

Commentary

Trend in April 2018

Month-on-month comparison

- **Exports:** export prices fell 0.1% in April (+0.4% in March). The change of the total m-o-m export price index was led mainly by a 0.2% price decline in 'machinery and transport equipment'. Prices in 'mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products' dropped 1.0%, 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' fell 0.4%. Only price growth was recorded in 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (+0.2%).
- **Imports:** import prices stayed unchanged in April following a 0.4% advance in March. Prices increased in 'mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products' (+1.7%), 'machinery and transport equipment' (+0.1%), and 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' (+0.1%). On the contrary, biggest price drop was recorded in 'food and live animals' (-2.1%) and 'chemicals and related products' (-0.3%).
- The **terms of trade** decreased to the value of 99.9% (100.0% in March). Negative values were reached in 'mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products' (97.3%), 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' (99.5%), and 'machinery and transport equipment' (99.7%). Positive values of terms of trade were reached by prices of 'food and live animals' (102.0%), 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (100.2%), 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (100.2%), and 'chemicals and related products' (100.2%).

Year-on-year comparison

- **Exports:** mainly due to strengthening of koruna against euro and U.S. dollar export prices fell 3.9% (-4.3% in March). A 4.9% price decline in 'machinery and transport equipment' contributed to the decrease in overall y-o-y export price index. 'Chemicals and related products', 'food and live animals' and 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' prices dropped 5.7%, 4.8% and 4.7%, respectively. Prices grew only in 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (+0.1%).
- **Imports:** import prices decreased by 5.3% after a 5.9% decline in March. The fall of the total annual import price index was primarily driven by a 7.7% drop in 'machinery and transport equipment'. Prices also fell in 'crude materials, inedible, except fuels' (-15.4%; mainly rubber), 'food and live animals' (-8.3%), and 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (-6.3%). Biggest price growth was registered in 'mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products' (+4.2%).
- The **terms of trade** figures decreased to the value of 101.5% (101.7% in March) staying in the positive values for the seventh successive month. Among significant groups, positive values were reached by prices of 'machinery and transport equipment' (103.0%), 'manufactured goods classified chiefly by material' (102.7%) and 'miscellaneous manufactured articles' (101.7%). 'Mineral fuels, lubricants, and related products' and 'chemicals and related products' reached negative values of terms of trade - 92.5% and 97.9%, respectively.