Assessment of EU Parcel Delivery Markets

Preliminary results from a study for DG GROW: Development of Cross-border E-commerce through Parcel Delivery

ERGP Open Workshop

Belgrade 28 November 2018





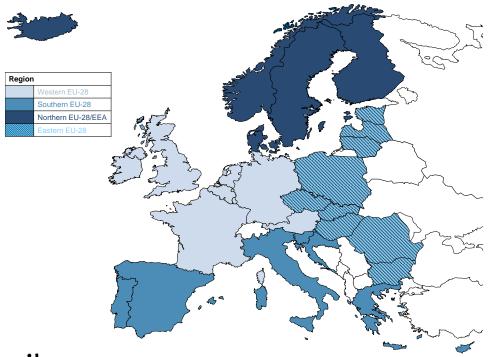


Purpose of the Study

- EP IMCO asked the Commission to conduct a pilot project on the 'dynamic development of cross-border e-commerce through efficient parcel delivery'
- Study to improve understanding of
 - the state-of-play and the developments in the EU delivery markets and
 - The needs of consumers and e-retailers in relation to cross-border ecommerce and delivery services
- Study to provide input for
 - > evaluation report on the regulation on cross-border parcels (2020) and
 - application report on Postal Services Directive (expected 2019/2020)



Scope of the Study



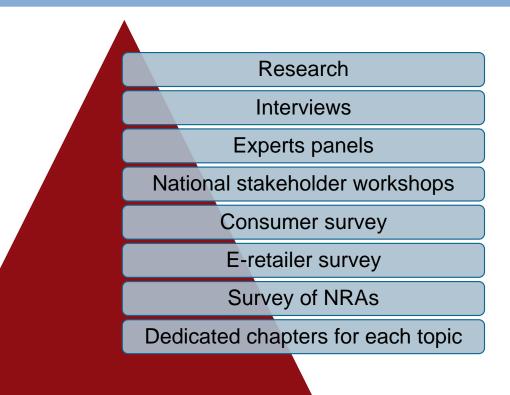
Geographical scope: EU-28 and EEA

Parcel delivery services

- Parcels: Postal items containing goods weighing up to 31.5 kg
- Parcel delivery services: services involving the clearance, sorting, transport and distribution of parcels
- Parcel delivery service providers: carriers that clear, sort, or distribute parcels
- Cross-border parcel delivery service: delivery of physical goods as individual parcel from warehouse of selling company to consumers in another country
- Emphasis on B2C cross-border parcels (intra-EU and extra-EU)



Methodology



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Status of the project

		2019				
Activity	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter	1st quarte	
Desk Research						
Consumer online survey						
E-retailer online survey						
Interviews						
National stakeholder workshops						
NRA survey						
Expert panels						
Final report						
K ? s u l T						



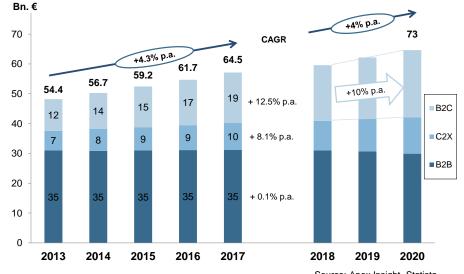
Towards a single EU market for parcel delivery

Assessment of domestic delivery markets

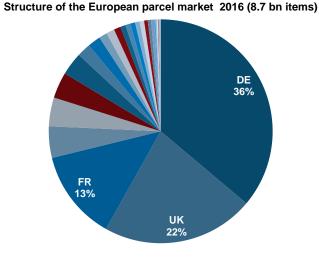


European parcel market is continuously growing

- B2C segment shows continuous growth while B2B segment is stagnating in Europe
- The majority of the 8.7 billion items shipped in 2016 were delivered in Germany, the UK and France



