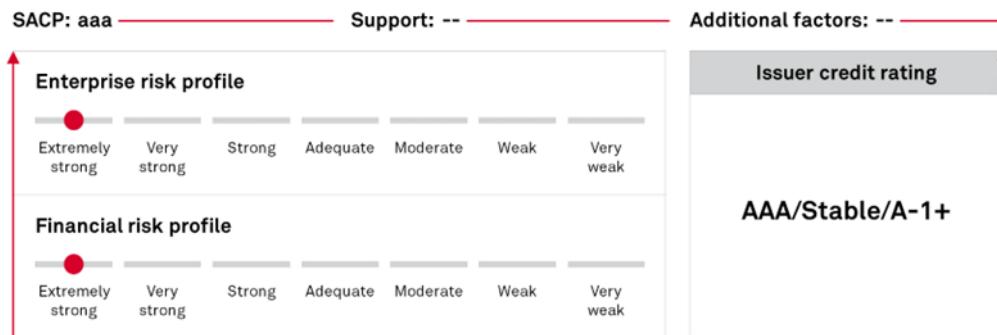


# Council of Europe Development Bank

July 30, 2025

This report does not constitute a rating action.

## Ratings Score Snapshot



SACP--Stand-alone credit profile.

## Overview

Enterprise risk profile	Financial risk profile
Very important social mandate and shareholders' support	Extremely strong financial position
-- Timely and solid response to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, coupled with structurally improving disbursement levels underline Council of Europe Development Bank's relevance as a funding agency.	-- Extremely well capitalized bank, with strongest ratios among the peer group
-- Impeccable track record of preferred creditor treatment (PCT).	-- Despite an excellent loan-loss track record, operations in Ukraine could heighten credit and reputational risks for CEB.
-- Experienced, prudent and conservative management.	Well-diversified funding, boosted by modernized derivatives management that broadens investor and counterparty depth, limits funding risks.

**Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) focuses its effort on providing support to Ukraine through loans and grants without materially altering its risk profile.** The bank is planning to mobilize €1.45 billion in loans and grants for Ukrainian refugees in Europe following the outbreak of the conflict in Ukraine over the next few years, with €118 million disbursed as of June 30, 2025, and expected to reach about €100 million to €200 million per year. Although increased exposure to Ukraine could impact CEB's risk profile, the amounts engaged to date are very modest thus do not materially alter the bank's credit quality.

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**CEB's financial profile has strengthened further due to the completion of capital injections, strengthening its risk adjust capital ratio to 32.1%, in spite of an increase in loan and finance exposures.** CEB benefits from an extremely strong stand-alone capital position and very strong liquidity and funding, which have enabled the bank's swift response to the Ukraine-Russia conflict. CEB also completed a €4.25 billion capital increase, approved by the governing board in December 2022. While four countries did not subscribe to the capital increase (Finland, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, and Sweden), they voted in favor of the capital increase, signaling continued support. Not only this capital increase benefit CEB's financial profile, but it also confirmed the bank's policy relevance, notably by helping member countries address the recent refugee crisis. In addition, we expect an excellent asset quality track record and low cost of risk will continue to support CEB's capitalization. We believe this will provide the bank with sufficient buffers for future lending growth related to the impact of the war in Ukraine.

**CEB's history of demonstrated PCT also underlines the bank's overall enterprise risk profile.** CEB has benefited since its creation from an excellent PCT track record in the countries where it operates, which we expect will continue. It has experienced only one sovereign default for which the principal amount was fully recovered (including arrears).

## Outlook

The stable outlook reflects our expectation that, over the next two years, CEB will maintain an extremely strong financial profile, despite larger disbursements prompted by the conflict in Ukraine and a strong lending dynamic. We do not expect the bank's policy relevance and funding importance will diminish, given ongoing solid shareholder engagement with its activities. We also assume CEB will continue to enjoy excellent PCT.

### Downside scenario

We could downgrade CEB if new operations in Ukraine result in a material deterioration of the bank's asset quality, for instance as a result of weaker underwriting or risk management in Ukraine's high-risk environment. If the bank's very strong track record of PCT eroded, rating pressure could also build.

Additionally, a pronounced deterioration in CEB's funding and liquidity profile could constrain the rating.

