

Institute of Energy for South East Europe

"Second South East Europe Energy Dialogue" International Conference

Thessaloniki, 21-22 May 2008

# The Economies of NBG Group - Well Placed to

### Weather the Adverse Global Environment

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#### **NBG Group: International Presence**





GDP								
(EUR, mn)	7,918	28,910	15,578	98,047	5,305	121,432	30,550	480,576
Population								
<u>(</u> '000)	3,163	7,642	790	71,347	2,047	21,524	7,403	73,875
Degree of Openne	ess							
(%, 2007)	83.7	146.8	103.0	70.0	136.0	75.3	77.4	57.6
FC Rating								
(S&P's)	B+*	BBB+	A+	BB+	BB+**	BBB-	BB-	BB-
Next Legislative								
Elections	June 2009	June 2009	May 2011	Nov. 2011	June 2008	Nov. 2008	May 2012	July 2012
<b>Next Presidential</b>								
Elections	July 2012	Oct. 2011	Feb. 2013	Oct. 2011	Apr. 2009	Nov. 2009	Feb. 2013	Aug. 2012
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\*: Moody's rating – S&P's equivalent, \*\*: FITCH



### All You Wanted to Know about the Region's Macro

# The Good: the Fundamentals The Bad: the Imbalances The Ugly: the Increased Risks in a Volatile Environment



- **Turkey:** Presidential and Parliamentary Elections in 2007 Support Reform and Continuity
- **Serbia:** Pro-European and Pro-Reform Outcome in 2008 Parliamentary Elections
- **Bulgaria:** The Coalition Government Pursues a Prudent Fiscal Stance and Reform Agenda despite its Waning Popularity
- **Romania:** Slowing Reforms in an Election Year (November 2008)
- **FYROM:** June 2008 Parliamentary Elections will not Change the pro-Reform Orientation Consensus
- Albania: EU Anchor Helps the Coalition Government Implement Reforms
- Egypt: Reform Drive Initiated in July 2004 unlikely to Pause despite Increasing Social Unrest



Banking System:	Tough Regulations and Supervision
Privatisations:	Near Completion in Most Countries
Labour Market:	Significant Progress over the past years but More has to be Done
Pensions:	Significant Progress over the past years but More has to be Done
Fiscal Reform:	Significant Progress over the past years (Corporate tax rate: Albania: 10%, Bulgaria:10% Cyprus: 10%, Egypt: 20%, FYROM: 10%, Romania: 16%, Serbia: 10%, Turkey: 20%)
Judicial Reform:	Significant Progress over the past years but More has to be Done
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#### All of the Countries in the Region, except Egypt, have Managed to Catch the EU Accession Train



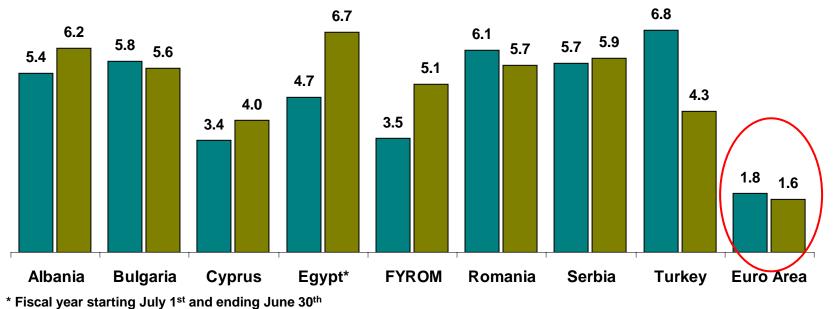
- **Cyprus:** became EMU member in January 2008
- Romania: became EU member in January 2007
- Bulgaria: became EU member in January 2007
- Turkey: commenced EU membership negotiations in December 2005
- **FYROM:** was granted EU candidate status in December 2005
- Albania: signed the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with the EU in June 2006
- Serbia: signed the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with the EU in April 2008

