



German
Economic
Team

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POLICY BRIEFING
UKRAINE

The impact of electricity imports on domestic prices and industry

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Structure

1. Introduction
2. Industry structure in Ukraine
3. Recent developments in the industry sector
4. Industrial electricity consumption
5. Wholesale power market and industry prices
6. Import prices
7. Electricity trade with ENTSO-E countries
8. Policy recommendations and conclusion

1. Introduction

Motivation

- » Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and its targeted attacks on the energy system forced Ukraine to **halt commercial electricity exports** to neighbouring ENTSO-E countries in Oct-22
- » Wholesale **electricity prices** in Ukraine are considerably lower than in neighbouring **ENTSO-E countries** as the latter are **not regulated by price caps**
- » Higher costs for **imported electricity would put additional economic stress** on Ukrainian industries which are already suffering from war, power outages, and economic turmoil
- » Ukraine has resumed electricity exports to the EU since spring-23

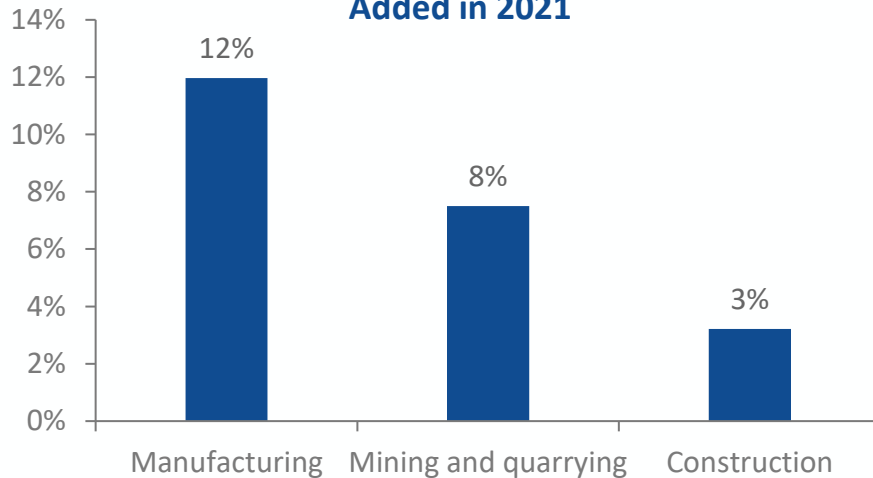
Purpose of this Policy Briefing

- Assessment of **electricity trade developments** between Ukraine and neighbouring ENTSO-E countries
- **Identification of most electricity-intensive sectors** in Ukraine, which may be affected by price shocks

2. Industry structure in Ukraine

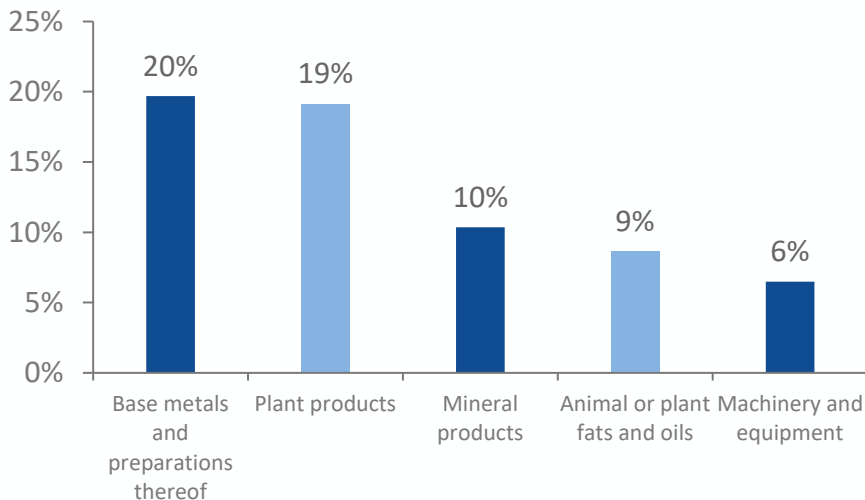
Industrial segment as percentage of Gross Value