Annual revenues in the European parcel market

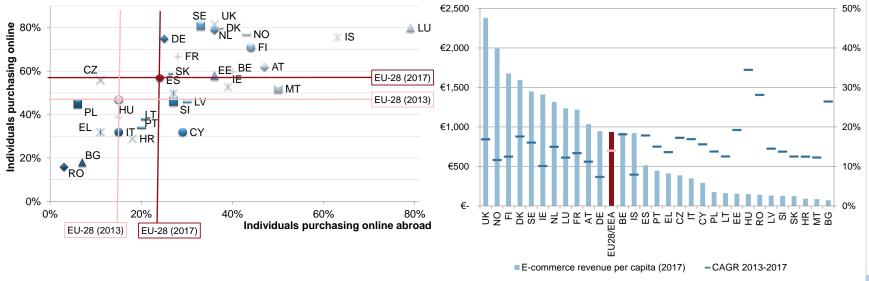




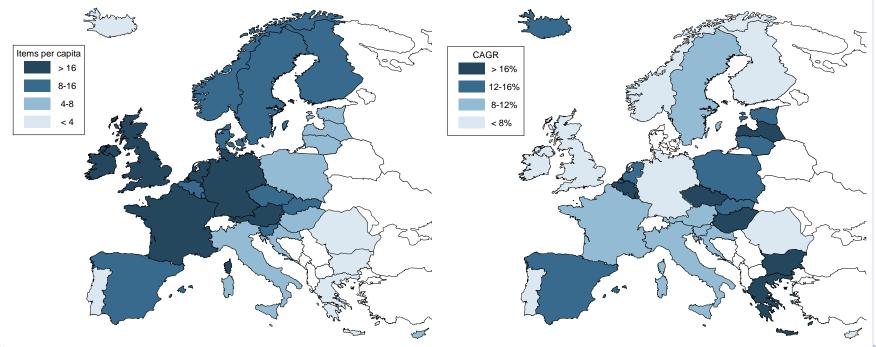
Source: Apex Insight, Statista Revenues include deferred parcels and express items.

Growth from domestic and cross-border B2C e-commerce

- Consumers are increasingly purchasing online, domestic as well as cross-border
- E-commerce is more developed in Northern/Western EU than in Southern/Eastern
- B2C e-commerce markets keep growing even the mature markets. Higher growth in South/East



E-commerce markets with lower volumes are catching up





AT, DE, EE, FI, FR, HR, HU, IT, LT; NL, PL, SE, UK (CAGR 2013-2017); BE, BG, CY, EL, IS, LV, MT, PT, SI, SK (CAGR 2013-2016); CZ, IE (CAGR 2013-2015); LU (CAGR 2014-2015); RO (CAGR 2014-2016); NO (CAGR 2016-2017).

Increase in cross-border e-commerce & deliveries

- Cross-border e-commerce is growing and there are clear indications that growth of cross-border items outperforms growth of domestic items shipped
 - > AT Kearney estimated cross-border items that were shipped in 13 European countries (up to 70kg) to €16.2bn / 720m items for 2016 and an increase of 25% by 2019
 - > According to DHL analysis, cross-border items are growing at about 20-25% at present
 - IPC reports that on average, international items currently represent less than a fifth of total parcels of USPs and that many postal operators report increases in cross-border deliveries
 - UPU reports an increase in cross-border parcels and average weights of cross-border letter, which indicates growing share of packages including merchandise
 - Deutsche Post, La Poste, Royal Mail and other USPs report strong growth of cross-border parcels, small packages and heavy letters

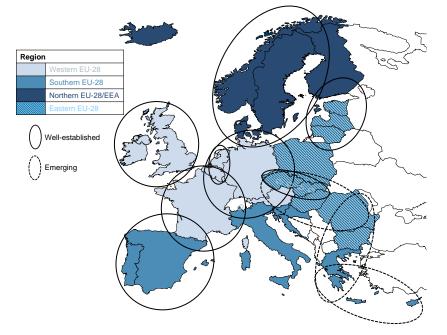


Cross-border originates from largest e-commerce markets

 Major cross-border flows from China, Germany and the UK to all EU28/EEA countries...

