



**I FEEL
SLOVENIA**

**GREEN.
CREATIVE.
SMART.**

SLOVENIA

A land of infinite potential.

GREEN.
CREATIVE.
SMART.

WHY SLOVENIA?

If you are **searching for a new investment, a reliable business partner** or if you are planning to **set up or relocate an export business**, choosing Slovenia could be the best decision you ever made: Slovenia is strategically located in the heart of Europe, it has highly skilled workforce, R&D capabilities and high level of stability.

COMPETITIVE

35th of 141 countries on WEF's Global Competitiveness Index 2019

STABLE

One of the few countries with 100% macroeconomic stability (WEF 2019)

SAFE

5th safest country in the world (Global Peace Index 2021)

1
One of the fastest growing CEE countries

2
Fastest & cost-efficient route from Asia with well-established easy access to markets

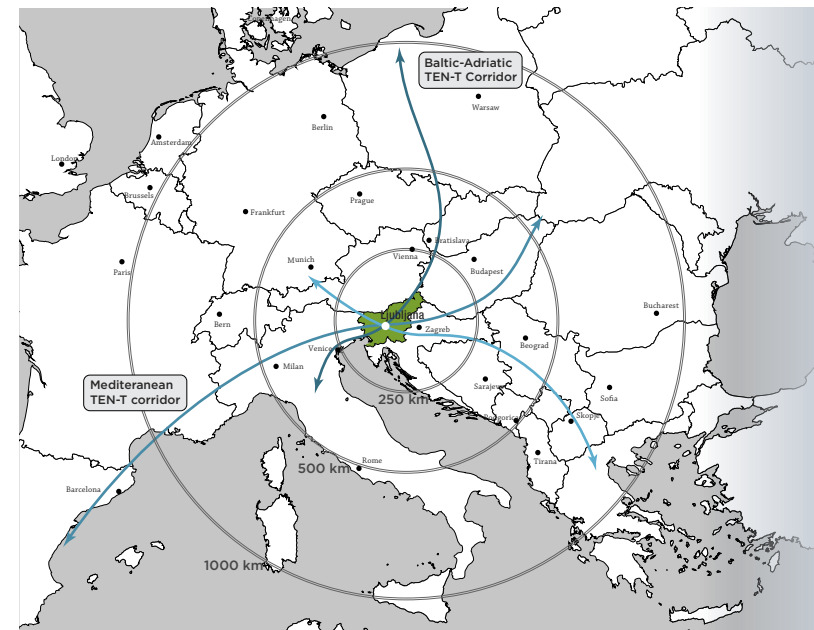
3
Excellent geostrategic position and quality infrastructure

4
Highly educated and innovative workforce with high English proficiency

FACT SHEET

Capital: **Ljubljana**
Surface area: **20,273 km²**
Population: **2.07m**
Currency: **Euro**
International dialling code: **+386**
Timezone: **GMT/UTC +1**
Membership: **EU-27** (2004), **NATO** (2004), **Schengen** (2007), **OECD** (2010)

ACCESSIBLE IN EVERY WAY



Slovenia's location at the crossroads of TEN-T corridors is the **ideal entry point** for an instant access to EU markets, CEE Europe and the South East European countries with more than 500 million customers. Slovenia also has all the attributes needed to do business across the Balkan region: knowledge of language, customs and culture, as well as personal connections.



Photo: Port of Koper archive

Port of Koper is one of the northernmost ports of the Mediterranean and provides the shortest way to CE Europe.



Photo: DARS archive

Slovenia boasts excellent infrastructure for inland transport of goods: over 39,000 km of the road network with 700km of motorways, and railway tracks extending to over 2,000 km.

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GREEN.

Slovenia is renowned for its **GREEN** landscape, so it is not surprising its economy is geared towards protecting the natural and social environment. Indeed, Slovenia is at the forefront of countries transitioning to circular economy which focuses on sustainability, green technologies, corporate social responsibility.



Slovenia is the initiator of the World Bee Day

Slovenia already has an advantage when it comes to transitioning to circular economy: its natural riches, a favourable geostrategic position, strong research institutions and science parks, circular pioneers both in the business sector and in local communities and, above all, an informed and motivated population.

