellaneous printed matter and stationery and drawing materials	3.9	-4.0	-	1.4	-
10	Education	10.4	-0.5	-	-0.3	-
10x	Pre-primary and primary, secondary, tertiary and education not definable by level	10.4	-0.5	-	-0.3	-
10x0	Pre-primary and primary, secondary, tertiary and education not definable by level	10.4	-0.5	-	-0.3	-
11	RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	110.1	1.2	-	-0.4	-
111	Catering services	70.1	2.2	-	-0.4	-
1111	Restaurants, cafés and the like	70.1	2.2	-	-0.4	-
112	Accommodation services	40.0	-0.5	-	-0.3	-
1120	Accommodation services	40.0	-0.5	-	-0.3	-
12	MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	25.1	1.4	-0.4	1.9	0.8
121	Personal care	16.1	3.0	0.4	3.4	2.0
1211	Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	5.4	1.7	-	-0.3	-
1212/3	Electric appliances for personal care and other appliances, articles and products for personal care	10.7	3.6	0.7	5.3	2.9

123	Personal effects n.e.c.	3.6	-3.7	-4.7	-2.4	-2.9
1231	Jewellery, clocks and watches	1.2	3.4	-0.6	3.4	-
1232	Other personal effects	2.4	-6.8	-6.8	-5.0	-4.4
124	Social protection	1.0	2.9	-	-	-
1240	Social protection	1.0	2.9	-	-	-
125	Insurance	0.9	2.3	-	5.4	-
1252	Insurance connected with dwellings	0.2	-	-	-	-
1254	Insurance connected with transport	0.7	2.3	-	5.4	-
126	Financial services n.e.c.	1.9	-	-	-	-
1262	Other financial services n.e.c.	1.9	-	-	-	-
127	Other services n.e.c	1.6	-2.2	-	-1.9	-
1270	Other services n.e.c	1.6	-2.2	-	-1.9	-

Table 3. Sub-group with most important impacts on monthly inflation rate, March 2012

COICOP/ HICP	Subgroup	Weights ‰	monthly inflation %	influence in percentage points
0117	Vegetables	53.1	7.6	0.40
0722	Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	55.9	2.6	0.14
0114	Milk, cheese and eggs	53.7	1.0	0.05
0220	Tobacco	19.2	1.3	0.03
0119	Food products n.e.c.	7.7	2.3	0.02
0118	Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	15.8	0.9	0.01
0122	Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	21.2	0.5	0.01
0721	Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	16.1	0.6	0.01
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0213	Beer	17.3	-0.9	-0.02
1232	Other personal effects	2.4	-6.8	-0.02
0116	Fruit	29.3	-0.8	-0.02
0454	Solid fuels	9.6	-2.7	-0.03
0312	Garments	32.3	-0.9	-0.03
0112	Meat	65.8	-0.7	-0.04

Table 4. Sub-group with most important impacts on annual inflation rate, March 2012

COICOP/ HICP	Subgroup	Weights ‰	monthly inflation %	influence in percentage points
0220	Tobacco	19.2	31.4	0.60
0116	Fruit	29.3	10.5	0.31
0722	Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	55.9	3.2	0.18
0441	Water supply	2.7	49.0	0.13
082/30	Telephone and telefax equipment and telephone and telefax services	55.3	2.2	0.12
0451	Electricity	36.7	3.3	0.12
0454	Solid fuels	9.6	10.5	0.10
0114	Milk, cheese and eggs	53.7	1.5	0.08
0551/2	Major tools and equipment and small tools and miscellaneous accessories	15.2	5.0	0.08
0111	Bread and cereals	43.6	1.6	0.07
0118	Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	15.8	4.0	0.06
0540	Glassware, tableware and household utensils	11.4	5.5	0.06
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0511	Furniture and furnishings	28.5	-0.9	-0.03
1111	Restaurants, cafés and the like	70.1	-0.4	-0.03
0911	Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	8.2	-3.8	-0.03
0732	Passenger transport by road	12.2	-2.7	-0.03
0312	Garments	32.3	-3.3	-0.11
0117	Vegetables	53.1	-4.2	-0.22

Table 5. Inflation rates in the EU measured by Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices, in %

