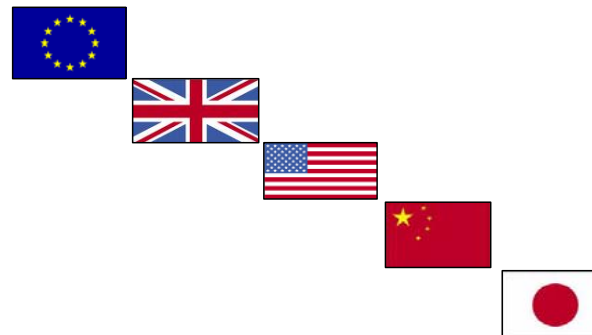


The Morning Email: Central Banks

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If you see orange on any page, then, it was updated in the last day or two or it's a new item to the email.

Want something added? Let me know: jgoulding@ghco.com

Disclaimer: All information within this newsletter is meant for internal use at GH Trader's LLC, only. All information has been recorded to the best of my ability. This material is based upon information that I consider reliable, but I do not represent that it is accurate or complete.

The FOMC: Dates and Places**Meeting Dates for 2008**

January 29/30	February	March 18	April 29/30	May	June 24/25
July	August 5	September 16	October 28/29	November	December 16



The term "monetary policy" refers to the actions undertaken by a central bank, such as the Federal Reserve, to influence the availability and cost of money and credit to help promote national economic goals. The Federal Reserve Act of 1913 gave the Federal Reserve responsibility for setting monetary policy.

The Federal Reserve controls the three tools of monetary policy--open market operations, the discount rate, and reserve requirements.

-Source: FR

The FOMC

<u>Born ^</u>	<u>2008 Voting Members</u>	<u>Policy Inclination</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Dec-1953	Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors	Moderate/Dove	1/31/2020	Took office 02/01/06
Nov-1942	Donald L. Kohn, Vice Chairman Board of Governors	Moderate/Hawk	1/31/2016	Took office 08/05/2002
	Vacant, Board of Governors		1/31/2012	Bies Retired 03/30/2007
Jun-1962	Randall S. Kroszner, Board of Governors	Moderate/Dove	1/31/2008	Took office 03/01/06
Jan-1951	Frederic S. Mishkin, Board of Governors		1/31/2014	Took office 09/05/06
Apr-1970	Kevin M. Warsh, Board of Governors	Moderate/Hawk	1/31/2018	Took office 02/24/06
08/18/1961	Timothy F. Geithner, New York	Moderate		
09/19/1948	Charles I. Plosser, Philadelphia	Moderate/Hawk		Took office 08/01/06
1949 ??	Richard W. Fisher, Dallas	Moderate/Hawk		Took office 04/04/05
11/03/1944	Gary Stern, Minneapolis	Hawk/Moderate		Took office 03/16/85
08/04/1954	Sandra Pianalto, Cleveland	Moderate		Took office 02/01/03
<u>Born ^</u>	<u>2008 Alternate Members (Voters in 2009)</u>	<u>Policy Inclination</u>		<u>Comment</u>
09/27/1955	Jeffrey M. Lacker, Richmond	Moderate/Hawk		Took office 08/01/04
02/01/1947	Dennis P. Lockhart, Atlanta	Moderate/Hawk ?^^		Took office 03/01/07
8/13/1946	Janet L. Yellen, San Francisco	Moderate/Dove		Took office 06/14/04
01/15/1958	Charles L. Evans, Chicago	Moderate		Took office 09/01/07
<u>Born ^</u>	<u>2009 Alternate Members</u>	<u>Policy Inclination</u>		<u>Comment</u>
06/06/1946	Thomas M. Hoenig, Kansas City	Moderate		Took office 10/01/91
06/19/1937	William Poole, St. Louis	Moderate/Hawk		Retiring 03/18/08
06/03/1957	Eric Rosengren, Boston	Moderate/Dove		Took office 07/23/07

13:32 10/23/2007 FED: Northern Trust says Chicago Fed Pres Evans is dovish. Evans's speech last night said "the uncertainties about how financial conditions might evolve and affect the real economy." NT concludes he "is most likely to favor a lower federal funds rate at the October 30-31 FOMC meeting."
[SOURCE: MNI]

[A note from Jim: After that speech (see note above) I'll move Evans from a Hawk to a Moderate. I'm not convinced someone under Moskow's tutelage is a Dove.]