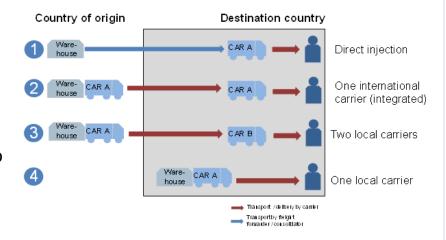
Most recent online purchase of online shoppers in												
	was ordered from a e-retailer in											
AT	DE (68%)	CN (13%)	UK (2%)	USA (2%)	NL (1%)							
BE	FR (49%)	CN (10%)	NL (8%)	DE (7%)	UK (6%)							
BG	CN (44%)	UK (17%)	DE (10%)	USA (6%)	RO (3%)							
CY	UK (39%)	CN (22%)	EL (18%)	DE (5%)	USA (4%)							
CZ	CN (67%)	UK (7%)	DE (7%)	USA (6%)	PL (1%)							
DE	CN (41%)	UK (15%)	AT (5%)	USA (5%)	ES (4%)							
DK	DE (22%)	CN (20%)	UK (15%)	SE (11%)	USA (8%)							
EE	CN (49%)	UK (14%)	DE (9%)	USA (8%)	FI (2%)							
EL	CN (31%)	UK (21%)	DE (8%)	USA (7%)	ES (5%)							
ES	CN (40%)	UK (16%)	DE (12%)	USA (6%)	FR (5%)							
FI	CN (28%)	DE (20%)	UK (12%)	SE (10%)	USA (10%)							
FR	CN (30%)	DE (15%)	UK (14%)	USA (6%)	IT (5%)							
HR	CN (53%)	UK (12%)	USA (7%)	DE (6%)	ES (2%)							
HU	CN (55%)	UK (8%)	DE (7%)	USA (5%)	SK (3%)							
IE	UK (58%)	CN (16%)	USA (6%)	DE (4%)	IT (2%)							
IS	CN (32%)	UK (17%)	USA (11%)	LV (5%)	DE (4%)							
IT	CN (29%)	UK (20%)	DE (19%)	USA (7%)	ES (4%)							
LT	CN (55%)	UK (17%)	DE (9%)	USA (4%)	PL (3%)							
LU	DE (71%)	FR (12%)	UK (5%)	CN (4%)	BE (3%)							
LV	CN (46%)	UK (16%)	DE (6%)	USA (5%)	EE (3%)							
MT	UK (68%)	CN (18%)	DE (5%)	USA (3%)	IE (1%)							
NL	CN (36%)	DE (18%)	UK (10%)	BE (5%)	USA (4%)							
NO	CN (29%)	UK (17%)	USA (15%)	SE (10%)	DE (7%)							
PL	CN (46%)	DE (12%)	UK (8%)	USA (6%)	CZ (2%)							
PT	CN (31%)	ES (20%)	UK (17%)	DE (7%)	FR (6%)							
RO	CN (35%)	UK (17%)	DE (9%)	USA (7%)	PL (4%)							
SE	CN (24%)	DE (21%)	UK (17%)	USA (15%)	DK (4%)							
SI	CN (35%)	DE (22%)	UK (15%)	AT (4%)	USA (3%)							
SK	CN (41%)	CZ (26%)	UK (8%)	DE (7%)	HU (2%)							
UK	CN (34%)	USA (19%)	DE (5%)	IT (2%)								
	CN											

 ... and important flows between neighbouring countries that promote emergence of 'country clusters' in e-commerce and delivery



