



## Developments on product safety in the EU

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## The New General Product Safety Directive (2001/95/EC)

-in force since 15 January 2004

**For consumer products not regulated by specific legislation (exist for toys, electrical products, machinery, foodstuffs, cosmetics etc)**

- Product safety requirements

**For (nearly) all consumer products:**

- Safety management requirements for producers and distributors
- Market surveillance obligations for Member States
- RAPEX-system

Guidance document on SANCO website:

[http://ec.europa.eu/comm/consumers/cons\\_safe/prod\\_safe/gpsd/revisedGPSD\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/consumers/cons_safe/prod_safe/gpsd/revisedGPSD_en.htm)

## Safety management requirements for producers and distributors

- Monitor and follow up safety
- Traceability
- Take appropriate actions
- Notify authorities





## Notification duty for producers and distributors

- Knowing or ought to know product placed on the market poses risk to the consumer
- Notify all Member States where the product has been placed on the market
- Exceptions, form and guidance in Guidelines published on DG SANCO website.
- IT application for notifications available autumn 2006

Guidance document on SANCO website:

[http://ec.europa.eu/comm/consumers/cons\\_safe/prod\\_safe/gpsd/guidelines\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/consumers/cons_safe/prod_safe/gpsd/guidelines_en.htm)

## EU recognised European standards provide resumption of conformity

- Ongoing process developing standards and providing recognition

List available on DG Enterprise and Industry website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/comm/enterprise/newapproach/standardization/harmstds/reflist/gpsd.html>