#### Sustainable Strong GDP Growth



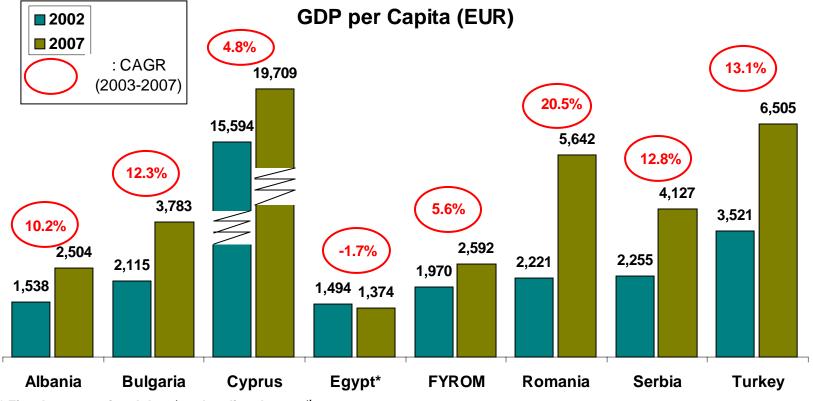
Real GDP Growth (%)





#### **Significant Improvement in Living Standards**

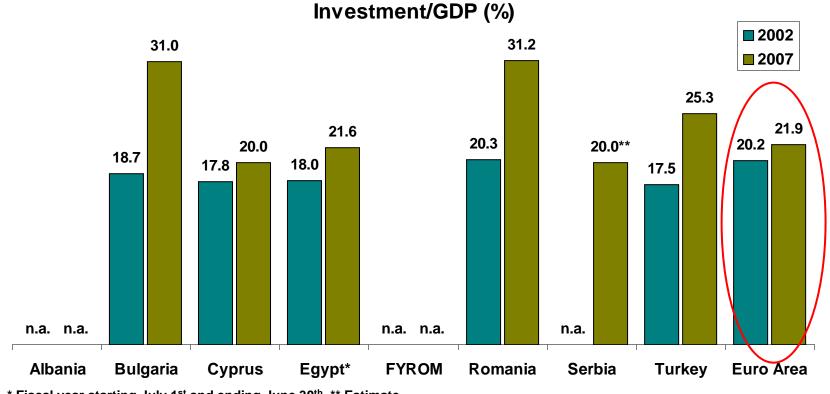




\* Fiscal year starting July 1st and ending June 30th

#### Reforms have Led to a Boom in Investment ...

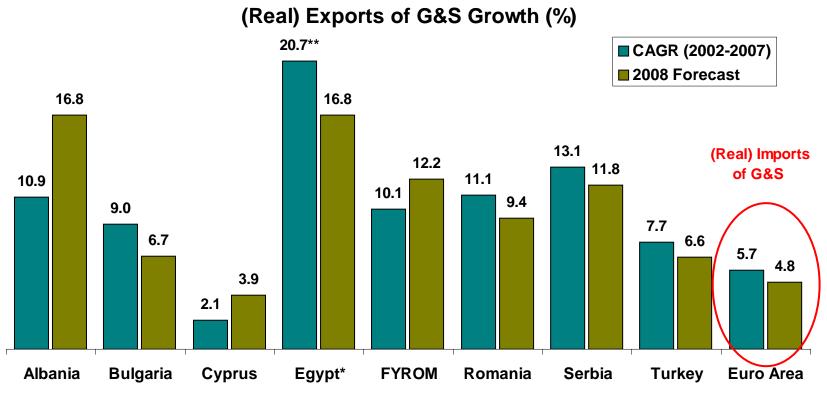




 $^{\ast}$  Fiscal year starting July  $1^{st}$  and ending June 30th,  $^{\ast\ast}$  Estimate

