

New legal framework for European Statistics

- Access to microdata

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Framework Regulation – an overview (1) ES and ESS

- ES
 - Concept defined in law
 - ES produced also by the ESCB
 - Reference to the European Statistical Programme
- ESS
 - Partnership acknowledged in law
 - Clear governance structure
 - Coordinating role of NSIs and the Commission (Eurostat)

Framework Regulation – an overview (2) ESS Committee

- Two kinds of tasks:
 - Comitology
 - Advisory
- Composed of representatives of the NSIs
- Replaces the Committee on Statistical Confidentiality

Framework regulation – An overview (3) European Statistics Code of Practice

- In place since 2005
- To be reviewed and updated by the ESS Committee
- Follow-up of implementation on Community level by ESGAB
- Elaborates the statistical principles
 - Access to microdata for research purposes is mentioned under two principles:
 - principle of statistical confidentiality
 - principle of accessibility and clarity

Framework Regulation – an overview (4) Flexible tools

- For the development, production and dissemination of ES
 - Temporary direct statistical actions decided by the Commission
 - Collaborative networks
 - European approach to statistics
 - Public use files
 - Data from public sources

Confidentiality provisions – In general (1)

- "Confidential data" – a definition

- "Statistical confidentiality" – the principle of protection
 - Two kinds of exceptions to the principle
 - **Data from public sources**

 - **If dissemination is foreseen in codecision act**
 - **If the statistical unit agrees to dissemination**

Confidentiality provisions – In general (2)

- Statistical disclosure control
 - Obligation to ensure protection
 - Obligation to harmonise
 - Implementing powers given to the Commission (Eurostat)

Statistical confidentiality – Access to micro data (1)

- Transmission of data with direct identifiers
- Between ESS authorities
- From ESS authority to ESCB member
- First transmission only
- Statistical purposes only
- "Specific domain of work"

Confidentiality provisions - Access to micro data (2)

Public Use Files

- Anonymised records
- Neither direct nor indirect identification
- Explicit approval of the national authority which provided the data

Confidentiality provisions - Access to micro data (3)

- Access for research
 - Granted by the Commission (Eurostat) and national authorities, respectively
 - Implementing powers given to the Commission (Eurostat)
 - Regulation (EC) No 831/2002 remains applicable
 - Competent committee is the ESS Committee
- Manual for the protection of confidential data within Eurostat