

[ESMA reports on accepted market practices under MAR](#)

ESMA's report provides an overview on the establishment and application of AMPs in the EU, with particular reference to the AMPs established on the basis of the Market Abuse Directive and which were still in force when MAR became applicable, and the AMPs which have been established under MAR.

The report includes ESMA's views on the application of AMPs together with recommendations to National Competent Authorities.

Background

MAR's purpose is to guarantee the integrity of European financial markets and promote investor confidence. The concept of market abuse typically consists of insider dealing, unlawful disclosure of inside information, and market manipulation.

However, some exceptions apply, for example, MAR provides a defence against market manipulation if the transaction was legitimate and carried out in accordance with an AMP and MAR describes the non-exhaustive factors that a competent authority should take into account before deciding whether or not to accept a market practice.

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International trade in services – EU surplus up to over €190 bn in 2017 – The USA continued to be the main partner for both exports and imports

The **European Union** (EU) surplus in trade in services, which had fallen between 2013 and 2016, increased to €191.8 bn in 2017. This is the result of **EU** exports of services to the rest of the world rising by 5%, from €870.5 bn in 2016 to €912.4 bn in 2017, while **EU** imports decreased by 2%, from €732.3

bn to €720.7 bn.

[Full text available on EUROSTAT website](#)

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