10/31/2007
 Move Hoening to Moderate from Dove after dissent.

12/1/2007
 Rosengren is now a Moderate/Dove for his dissent for a 50bp discount rate cut compared to the 25 bp cut the rest voted for. He was a Moderate/Hawk.

Notes

^Reserve Bank presidents are subject to mandatory retirement upon becoming 65 years of age. However, presidents initially appointed after age 55 can, at the option of the board of directors, be permitted to serve until attaining ten years of service in the office or age 70, whichever comes first.
 [Source: FRB web site]
 ^^First speech since taking office (2007-09-06) indicates moderate hawk.

		Rotation		
		2008	2009	
Members	New York	New York	Committee membership changes at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the year.	
	Cleveland	Chicago		
	Philadelphia	Richmond		
	Dallas	Atlanta		
	Minneapolis	San Francisco		
Alternate Members	New York†	New York†		
	Chicago	Cleveland		
	Richmond	Boston		
	Atlanta	St. Louis		
	San Francisco	Kansas City		

†For the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the First Vice President is the alternate for the President.

Central Bank	Rate (%)	Benchmark	Last Rate	
			Change	Amount
US Federal Reserve Bank	3.00	Fed Funds	1/31/2008	(0.50)
European Central Bank (ECB)	4.00	Refi (min bid)	6/6/2007	0.25
Bank of Japan (BOJ)	0.50	O/N Call Rate	2/21/2007	0.25
Bank of Canada (BOC)	4.00	O/N Rate	1/22/2007	(0.25)
Bank of England (BOE)	5.50	Repo Rate	2/7/2008	(0.25)
Swiss National Bank (SNB)	2.25 - 3.25	3-Mth Libor	9/13/2007	0.25
Reserve Bank of Australia	7.00	Cash Rate	2/5/2008	0.25
Reserve Bank of New Zealand	8.25	OCR	7/26/2007	0.25

dd/mm/yyyy

	Next Meeting	Market Expectations	Policy
			Strategy
FRB	3/18/2008	Easing Bias	Price Stability
ECB	3/6/2008	On Hold	Price Stability
BOJ	3/7/2008	Tighten Bias, but on hold	Price Stability
BOC	3/4/2008	Easing Possible	Price Stability / ICT
BOE	3/6/2008	Cut Possible	Price Stability
SNB	3/13/2008	Hike Possible	Price Stability
RBA	3/4/2008	Hike Possible	Price Stability / ICT
RBNZ	3/6/2008	On Hold	Price Stability / ICT

dd/mm/yyyy

Notes: Sources for "**Policy Strategy**" can be found at each CB's web site. The FRB's Strategy is stated in the Federal Reserve Act, and on the FRB site at the following web address:http://www.federalreserve.gov/pf/pdf/pf_2.pdf

Price Stability / ICT: means that the bank has an 'Inflation Control Target' (ITC) but they also acknowledge price stability as being part of there policy strategy.

Dates are mm/dd/yyyy

The FOMC: Ranges

Ranges for FOMC Meetings ¹

	Avg Dly Rng ²	Avg 15 Min Range ³
30	5.8	5.5
10	6.3	5.6
5	7.8	6.2
2	9.5	7.5

Ranges for Humphrey-Hawkins Hearings ⁴

	Avg Dly Rng	Avg 30 Min Rng ⁵
30	8.2	4.7
10	8.8	5.9
5	9.5	7.0
2	10.2	7.7

Notes:

- 1) Averages Calculated since 01/31/2006
- 2) Daily range is 7am - 2pm CT
- 3) 15min range is time of release - 1:30 pm CT
- 4) Calculated since Bernanke began as Chairman
- 5) 30min range is time of release - 9:30am CT

Objective of the Monetary Policy

The objective of the monetary policy is to maintain the stability of the value of the currency and thereby promote economic growth.

Management Team of PBC

Zhou Xiaochuan Chairman, Monetary Policy Committee

Su Ning Deputy Governor

Wang Hongzhang Chief Disciplinary Officer

Hu Xiaolian Deputy Governor, and Administrator of State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE)

Liu Shiyu Deputy Governor

Ma Delun Deputy Governor

Yi Gang Deputy Governor

Du Jinfu Assistant Governor

The PBC was established on December 1, 1948 based on the consolidation of the former Huabei Bank, Beihai Bank and Xibei Farmer Bank.

In September 1983, the State Council decided to have the PBC function as a central bank.

