

COMMENTARY

3 March 2023

Methodological note on the change of capture of Ukrainian refugees in the national accounts

Influence of extraordinary measures on the revenue, expenditure, and debt of the general government sector and capture thereof in the methodology

Statistical capture of migration and transactions related to the war in Ukraine is being solved at the level of the European Statistical System. Eurostat issued a guidance note, which specifies the methodology of national accounts (ESA 2010). In accordance with the guidance note and a consultation with Eurostat, most of Ukrainian refugees are considered for statistical purposes to be residents of the Czech Republic since the 4th quarter of 2022, from which changes in statistical capture of transactions of Ukrainian refugees are derived.

It will have an impact in a decrease in exports of services, in which their consumption expenditure has been captured so far. Consumption expenditure of households will increase by the same amount. In order to ensure comparability of indicators, this methodological change will be reflected in deflators of final consumption expenditure (16.9% before the change, 18.0% after the inclusion of the change) and of export of services (3.4% before the change, 0.4% after the inclusion of the change).

Further impacts will be reflected within the release of quarterly sector accounts, in which compensations of these employees and all other revenues will be captured within the sector of households instead of their capture in the accounts of non-residents.