

Export, export diversification and export composition of Western Balkan countries: future perspectives and policy recommendations

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Cooperation
Western Balkan

Introduction

The **main aim** of the paper is to investigate the export performance and economic growth in five Western Balkan countries (North Macedonia, Serbia, Albania, Montenegro, and BiH) and Visegrad group of countries (Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic and Hungary) including Croatia and Slovenia

Export performance is measured by two approaches:

1) Quantitative aspect of export performance

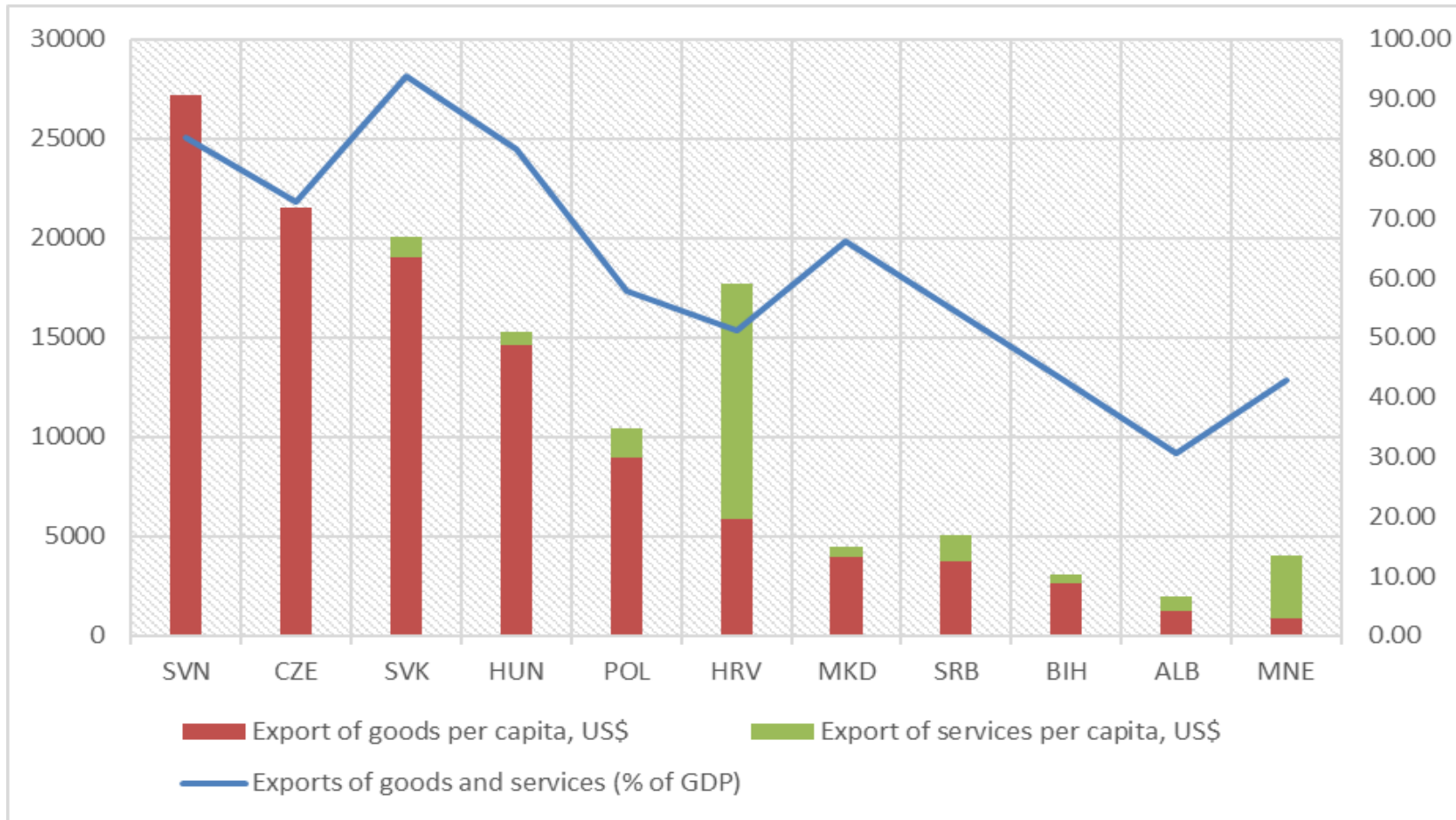
- Export of goods and services per capita in US\$
- Growth rate of export of goods and services, %
- Export of goods and services (% of GDP)