The Law of the People's Republic of China on the People's Bank of China passed by the Third Plenum of the Eighth National People's Congress on March 18, 1995 legally confirmed the PBC's central bank status.

In March 2003, the First Plenum of the Tenth National People's Congress approved the Decision on Reform of the Organizational Structure of the State Council, separating the supervisory responsibilities of the PBC for the banking institutions, asset management companies, trust and investment companies and other depository financial institutions. Instead, the China Banking Regulatory Commission was established to supervise the financial industry.

On December 27, 2003, the Standing Committee of the Tenth National People's Congress approved at its Sixth Meeting the amendment to the Law of the People's Republic of China on the People's Bank of China, which has strengthened the role of the PBC in the making and implementation of monetary policy, in safeguarding the overall financial stability and in the provision of financial services.

Members of the Policy Board

Position	Name	Date of appointment
Governor of the Bank of Japan	Toshihiko Fukui	Mar.20, 2003
Deputy Governor of the Bank of Japan	Toshiro Muto	Mar.20, 2003
Deputy Governor of the Bank of Japan	Kazumasa Iwata	Mar.20, 2003
Member of the Policy Board	Miyako Suda	Apr.1, 2006
Member of the Policy Board	Atsushi Mizuno	Dec.3, 2004
Member of the Policy Board	Kiyohiko G. Nishimura	Apr.8, 2005
Member of the Policy Board	Tadao Noda	Jun.17, 2006
Member of the Policy Board	Seiji Nakamura	Apr.5, 2007
Member of the Policy Board	Hidetoshi Kamezaki	Apr.5, 2007

The Bank of Japan, as the central bank of Japan, decides and implements monetary policy with the aim of maintaining **price stability**.

The Bank of Japan Law states that the Bank's monetary policy should be "aimed at, through the pursuit of price stability, contributing to the sound development of the national economy."

The Bank releases its views on economic and financial developments, which form the basis of the decision on the guideline for money market operations, in "The Bank's View" in the Monthly Report of Recent Economic and Financial Developments.

Bank of Japan

	Date of MPM	Publication of Outlook Report (The Bank's View)	Publication of MPM Minutes
Jan. 2008	21 (Mon.), 22 (Tue.)	--	Feb. 20 (Wed.)
Feb.	14 (Thur.), 15 (Fri.)	--	Mar. 12 (Wed.)
Mar.	6 (Thur.), 7 (Fri.)	--	Apr. 14 (Mon.)
	8 (Tue.), 9 (Wed.)	--	May 23 (Fri.)
Apr.	30 (Wed.)	30 (Wed.)	June 18 (Wed.)
May	19 (Mon.), 20 (Tue.)	--	June 18 (Wed.)
June	12 (Thur.), 13 (Fri.)	--	July 18 (Fri.)
July	14 (Mon.), 15 (Tue.)	--	Aug. 22 (Fri.)
Aug.	18 (Mon.), 19 (Tue.)	--	Sep. 22 (Mon.)
Sep.	16 (Tue.), 17 (Wed.)	--	Oct. 10 (Fri.)
	6 (Mon.), 7 (Tue.)	--	Nov. 6 (Thur.)
Oct.	31 (Fri.)	31 (Fri.)	Nov. 27 (Thur.)
Nov.	20 (Thur.), 21 (Fri.)	--	Dec. 25 (Thur.)
Dec.	18 (Thur.), 19 (Fri.)	--	To be announced

The Governing Council (21)

Jean-Claude Trichet , President of the ECB
 Lucas D. Papademos, Vice-President of the ECB
 Lorenzo Bini Smaghi, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB
 José Manuel González-Páramo, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB
 Jürgen Stark, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB
 Gertrude Tumpel-Gugerell, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB
 Guy Quaden, Governor, Nationale Bank van België/Banque Nationale de Belgique
 Axel A. Weber, President, Deutsche Bundesbank
 John Hurley, Governor, Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland
 Nicholas C. Garganas, Governor, Bank of Greece
 Miguel Fernández Ordóñez, Governor, Banco de España
 Christian Noyer, Governor, Banque de France
 Mario Draghi, Governor, Banca d'Italia
 Athanasios Orphanides, Governor, Central Bank of Cyprus
 Yves Mersch, Governor, Banque centrale du Luxembourg
 Michael C. Bonello, Governor, Central Bank of Malta
 Nout Wellink, President, De Nederlandsche Bank
 Klaus Liebscher, Governor, Oesterreichische Nationalbank
 Vítor Manuel Ribeiro Constâncio, Governor, Banco de Portugal
 Marko Kranjec, Governor, Banka Slovenije
 Erkki Liikanen, Governor, Suomen Pankki - Finlands Bank

The Governing Council usually meets twice a month at the Eurotower in Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

At its first meeting each month, the Governing Council assesses monetary and economic developments and takes its monthly monetary policy decision. At its second meeting, the Council discusses mainly issues related to other tasks and responsibilities of the ECB and the Eurosystem.