Statistics underestimate significance of cross-border

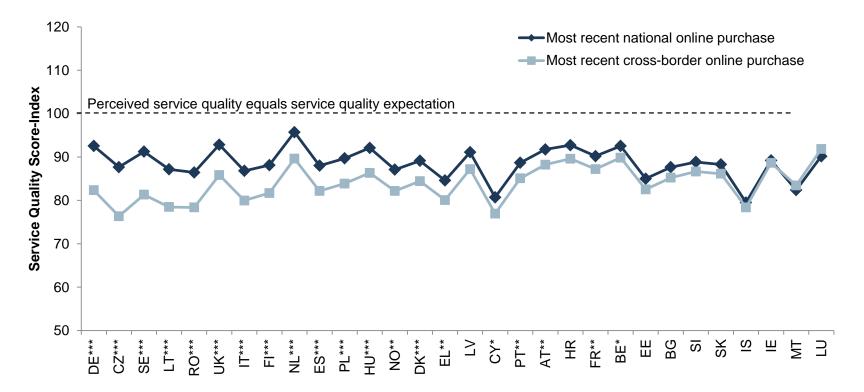
- Available data provides indications for volumes of cross-border B2C items
- Published statistics on cross-border parcels underestimate the actual volumes by definition
 - Definition of cross-border exclude direct injections, which is common practice of large e-retailers (e.g. Amazon, Zalando)
 - Share of small packets in cross-border letter post is unknown but increases
 - E-commerce items include products that do not necessarily fit with the general definition of a parcel (format, weight)





EU Cross-border Parcel Regulation will substantially increase transparency and support the provision of reliable data on cross-border streams in the future

Delivery quality slightly lower for cross-border vs domestic



WIK consumer survey. N=17,037. This figure includes the delivery elements 'Tracking the delivery process in real time', 'Notification of any attempt to deliver the item', 'Delivery to the agreed location', 'Delivery on time', and 'Courteous deliverer'. Significance: *0.10, **0.05, ***0.01

High diversity of carriers in the European parcel markets

Integrators

- Focus on international express items with own operations and high quality in most countries
- Expanding e-commerce capabilities and introduce new services for smaller e-retailer

European parcel networks

- International and domestic items with own operations and partnerships at varying service levels
- Expanding their networks with partnerships and introduce more receiver-oriented delivery solutions

Regional and local B2B carriers

• Emerging and well-established domestic (B2B) networks expanding their networks to neighbouring countries and often cooperate as delivery partner with European ground parcel networks

National and local B2C carriers

 USPs and traditional B2C delivery companies from the mail order sector, typically with domestic or local delivery networks, expand their pickup point networks and introduce receiver-oriented services

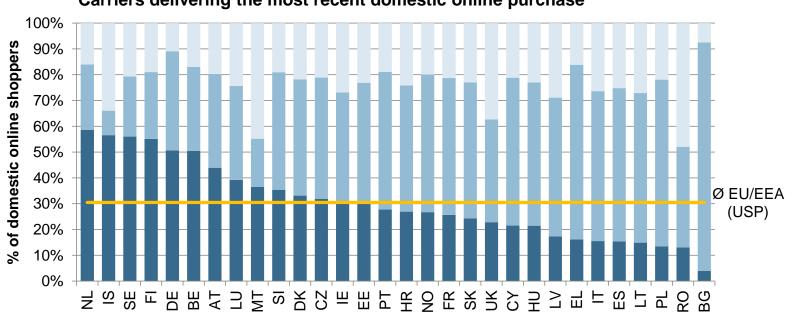
Emerging business models and delivery services

• Parcel brokers and consolidators, carrier-agnostic networks of parcel shops and parcel lockers or same-day and instant delivery networks in urban areas introduce new B2C services



Competition becomes more intense in B2C delivery markets, both domestic and cross-border 🛛 🔢

About 30% of domestic last purchases delivered by USP...



Carriers delivering the most recent domestic online purchase

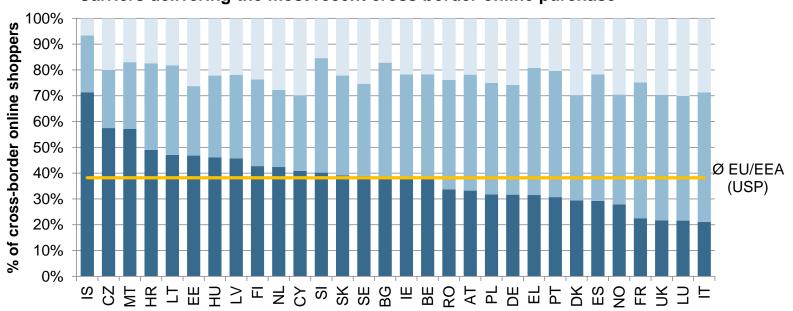
I do not remember which company delivered the item/No answer

WIK consumer survey. N=15,403. Question: Which company delivered the item you last purchased from an online shop or a seller on an online marketplace in the country you currently live in? Single choice.