#### ... and Sustained Export Market Share Gains Reflect Strong Competitiveness

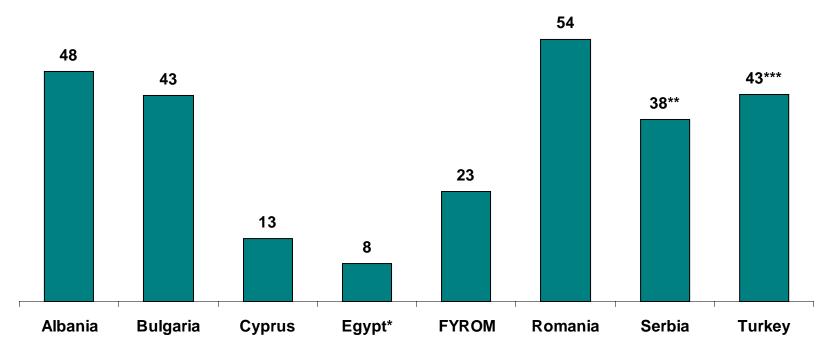




\* Fiscal year starting July 1st and ending June 30th, \*\* 2003-2007

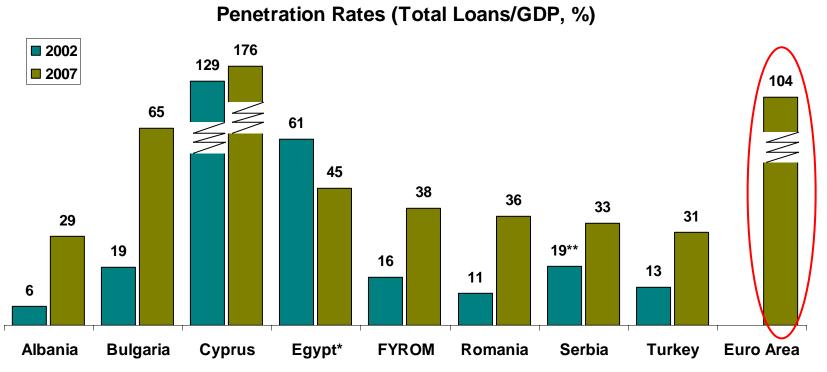
Stable Environment and Reforms have been Good for Banking Activity . . .

Total Loans CAGR (2002-2007,%)



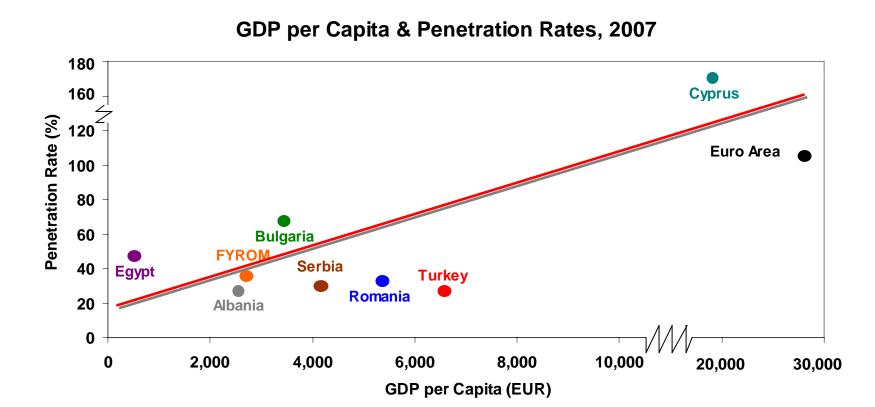
\* Fiscal year starting July 1st and ending June 30th, \*\* 2004-2007, \*\*\* 2003-2007





\* Fiscal year starting July 1<sup>st</sup> and ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, \*\* 2003