The minutes of the meetings are not published, but the monetary policy decision is announced at a press conference held shortly after the first meeting each month. The President, assisted by the Vice-President, chairs the press conference.

The primary objective of the ECB's monetary policy is to maintain price stability. The ECB aims at inflation rates of below, but close to, 2% over the medium term.



The European Central Bank

EU Central Banks**EUROZONE (15):**

Austria: Oesterreichische Nationalbank
 Belgium: Nationale Bank van België/Banque nationale de Belgique
 Cyprus: Kentrike Trapeza tis Kyprou
 Finland: Suomen Pankki/Finlands Bank
 France: Banque de France
 Germany: Deutsche Bundesbank
 Greece: Bank of Greece
 Ireland: Banc Ceannais na hÉireann / Central Bank of Ireland
 Italy: Banca d'Italia
 Luxembourg: Banque Centrale du Luxembourg
 Malta: Central Bank of Malta
 Netherlands: De Nederlandsche Bank
 Portugal: Banco de Portugal
 Slovenia: Banka Slovenije
 Spain: Banco de España

NON-EUROZONE (12):

Bulgaria: Bulgarian National Bank
 Czech Republic: Česká národní banka
 Denmark: Danmarks Nationalbank
 Estonia: Eesti Pank
 Hungary: Magyar Nemzeti Bank
 Latvia: Latvijas Banka
 Lithuania: Lietuvos Bankas
 Poland: Narodowy Bank Polski
 Romania: National Bank of Romania
 Slovakia: Národná banka Slovenska
 Sweden: Sveriges Riksbank
 United Kingdom: Bank of England

EU Central Banks

Austria, Oesterreichische Nationalbank	Klaus Liebscher, ECB Governor, Oesterreichische Nationalbank (Austria), ECB governing council.
Belgium, Nationale Bank van België/Banque Nationale de Belgique	Guy Quaden, ECB Governor, Nationale Bank van België/Banque Nationale de Belgique, ECB governing council.
Bulgaria, Bulgarian National Bank	Ivan Iskrov
Czech, Republic Česká národní banka	Zdeněk Tůma
Cyprus, Central Bank of Cyprus	Athanasios Orphanides, ECB Governing Council Member, ECB governing council.
Denmark, Danmarks Nationalbank	Nils Bernstein
Estonia, Eesti Pank	Andres Lipstok
Éire/Ireland, Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland	John Hurley, ECB Governor, Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland, ECB governing council.
Finland, Suomen Pankki - Finlands Bank	Erkki Liikanen, ECB Governor, Suomen Pankki - Finlands Bank, ECB governing council.
France, Banque de France	Christian Noyer, ECB Governor, Banque de France, ECB governing council.
Germany, Deutsche Bundesbank	Axel A. Weber, President, Deutsche Bundesbank, ECB governing council.
Greece, Bank of Greece	Nicholas C. Garganas, Governor, Bank of Greece, ECB governing council.
Hungary, Magyar Nemzeti Bank	András Simor
Italy, Banca d'Italia	Mario Draghi, Governor, Banca d'Italia, ECB governing council.
Latvia, Latvijas Banka	Ilmārs Rimšēvičs
Lithuania, Lietuvos bankas	Reinoldijus Šarkinas
Luxembourg, Banque centrale du Luxembourg	Yves Mersch, ECB Governor, Banque centrale du Luxembourg, ECB governing council.
Malta, Central Bank of Malta	Michael C. Bonello, ECB governing council.
The Netherlands, De Nederlandsche Bank	Nout Wellink, President, De Nederlandsche Bank, ECB governing council.
Poland, Narodowy Bank Polski	Stawomir Skrzypek
Portugal, Banco de Portugal	Vitor Manuel Ribeiro Constâncio, Governor, Banco de Portugal, ECB governing council.
Romania, Banca Națională a României	Mugur Isărescu
Slovakia, Národná banka Slovenska	Marko Kranjec, Governor, Banka Slovenije, ECB governing council.
Spain, Banco de España	Miguel Fernández Ordóñez, Governor, Banco de España, ECB governing council.
Sweden, Sveriges Riksbank	Stefan Ingves
United Kingdom, Bank of England	Mervyn King