USP

Other carrier

...but USPs delivered ~40% of last cross-border purchases



Carriers delivering the most recent cross-border online purchase

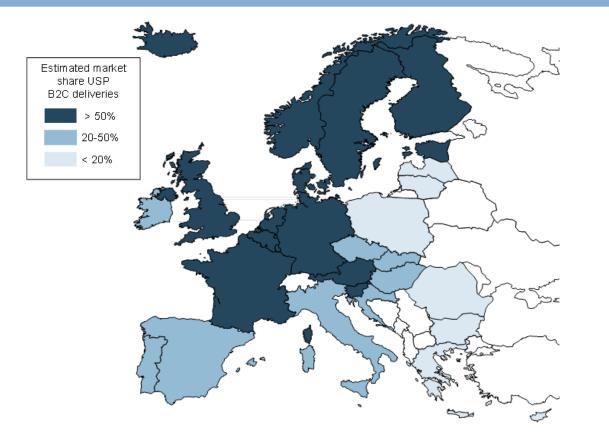
I do not remember which company delivered the item/No answer

WIK consumer survey. N=8,212. Question: Which company delivered the last item you purchased from an online shop or a seller on an online marketplace in a country other than the one you currently live in? Single choice.

USP

Other carrier

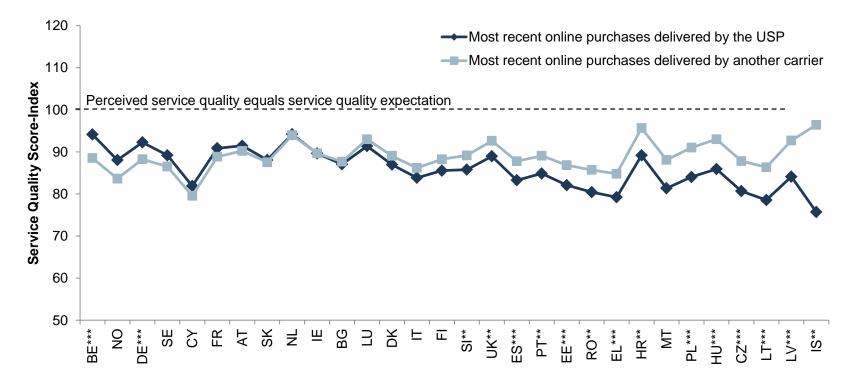
USPs are important B2C players in most of EU/EEA





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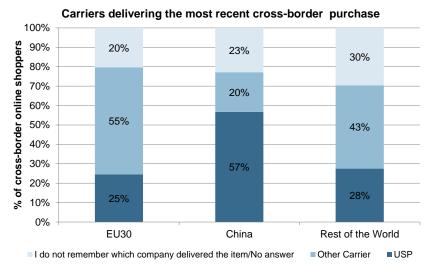
In many MS, competitors offer higher delivery quality than USP



WIK consumer survey. N=17,037. This figure includes the delivery elements 'Tracking the delivery process in real time', 'Notification of any attempt to deliver the item', 'Delivery to the agreed location', 'Delivery on time', and 'Courteous deliverer'. Significance: *0.10, **0.05, ***0.01

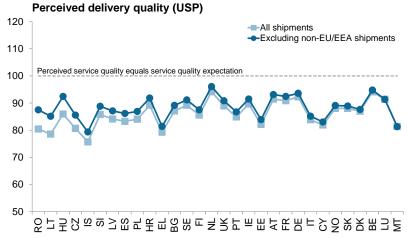
Delivery quality of USP partly explained by China imports

 More than half of the Chinese e-commerce items to Europe are delivered by USPs...