Added in 2021



Source: Ukrstat

Top five export categories in 2021



Source: Ukrstat

Strong industrial core

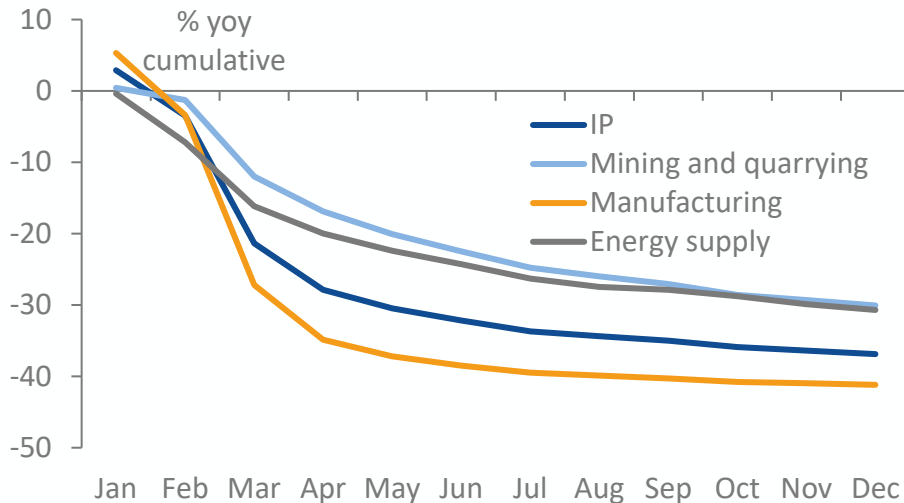
- » Heavy (energy-intensive) industries play an important role in Ukraine's economy.
- » Industry accounted for approx. **23% of GVA in 2021**, with manufacturing accounting for more than half

Industry's share in Ukraine's exports

- » Industrial sectors such as metals, mineral products, and machinery accounted for almost **36% of total export volume in 2021**
- » In comparison, the second largest export category comprised **28%** (agriproducts: **plants products**, and **animal/plant fats and oils**)
- Industrial sectors compose a significant share of GVA and total exports of Ukraine, and are vital for the functioning of the economy

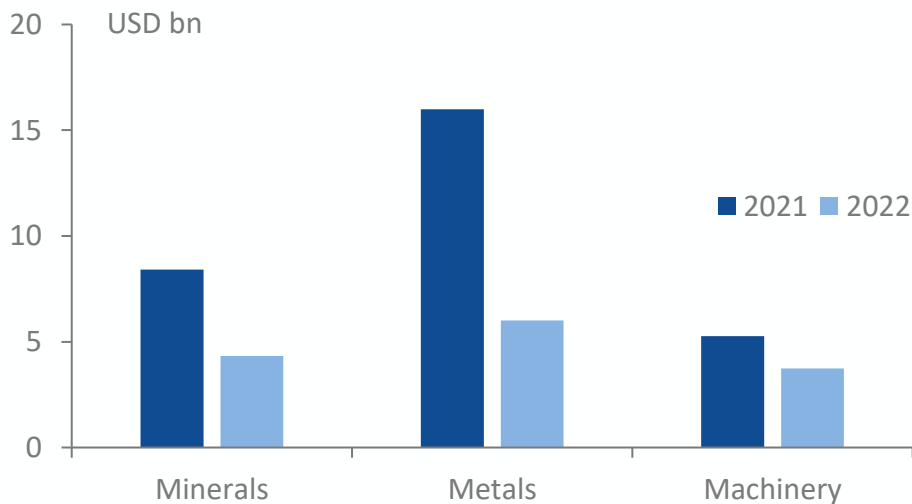
3. Recent developments in the industry sector