2) Qualitative aspect of export performance

- Export diversification (number of exporting products and exporting markets/countries)
- Export sophistication (level of complexity of exporting products)
- Export standardness (level of standardness/ubiquity of exporting products)



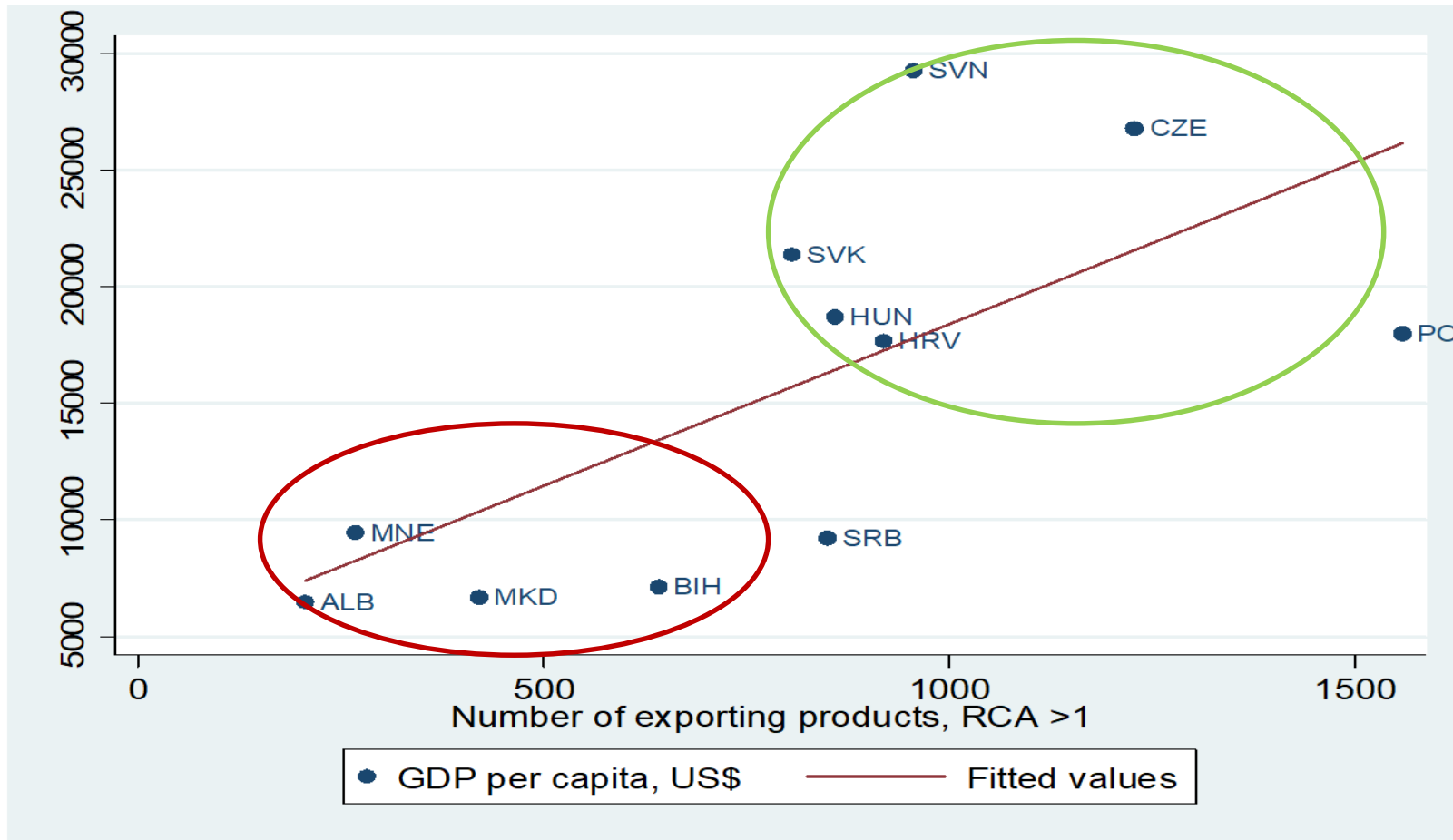
Export of goods and services per capita and export (% of GDP) in WB6 region and Visegrad group



Country	Exports of goods and services (% of GDP)	Exports of goods and services per capita, US\$
SVN	83.63	24496
CZE	72.73	19508
SVK	93.80	20066
HUN	81.55	15272
POL	57.91	10424
HRV	51.28	17685
AVERAGE	73.48	17910
MKD	66.21	4433
SRB	54.48	5029
BIH	42.67	3048
ALB	30.62	1988
MNE	42.83	4055
AVERAGE	47.36	3710