## Enterprise Risk Profile

### Policy importance: the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukraine-Russia conflict have bolstered the bank's policy relevance

**We believe the bank holds a key position because of its established history, role, and the core essence of its mandate.** CEB was founded in 1956 as the Council of Europe Resettlement Fund for National Refugees and Over-Population in Europe, with a mandate to help refugees and other displaced persons after World War II. Its current role of supporting social infrastructure investment in Europe involves loans to support job creation in micro, small, and midsize enterprises; vocational training; social housing; health care; environmental projects; prisons; natural catastrophe relief; and educational reform.

**In our view, CEB's role as a socially focused bank within Europe has solidified over the past few years.** We base our opinion on the emergency loans CEB provided in 2020 to sustain health

systems amid COVID-19-related fallout and the support it has granted Ukrainian refugees since 2022 through projects related to temporary and long-term accommodation in its member countries. This lifted CEB's disbursements and project approvals 50% above its activity levels in 2015-2019, and its new strategic framework for 2023-2027 incorporates this uptick. Additionally, Ukraine becoming CEB's 43rd member state in June 2023 has opened the door for projects to be financed directly in the country. As a result, loan disbursements totaled €3.6 billion in 2024, while the loan portfolio grew to €22.9 billion as of year-end 2024 from €21.5 billion as of year-end 2022.

**Operations have been supported by the seventh and largest capital increase of the bank, which became effective on Feb. 29, 2024.** The €4.25 billion capital increase, of which €1.2 billion was paid-in capital, has enabled stronger support to Ukraine and countries hosting refugees from the war. It will also support the CEB's core activities enshrined in the 2023-2027 strategic framework. The subscription period ended in December 2024, with a final subscription rate of 95.15%. Capital will continue to increase by receiving paid-in capital instalments until 2026 and internal capital generation. We think the capital increase indicates CEB's very strong policy importance, including the strength and stability of its relationship with shareholders, and reflects CEB members' satisfaction over CEB's performance during the 2015 refugee crisis and the COVID pandemic.

**As part of the Strategic Framework 2023-2027, the average annual loan approvals have been set at €4.3 billion.** This includes a cautious, gradual pace of activity in Ukraine, to €390 million in 2027 from €200 million in 2023. CEB was the first multilateral institution to disburse grants to support Ukrainian refugees hosted by member states, reflecting the high reactivity of the bank and its nimble operating structure. On top of direct financing to Ukraine, the bank provided €1.3 billion fast-track emergency loans to CEB's members directly impacted.

**The 2023-2027 strategic plan also reflects the bank's more dynamic approach leveraging on increased demand for social investments throughout Europe and new partnerships forged through the pandemic with other international organizations.** In particular, the bank manages a portfolio of loans partially covered by the European Commission InvestEU guarantee. At the end of 2024, the CEB's InvestEU portfolio amounted to €401.4 million, and the guarantee covered by the European Commission amounted to €127.8 million. The InvestEU portfolio is set to grow to €500 million loans, with a guarantee of €159 million. The CEB has also joined the InvestEU Advisory Hub, providing technical assistance and capacity building to counterparties under a contribution agreement for around €10 million.

**CEB's uniqueness is rooted in the role it performs for small member countries.** In 2024, the stock of projects on target countries reached 55.9%, up 21.7% year on year. CEB's lending focused on projects in target countries where the associated project costs, loan sizes, and business expertise deter many other institutions (both commercial and government owned). Moreover, CEB offers expertise in several social domains (such as housing and education), technical design support, and technical assistance through the project cycle. Thus, even if exposure to Spain, Italy, France or Germany represents 35.8% of the loan book, it serves missions aligned with its mandate, with a particular focus on migrant and refugee funds.