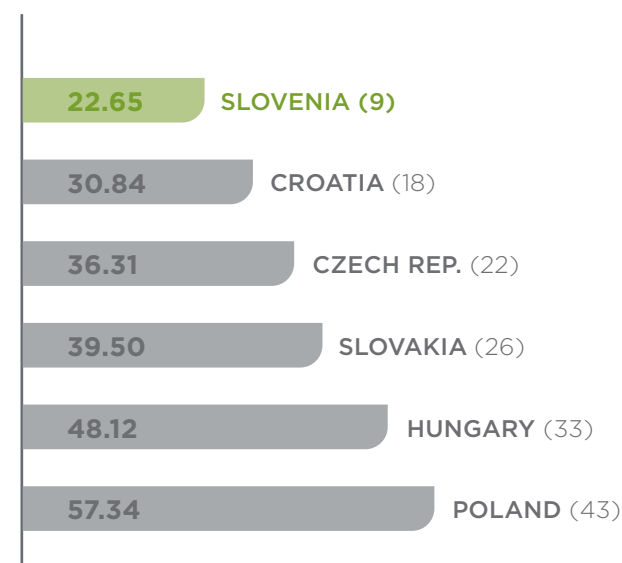
Slovenia started adopting circular economy in 2018

It is also one of the few countries that has guidelines in place to implement circular economy. Published in 2018, *The Roadmap towards the Circular Economy in Slovenia* introduces the 'circular triangle' model which unites three inseparable elements: circular economy (business models); circular change (government policies); and circular culture (citizens).

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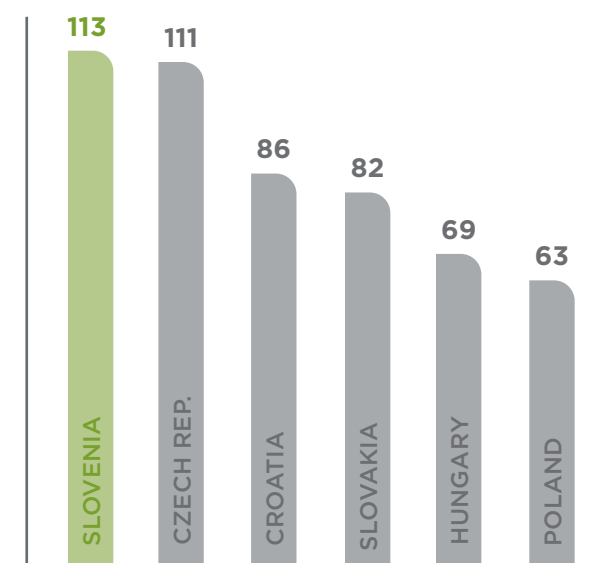
9TH LEAST POLLUTED COUNTRY IN THE WORLD



Source: Numbeo's Quality of Life Index 2021

3rd most forested and 4th richest country in renewable freshwater resources per inhabitant in Europe
(Eurostat, 2021)

13TH AMONGST EU COUNTRIES IN ECO INNOVATIONS



Source: EC's Eco Innovations 2021 index

2nd in Europe in recycling municipal waste, with almost 60 % being recycled
(Eurostat, 2019)

15th in the world in the quality of life
(Numbeo, 2021)



Photo: Matej Kolaković

CREATIVE.

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The quality of Slovenia's workforce ensures that CREATIVITY is the backbone of its growing economy. Slovenia's workforce has a far reaching reputation for having a flair for technology and innovation due to a successful combination of a long industrial tradition and quality formal schooling.



