



# UK options in the South Atlantic

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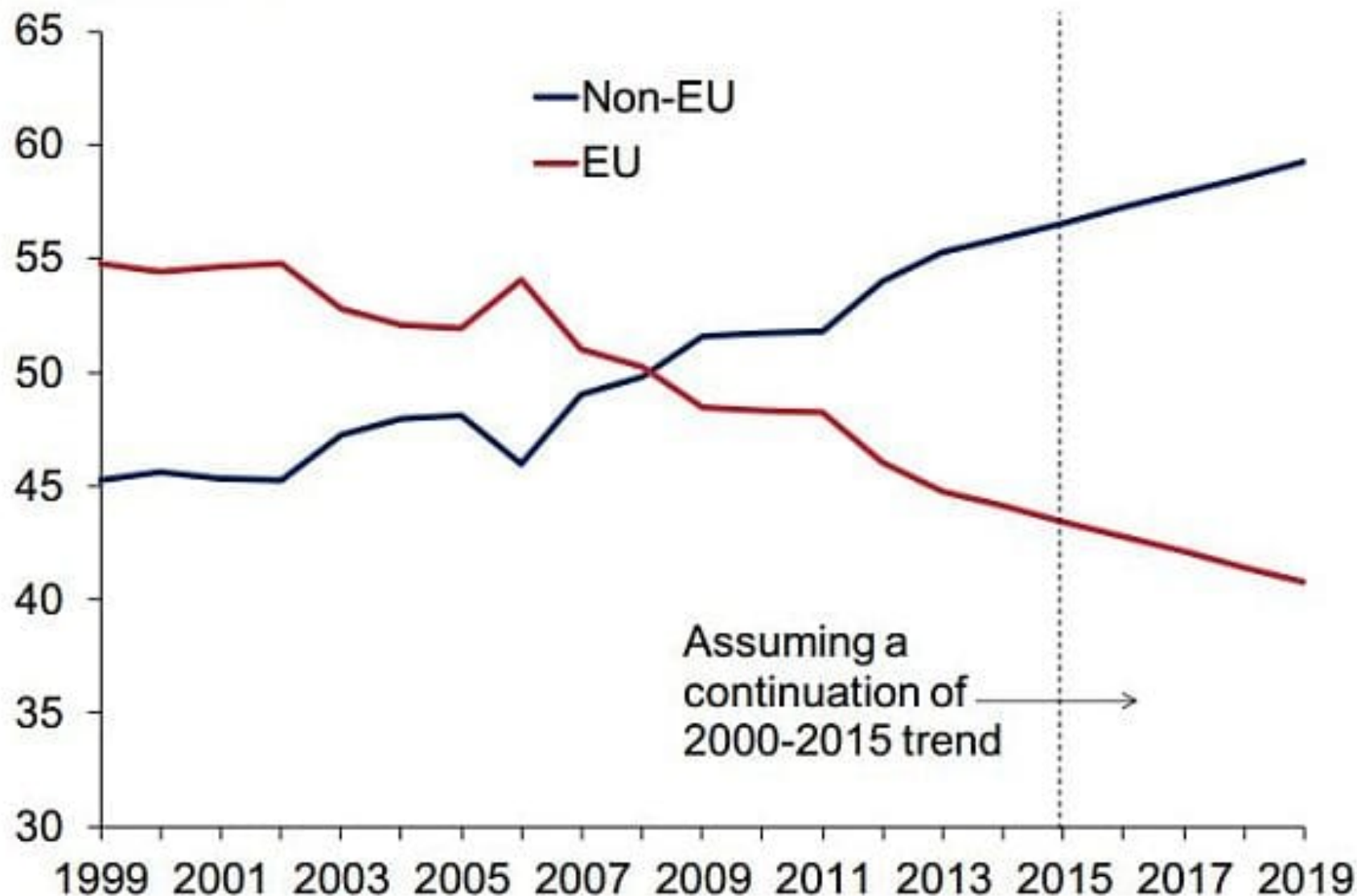
Lecturer in Strategic Studies

