

# Government finance statistics – The extent of contingent liabilities and non-performing loans in the EU Member States

Data on contingent liabilities and non-performing loans of EU governments for the year 2016 have been published today by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. This publication includes data on government guarantees, liabilities related to public-private partnerships recorded off-balance sheet of government and liabilities of government controlled entities (public corporations) classified outside general government. Contingent liabilities are only potential liabilities. They may become actual government liabilities if specific conditions prevail.

[Full text available on EUROSTAT website](#)

---

## Skimmed milk powder: Council modifies rules on public intervention to help the market

### Press contacts

[Maria Daniela Lenzu](#)

Press officer

+32 2 281 21 46

+32 470 88 04 02

On 29 January 2018 the Council decided on a temporary **change to** the operation of the **public intervention mechanism for skimmed milk powder**. It did so by slightly amending the so-called Fixing regulation, which determines measures on fixing certain aids and refunds related to the common market organisation of the markets in agricultural products. The Council decided in particular to **set the quantitative limitation for buying-in skimmed milk powder at a fixed price at zero tonnes for 2018**.

The Council decided today to intervene to stabilise the dairy markets in 2018. This is in line with our commitment to keep track

of market developments and to make sure that the safety net is used in a timely and prudent manner, not just to react to market disruptions, but also to avoid them in the first place whenever possible.

*Rumen Porodzanov, minister of agriculture, food and forestry of the Republic of Bulgaria and president of the Council*

As a consequence of the difficult situation in the dairy markets, **public intervention stocks of skimmed milk powder (SMP)** in the EU rose to **almost 400 000 tonnes in 2017**, thereby risking severe pressure on the market, with a negative impact on dairy prices.

In order to avoid a drop in prices and a consequent worsening of farmers' standards of living, the Commission proposed and the Council decided to **forego the automatic buying-in of SMP** in a context in which stocks are already very high. By setting the quantitative limit at zero for 2018, buying-in at a fixed price will not be activated automatically. However, the **safety net will still function**, as the EU will continue to be able to buy-in SMP through a tendering procedure, and to decide on a case by case basis how much to buy and at what price level.

The Common Market Organisation (CMO) is a set of rules which regulates agricultural markets in the European Union. This includes setting the parameters for intervening on agricultural markets through market support instruments (e.g. public intervention and private storage, emergency measures) and sector-specific support.

The period in which public intervention is open for skimmed milk powder starts on 1st March and ends on 30 September every year.

The adopted regulation will enter into force on the day following its publication, scheduled for 31 January 2018.

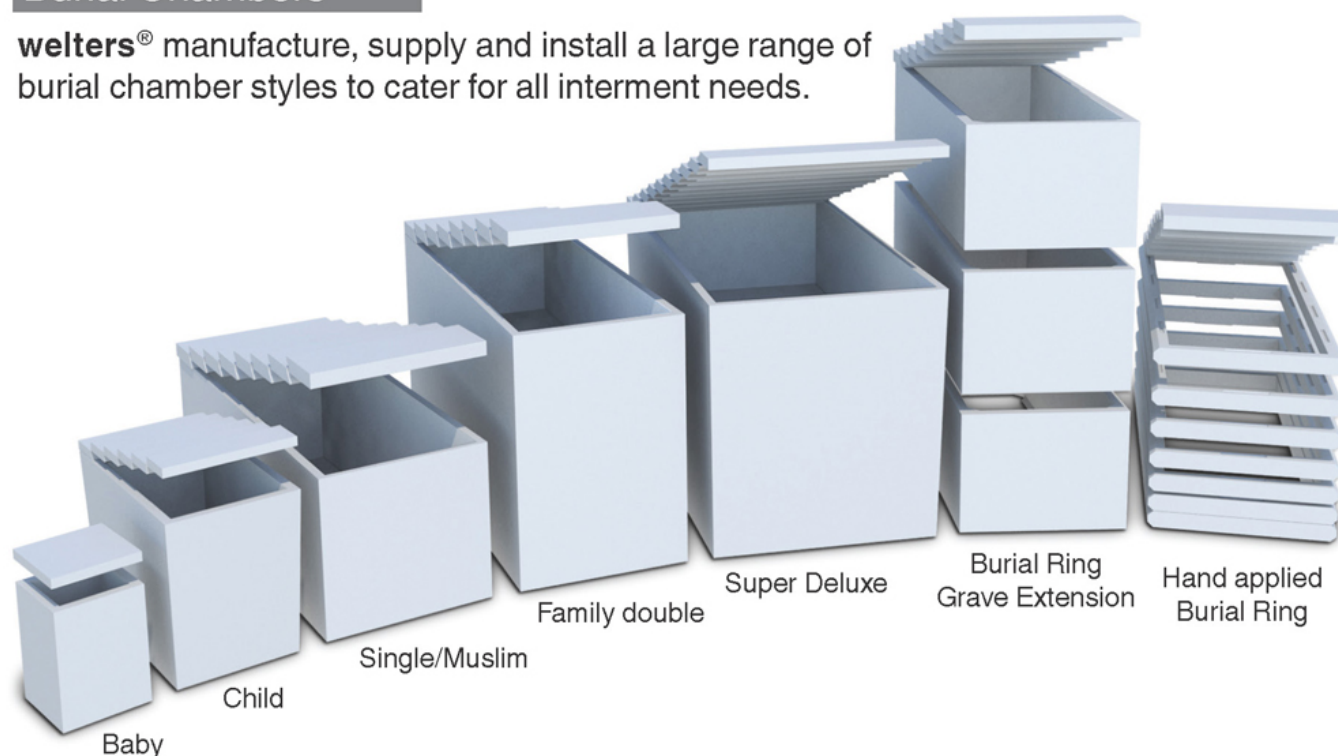
[Visit the meeting page](#) [Download as pdf](#)

---

**welters Burial Chambers**

## Burial Chambers

welters® manufacture, supply and install a large range of burial chamber styles to cater for all interment needs.



welters organisation introduced the concept of single cast burial chambers, mausolea cells and memorial housings to the industry over 30 years ago and the company continues to design, manufacture, supply and install these facilities nationwide. By operating its own manufacturing facility, the company avoids using third party concrete producers or subcontractors, resulting in an unrivalled standard of production quality and consistency.

[Click here to find out more...](#)

The post [welters Burial Chambers](#) appeared first on [Latest News](#).

---

## [Scotland has made great steps in LGBT issues but its time to speak up for transgender equality](#)

This week marks the start of LGBT History Month. The annual celebration across Scotland recognises the contribution lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people have made to our society, and raises awareness of the history of the LGBT rights movement.

[Go to Source](#)

Author:

---

## [Green Party statement on Turkey's military attacks on Afrin](#)



# Green Party

29 January 2018

Jonathan Bartley and Caroline Lucas, co-leaders of the Green Party, said:

“Turkey’s ongoing military attacks on Afrin are utterly wrong, and the killing of civilians is morally indefensible. The Foreign Secretary, Boris Johnson, must urgent make a statement on behalf of the government making clear that they condemn the Turkish Government’s actions.

“The people of this region have been targeted by all sides. The atrocities they have suffered at the hands of Daesh are now exacerbated by the military onslaught of the Turkish Government. The British Government should be using all diplomatic means to bring an end to Turkish military incursions – and should start be using urging the UN and others to condemn Turkey’s actions.”

[Tweet](#)

[Back to main news page](#)

[Let’s block ads! \(Why?\)](#)