

B) STAFF NUMBER

- The national central banks (NCBs) participating in the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) lost a large part of their staff during the last 29 years. In 1979, the total number of employees rose to 75.000. In 2008, in the same 15 NCBs of the old ESCB is up to 48.159 including the ECB. If we will not count the ECB staff (46.816), the net loss in the 15 NCBs goes up to 28.184 i.e. 37,58% in a period of 29 years. During the last six years (2002 – 2008), in a total of 33 examined European NCBs, the loss goes up to 18.257 employees i.e. 21,34% that means the restructure policies were accelerated.
- The major losses were detected in the Bank of England which in 1978 had 8.000 employees while nowadays employs only 1600, in the Royal Bank of Sweden the staff number of which was decreased from 1.500 to 420 agents, in the Bank of Portugal which had 2.750 employees and now has about 1.700. During the recent years the staff number of the three larger NCBs was considerably decreased. The Bank of France' staff number was more than 17.000 and now is only 12.000 while in the future is not excluded to be further decreased to 10.000. The Deutsche Bundesbank' staff number was about 16.000 employees and now is 11.160 with a prospect to be decreased during the next 5 years to 9.000. The Bank of Italy' staff number was about 9.500 and now is about 7.000 while in the future is expected to be diminished to 5.500.
- As far as the new NCBs of the ESCB and the NCBs of the new entrant countries are concerned, their staff number is relatively lower in comparison to the NCBs of the Eurosystem with the exception of the NCBs of Poland. The same stands for the five NCBs, which don't belong yet in the group of accession countries. It should be noted that the National Bank of Jugoslavia in 2000 counted 8.701 agents and now its successor the National Bank of Serbia has 2.600. Profound restructuring processes are applied in the new NCBs of the ESCB such in the National Bank of Poland where the staff number is steadily decreased and in the National Bank of Hungary where its staff number decreased from 2.700 to about 1.000. However, we observe also in the NCBs of the Eurosystem, a slow but steady reduction of personnel. Consequently, the restructure process is never ends.
- The staff number of NCBs was diminished for the following reasons:
 - ▼ rapid progress regarding the introduction of new technologies
 - ▼ deregulation of the financial system and suppression of foreign exchange controls

▼transfer of banking supervision and State debt management from central banks to other institutions that it has happened only in some countries

▼outsourcing of certain activities

▼privatisation of some industrial sites

▼closing of some branches and agencies

▼implementation of rationalisation policies by a large number of governors aiming to reduce the operating cost of their banks.

However, in some NCBs, under the pressure of trade unions, new activities were introduced and that had as consequence the limitation of staff number losses.

TABLE 2
NCBs and ECB STAFF NUMBER

Central Bank	Staff Number
EUROSYSTEM	
1) Deutsche Bundesbank	11.160
2) Bank of Greece	2.700
3) Bank of Finland	490

4) Banco de España	2.724
5) Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland	977
6) Banca d' Italia	7.100
7) Banque centrale du Luxembourg	216
8) De Nederlandsche Bank	1.600
9) Oesterreichische Nationalbank	1.100
10) Banco de Portugal	1.700
11) Banque Nationale de Belgique	2.259
12) Banque de France	12.000
13) Bank of Slovenia	387
14) Central Bank of Cyprus	332
15) Central Bank of Malta	322
16) National Bank of Slovakia (as from 1.1.2009)	1.200
● European Central Bank	1.343
EUROSYSTEM' TOTAL	47.610

ESCB' OTHER NCBs	
17) Bank of England	1.830
18) Danmarks Nationalbank	540
19) Sveriges Riksbank	420
20) National Bank of Poland	4.400
21) National Bank of Hungary	1.000
22) Czech National Bank	1.400
23) Bank of Estonia	259
24) Bank of Lithuania	842
25) Bank of Latvia	635
26) National Bank of Romania	2.700
27) Bulgarian National Bank	920
ESCB' OTHER NCBs TOTAL	14.946
ESCB' TOTAL	62.556
ACCESSION COUNTRIES	

28) Croatian National Bank	550
ESCB + ACCESSION COUNTRIES' TOTAL	63.106
OTHER EUROPEAN NATIONAL CENTRAL BANKS	
29) Swiss National Bank	630
30) Bank of Norway	540
31) Central Bank of Iceland	110
32) National Bank of Serbia	2.600
33) Central Bank of Montenegro	295
5 OTHER EUROPEAN NATIONAL CENTRAL BANKS' TOTAL	4.175
TOTAL OF 33 NCBs + ECB	67.281
<u>2002</u> 33 NCBs + ECB STAFF NUMBER: 85.538 PERIOD 2002 – 2008 STAFF LOSS IN 33 NCBs + ECB	- 18.257 i.e. 21,34%