# BREXIT Mark I



# UK: Exports of goods & services

% of total value

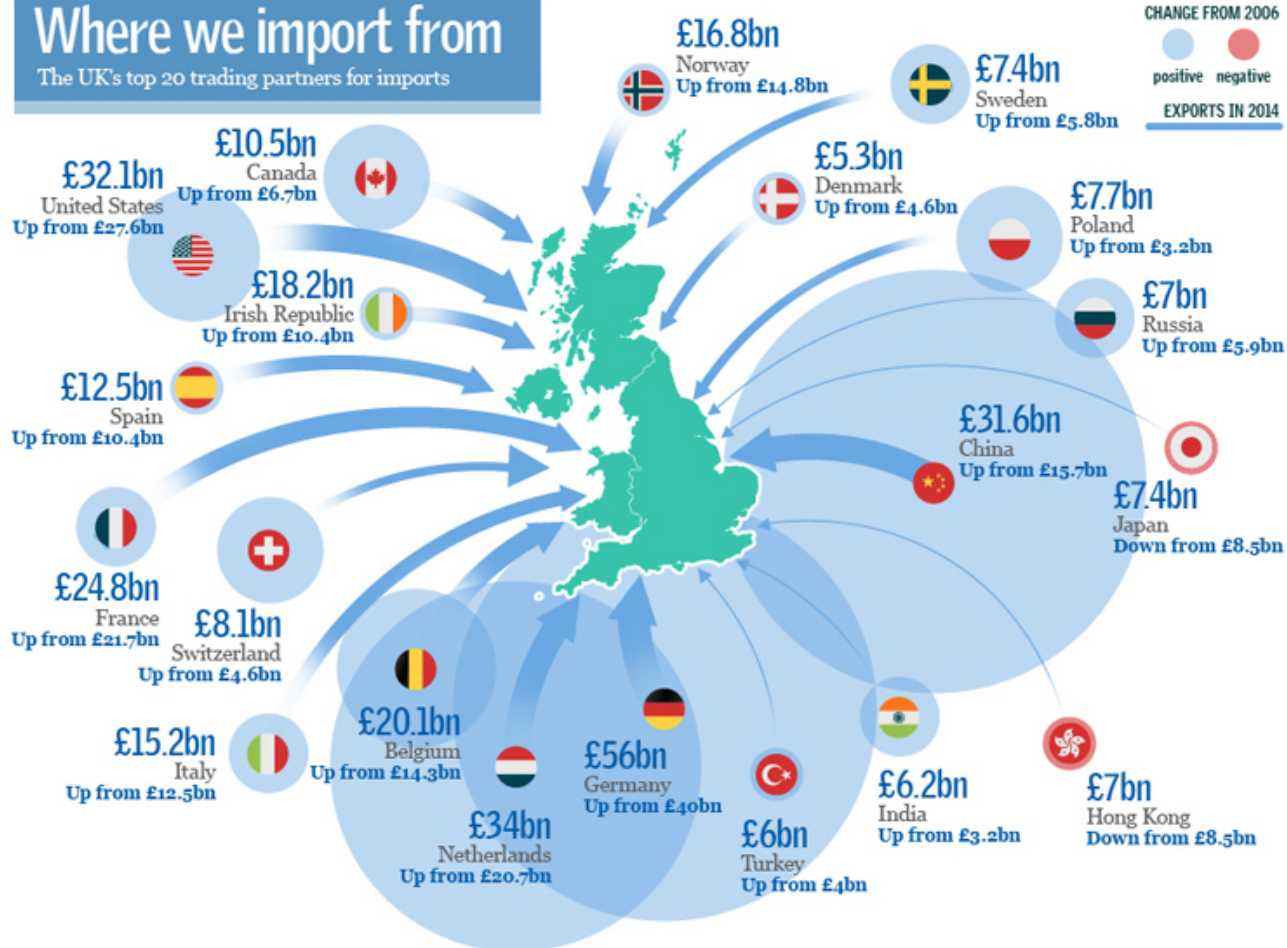


Source : Oxford Economics/Haver Analytics



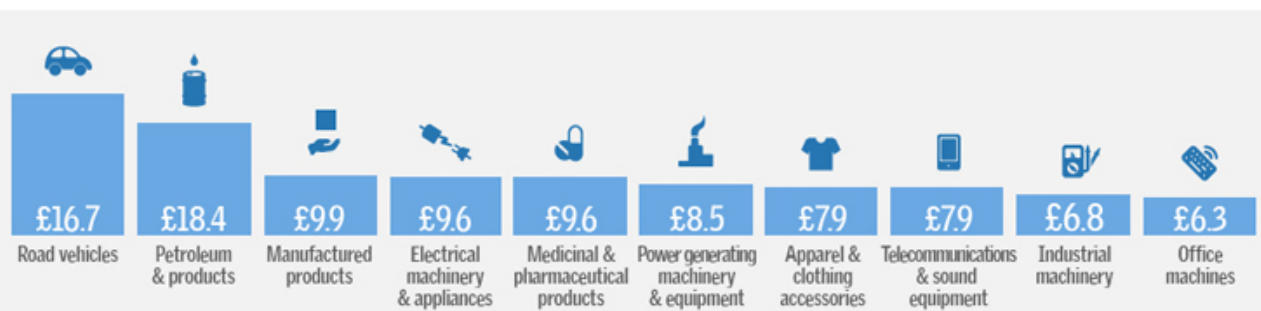
# Where we import from

The UK's top 20 trading partners for imports



## What we buy

The UK's top 20 import products for 2014 so far (in billions)