Industry production in 2022



Source: Ukrstat

Export dynamic of industrial

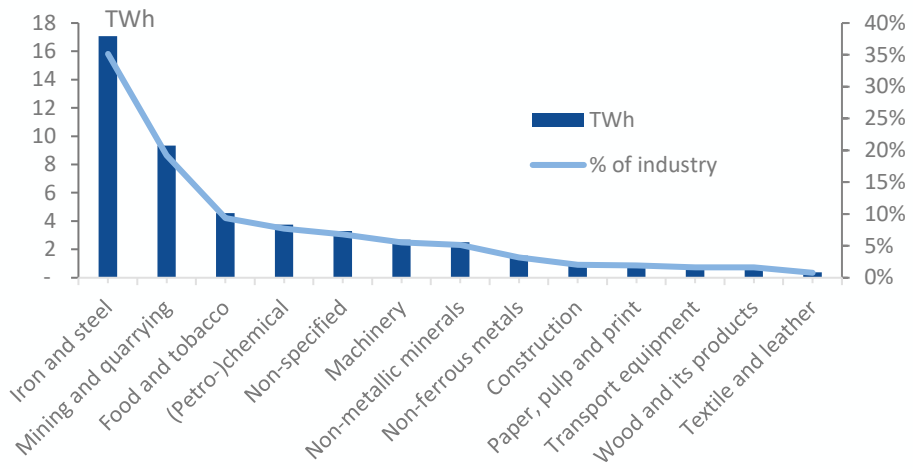


Source: Ukrstat

- » Industrial production (IP) faced a **strong decline** due to the occupation and destruction of Mariupol as well as war related supply chain disruptions more broadly
- » IP fell by 37% yoy in 2022, more than the decline in GDP
- » While mining and energy industries declined by 31% yoy, manufacturing fell by 41%
- » War-related **damage** to enterprises and industry assets amounted to over **USD 11 bn**
- Russia's full-scale war leads to a declining share of the sector within Ukraine's GDP

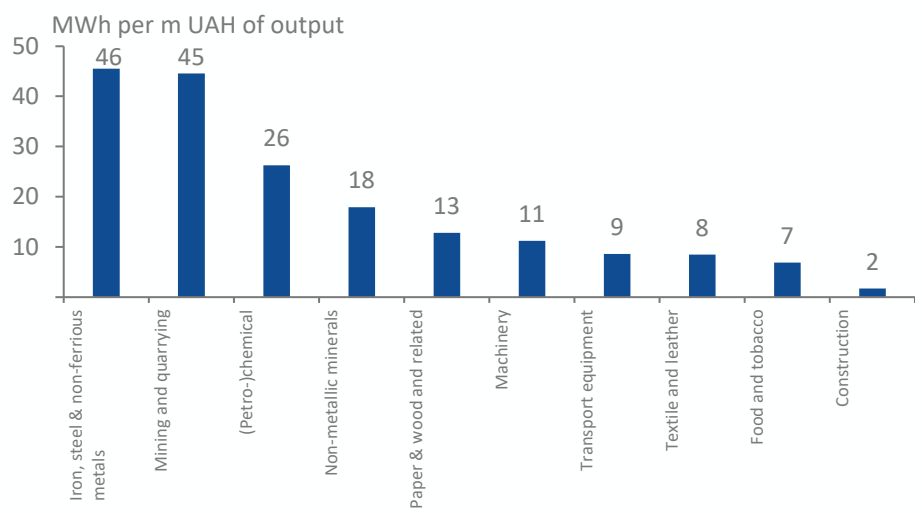
4. Industrial electricity consumption

Industrial electricity consumers



Source: Energy Balance Ukraine 2019

Electricity intensity



Source: UKRSTAT, Input-Output Table 2019 and energy balance, *NACE classifications were matched with EUROSTAT energy balance categories as close as possible