## Decisions on new obligatory requirements

- CR-lighters

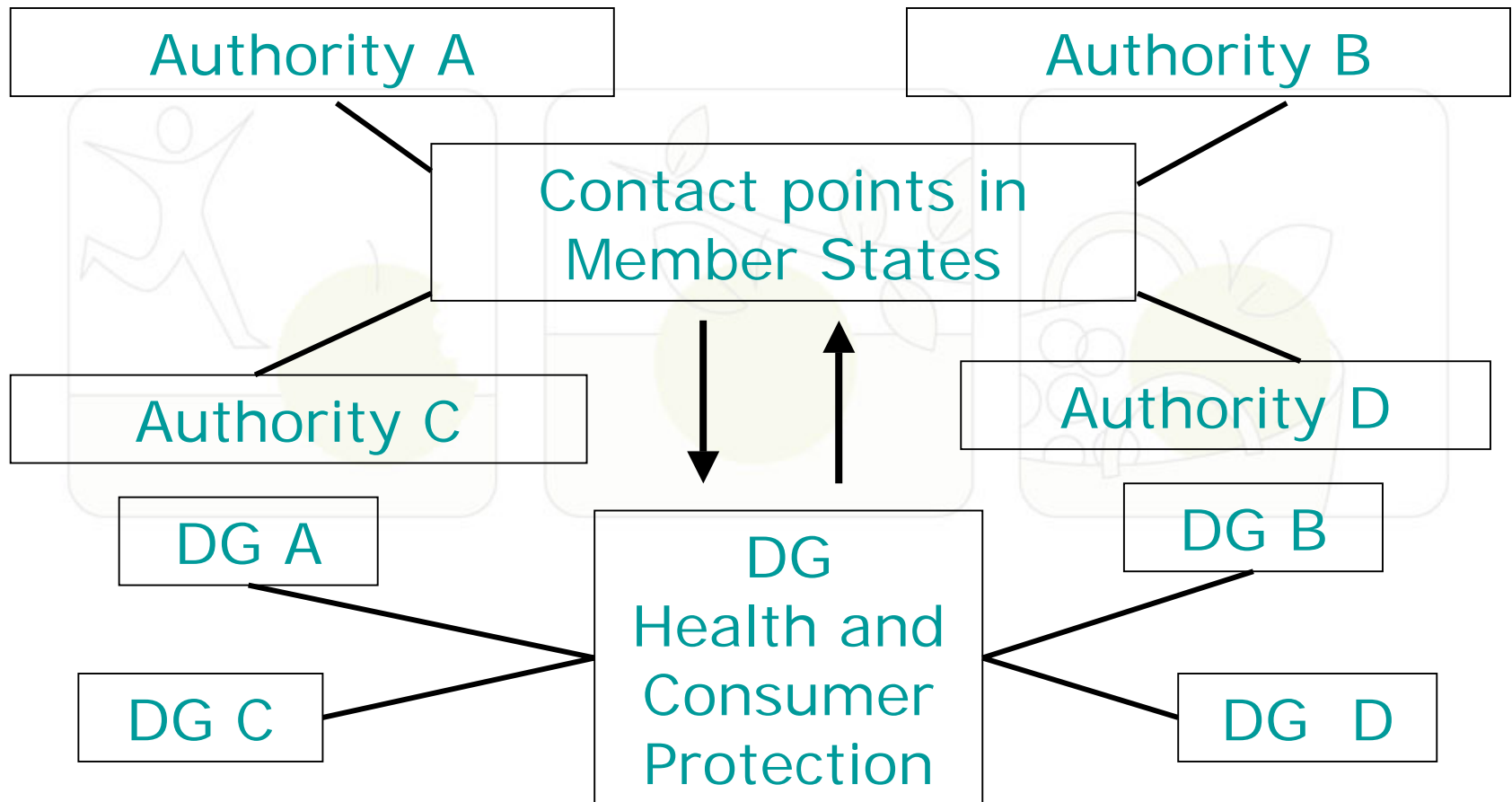


## Rapid Alerts (RAPEX) in 2005

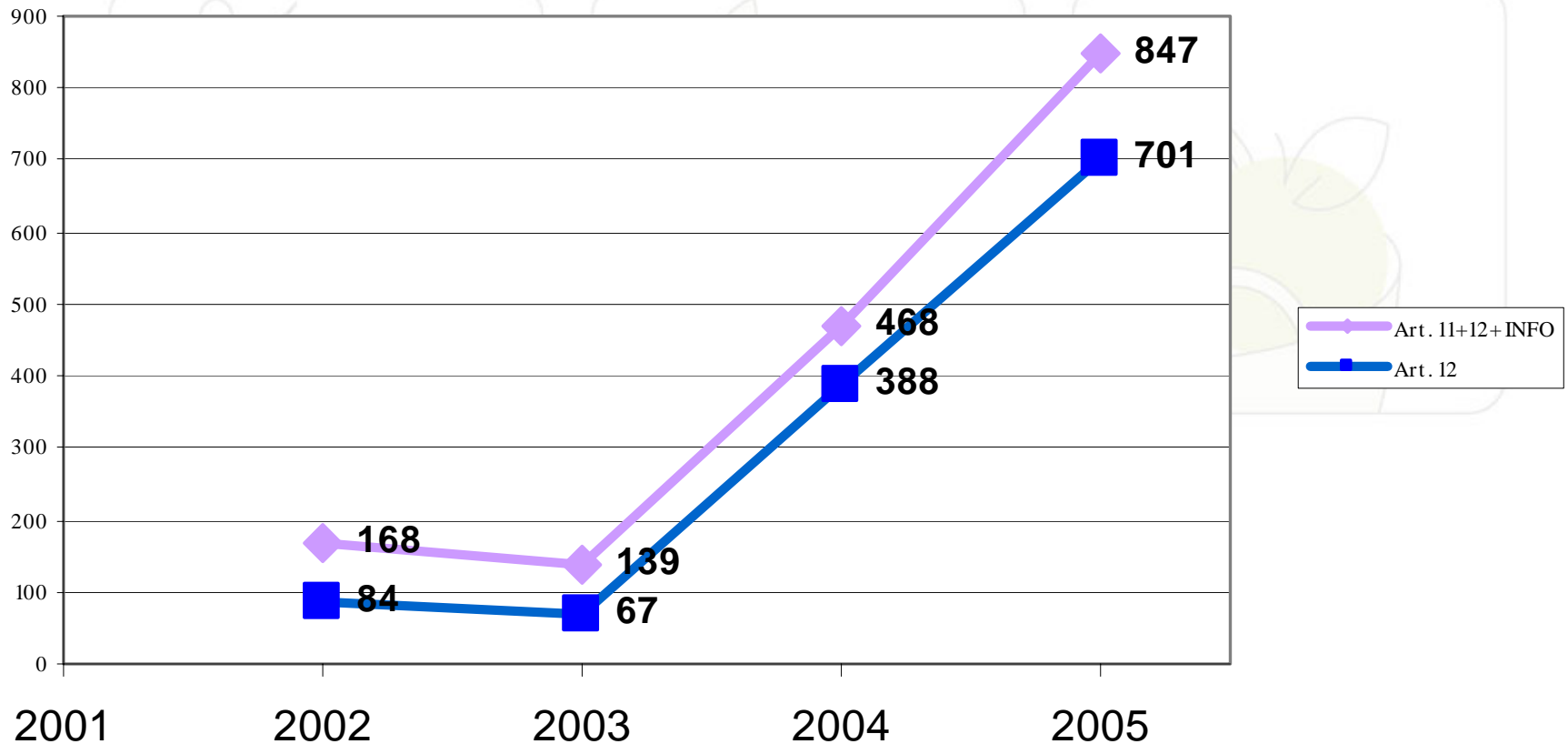
- Notifications from Member States on measures ordered by authorities or voluntary measures by business concerning consumer products causing a serious risk
- Excludes: foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals, medical devices.

