

# Global Economy: Fragmentation, Decoupling, or Slowbalization?

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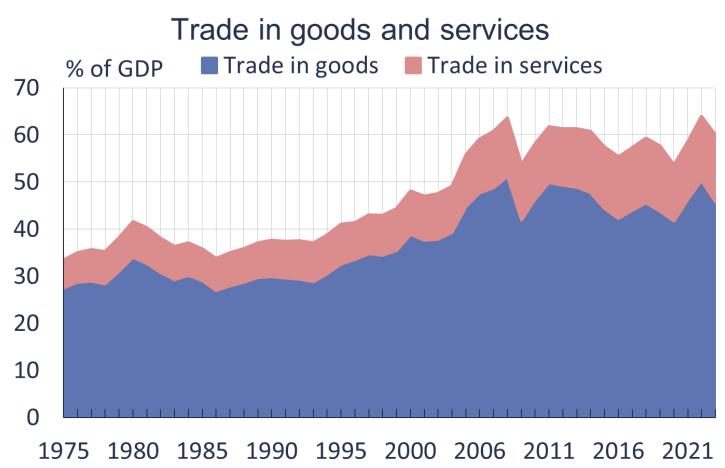
Governor Olli Rehn Bank of Finland

## A period of normalisation after hyper-globalisation?



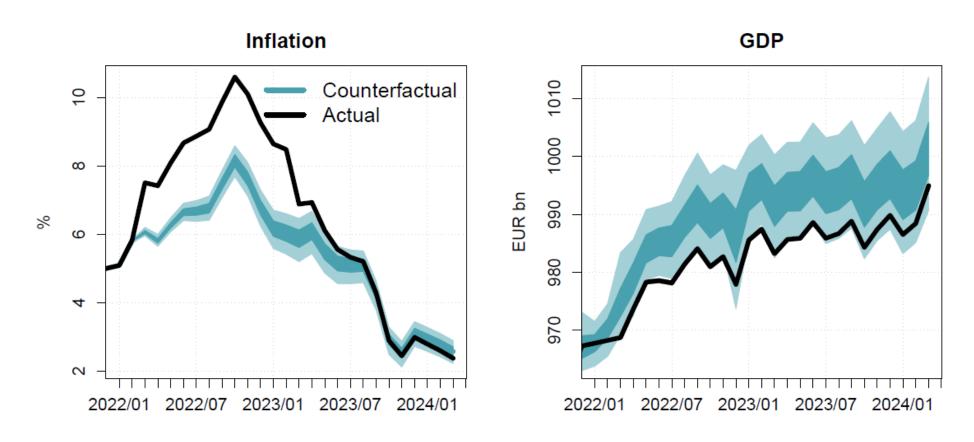
Sources: World Bank, World Development Indicators and Bank of Finland Institute for Emerging Economies (BOFIT).

### Or a period of structural change?



Sources: World Bank, World Development Indicators and Bank of Finland Institute for Emerging Economies (BOFIT).

# Geopolitical risks can materialise: Russia's invasion of Ukraine also harmed the euro area economy

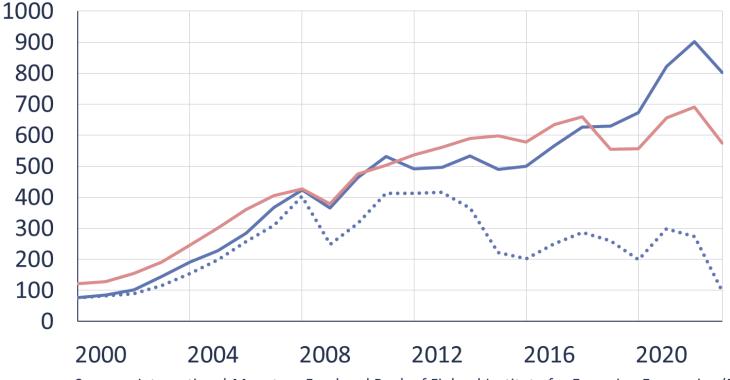


Source: Anttonen and Lehmus (2024).

### How do geopolitics and tariffs show up in trade data?

—EU trade with China —US trade with China ···· EU trade with Russia





Sources: International Monetary Fund and Bank of Finland Institute for Emerging Economies (BOFIT).

#### Domestic value-added has decreased in the EU

#### Domestic value-added in manufacturing in 2018 and 2023



Sources: Bank of Finland Institute for Emerging Economies (BOFIT), based on Asian Development Bank (ADB) data.

## Chinese value-added has increased in the EU and remains unchanged in the US

#### Chinese value-added in EU and US manufacturing

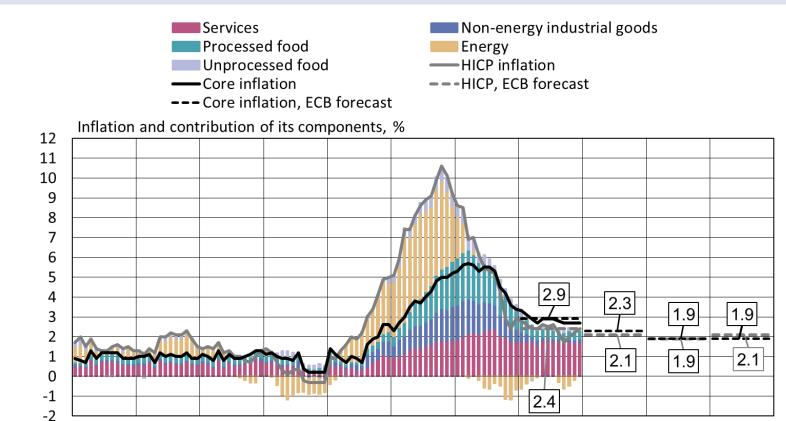


Sources: Bank of Finland Institute for Emerging Economies (BOFIT), based on Asian Development Bank (ADB) data.

### EU free trade agreements in 2024: status report



### Euro area inflation is stabilising at the 2% target



2022

2023

- More signs that wage inflation is slowing.
- Most measures of underlying inflation, too, suggest that inflation will settle at around the ECB's 2% medium-term target on a sustained basis.

2024

2025

2026

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**FINLANDS BANK** 

2027

2018

Sources: Eurostat and ECB.

2019

2020

2021

2017

### **Concluding remarks**

- Global trade has held up so far, perhaps even surprisingly well
- Share of services in total global trade has increased and will continue to do so
- Geopolitical shocks, broadly defined, can however have major effects on our economies and trade – no complacency!
- Higher tariffs between individual countries may often be circumvented –
  economies are resilient, and companies are quick to find alternative solutions
- But even this second-best adaptation to tariffs reduces economic wellbeing
- Large-scale trade war could be damaging to all involved



### Thank you!