Slovenia ranks
13th on PISA 2018
worldwide ranking
(average score for
math, science and
reading)

Photo: Enigmarium, www.slovenia.info

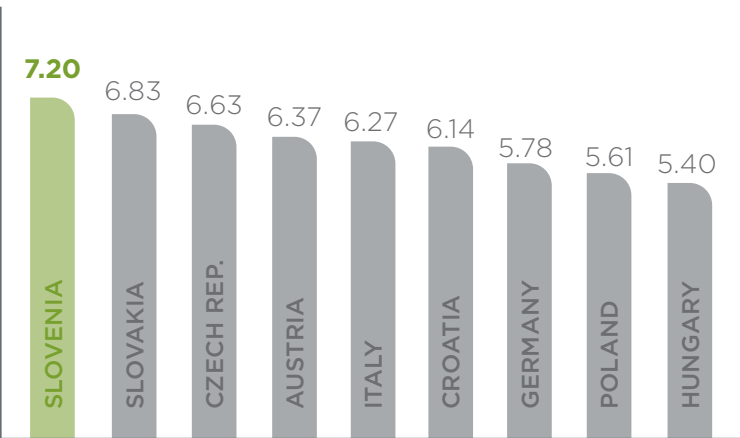
56 % of the working
population between
25 and 64 years of
age has completed
secondary education,
while 31 % has a
university degree
(Surs, 2020)

Photo: House of Experiments archive



GREEN.
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Advanced technological solutions, highest quality production processes, spirited innovation and widespread ecological awareness in the greenest of Europe's natural environments are firmly integrated in the development and production strategies of an increasingly large array of the ambitious, forward-looking Slovenian manufacturers.

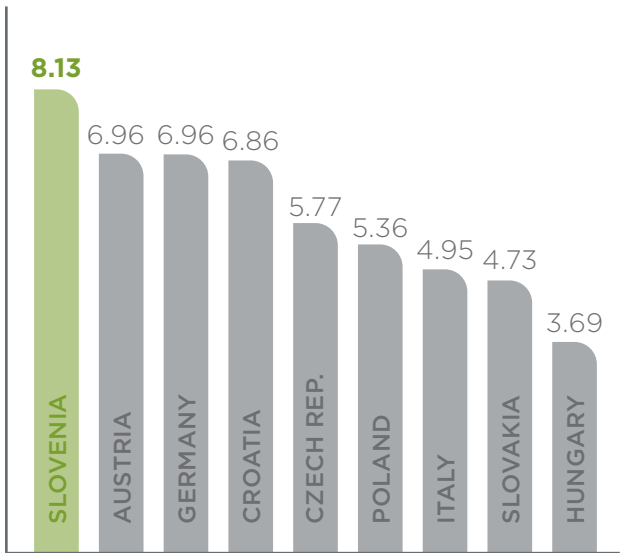


**DIGITAL SKILLS
SURVEY 2021**
(Digital/Technological
Skills are readily
available (0-10))

Source: IMD World Competitiveness 2021

LANGUAGE SKILLS

are meeting the needs of enterprises



84 % of the working
population between
25 and 64 years of
age speaks at least
one foreign language,
while 63 % speaks
at least 2 foreign
languages

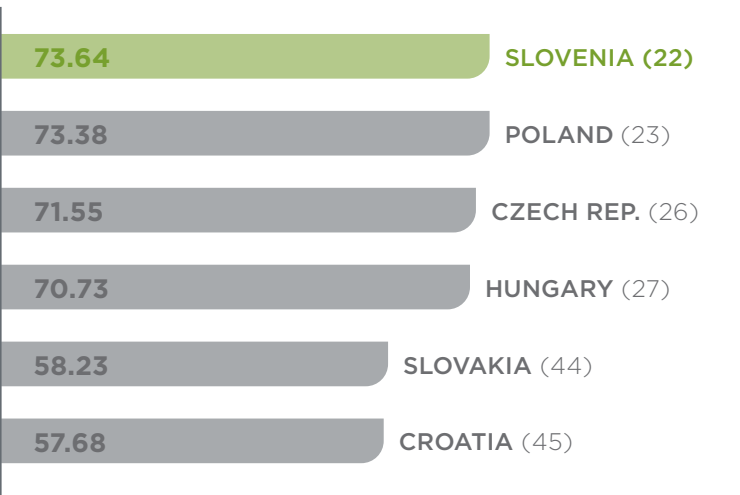
(Eurostat, 2017)

Source: IMD World
Competitiveness 2021

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BLOOMBERG INNOVATION INDEX, 2021

Total score



Source: IMD World Competitiveness 2021

SMART.