Electricity consumers

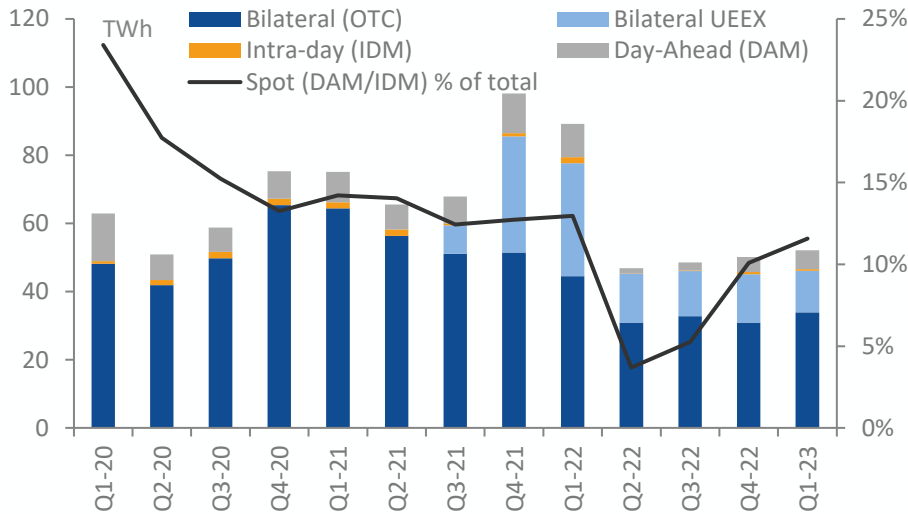
- » Ukraine's largest industrial electricity consumers were iron, steel, mining, food, and chemical industries (2019)
- » Industry accounts for about 42% of total electricity consumption (2019)

Electricity intensity

- » The most electricity-intensive industries were metal industry, mining and chemical industry
- » If these industries increasingly rely on more expensive imported electricity, then their production costs will increase
- » Moreover, the most intensive subsectors faced a strong decline due to the war in 2022
 - » Mining of iron ore: -62% yoy
 - » Manufacturing of iron ore: -69%
 - » Chemical products: -62% yoy
- Iron, steel, mining, chemical industries are the most sensitive to price changes

5. Wholesale power market and industry prices

Purchased electricity volumes in Ukraine*



Source: NERC wholesale market monitoring, Dixigroup *Includes both IPS and Burshtyn island

Average industrial electricity price in 2021

| | EUR/MWh |
|----------|---------|
| Slovakia | 148 |
| Romania | 132 |
| Poland | 116 |
| Hungary | 110 |
| Ukraine | 71 |

Source: Global Climate Scope (2022)

Bilateral markets

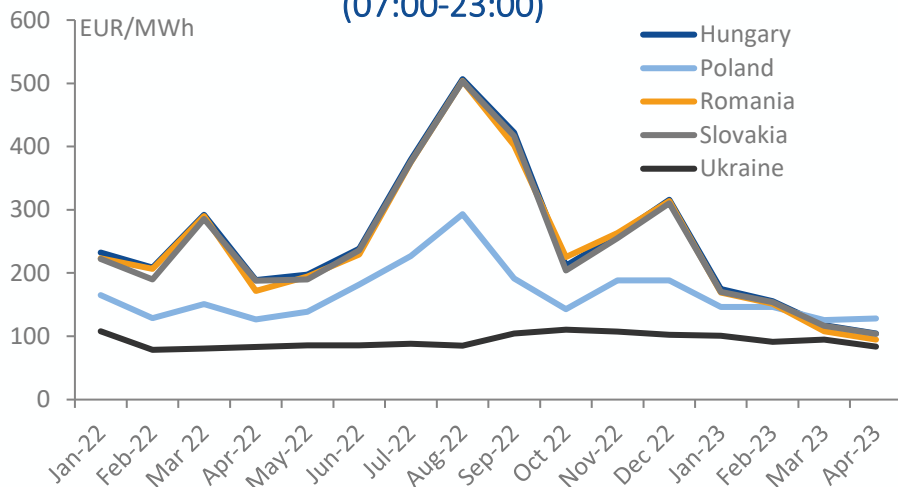
- » Most trade occurs bilaterally - mostly in the unregulated OTC market
- » A small share of private actors also via the Ukraine's Energy Exchange (UEEX)
- » A few large companies receive electricity from companies within the same group (e.g. DTEK) at lower prices
- » Industrial electricity prices are significantly lower than in neighbouring countries