Source: <https://www.uktradeinfo.com/Statistics/Pages/Annual-Tables.aspx>



HM Revenue  
& Customs

## Top partners trading with the UK - July 2016

Partner	Imports	
	Value	Comparison to previous month
	£5.2bn	▼ -8.2%
	£3.3bn	▲ 6.3%
	£3.0bn	▲ 0.8%
	£2.9bn	▼ -4.5%
	£2.7bn	▲ 2.7%

Partner	Exports	
	Value	Comparison to previous month
	£3.4bn	▼ -17.4%
	£2.6bn	▲ 0.5%
	£1.9bn	▲ 20.3%
	£1.5bn	▼ -8.5%
	£1.4bn	▼ -1.5%





Pitcairn Islands

Turks & Caicos Islands

Cayman Islands

Bermuda

British Virgin Islands

Anguilla

Montserrat

Gibraltar

Akrotiri & Dhekelia

Saint Helena, Ascension &  
Tristan da Cunha

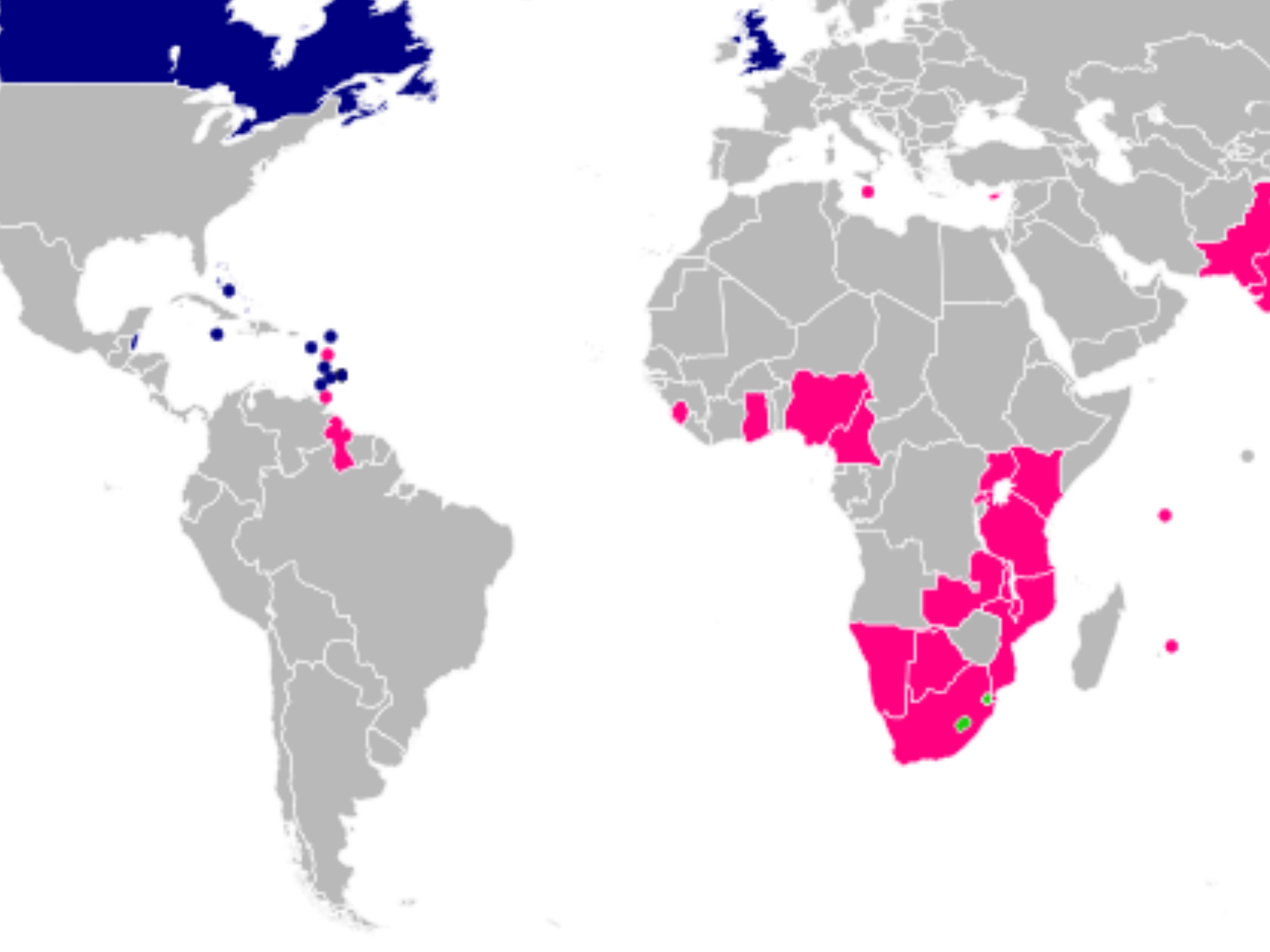
British Indian Ocean Territory

Falkland Islands

South Georgia &  
South Atlantic Islands

British Antarctic  
Territory







# Context

- Three geopolitical perspectives on UK interests:
  - Falkland Islands
  - Antarctica
  - West Africa
- UK roles

# Britain's role in the world?

- Shaped by domestic identity and political pressures
- Range of identity and policy options
- Patterns = 'role orientation'?

# Why is this important?

Public Administration Select Committee (2011):

‘strategic aims cannot be set out or adjudicated without an articulated account of who ‘we’ are and what we believe both about ourselves and the world’



# UK as an actor

- Expansionist
- Active independent
- Influential
- Mediator/integrator
- Opportunist
- Developmental
- Isolate
- Power
- Autonomy
- Influence in the intl system
- Solutions to problems
- Popular approval
