# GREEK EXPORTING ACTIVITY, TRADE DYNAMICS AND COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGES IN COMPARISON WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

Published by Valuation & Research Specialists (VRS)



## **CONTENTS**

INTRODUCTION	7
LITERATURE REVIEW	8
METHODOLOGY	11
DATA AND EMPIRICAL RESULTS	13
CONCLUSIONS	21
APPENDIX	22
REFERENCES	28
NOTES	30
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	32

By Professor Ioannis Lazaridis, Ioannis Michopoulos, Dimitrios Tinos

**Department of Accounting & Finance, University of Macedonia**, Thessalonica, Greece

Publication Date: April 2013

Please contact Valuation & Research Specialists (VRS) at info@valueinvest.gr to order a printed copy of this report. Price: 20 Euros including VAT and postage expenses.

### **ABSTRACT**

For many years the Greek current account balance proved to be negative, giving an undeniable message that the Greek economy imports more than what exports to foreign markets. The keystone of a prosperous and developed economy, of course is the international trade and consequently, a continuous negative current account balance has bad effects and to other macroeconomic variables, such as GDP, inflation, unemployment etc. This paper, after a brief reference to the current situation of Greek imports and exports, attends to distinguish these sectors that have the potential to contribute to the increase of exports. More specifically, with the implementation of the RCA- Revealed Comparative Advantage index we try to find out which of the Greek sectors have comparative advantage in the trade both with EU countries and Balkans and therefore, the balance of these sectors is expected strongly positive.

# **KEY WORDS**

Imports, Exports, Revealed Comparative Advantage, Economic Development JEL Classification: F1, F14,F19

### DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**VALUATION & RESEARCH SPECIALISTS (VRS)** is an independent firm providing advanced equity research, quality valuations and value-related advisory services to local and international business entities and / or communities. VRS services include valuations of intangible assets, business enterprises, and fixed assets. VRS's focus business is in providing independent equity research to its institutional and retail clients / subscribers.

VRS is not a brokerage firm and does not trade in securities of any kind. VRS is not an investment bank and does not act as an underwriter for any type of securities.

VRS accepts fees from the companies it covers and researches (the "covered companies"), and from major financial institutions. The sole purpose of this policy is to defray the cost of researching small and medium capitalization stocks which otherwise receive little research coverage. In this manner VRS can minimize fees to its clients / subscribers and thus broaden investor's attention to the "covered companies."

VRS analysts are compensated on a per-company basis and not on the basis of their recommendations. Analysts are not allowed to solicit prospective "covered companies" for research coverage by VRS and are not allowed to accept any fees or other consideration from the companies they cover for VRS. Analysts are also not allowed to trade in the shares, warrants, convertible securities, or options of companies they cover for VRS.

Furthermore, VRS, its officers, and directors cannot trade in shares, warrants, convertible securities or options of any of the "covered companies." VRS accepts payment for research only in cash and will not accept payment in shares, warrants, convertible securities or options of "covered companies" by no means.

To ensure complete independence and editorial control over its research, VRS follows certain business practices and compliance procedures, which are also applied internationally. Among other things, fees from "covered companies" are due and payable prior to the commencement of research and, as a contractual right, VRS retains complete editorial control over the research process and the final equity analysis report.

Information contained herein is based on data obtained from recognized statistical services, issue reports or communications, or other sources, believed to be reliable. However, such information has not been verified by VRS, and VRS does not make any representation as to its accuracy and completeness. Opinions, estimates, and statements nonfactual in nature expressed in its research represent VRS's judgment as of the date of its reports, are subject to change without notice and are provided in good faith and without legal responsibility. In addition, there may be instances when fundamental, technical and quantitative opinions, estimates, and statements may not be in concert. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed shall constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any shares, warrants, convertible securities or options of "covered companies" by no means.