Approximately 5% did not know the location of the online shop or seller. These answers were not considered in the figures.

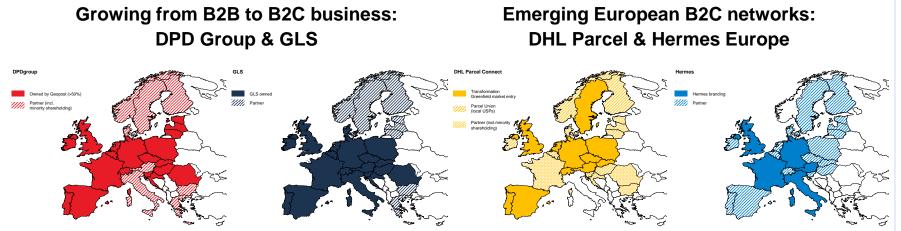
• ... which impacts the perceived delivery quality



This figure includes the delivery elements 'Tracking the delivery process in real time', 'Notification of any attempt to deliver the item', 'Delivery to the agreed location', 'Delivery on time', and 'Courteous deliverer'.



Pan-European road networks expand their B2C operations



> Expansion of the networks, either with own operations or in cooperation with local partners / USPs

- > Investments in ground network and last mile solutions (expansion of pickup point networks)
- > Specific products tailored for small and medium size e-retailers
- > More receiver-oriented delivery services, e.g. improved tracking, parcel delivery notifications



All carriers take significant efforts to grow in B2C e-commerce



E-retailers identified as customer group, e.g. specific business accounts, fulfilment services, APIs, support and consulting services for e-retailers

Improvement of service quality (e.g. live tracking, pick-up services, recipient-controlled delivery options, investment in backbone and last mile)





Expansion of PUDO networks (parcel lockers, parcel shops)

New and differentiated products for e-commerce items (e.g. tracked letter box parcels) and standardization of products (e.g. tariffs)

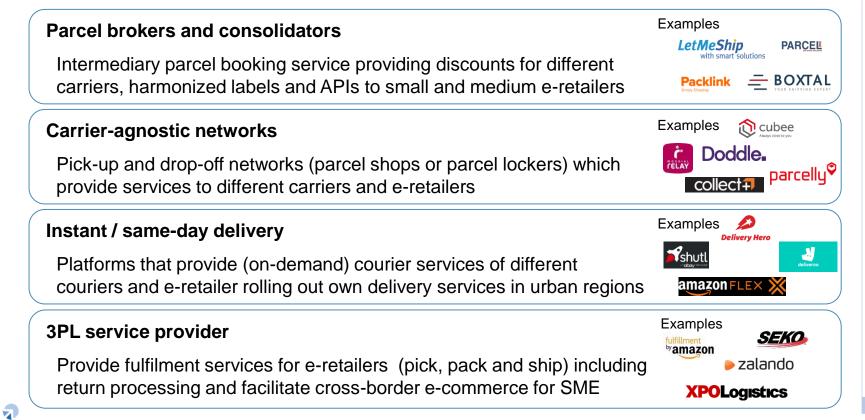




Introduction of cross-border return services (e.g. return platforms, carrieragnostic return labels)



Emerging business models/intermediaries drive competition

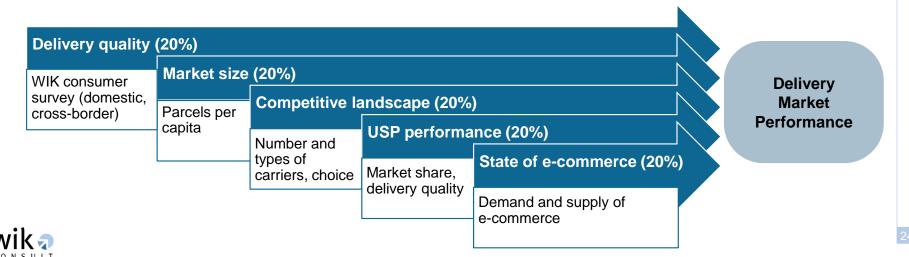






Methodology for the performance assessment

- WIK Delivery Market Performance Index
 - > Five equally weighted criteria with several indicators per criterion
 - Informed expert assessment based on quantitative and qualitative indicators, and supported by expert interviews and workshops