Link: Overviews of RAPEX notifications:

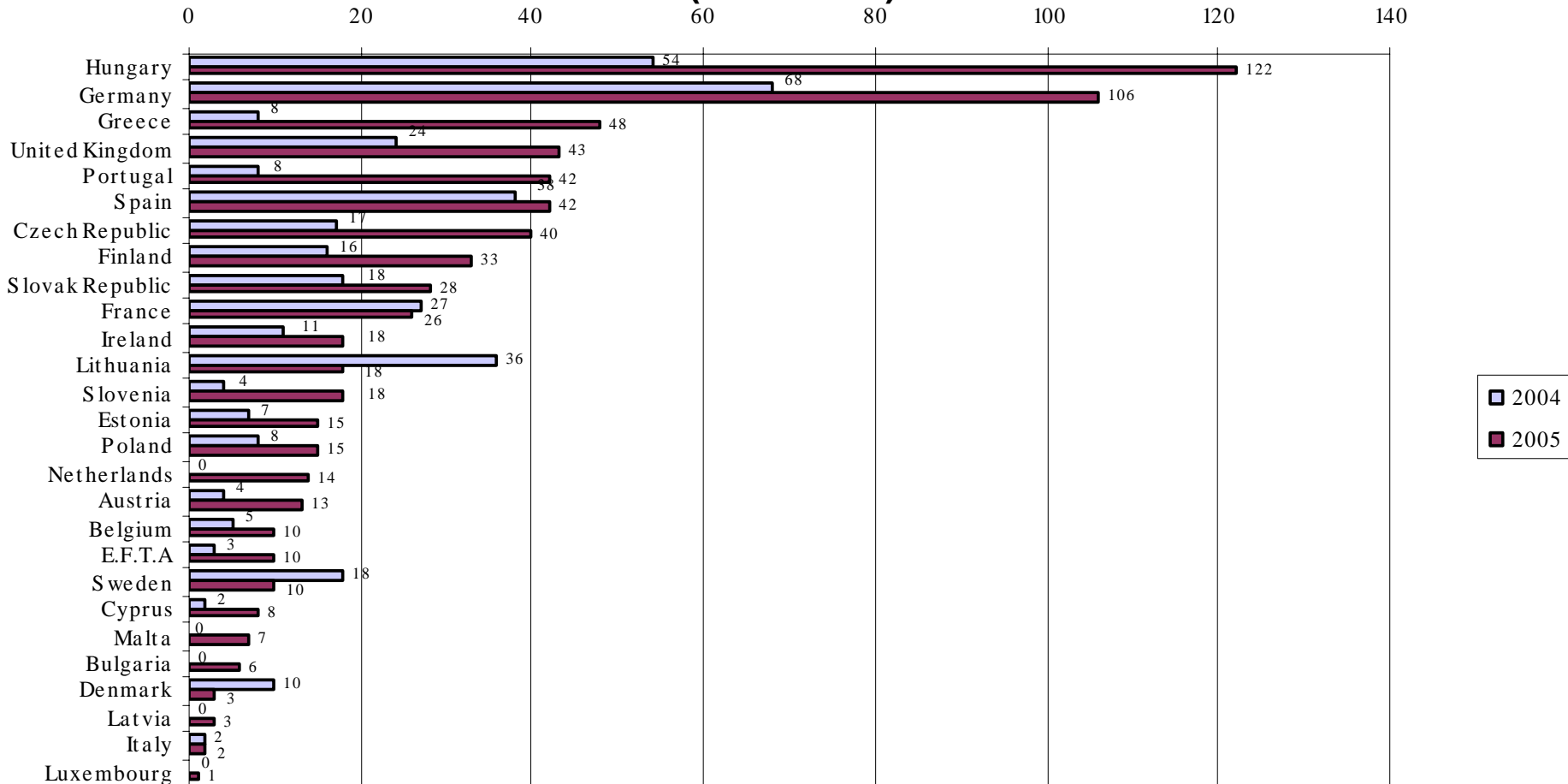
[http://ec.europa.eu/comm/dgs/health\\_consumer/dyna/rapex/rapex\\_archives.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/dgs/health_consumer/dyna/rapex/rapex_archives.cfm)