Jean-Claude Trichet, President of the ECB, came from Banque de France, BIS, and World Bank

Lucas D. Papademos, Vice-President of the ECB, came from Bank of Greece

Lorenzo Bini Smaghi, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB, came from Banca d'Italia

José Manuel González-Páramo, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB, came from Banco de España

Jürgen Stark, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB, came from Deutsche Bundesbank

Gertrude Tumpel-Gugerell, Member of the Executive Board of the ECB, came from Oesterreichische Nationalbank

Notes for shaded and un-shaded cells

Represented on the Governing Council

Represented on the General Council

ECB Introductory Statement [First paragraph only. You can view the full statement at www.ecb.int]

**Jean-Claude Trichet, President of the ECB,
Lucas Papademos, Vice President of the ECB
Frankfurt am Main, 7 February 2008**

Ladies and gentlemen, the Vice-President and I are very pleased to welcome you to our press conference. Let me report on the outcome of our meeting, which was also attended by Commissioner Almunia.

On the basis of our regular economic and monetary analyses, we decided at today's meeting to leave the key ECB interest rates unchanged. This decision reflects our assessment that risks to price stability over the medium term are on the upside, in a context of very vigorous money and credit growth. The current short-term upward pressure on inflation must not spill over to the medium term. The firm anchoring of inflation expectations over the medium and long term is of the highest priority to the Governing Council, reflecting its mandate. Against this background, the Governing Council remains committed to preventing second-round effects and the materialisation of upside risks to price stability over the medium term. As the reappraisal of risk in financial markets continues, there remains unusually high uncertainty about its overall impact on the real economy. While the economic fundamentals of the euro area are sound, incoming data have confirmed that the risks surrounding the outlook for economic activity lie on the downside. We will continue to monitor very closely all developments over the coming weeks.

[...]

[Note from Jim: The word inflation was mentioned 12 times (same as last month) in the full statement.]

[SOURCE: The ECB]

Country breakdown

On 1 January 2008 two countries accounted for 44% (3,483) of all MFIs [monetary financial institutions] in the euro area: Germany (26.6%) and France (17.6%). Italy and Austria each accounted for about 10% of the euro area total. Over the last nine years (1999-2008), the following developments in the national MFI sectors of euro area countries have been particularly noteworthy: a considerable increase of 236 units (246%) in Ireland and large decreases in the Netherlands, Spain and Germany (by 48%, 41% and 36% respectively). Since joining the EU on 1 May 2004, the MFI sectors in Malta and Slovenia have increased significantly, namely by 65% and 11% respectively. By contrast, the number of MFIs in Cyprus has decreased by 47% during the same period.

Among the non-euro area countries, Poland has by far the largest number of MFIs (722), representing 7% of the MFI sector in the EU. Since 1999 there have been substantial increases in the MFI sectors of Slovakia (36%), Latvia (33%), Sweden (31%) and Romania (26%), while the size of these sectors in the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic has shrunk by 24% and 15%, respectively.

[SOURCE: The ECB]

[As of 20 February 2008, 6:00 am CT]

Current Bank Rate 5.25 %
Next due: 6 Mch 2008

Current Inflation 2.2%
Next due: 18 Mch 2008

Inflation Target 2.0%

MPC Decision	Minutes	Report
9 & 10 January	23-Jan	
6 & 7 February	20-Feb	13-Feb
5 & 6 March	19-Mar	
9 & 10 April	23-Apr	
7 & 8 May	21-May	14-May
4 & 5 June	18-Jun	
9 & 10 July	23-Jul	
6 & 7 August	20-Aug	13-Aug
3 & 4 September	17-Sep	
8 & 9 October	22-Oct	
5 & 6 November	19-Nov	12-Nov
3 & 4 December	17-Dec	

[As of 06 January 2008, 6:00 am CT]

News Release

Bank of England Reduces Bank Rate by 0.25 Percentage Points to 5.25%

07 February 2008

The Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee today voted to reduce the official Bank Rate paid on commercial bank reserves by 0.25 percentage points to 5.25%.

