GDP dates back in February

The update of monthly real GDP estimate points to a rebound in economic activity in February, to 0,2% m-o-m, after three months of decline. Year on year growth remains unchanged compared to January (1,4%). After the drop in industrial production occurred in January (-0,7% m-o-m), GDP growth in February reflects the amelioration in latest indicators. Against a backdrop of decreasing energy prices, the production and consumption of electricity by energy-intensive firms increased. The prospects of gradual recovery in the sector are confirmed by the improvement of the soft indicators. The climate of confidence in manufacturing stabilized after three consecutive rises, driven by the improvement in production expectations and orders, together with a rise in PMI index (52.0 from 50.4). There are positive signals stemming from services too. In January, thanks to the easing in inflationary pressures, the volume of retail sales grew going hand in hand with the enhancement in the confidence climate in retail trade of February. Furthermore, the confidence climate of households is improving since October and services PMI index shows a slight gain (51.6 from 51.2).

(*) The monthly GDP estimate is based on the methodology published in Frale C. et al. "EUROMIND: A Monthly Indicator of the Euro Area Economic Conditions", Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A, 174, 439-470. The GDP estimate takes into account the forecasts of the industrial production made through a bridge model.

	Industrial Production (ISTAT)	Monthly GDP (updated estimate)	Monthly GDP (previous estimate)
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Mar-21	0.2	0.8	0.8
Apr-21	1.0	0.8	0.8
May-21	-1.1	0.9	0.9
Jun-21	2.0	1.1	1.1
Jul-21	0.8	1.0	1.0
Aug-21	-1.6	0.9	0.9
Sep-21	1.3	0.5	0.5
Oct-21	-0.2	0.2	0.2
Nov-21	2.0	0.1	0.1
Dec-21	-1.6	0.0	0.0
Jan-22	-3.1	-0.1	-0.1
Feb-22	3.8	0.2	0.2
Mar-22	0.1	0.2	0.2
Apr-22	1.2	0.6	0.6
May-22	-1.3	0.4	0.4
Jun-22	-2.0	0.4	0.4
Jul-22	0.4	0.1	0.1
Aug-22	2.3	0.0	0.1
Sep-22	-2.0	-0.1	-0.1
Oct-22	-1.1	0.1	0.1
Nov-22	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Dec-22	1.2	-0.2	-0.2
Jan-23	-0.7	-0.1	-0.1
Feb-23		0.2	