INNOVATION is at the centre of Slovenia's economic life for it is a critical component of its ability to remain competitive. Slovenia puts enormous focus on research and development: it has 4,200 researchers per 1 million people; Slovenian Office for Intellectual Property receives on average one patent application per day; 27.23 % of Slovenia's students graduated with a degree in sciences in 2018. All this and more has earned Slovenia 22nd place amongst the most innovative countries in the world.

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2.04 % GDP allocated to R&D, 3/4 by business sector
(Eurostat, 2019)

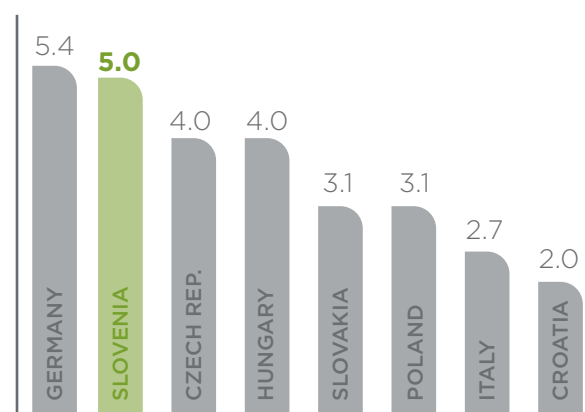
Slovenia spends on R&D, as % of its GDP, more than any other country in the region and it's 10th in the EU.
(Eurostat, 2020)



Photo: National Institute of Chemistry archive

RESEARCHERS IN R&D PER CAPITA

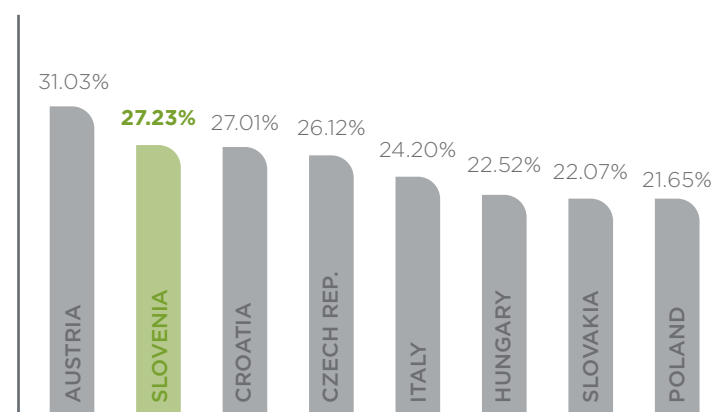
Full-time work equivalent (FTE) per 1000 people



Source: IMD 2021 (data 2019)

GRADUATES IN SCIENCES

% of graduates in ICT, Engineering, Math & Natural Sciences



Source: IMD 2021 (data 2018)