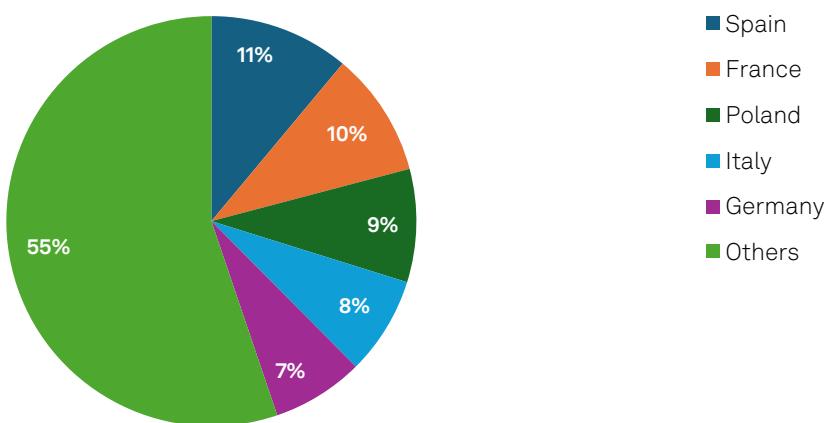
**Additionally, CEB's relevance as a multilateral lender lies in the expansion of its fiduciary activity.** Fiduciary activity is driven by funds entrusted by donors--members and non-members like the European Union--that enable the CEB to support more highly social projects and thus solidify its institutional position as the social development bank in Europe. Notably, the Ukraine Solidarity Fund launched in 2022 aims at providing assistance to Ukrainian refugees and supporting reconstruction, and the Disaster Prevention and Recovery Fund was set up in 2023 to ease the social impact of earthquakes in Turkey and potentially elsewhere in the future. 2023

also marked the final year of the Regional Housing Program, which was successfully completed, after over a decade in operation, benefitting more than 36,000 displaced persons from the Western Balkans.

**Finally, CEB's history of demonstrated PCT underlines its overall enterprise risk profile.** Since its creation, the bank has benefited from an excellent track record of PCT, and we expect this will continue. The bank has experienced only one sovereign default, that of a debt owed by former Yugoslavia. The principal amount was fully recovered (including arrears) as of July 2004, representing no net present value loss to CEB. We consider this to be confirmation of the PCT afforded to the bank.

### CEB--Five largest countries' purpose-related exposures

As a percentage of gross purpose-related assets plus guarantees



Data as of December 2024

Source: S&P Global Ratings.

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### Governance and management expertise: Experienced management team

#### **In our opinion, CEB benefits from strong governance and risk management standards.**

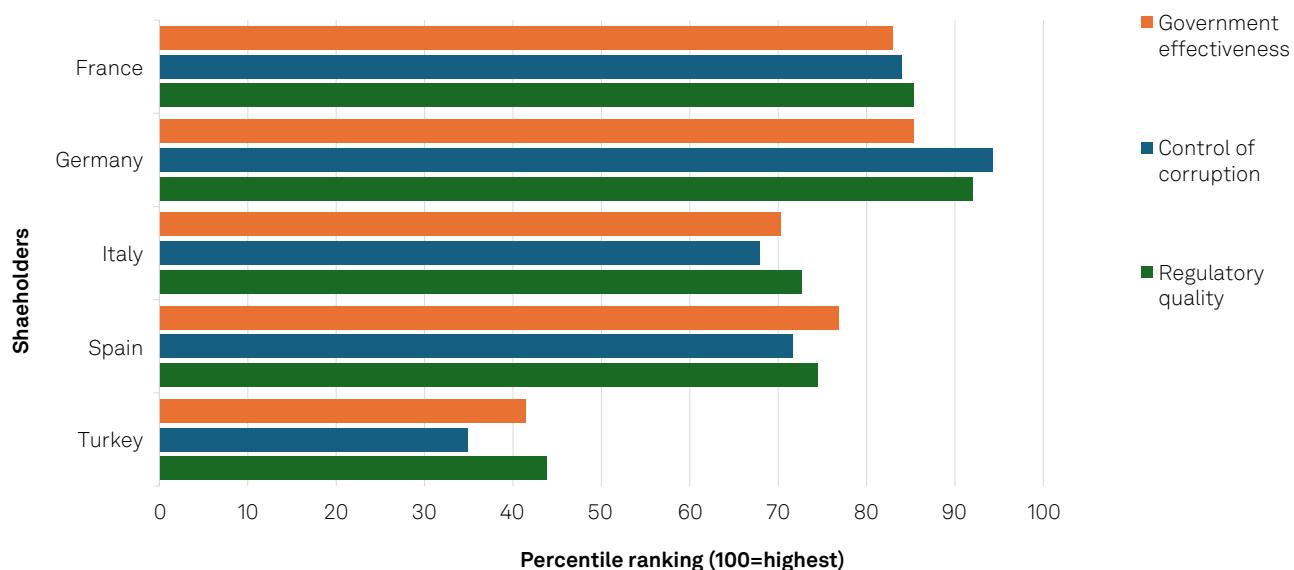
Shareholders remain supportive and acknowledge the bank's importance as a key contributor in its niche financing segment. Member countries are directly involved in defining CEB's policy.