Best delivery markets : NL, DE, UK, AT, BE

WIK Delivery Market Performance Index (Total Score)

1	Netherlands					
2	Germany	4	\sim	\rightarrow	*	1
2	United Kingdom	4				1
4	Austria	\rightarrow			2	1
4	Belgium					
6	France	4			2	23
6	Luxembourg					$\stackrel{\frown}{\simeq}$
8	Sweden	4			2	23
9	Norway	\rightarrow				$\stackrel{\frown}{\simeq}$
10	Finland	1	\sim	\sim	1	23
11	Ireland	4		\sim	1	23
12	Denmark	1	1	2	1	23
13	Poland	4		\sim	23	23
13	Slovenia	\rightarrow			23	23
15	Estonia	\Rightarrow	$\stackrel{\frown}{\sim}$	$\stackrel{\frown}{\sim}$	23	23

	-				
Hungary	4			23	$\hat{\mathbf{x}}$
Spain	4	1	1	23	5
Czech Republic	\rightarrow		- 12	23	5
Croatia		*	☆	~	2
Slovakia	4			\$	5
Iceland	4		1	23	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Portugal	4			\$	~~
Italy	4		23	23	~~~
Latvia	4		$\hat{\mathbf{x}}$	\$	~~
Malta	4		\$	23	22
Lithuania	4		$\hat{\mathbf{x}}$	\$	\$
Cyprus	4	1	23	23	22
Bulgaria		\$	23	23	\$
Greece	4	ŝ	23	23	22
Romania	4	23	23	23	~
	Spain Czech Republic Croatia Slovakia Iceland Portugal Italy Latvia Malta Lithuania Cyprus Bulgaria Greece	SpainCzech RepublicCroatiaSlovakiaIcelandPortugalItalyLatviaMaltaLithuaniaCyprusBulgariaGreece	SpainImage: SpainCzech RepublicImage: SpainCroatiaImage: SpainSlovakiaImage: SpainSlovakiaImage: SpainIcelandImage: SpainIcelandImage: SpainPortugalImage: SpainItalyImage: SpainItalyImage: SpainLatviaImage: SpainMaltaImage: SpainLithuaniaImage: SpainCyprusImage: SpainBulgariaImage: SpainGreeceImage: Spain	SpainImage: SpainCzech RepublicImage: SpainCroatiaImage: SpainSlovakiaImage: SpainSlovakiaImage: SpainIcelandImage: SpainPortugalImage: SpainItalyImage: SpainItalyImage: SpainLatviaImage: SpainMaltaImage: SpainLithuaniaImage: SpainCyprusImage: SpainBulgariaImage: SpainImage:	SpainImage: symbolicImage: symbolicImage: symbolicImage: symbolicCroatiaImage: symbol symbo



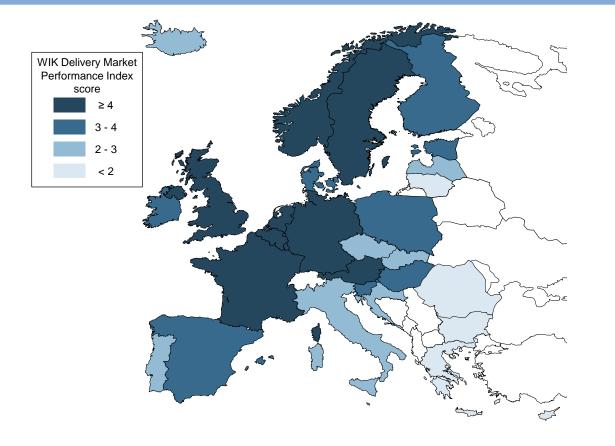
Performance index based on five assessments

WIK Delivery Market Performance Index (Score by category)