- Development of the state
- Isolation

# Gaskarth

- Role orientation: 'represents the highest order of strategic thinking in foreign policy'
- UK role in the world set against economic constraints and rising powers

# Roles for the UK in the South Atlantic

- Isolate
- Influential (rule of law state)
- Thought leader
- Regional partner
- Opportunist-interventionist
- Great Power

# Opportunistic partner?





# BRAZILIAN NAVAL ACTIVITY - ATLANTIC

## UNASUL

South American  
Nations Union



CDS

South American Defence Council

## ZONE OF PEACE AND COOPERATION OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC (ZOPACAS)



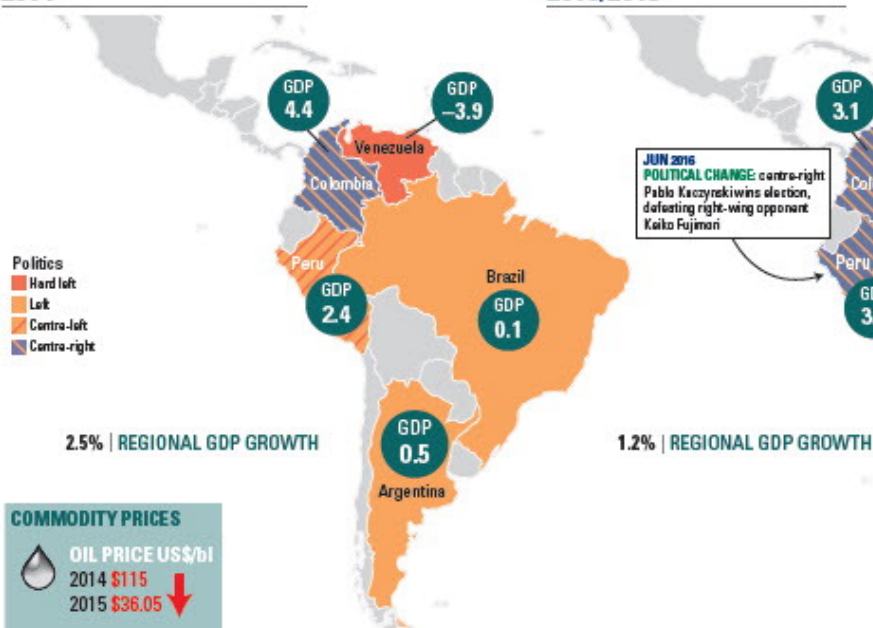


A broad wave of public discontent swept across Latin America in the year to mid-2016, bringing to power centrist or right-leaning parties while their left-wing rivals fell into disarray. As a series of corruption scandals incensed voters and fuelled anti-establishment movements, civil society grew ever more cohesive. Yet the region's economies were increasingly constrained by weak global growth, a decline in commodity prices and economic slowdown in China. There was an especially sharp drop in the price of the fuels, metals and food products on which Latin America relied. As a consequence, governments were forced to reduce spending and curtail ambitious projects. They did so while attempting to appeal to a middle class that had grown rapidly in the preceding decade, and that had come to believe the era of burgeoning wealth would last indefinitely.