While all shareholders are eligible to borrow from the bank, we believe agency risk is mitigated by the high standards on transparency, rule of law, and governance that are observable in many of its shareholders, including the largest ones.

**Operationally, we think CEB has conservative risk and liquidity management policies.** The bank maintains up-to-date financial policies, introducing more advanced, dynamic liquidity management and stress tests. This has proven valuable as the bank transitioned to two-way credit support annexes on most of its derivatives counterparty portfolio in 2018 and 2019.

## CEB--Five largest shareholders

Selected World Bank governance indicators



WGI data as of December 2023  
 Source: S&P Global Ratings.

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## Financial Risk Profile

**Capital adequacy: Upcoming war-related lending could pressure the bank's resilient capital adequacy, which is still digesting the pick-up in pandemic-related lending**

**The bank entered 2025 from a position of financial strength, with an extremely strong stand-alone capital position.** We compute its risk-adjusted capital (RAC) ratio at 32.1% as of end-2024 after adjustments for concentration risk and PCT, compared with 24.8% as of end-2023. While heightened disbursement levels consumed capital, the ratio improves as paid-in capital flowed into the bank. We expect the bank's asset quality to remain high with limited credit events and very strong PCT recognition. Also, frequent use of credit enhancements limits downside risks to asset quality through collaterals and guarantees. As of year-end 2024, 30.3% of CEB's outstanding loans benefitted from a credit enhancement. This underpins our assessment of a resilient and very strong RAC position.

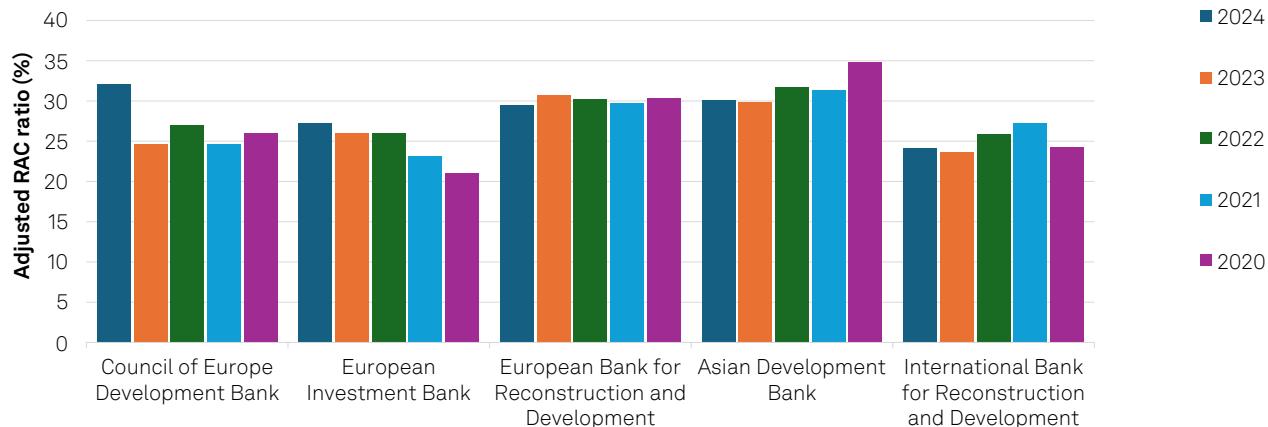
**We see governance risk as higher in Ukraine than in other CEB member countries, and we therefore think operations in Ukraine could heighten credit and reputational risks for CEB.** As the bank benefits from a significant capital increase, we believe its performance and funds' usage will come under increased scrutiny from shareholders. In addition, economic risk in Ukraine is extremely high, and the bank currently has limited experience operating in the country. That said, we see CEB's operations continuing to benefit from strong governance, conservative risk management standards, and up-to-date financial policies that limit risks associated with the volatile environment of its lending portfolio. Overall, we believe CEB will uphold its extremely strong financial risk profile and will mitigate additional financial risks coming from Ukraine, adopting a cautious stance.

## Council of Europe Development Bank

In 2024, net profit improved to €124.3 million, mainly driven by the high interest rate environment. We expect sustained lending to support core earnings and in turn, CEB's capitalization, together with the paid-in capital increase, leading to additional equity.

Finally, we do not see any currency mismatch, because CEB is hedging its foreign currency balance sheet exposure, or interest rate risks.