		Total score	Delivery quality	Market size	Competitive landscape	USP performance	State of e-commerce			Total score	Delivery quality	Market size	Competitive landscape	USP performance	State of e-commerce
1 Netherla	nds	* * * * *	• 5	• 5	• 5	• 5	• 5		Hungary	😭 😭 😭 🏠 🏠	4	03	02	4	3
2 Germany	y	🚖 🚖 🚖 🕼	4	• 5	• 5	• 5	• 5	17	Spain	😭 😭 😭 🏠 🏠	• 3	03	• 3	03	3
2 United K	ingdom	🖈 🚖 🚖 🖈	• 5	• 5	• 5	4	• 5	18	Czech Republic	👷 👷 🎲 🏠 🏠	• 2	• 2	03	• 3	4
4 Austria		🖈 🚖 🚖 🛣	4	• 5	• 5	• 5	● 4	18	Croatia	👷 👷 🎲 🏠 🏠	• 5	• 2	• 2	03	• 2
4 Belgium		🖈 🚖 🚖 🖈	• 5	4	• 5	• 5	❹ 4	18	Slovakia	👷 👷 🎲 🏠 🏠	4	03	02	• 2	3
6 France		🖈 🖈 🚖 🏠	4	• 5	4	4	● 4	21	Iceland	😭 🏫 🎝 🏠 🏠	01	01	02	4	• 5
6 Luxembo	burg	🚖 숲 숲 숲 ☆	• 5	❹ 4	4	4	● 4	21	Portugal	👷 👷 🎲 🏠 🏠	• 3	01	03	• 3	• 3
8 Sweden		숨 🚖 🚖 😭	03	4	4	• 5	• 5	23	Italy	🚖 😭 🏠 🏠	03	02	03	• 2	• 2
9 Norway		🚖 숲 숲 숲 ☆	• 3	4	4	• 5	4	24	Latvia	숨 숲 숲 숲 숲	4	02	02	01	• 2
10 Finland		😭 😭 😭 🏠	• 3	❹ 4	• 3	• 5	● 4	24	Malta	🟫 😭 🏠 🏠	• 2	01	• 2	• 3	• 3
11 Ireland		😭 😭 😭 🏠	4	• 5	• 3	• 3	4	26	Lithuania	👷 🕁 🕁 😭	• 2	2	02	01	• 2
12 Denmark	(😭 🖈 🚖 🏠	03	03	03	4	• 5	27	Cyprus	👷 🕁 🕁 🛣	01	02	01	• 2	• 2
13 Poland		숨 🚖 🚖 ☆ ☆	4	• 3	● 4	03	• 3	28	Bulgaria	숨 🕁 🕁 🕁	• 3	01	01	01	01
13 Slovenia		숨 🚖 🚖 ☆ ☆	4	• 3	03	● 4	• 3		Greece	🗙 🕁 🕁 🕁 🕁	• 2	01	01	01	• 2
15 Estonia		숨 숲 숲 숲 숲	02	• 3	3	4	● 4	30	Romania	👷 क्रे क्रे क्रे क्रे	• 2	01	01	01	01



Delivery markets perform best in Western/Northern EU





Conclusions

- B2C e-commerce is growing at significant rates in all EU/EEA countries. Cross-border grows more than domestic
- Consumers and e-retailers turn to neighbouring countries, and largest EU markets
- Around 8.7 billion parcels were delivered in the EU in 2016. Growth across Europe
- WIK survey of online buyers:
 - No substantial difference in perceived delivery quality levels for domestic purchases compared to purchases from other EU/EEA countries
 - Perceived delivery quality generally matches expectations. Management of returns is an issue

Perceived service quality is lower for China imports



Conclusions (continued)

- B2C e-commerce pushing for improvements in delivery and return services
- There is choice among different operators for B2C deliveries in most Member States
- Universal service providers have slightly higher market shares for (import) crossborder deliveries than for domestic
- WIK performance index for delivery markets:
 - > Best rated markets are Netherlands, Germany, UK, Austria, Belgium
 - Assessment of market performance largely reflects state of e-commerce markets. Delivery markets have developed best where e-commerce performs well





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