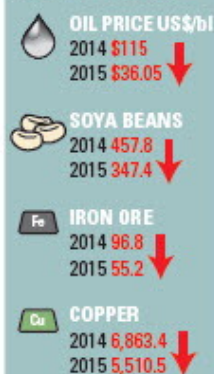
## CHANGING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN SELECT LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES

2014

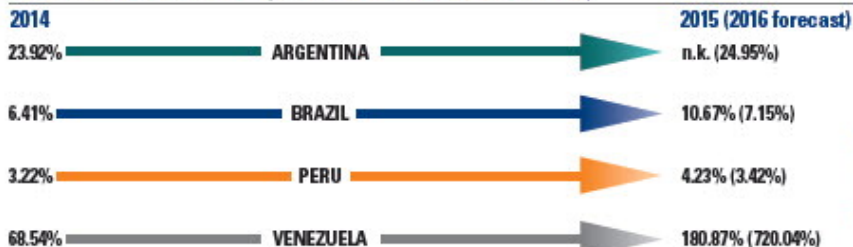
2015/2016



### COMMODITY PRICES



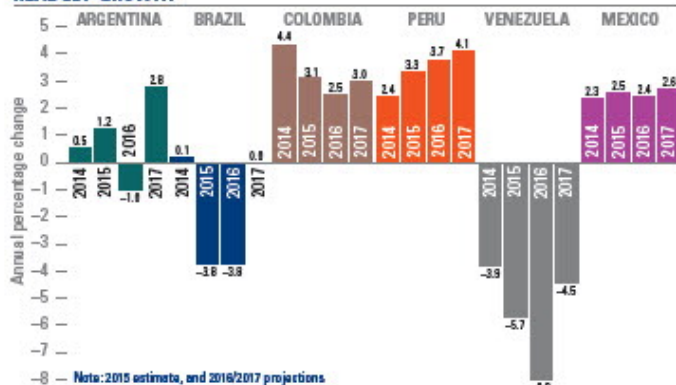
### CONSUMER PRICES INDICATOR (END OF PERIOD PERCENTAGE CHANGE)



### PROJECTED GROWTH OUTLOOK: LATIN AMERICA, 2016



### REAL GDP GROWTH



#### ARGENTINA

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS:** US\$ -15.9bn (2015)

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** 6.3% (2015)

**TOP EXPORT COMMODITIES:** Vegetable-oil products, lorries and trucks, soya beans and soya-bean products, motor vehicles and oil

**TOP EXPORT DESTINATIONS:** Brazil, China, United States

#### BRAZIL

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS:** US\$ -58.905bn (2015)

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** 6.9% (2015)

**TOP EXPORT COMMODITIES:** Iron ore, soya beans, crude petroleum, raw sugar and poultry meat

**TOP EXPORT DESTINATIONS:** China, United States, Argentina

#### COLOMBIA

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS:** US\$ -18.926bn (2015)

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** 9.8% (2015)

**TOP EXPORT COMMODITIES:** Crude petroleum (48.4% of total exports), coal, coffee, flowers, products of polymerisation, bananas

**TOP EXPORT DESTINATIONS:** United States, China, Panama

#### MEXICO

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS:** US\$ -32.381bn (2015)

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** 5.1% (April 2014)

**TOP EXPORT COMMODITIES:** Crude petroleum, motor vehicles, vehicle parts, lorries and trucks, statistical-machine cards, television-broadcast receivers

**TOP EXPORT DESTINATIONS:** United States, Canada, China

#### PERU

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS:** US\$ -8.430bn (2015)

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** 6.5% (2015)

**TOP EXPORT COMMODITIES:** Copper ore, refined copper, animal meal, zinc, lead, natural gas

**TOP EXPORT DESTINATIONS:** China, United States, Switzerland

#### VENEZUELA

**BALANCE OF PAYMENTS:** US\$ -1.711bn (2015)

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** 7% (April 2014)

**TOP EXPORT COMMODITIES:** Crude petroleum (85% of total exports), methyl alcohol, iron ore, steel, fertilisers

**TOP EXPORT DESTINATIONS:** United States, India, China