### CEB--Risk-adjusted capital ratio peer comparison



2024 data as of year-end. IBRD year-end is June. EIB 2024 Data as of June.  
Source: S&P Global Ratings.

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### Council of Europe Development Bank--Risk-adjusted capital framework data: December 2024

Mil. EUR	Exposure	S&P Global Ratings RWA	Average S&P Global Ratings RW (%)
<b>Credit risk</b>			
Government and central banks			
25,023	6,643		27
Institutions	12,178	2,968	24
Corporate	1,519	1,163	77
<b>Retail</b>			
Securitization			
Other assets			
Total credit risk	38,720	10,774	28
<b>Market risk</b>			
Equity in the banking book			
<b>Trading book market risk</b>			
Total market risk			
<b>Operational risk</b>			
Total operational risk	373		
<b>Risk transfer mechanisms</b>			
Risk transfer mechanisms RWA			
RWA before MLI Adjustments	11,147	100	
<b>MLI adjustments</b>			
Single name (on corporate exposures)	1,442	124	
Sector (on corporate portfolio)	78	3	

**Council of Europe Development Bank--Risk-adjusted capital framework data: December 2024**

Mil. EUR	Exposure	S&P Global Ratings RWA	Average S&P Global Ratings RW (%)
Geographic		(1,175)	(10)
Preferred creditor treatment (on sovereign exposures)		(4,011)	(60)
Preferential treatment (on FI and corporate exposures)		(148)	(4)
Single name (on sovereign exposures)		7,265	109
Total MLI adjustments		3,451	31
RWA after MLI adjustments		14,599	131
<b>Total adjusted capital</b>		<b>S&amp;P Global Ratings RAC ratio (%)</b>	
Capital ratio before adjustments		4,685	42.0
Capital ratio after adjustments		4,685	32.1

MLI--Multilateral lending institutions. RW--Risk weight. RWA--Risk-weighted assets.

### Funding and liquidity: Funding depth has improved from active funding strategy

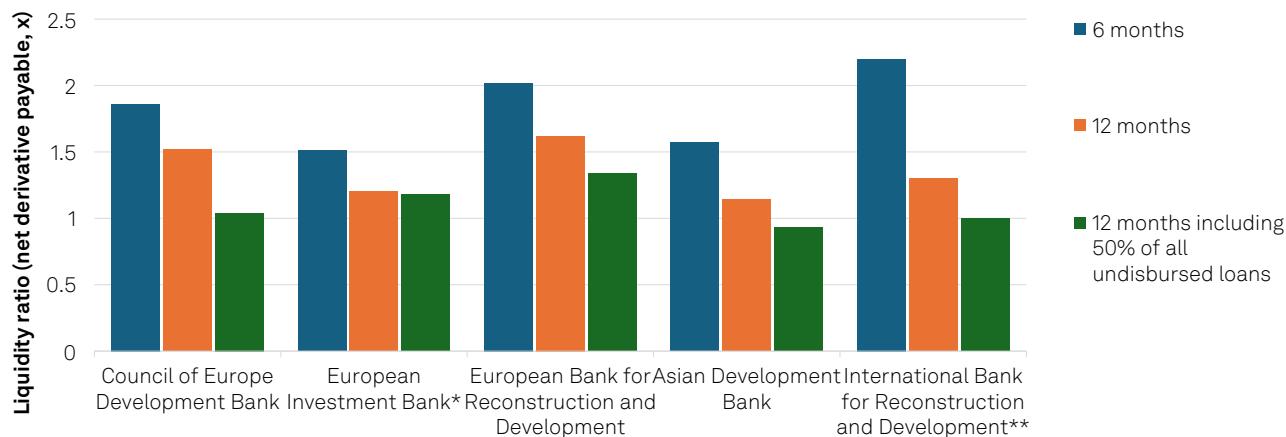
**CEB's annual borrowing authorization of €7 billion was 89% used in 2024.** Although increasing liquidity needs to cover for collateral requirements, the more modernized and conservative derivatives management entailed by the switch to two-way credit support annexes on its derivatives portfolio in 2018, has opened additional funding markets for CEB. This has led to an improved investors' pool diversification and funding conditions for the bank. In 2024, the bank pursued its efforts to be more active in several currencies outside the traditional U.S. dollar and euro, such as British pound sterling, Hong Kong dollar, Canadian dollar, Australian dollar, and Swedish krona. In 2023, it also issued in Swiss franc for the first time since 2014.