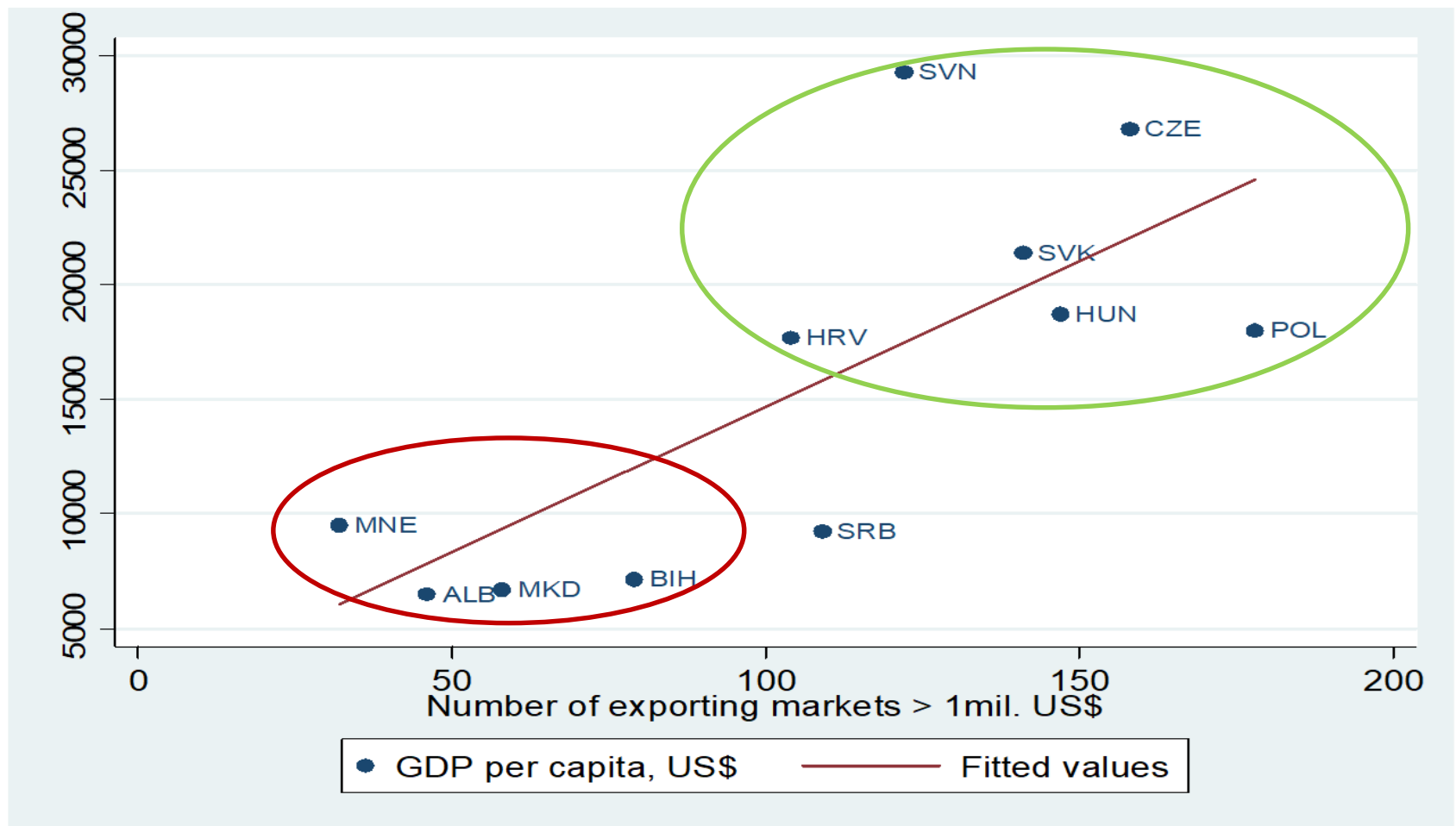


Export diversification (number of exporting products) vs GDP per capita



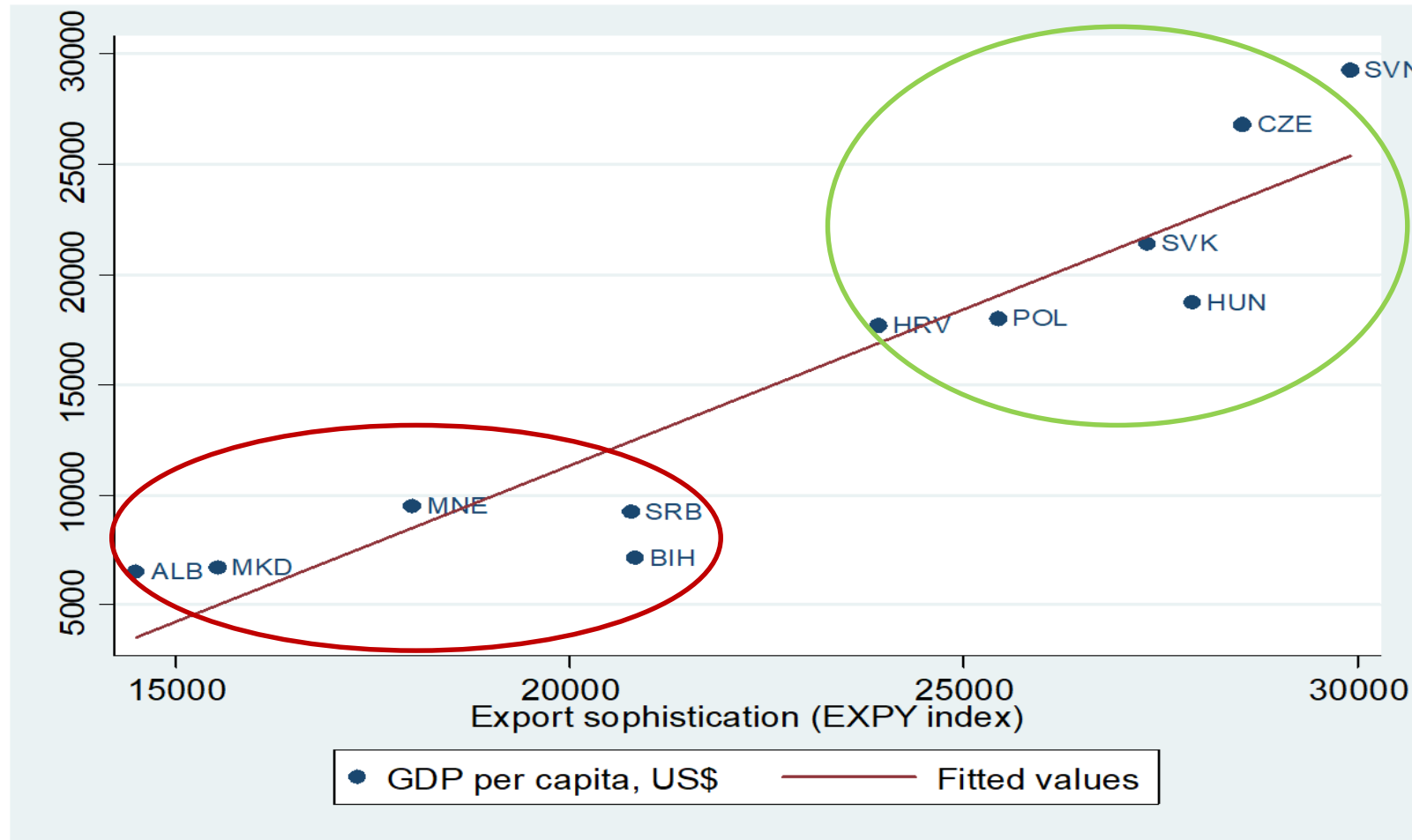
Country	Number of exporting products, RCA > 1
POL	1558
CZE	1228
HUN	859
SVK	806
SVN	956
HRV	919
SRB	850
BIH	642
MKD	420
ALB	206
MNE	268