Spot market

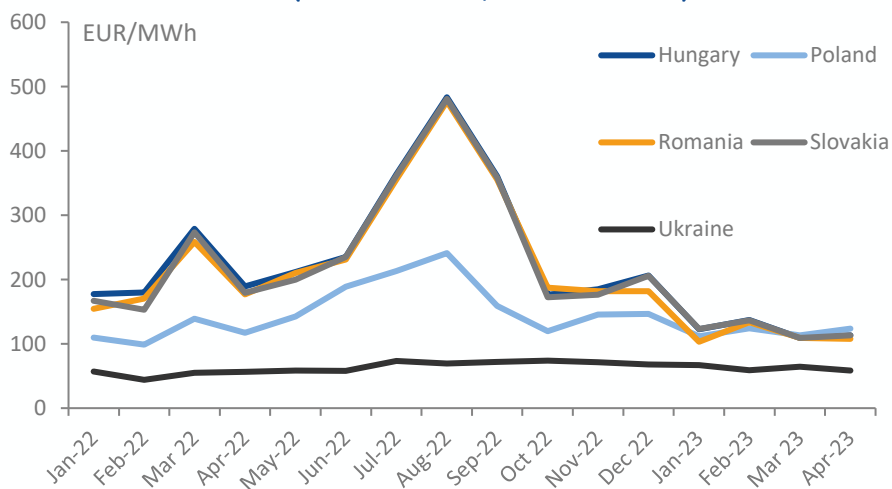
- » The spot market only accounts for a small share of electricity volumes sold (12% in Q1-23)
 - » Most private thermal power plants are not participating
 - » Bilateral/forward markets are disconnected from short-term markets which do not necessarily serve as a reference price
- Domestic spot market prices have only small influence on overall electricity prices for large industrial consumers

6. Import prices

Average day-ahead market prices in 2022-23, peak hours
(07:00-23:00)



Average day-ahead market prices in 2022-23, off-peak hours
(00:00-07:00; 23:00-24:00)



Sources: Dixigroup, UA Energy Map

Price differential

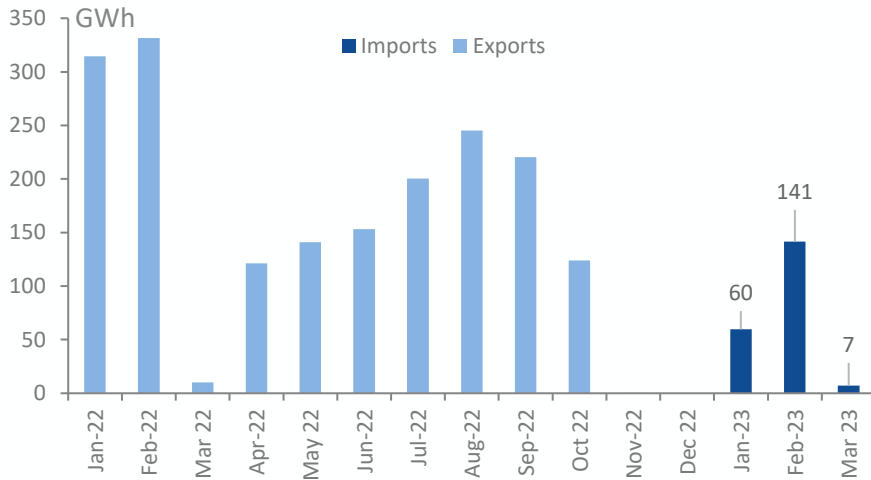
- » Spot prices in neighbouring countries showed much higher prices than in Ukraine throughout most of 2022
- » Commercial electricity imports from neighbourhood ENTSO-E countries could come at substantially higher prices

Guaranteed supply

- » In January 2023, a [regulation on electricity imports](#) was adopted but ended in Apr-23:
 - Industrial consumer were able to import electricity from abroad, but had to pay foreign spot market prices
 - For imports, there was a guaranteed uninterrupted supply (no scheduled outages) - excluding non-planned emergency outages
- Industrial consumers may have purchased electricity at import prices that are substantially higher than domestic ones to ensure continuous supply