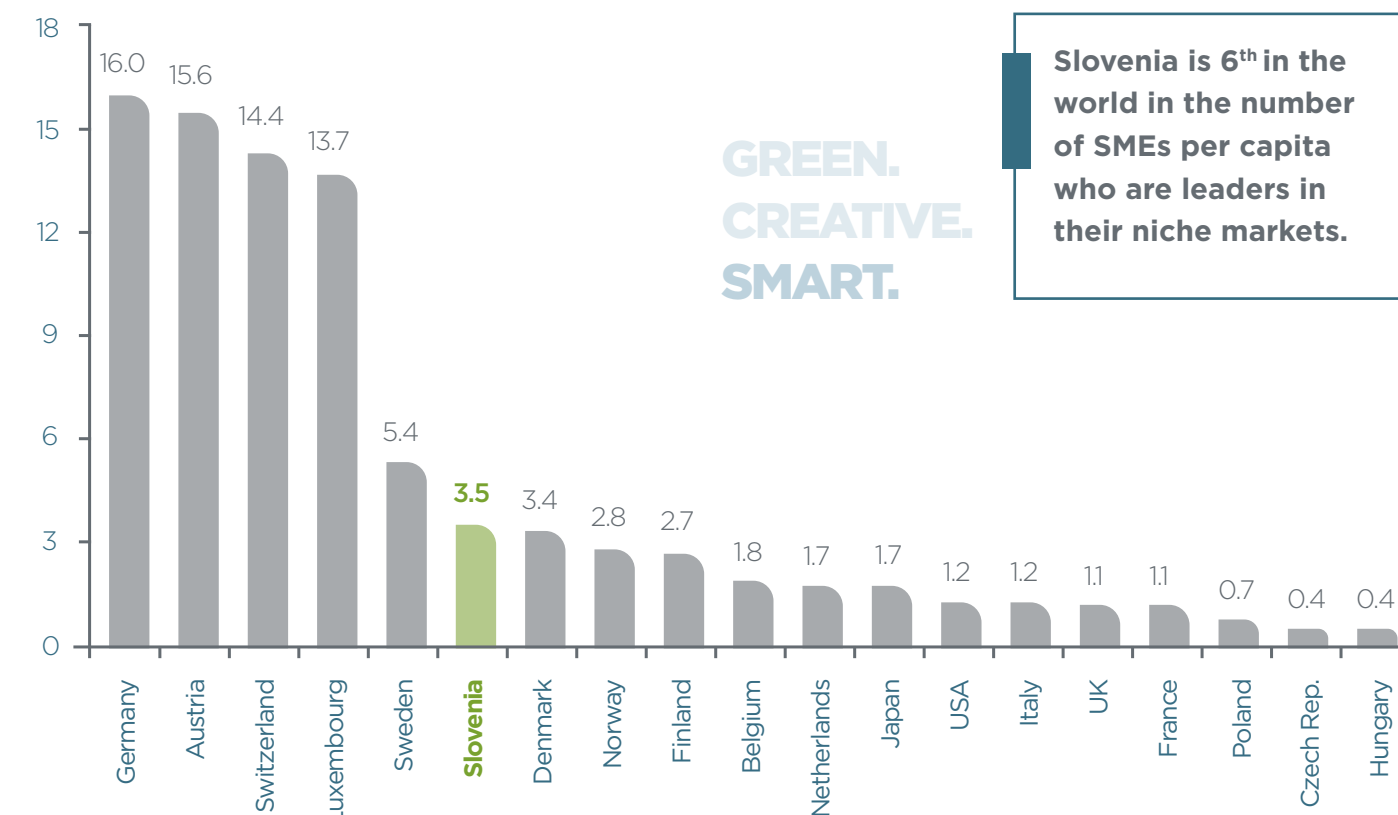


Slovenia has 157 robot units per 10,000 employees, well above the world average of 113, ranking 20th. (World Robotics, 2020)

The first International Research Centre on artificial intelligence under the Auspices of UNESCO is being set up in Ljubljana, Slovenia's capital.

Photo: TPV Group archive

Slovenia has several SME companies that are leaders in their niche markets. Those SMEs work in the automotive, life sciences, IT, and electronics fields and are mostly unknown to the general public. The so-called hidden champions carry strong international competitiveness in at least one product category, exhibit consistent growth over the last decade; innovate much above the average national company level; have the capability to adapt to demanding business environments; make for interesting leadership stories; and have success that is based on working smart and hard.



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Slovenia is 6th in the world in the number of SMEs per capita who are leaders in their niche markets.

Source: Simon, H. (2012)

SLOVENIA'S HI-TECH RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

Amongst numerous research centres at Slovenia's four main universities, there are also two independent research institutions that bring enormous value to economy in Slovenia and beyond: **Jožef Stefan Institute** and **National Institute of Chemistry**.

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STIMULATING BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Slovenia ranks as one of the least restrictive OECD-member countries for FDI, doubling its FDI stock in the last 10 years. It has a well-developed system of investment tax relief as well as R&D tax incentives and a highly skilled workforce. In the past few years it has been one of EU's fastest growing economies, mostly due to the continuously steady increase in exports.