The prospects for output growth abroad have deteriorated and the disruption to global financial markets has continued. In the United Kingdom, credit conditions for households and businesses are tightening. Consumer spending growth appears to have eased. Although the substantial fall in the sterling exchange rate is likely to promote re-balancing of total demand, output growth has moderated to around its historical average rate and business surveys suggest that further slowing is in prospect. These developments pose downside risks to the outlook for inflation.

CPI inflation, at 2.1% in December, was close to the 2% target, but higher energy and food prices are expected to raise inflation, possibly quite sharply, in the coming months. And the lower level of sterling will boost import costs. The impact on inflation should begin to fade later in the year, but measures of inflation expectations are currently elevated. These developments pose upside risks to the outlook for inflation further ahead.

Given this outlook for inflation, some slowing of demand growth, by reducing the pressure on capacity, is likely to be necessary to return inflation to target in the medium term. The Committee needs to balance the risk that a sharp slowing in activity pulls inflation below the target in the medium term against the risk that elevated inflation expectations keep inflation above target.

Against that background, the Committee judged that a reduction in Bank Rate of 0.25 percentage points to 5.25% was necessary to meet the 2% target for CPI inflation in the medium term.

The Committee's latest inflation and output projections will appear in the Inflation Report to be published on Wednesday 13 February.

The minutes of the meeting will be published at 9.30am on Wednesday 20 February.

Note to Editors

The previous change in Bank Rate was a reduction of 0.25 percentage points to 5.5% on 6 December 2007.

The BOE - How They Voted

VOTING BY THE MONETARY POLICY COMMITTEE - 2007

VOTING BY THE MONETARY POLICY COMMITTEE - 1997 TO PRESENT DATE

<i>Last Updated 19 December 2007</i>	Voted to Increase	Voted to Reduce	Voted to Maintain	Meetings Attended	<i>Last Updated 19 December 2007</i>	Voted to Increase	Voted to Reduce	Voted to Maintain	Meetings Attended
Mervyn King, Governor	4	1	7	12	Mervyn King	30	16	84	130
Rachel Lomax, Deputy Governor	1	1	10	12	Rachel Lomax	7	2	47	56
Paul Tucker	2	1	9	12	Paul Tucker	13	3	53	69
Charles Bean	1	1	10	12	Charles Bean	8	15	67	90
Kate Barker	3	1	8	12	Kate Barker	11	13	58	82
Sir John Gieve, Deputy Governor	4	2	6	12	Sir John Gieve	6	3	16	25
David Blanchflower	1	4	7	12	David Blanchflower	1	6	14	21
Tim Besley	6	1	5	12	Tim Besley	8	2	8	18
Andrew Sentance	6	1	5	12	Andrew Sentance	8	2	7	17
					Totals	92	62	354	508

VOTING BY THE MONETARY POLICY COMMITTEE - 2008

<i>Last Updated 23 January 2008</i>	Voted to Increase	Voted to Reduce	Voted to Maintain	Meetings Attended
Mervyn King, Governor	0	1	1	2
Rachel Lomax, Deputy Governor	0	1	1	2
Paul Tucker	0	1	1	2
Charles Bean	0	1	1	2
Kate Barker	0	1	1	2
Sir John Gieve, Deputy Governor	0	1	1	2
David Blanchflower	0	2	0	2
Tim Besley	0	1	1	2
Andrew Sentance	0	1	1	2

15 Member States of the European Union use the euro as their currency:

Belgium
Germany
Ireland
Greece
Spain
France
Italy
Cyprus
Luxembourg
Malta
The Netherlands
Austria
Portugal
Slovenia
Finland

Non-participants:

Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden and the United Kingdom are EU Member States but do not currently use the single European currency.

[SOURCE: The ECB]







THE EUROSISTEM



KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF THE EURO AREA *



EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

	 €-15	 EU-27		
Population (millions)	318.3	493.5	299.8	127.7
GDP (PPP, € trillions)	8.5	11.9	11.2	3.5
GDP per capita (PPP, € thousands)	26.6	24.1	37.3	27.5
Share of world GDP (PPP, %)	14.3	21.0	19.7	6.3
Exports (goods and services, % of GDP)**	21.6	13.9	11.0	16.8

* 2006 ** The figure for the euro area excludes Cyprus and Malta
Sources: for euro area and EU: ECB, Eurostat, national data, IMF and ECB calculations; for the United States and Japan: national sources, IMF.

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