7. Electricity trade with ENTSO-E countries

UA commercial electricity trade with ENTSO-E*



Source: ENTSO-E Transparency Platform, NERC, Dixigroup, *Romania/Poland/Hungary/Slovakia/Moldova

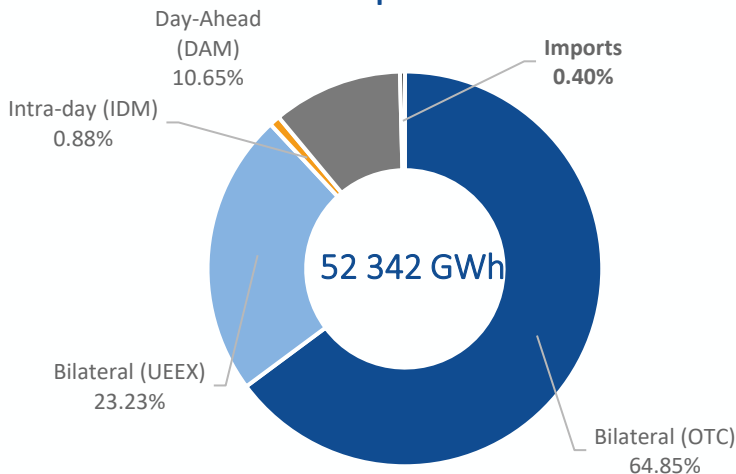
Emergency synchronisation

- » In Mar-22, Ukraine became fully synchronised with the ENTSO-E grid helping to address short-term imbalances
- » Technical capacity to import from ENTSO-E was increased several times

Commercial electricity trade

- » Ukraine was predominantly an **exporter of electricity** during 2022. Exports stopped following attacks on the power system in Oct-22
- » In Q1 2023, there was a spike in **commercial imports** from Slovakia and Moldova but since **Apr** Ukraine restored proper functioning of its system and **exports to EU resumed**
- » **Import volumes are negligible** compared to overall sales volume. Information about buyers and exact prices are not disclosed
- **Ukraine's electricity trade balance heavily depends on the outcome of Russian missile strikes**
- **Commercial imports are unlikely to have a large effect on industries**

Purchased electricity volumes in UA Jan-Mar 23, including imports



Source: ENTSO-E Transparency Platform, NERC, Dixigroup *Romania/Poland/Hungary/Slovakia/Moldova

8. Conclusion

- » Following Russian attacks on power infrastructure, Ukraine faced **severe electricity shortages**. Its synchronisation and increased capacity interconnections with the ENTSO-E grid helps to address physical imbalances by **adding stable electricity supply sources**
- » **Iron and steel, mining and chemical industries** are most sensitive to electricity price changes due to their high electricity intensity, and are facing already declining production
- » In Q1 2023, Ukraine **turned into a net commercial importer** of electricity but resumed to be a net exporter again in early Q2-23
- » Industry consumers were able to purchase electricity from abroad at higher prices to avoid domestic shortages between Jan-Apr-23.
- » **Overall effects on industrial consumers from imports in Q1-23 will be rather small**, as most of their electricity is purchased domestically via long-term contracts in the OTC market
- **Capacity of physical interconnections** with neighbouring ENTSO-E countries should be increased continuously to add further resilience
- **Better commercial integration** with power exchanges in ENTSO-E markets and the development of a liquid futures markets would provide industrial groups with a wider range of products and services to manage risk exposure
- **The installation of decentralised non-grid dependent generation capacities on industrial sites could help industrial consumers keep producing independently of shutdowns**

About the German Economic Team

Financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, the German Economic Team (GET) advises the governments of Ukraine, Belarus*, Moldova, Kosovo, Armenia, Georgia and Uzbekistan on economic policy matters. Berlin Economics has been commissioned with the implementation of the consultancy.

**Advisory activities in Belarus are currently suspended.*

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