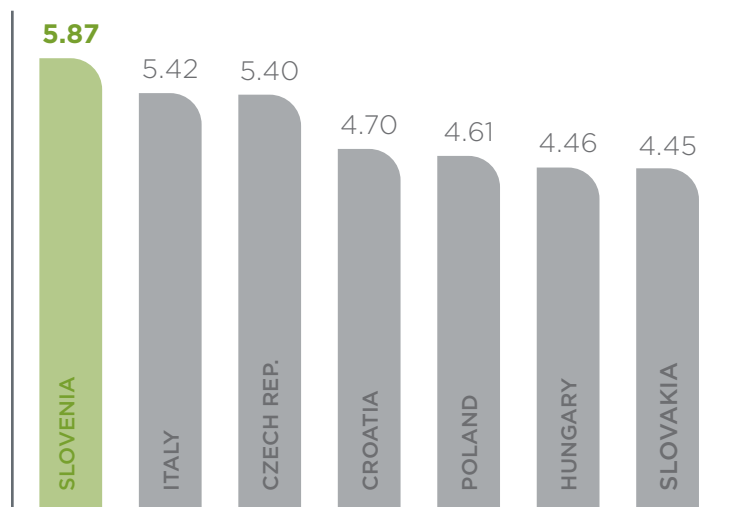


Ranks 1st in trading across borders and 1st in macroeconomic stability (multiple)
(WEF, 2019)

Photo: DARS archive

CYBER SECURITY SURVEY 2021

Cyber security is being adequately addressed by corporations (0-10)



Source: IMD 2021

Slovenia's FDI stock doubled in the last 10 years

(Bank of Slovenia, 2020)

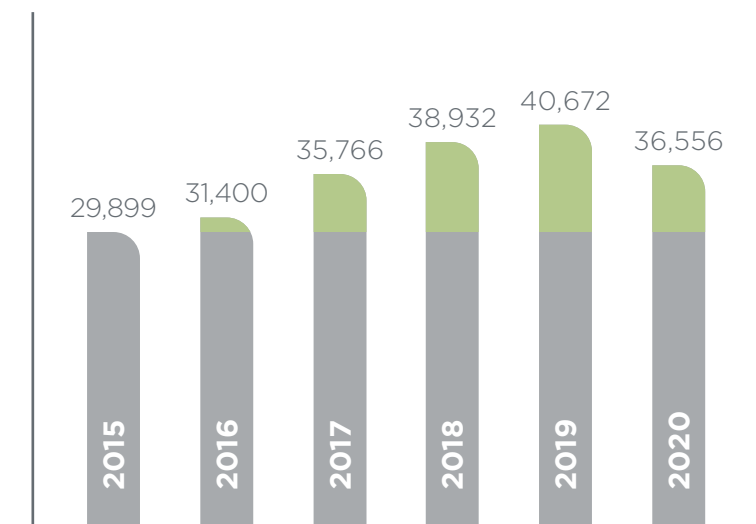
2nd least restrictive country on FDI amongst OECD members

(OECD, FDI Regulatory Restrictiveness Index Database, 2020)



100 % tax deduction on R&D expense

TOTAL SLOVENIAN EXPORTS (IN EUR MILLION)



Source: Bank of Slovenia, 2021

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STARTING A BUSINESS IS FAST AND SIMPLE

- **Only 2 procedures** required to register a company at zero cost
- **Maximum 5 days for registration** of a Limited liability company (minimum funding of EUR 7,500)

TAXES

Corporate income tax: 19 % (several tax reliefs in place)

Capital gains tax: 0 - 27.5 % (depending on holding period)

VAT (Value Added Tax): 22 % standard rate / 9.5 % reduced rate

ABOUT SPIRIT SLOVENIA

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

SPIRIT Slovenia business agency is a single point of contact for businesses and investors looking for new opportunities. It promotes Slovenia's companies, business image and country's attractiveness as an investment location. It is here to help Slovenian companies increase their exports and international companies to invest and expand in Slovenia and beyond.

Get your business off the ground and grow your presence with SPIRIT Slovenia free advisory services!

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