**In line with its social mandate, CEB has established a strong track record and expertise as a social-bond issuer.** So far in 2025 CEB confirmed its position as the largest supranational social bond issuer with five issuances of social inclusion bonds issued across four currencies for a total amount of €2.6 billion. Overall, one-third of the total funding program was issued under the social inclusion bonds label.

As of end-May 2025, the bank had already completed 62% of its required full-year funding, for which the annual borrowing authorization is set at €7.0 billion, including the social inclusion bonds issuances since the start of the year.

**Under our liquidity stress scenario, at all horizons up to one year, CEB would fully cover its balance-sheet liabilities without market access.** This includes the additional need for liquidity to cover needs of posting collateral under its two-way credit support annexes arrangements. Using year-end 2024 data, our 12-month liquidity ratio was 1.52x, including scheduled loan disbursements, while the six-month ratio was 1.86x. We believe CEB will maintain its very strong liquidity position in the future thanks to its proactive funding activity.

## CEB--Liquidity stress test ratios peer comparison



\*Data as of June 2024. All other data as of year-end 2024. \*\*Year-end is June 2024.

Source: S&P Global Ratings.

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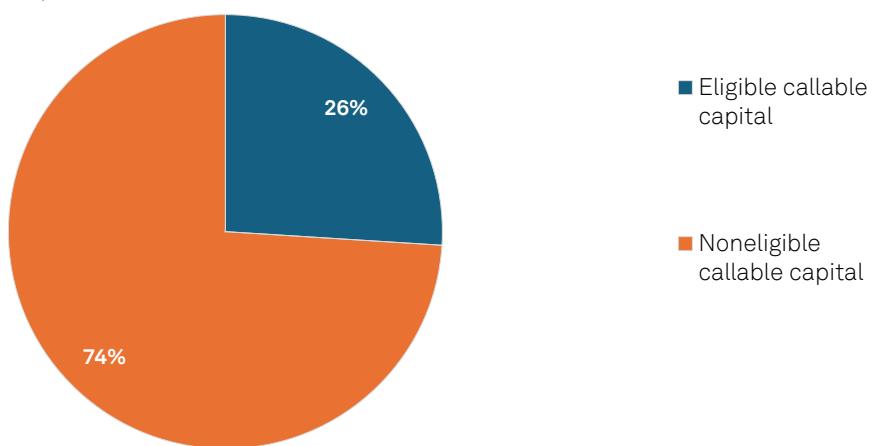
## Extraordinary Shareholder Support

We assess CEB's stand-alone credit profile (SACP) as 'aaa' based on the bank's stand-alone

**merits.** Because the SACP fully supports the 'AAA' long-term issuer credit rating, that rating does not rely on the expectation of extraordinary support in the form of callable capital. This notwithstanding, callable capital from the bank's highly rated shareholders would enhance our RAC ratio and mitigate the impact on CEB's financial profile in the event that its capital adequacy were to deteriorate. Currently, the bank has eight 'AAA' rated shareholders and one 'AA+' rated one.

### CEB--Callable capital

As a percentage of total callable capital



Source: S&P Global Ratings.

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## Council of Europe Development Bank--Selected indicators

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>ENTERPRISE PROFILE</b>					
<b>Policy importance</b>					
Total purpose-related exposure (loans, equity, etc.) (mil. EUR)*	22,996	21,614	19,931	18,940	17,433
Public-sector (including sovereign-guaranteed) loans/purpose-related exposure (%)	82.18	81.99	83.18	81.43	79.47
Private-sector loans/purpose-related exposures (%)	17.82	18.01	16.82	18.57	20.53
Gross loan growth (%)	6.40	8.44	5.23	8.58	12.87
Preferred creditor treatment ratio (%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Governance and management expertise</b>					
Share of votes controlled by eligible borrower member countries (%)	100	100	100	100	100
Concentration of top two shareholders (%)	33.80	33.44	33.44	33.40	33.47
Eligible callable capital (mil. EUR)	2,023	1,333	1,333	1,333	1,333
<b>FINANCIAL RISK PROFILE</b>					
<b>Capital and earnings</b>					
RAC ratio (%)	32.1	24.7	27.0	24.7	26.0
Net interest income/average net loans (%)	0.90	0.85	0.74	0.81	0.89
Net income/average shareholders' equity (%)	3.02	3.14	2.39	2.98	2.40
Impaired loans and advances/total loans (%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Liquidity ratios					
Liquid assets/adjusted total assets (%)	33.95	32.30	30.92	31.69	30.04
Liquid assets/gross debt (%)	41.36	38.13	36.92	38.30	38.18
<b>Liquidity coverage ratio (with planned disbursements):</b>					
Six months (net derivate payables) (x)	1.86	1.82	1.87	2.44	3.20
12 months (net derivate payables) (x)	1.52	1.40	1.32	1.19	1.31
12 months (net derivate payables) including 50% of all undisbursed loans (x)	1.04	0.95	0.76	1.55	1.59
Funding ratios					
Gross debt/adjusted total assets (%)	82.09	84.70	83.76	82.75	78.68
Short-term debt (by remaining maturity)/gross debt (%)	16.19	16.06	16.42	18.64	15.39
<b>Static funding gap (with planned disbursements)</b>					
12 months (net derivate payables) (x)	2.40	2.26	2.16	1.41	1.52
<b>Summary balance sheet</b>					
Total assets (mil. EUR)	38,613	34,418	31,528	29,715	27,959
Total liabilities (mil. EUR)	33,894	30,899	28,086	26,481	24,827
Shareholders' equity (mil. EUR)	4,719	3,519	3,442	3,234	3,132