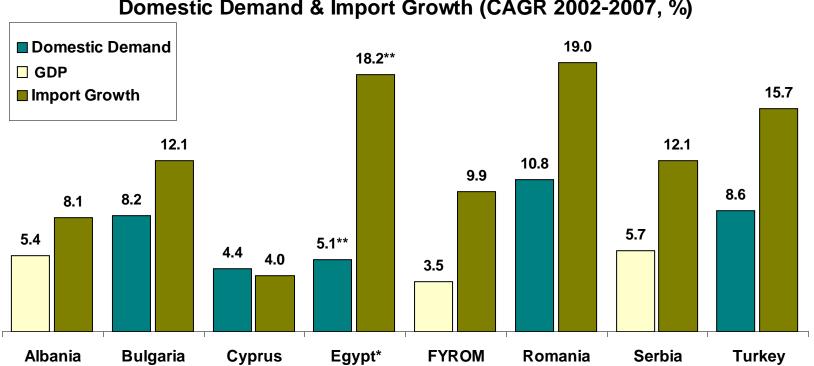






### However, "All is not a Bed of Roses"

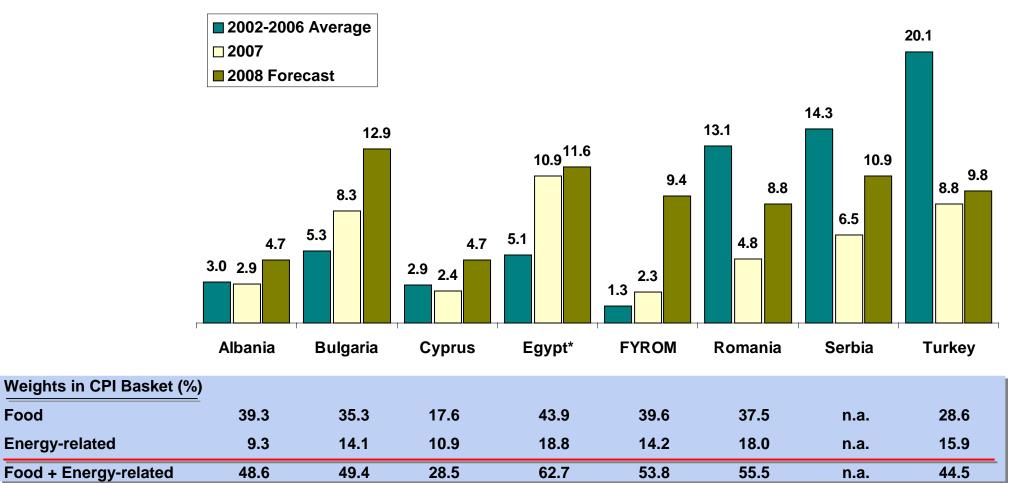




Domestic Demand & Import Growth (CAGR 2002-2007, %)

\* Fiscal year starting July 1st and ending June 30th, \*\* 2003-2007





**Inflation** (y-o-y % change, aop)

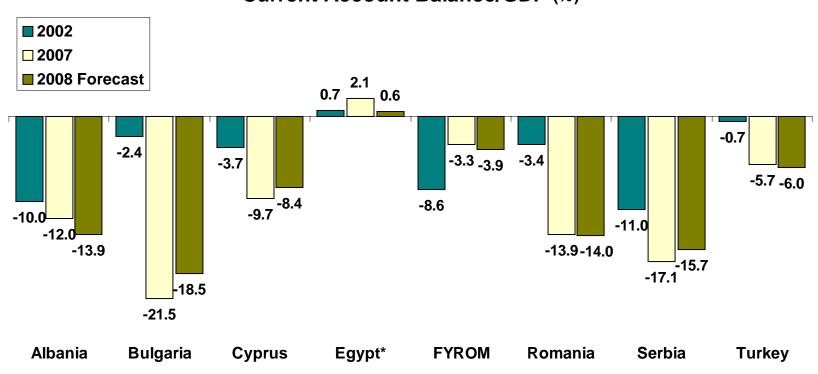
\* Fiscal year starting July 1st and ending June 30th

Food

**Energy-related** 

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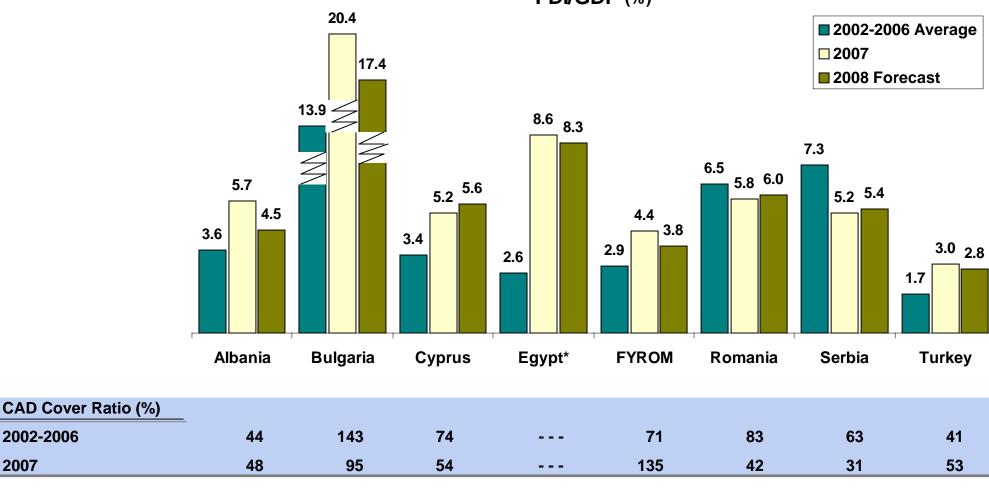
The External Balance has been Worsening ...