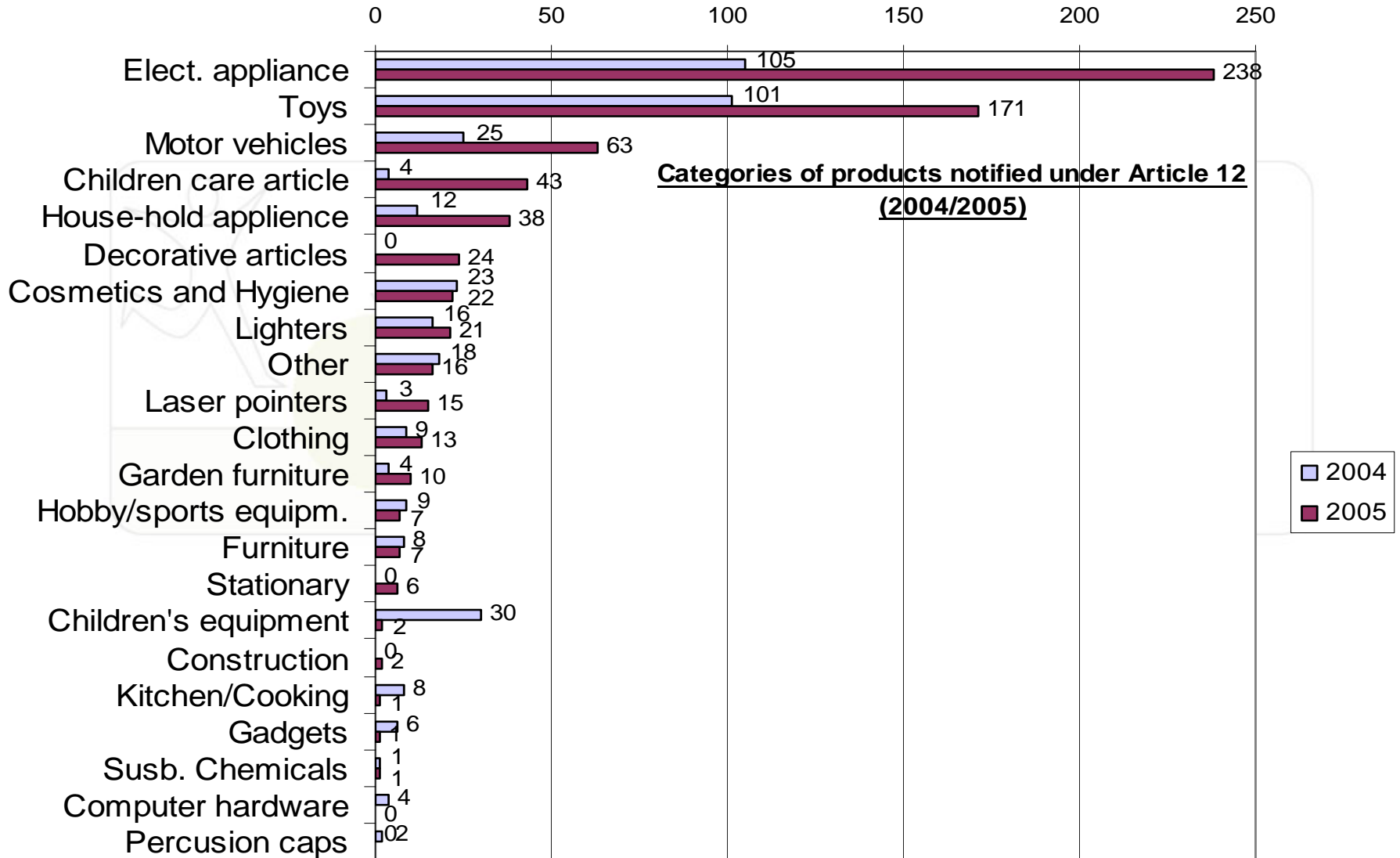
## RAPEX notifications 2002 - 2005



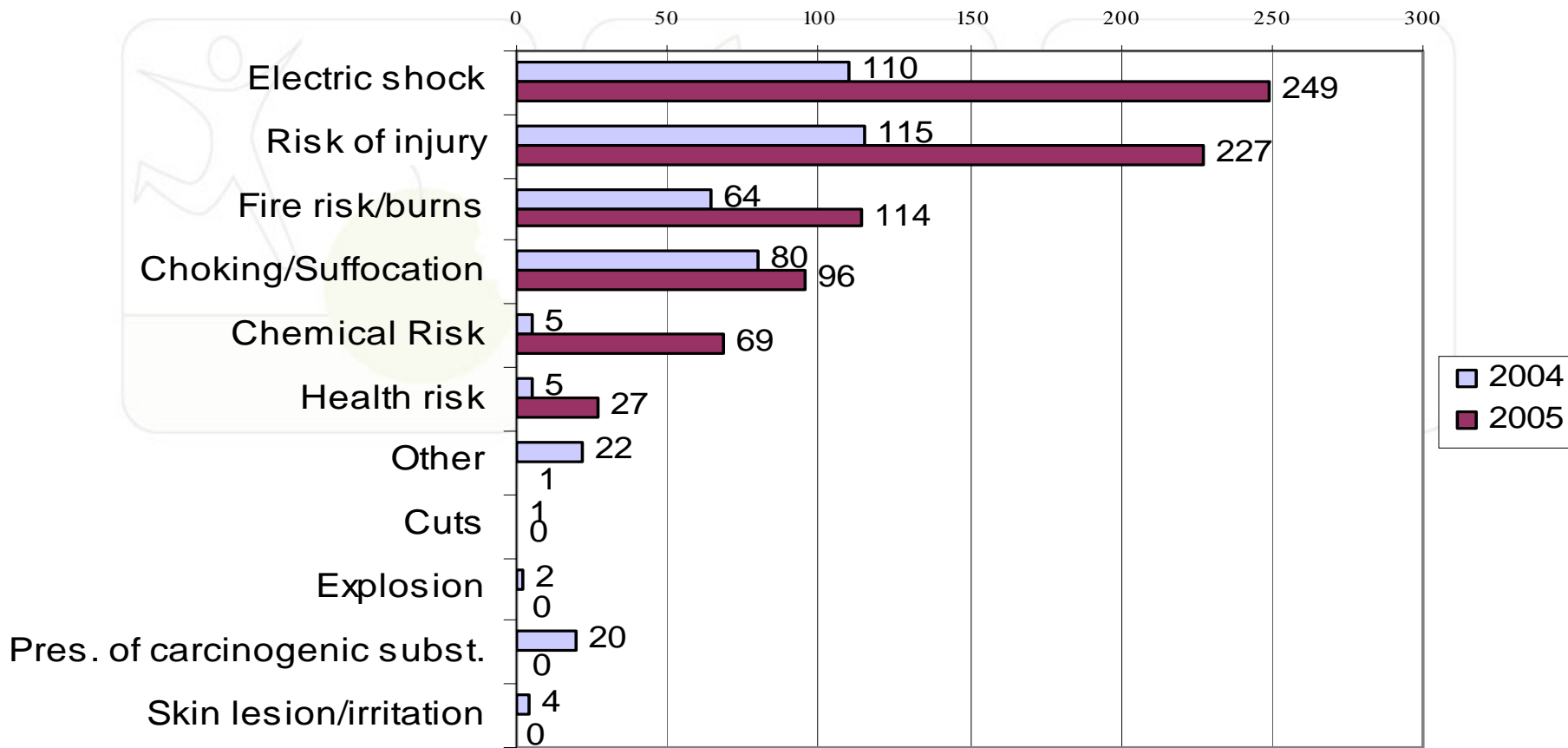
## Article 12 notifications by Members State (2004/2005)



