

International maritime relationships:
analysis of Italian commercial trade
with a focus on the Med area

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Introduction

Italian maritime trade with the rest of the world in terms of exchange amounted to about €172 billion in the first nine months of 2013. Data from the last decade showed that, after the decline due to the crisis of 2009, 2013 saw a further reduction in sea-borne trade, but despite a decline of 4.9% compared with the same period of 2012, it recorded a 53.8% growth in comparison with ten years ago.

As part of the overall national trade, maritime transport plays an important role that is evident if one looks at the Italian trade flows against other different modes of transport. In fact sea is, along with road, one of the main vehicles accounting for 30.7% of the total.

However, national data only partly reflects the regional situation: if, in fact, we only consider Mezzogiorno, the figure for sea transportation rises to 63% while road transport only accounts for 20.9%...

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