#### Current Account Balance/GDP (%)

\* Fiscal year starting July 1<sup>st</sup> and ending June 30<sup>th</sup>

#### . with Strong FDI Inflows Covering a Significant, but Decreasing, Share of the Financing Needs



FDI/GDP (%)

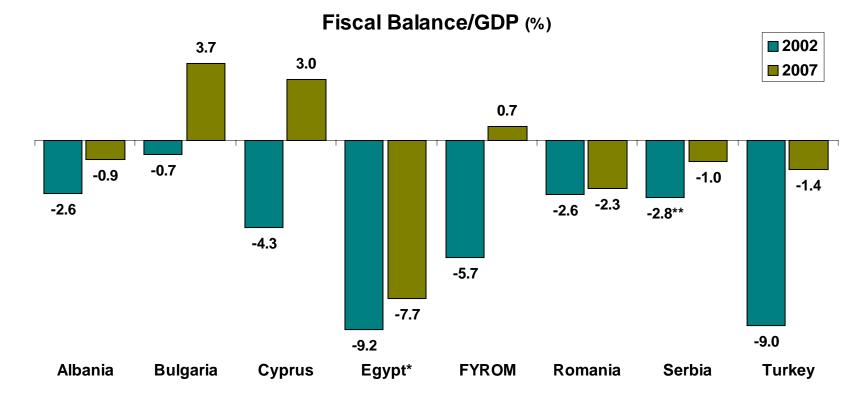
\* Fiscal year starting July 1st and ending June 30th

2002-2006

2007

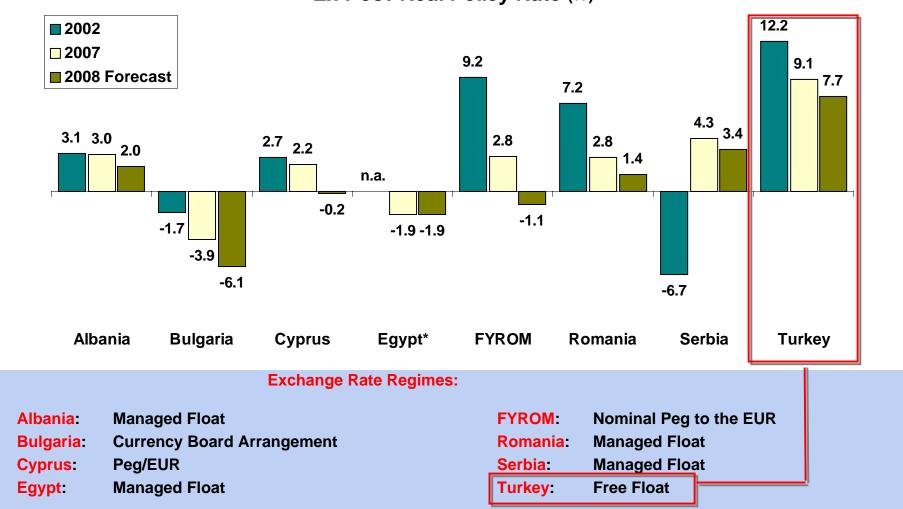






\* Fiscal year starting July 1<sup>st</sup> and ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, \*\* 2003

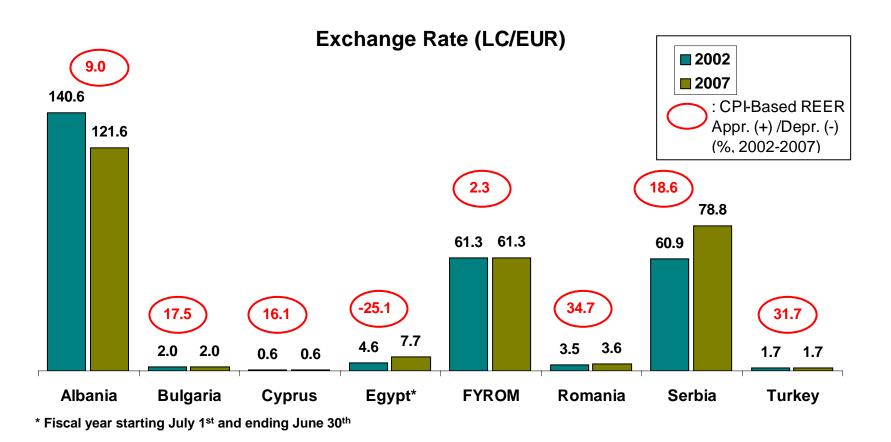
... but with Monetary Policy Constrained by Capital Inflows, especially in Countries with Quasi-Fixed Exchange Rate Regimes ...



**Ex Post Real Policy Rate (%)** 

\* Fiscal year starting July 1st and ending June 30th

... Exchange Rate Appreciation has done the Heavy Lifting, which Creates a Fine Balancing Act between Maintaining Internal and External Balance



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## The Risks have Increased in a Volatile and Highly Uncertain International Environment

# Unlike Previous Crises, Investors have Held their Nerve and have Stayed with Emerging Markets