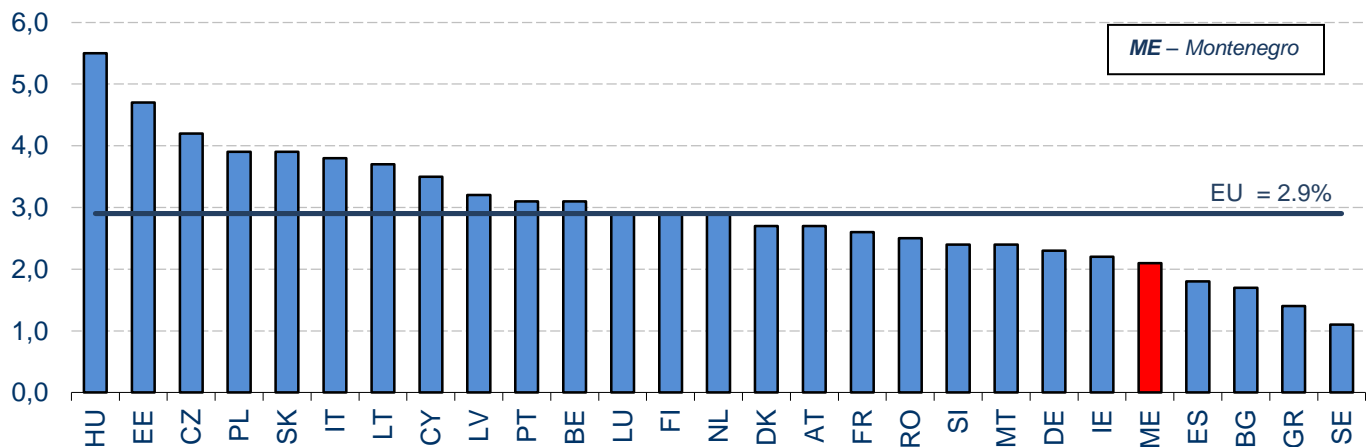
	Mar 2012 Mar 2011	Feb 2012 Feb 2011	Jan 2011 Jan 2010	Dec 2011 Dec 2010	Mar 2011 Mar 2010	Mar 12-11 Mar 11-10	Mar 2012 Feb 2011
Belgium (BE)	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.5	3.4	0.2
Germany (DE)	2.3	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.5	0.4
Estonia (EE)	4.7	4.4	4.7	4.1	5.1	4.9	1.0
Ireland (IE)	2.2	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.0
Greece(EL)	1.4	1.7	2.1	2.2	4.3	2.4	2.9
Spain (ES)	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.4	3.3	2.7	2.2
France (FR)	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.2	2.4	0.9
Italia (IT)	3.8	3.4	3.4	3.7	2.8	3.2	2.5
Cyprus (CY)	3.5	3.1	3.1	4.2	3.2	3.5	1.4
Luxembourg (LU)	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.4	4.0	3.6	0.5
Malta (MT)	2.4p	2.4	1.5	1.3	2.8	2.2p	1.5p
Netherlands (NL)	2.9p	2.9	2.9	2.5	1.9	2.7p	1.4p
Austria (AT)	2.7p	2.6	2.9	3.4	3.3	3.5p	1.2p
Portugal (PT)	3.1	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.9	3.5	1.2
Slovenia (SI)	2.4	2.8	2.3	2.1	2.4	2.1	1.0
Slovakia (SK)	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.6	3.8	4.2	0.3
Finland (FI)	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.6	3.5	3.2	0.5
Euro area	2.7p	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8p	1.3p
Bulgaria (BG)	1.7	2.0	1.9	2.0	4.6	2.7	0.1
Czech Republic (CZ)	4.2	4.0	3.8	2.8	1.9	2.7	0.3
Denmark (DK)	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.4	2.5	2.7	0.6
Latvia (LV)	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.9	4.1	4.1	0.6
Lithuania (LT)	3.7	3.7	3.4	3.5	3.7	4.2	1.0
Hungary (HU)	5.5	5.8	5.6	4.1	4.6	4.3	0.8
Poland (PL)	3.9	4.4	4.1	4.5	4.0	4.0	0.5
Romania (RO)	2.5	2.7	2.8	3.2	8.0	4.6	0.5
Sweden (SE)	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.4	1.4	1.3	0.5
United Kingdom (UK)	...	3.4	3.6	4.2	4.0
European union	2.9p	2.9*	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.1p	1.1p

p = current data

* = revised data

... = data not available

Source: EUROSTAT

Graph 3. Annual inflation rate measured by HICP, March 2012


Montenegro annual inflation was 2.1% in March 2012. EU annual inflation was 2.9% in March 2012, while there was 2.7% in the Euro area.

Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) is the basis for comparative measurement of inflation in the European Union, and it estimates a monetary value in the Eurozone. As a difference to Consumer Index Price (CPI), it uses different methodological concept which is used by all EU members.

Mar 2012 **month of the current year**
Ø 2010 **average (Ø) month of previous year**

This rate indicates a change in average prices in current month when compared with average prices in previous year.

Mar 2012 **current month**
Feb 2012 **previous month**

Monthly inflation rate (current month compared with previous month) measures a change of average prices of current months compared with average prices of previous month. Monthly inflation rate can be under the influence of seasonal effects.

Mar 2012 **month of the current year**
Mar 2011 **the same month of previous year**

Annual inflation rate (month of the current year compared with the same month of previous year) measures a change in average prices in current month compared with average prices in the same month of previous year.

Mar 2012 **month of the current year**
Dec 2011 **december of previous year**

This rate indicates a change in average prices in current month compared with average prices in December of previous year.

The influence of certain subgroups on inflation rate indicates how much that subgroup has influenced on the total inflation rate. The influence depends on weights and inflation rate of given subgroup. The weights represents a relative share of household consumption of certain groups or subgroup of products in the total consumption. Consequently, weights have an important role in the calculation of inflation rate. They represent "importance" of certain product group in the total household consumption in certain reference period. For example, if during certain month prices of bread increases for 10%, this will influence for approx. 0.5% ($10 \times 5\% = 0.5\%$ - since the share of bread in the total expenses is 5%). But, if the prices of medicaments increase 12%, this will increase the inflation for 0.06% ($12 \times 0.5\% = 0.06\%$ - since the share of medicaments in the total expenses 0.5%). This simple example indicates how much large influence have weights on the final number presenting the inflation.

Monthly HICP releases published by Eurostat can be found at the following website:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/hicp/publications/news_releases

Issued and printed by **Statistical Office of Montenegro (MONSTAT)**
81000 Podgorica, IV Proleterske 2, Phone (+382) 20 230-811, Fax (+382) 20 230-814

The release prepared by:

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