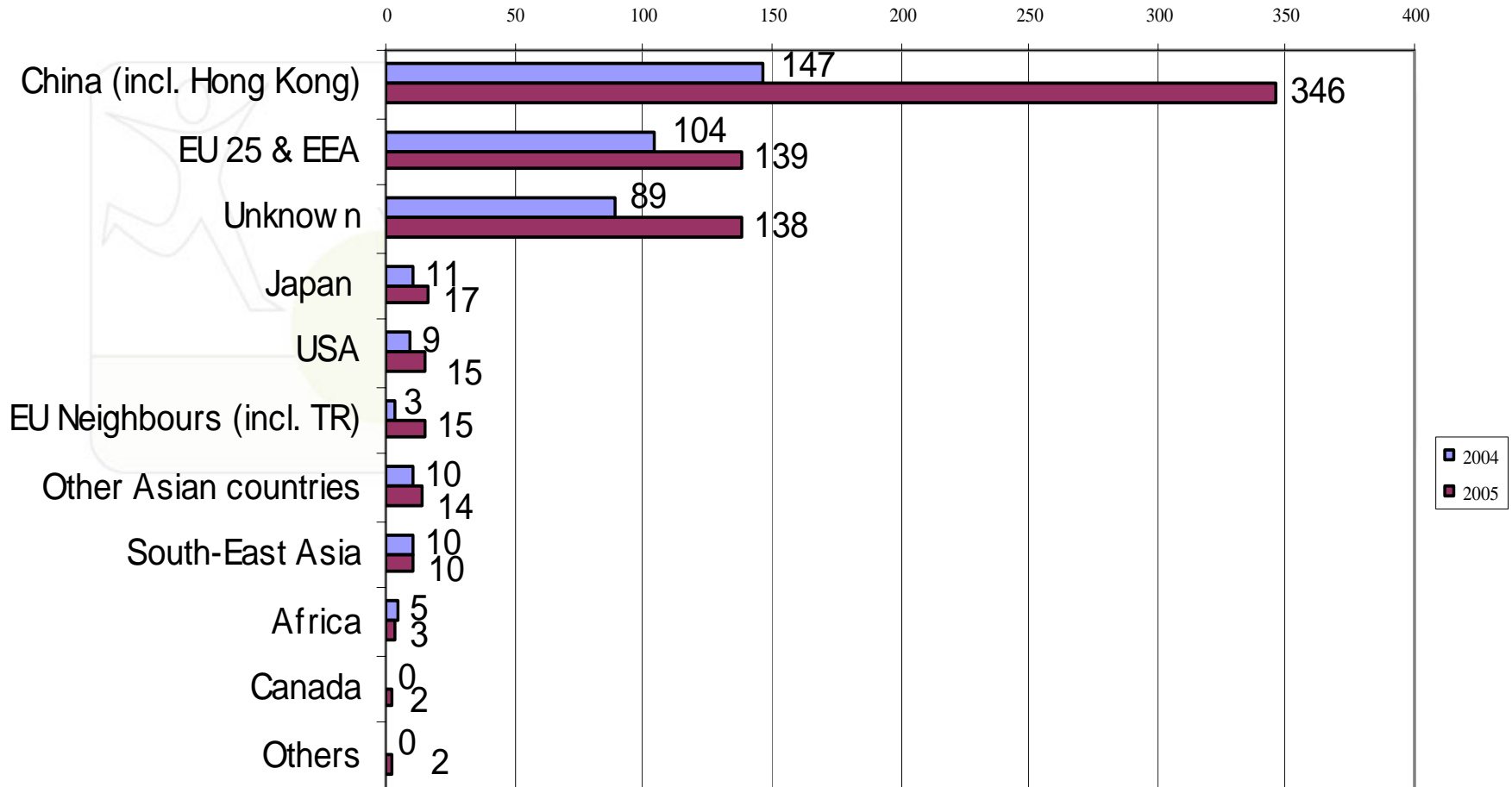
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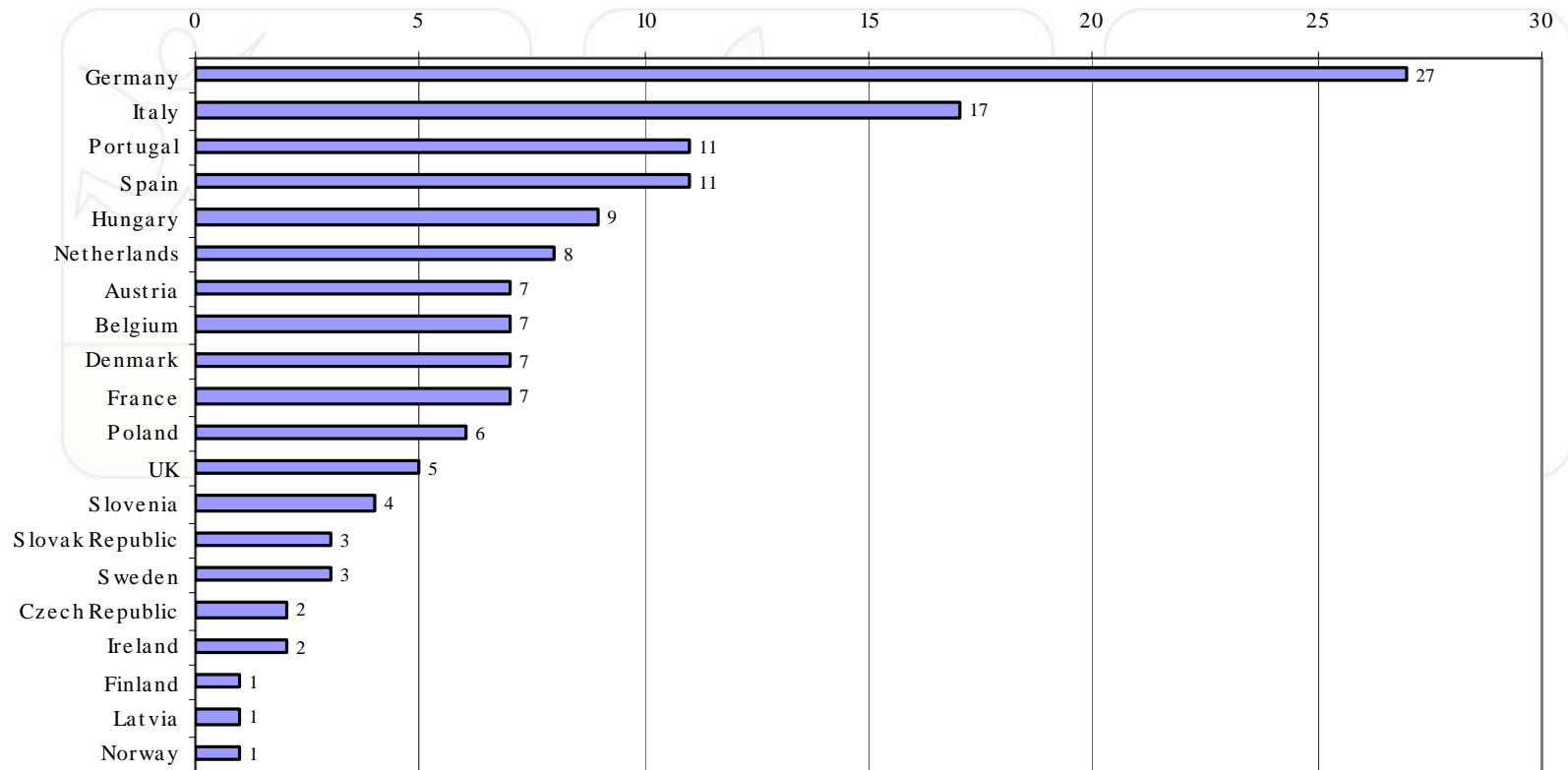
## Products notified under Article 12 by nature of the risk (2004/2005)



## Origin of the products notified under Article 12 ( 2004/2005)



## Origin of the products notified under Article 12 (Member States & EEA)



## Member States co-operation

- Network
- Joint actions
- IT-systems for communication between Member States - ICSMS
- Best practice market surveillance project – PROSAFE

## International co-operation

- USA – CPSC
- China - AQSIQ
- ICPSC
- Follow up on non compliances (RAPEX)
- Training and information for manufacturers
- Emerging risks
- International standardisation – ISO/COPOLCO

## Reviews

- General principles for sector legislation (New Approach)
- Application of GPSD
- Risk assessment guidelines
- Injury data collection
- ChemRisk

## Guidance documents:

- Borderline to sectoral directives
- Business notification duty
- RAPEX operation

## « Product safety in Europe – A guide to corrective action including recalls »

- Consensus document representing best practice
- Available on Commission website

■ <http://ec.europa.eu/comm/consumers/>



➤ Securing consumers safety

➤ Safety of products