



Press release

Date: 13.12.2013

Gold imports and exports: statistics broken down by country from 2014

During its meeting today, the Federal Council approved a change of practice for the preparation of the statistics on gold. Starting in 2014, gold imports and exports will be presented with a breakdown by country in the Swiss foreign trade statistics. As a result of this change of practice, Switzerland will comply with the international statistical standard and thereby contribute to transparency in precious metals trading.

Introduced in 1981, the current practice of not publishing a breakdown by country for information on gold trading no longer meets current requirements. Consequently, the Federal Council has decided to include gold imports and exports in the Swiss foreign trade statistics from 1 January 2014. It will thus be possible to see the distribution of gold trading imports and exports among the individual states.

The publication of gold statistics by country will provide a response to several parliamentary initiatives. Switzerland will be in compliance with the international statistical standard from now on. This publication is part of the efforts being made by Switzerland in the area of transparency and gives concrete form to recommendation 9 of the commodities report¹.

In connection with this change of practice, the Federal Council instructed the Federal Department of Finance, in cooperation with the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research, to submit a proposal on the publication of historical data on gold imports and exports.

Further details:

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Relevant department:

Federal Department of Finance FDF

¹ Report of the commodities interdepartmental platform for the attention of the Federal Council:
<http://www.news.admin.ch/NSBSubscriber/message/attachments/30133.pdf>

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The following can be found as an enclosure to this press release at www.finance.admin.ch:

- Disclosure of statistics on gold imports and exports – final report of the working group for the attention of the Director General of Customs