\* Not including committed disbursements. PCT--Preferred creditor treatment. RAC--Risk-adjusted capital. N.A.--Not available.

## Council of Europe Development Bank--Peer comparison

	Council of Europe Development Bank	European Investment Bank	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	Asian Development Bank	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
Issuer credit ratings	AAA/Stable/A-1+	AAA/Stable/A-1+	AAA/Stable/A-1+	AAA/Stable/A-1+	AAA/Stable/A-1+
Total purpose-related exposure (mil. EUR)	22,996	473,642	48,064	151,324	252,163
Preferred creditor treatment ratio (%)	0.00	0.02	N/A	0.30	0.61
Risk adjusted capital ratio (%)	32.1	27.3	29.5	30.1	24.1
Liquidity ratio 12 months (net derivative payables; %)	1.52	1.20	1.62	1.14	1.30
Funding gap 12 months (net derivative payables; %)	2.40	1.13	2.23	1.05	1.60

CEB, EBRD and ADB data as of Dec. 2024. For EIB--PRE data as of Dec. 2024, rest all data as of June 2024. IBRD data as of June 2024. Year-end for IBRD is June. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

## Rating Component Scores

## Council of Europe Development Bank

Issuer credit rating	AAA/Stable/A-1+
Stand-alone credit profile	aaa
Enterprise risk profile:	Extremely strong
Policy importance	Very strong
Governance and management expertise	Strong
Financial risk profile:	Extremely strong
Capital adequacy	Extremely strong
Funding and liquidity	Very strong
Extraordinary support	0
Callable capital:	0
Group support:	0
Holistic approach	0

## Related Criteria

- [Multilateral Lending Institutions And Other Supranational Institutions Ratings Methodology](#), July 26, 2024
- [Risk-Adjusted Capital Framework Methodology](#), April 30, 2024
- [General Criteria: Environmental, Social, And Governance Principles In Credit Ratings](#), Oct. 10, 2021
- [General Criteria: Methodology For Linking Long-Term And Short-Term Ratings](#), April 7, 2017
- [General Criteria: Principles Of Credit Ratings](#), Feb. 16, 2011

## Related Research

- [Abridged Supranationals Interim Edition 2023: Multilateral Lending Institutions Sector Updates](#), May 23, 2023
- [Abridged Supranationals Interim Edition 2023: Comparative Data For Multilateral Lending Institutions](#), May 23, 2023,

### Ratings Detail (as of July 30, 2025)\*

#### **Council of Europe Development Bank**

##### Issuer Credit Rating

Foreign Currency	AAA/Stable/A-1+
<hr/>	
Foreign Currency	A-1+
Senior Unsecured	AAA

#### **Issuer Credit Ratings History**

15-Feb-2019	Foreign Currency	AAA/Stable/A-1+
30-Jun-2017		AA+/Positive/A-1+
27-Dec-2012		AA+/Stable/A-1+

\*Unless otherwise noted, all ratings in this report are global scale ratings. S&P Global Ratings' credit ratings on the global scale are comparable across countries. S&P Global Ratings' credit ratings on a national scale are relative to obligors or obligations within that specific country. Issue and debt ratings could include debt guaranteed by another entity, and rated debt that an entity guarantees.

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