Export diversification (number of exporting markets) vs GDP per capita



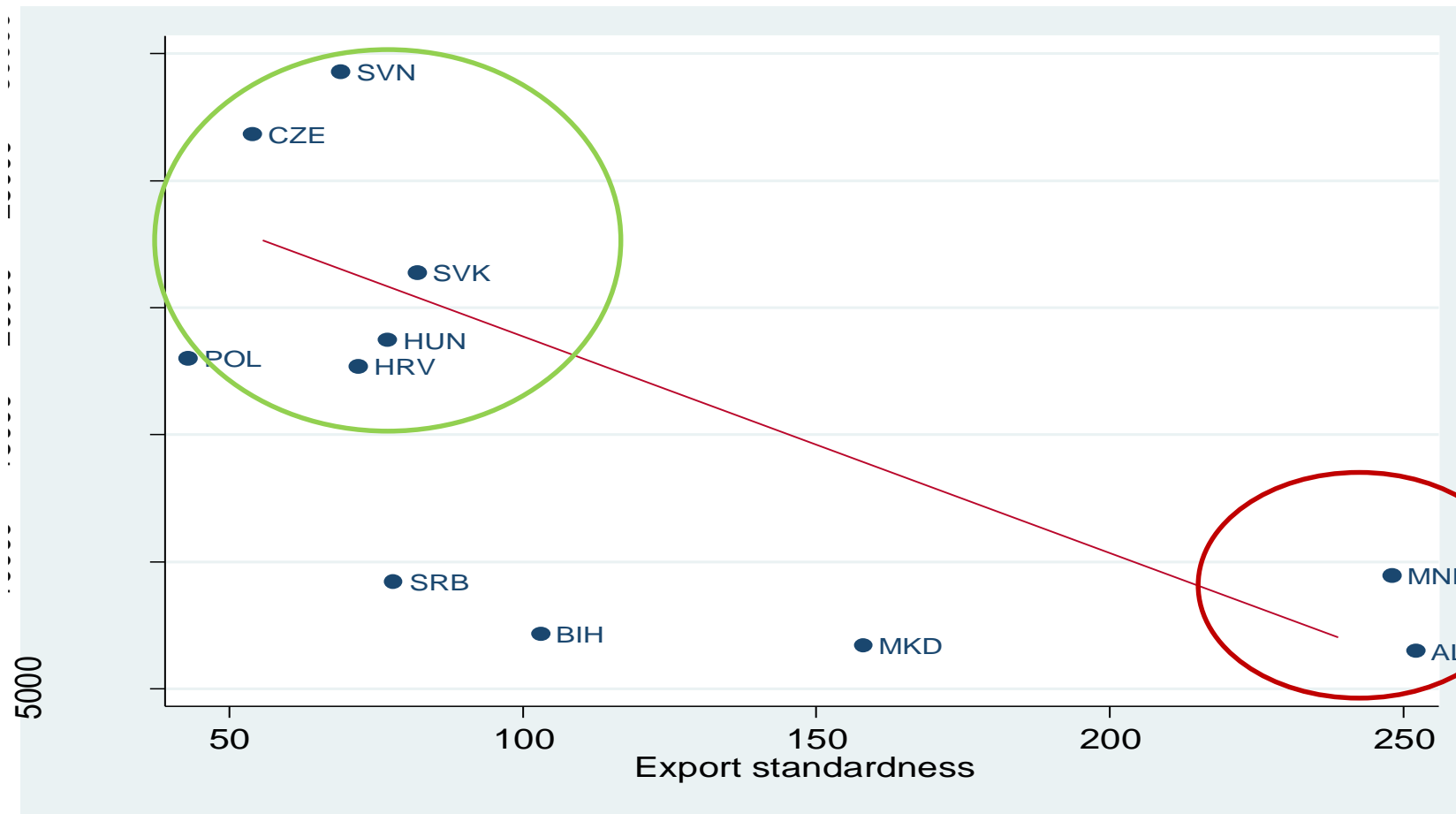
Country	Number of exporting markets > 1mil. US\$
POL	178
CZE	158
HUN	147
SVK	141
SVN	122
SRB	109
HRV	104
BIH	79
MKD	58
ALB	46
MNE	32

Export sophistication (EXPY index) vs GDP per capita



Country	Export sophistication (EXPY index)
SVN	29905
CZE	28538
HUN	27902
SVK	27332
POL	25438
HRV	23915
BIH	20828
SRB	20775
MNE	18000
MKD	15533
ALB	14500

Export standardness vs GDP per capita



Country	Export standardness
POL	43
CZE	54
SVN	69
HRV	72
HUN	77
SRB	78
SVK	82
BIH	103
MKD	158
MNE	248
ALB	252

Concluding remarks

1) **Western Balkan countries** have **worst export performances** compare with Visegrad countries including Croatia and Slovenia

- **5 times** lower export of goods and services per capita
- **26 p.p** lower relative share of export in GDP

2) **Western Balkan countries** have **unfavorable export structure** compare with Visegrad countries including Croatia and Slovenia

- **less diversified export** (export of smaller number of products and to smaller number of markets/countries),
- **lower export sophistication level** (exporting products with lower added value and level of complexity)
- **more standardised export structure** (products that are exported by many countries)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Q & A

