

European statistics

2007/0220(COD) - 11/03/2009 - Final act

PURPOSE: to revise the legal base for European statistics.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European statistics and repealing Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1101/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the transmission of data subject to statistical confidentiality to the Statistical Office of the European Communities, Council Regulation (EC) No 322/97 on Community Statistics, and Council Decision 89/382/EEC, Euratom establishing a Committee on the Statistical Programmes of the European Communities.

CONTENT: this Regulation establishes a legal framework for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics. It aims to revise the existing basic legal framework with a view to adapting it to the current situation and improving it to meet future developments and challenges.

In order to do so, the Regulation aims to:

- adapt definitions to Treaty requirements;
- consolidate ESS activities into Community law;
- clarify the role of the NSI's;
- clarify the role of Eurostat;
- strengthen reference to existing European Statistics Code of Practice;
- recognise the European approach to statistics; and
- reinforce the quality of European statistics.

The Regulation also addresses the operation of the ESS notably through the establishment of the ESS Committee. It addresses the matter of enhanced cooperation with other bodies of the ESS as well as with the ESCB.

Planning and implementation of the multi-annual programmes are also revised so that individual statistical actions may be carried out by the Commission under less restrictive conditions.

The Regulation introduces more flexibility on statistical confidentiality whilst preserving a high level of data protection.

The Regulation repeals Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1101/2008 on the transmission of data subject to statistical confidentiality to the Statistical Office of the European Communities, Regulation (EC) No 322/97 on Community Statistics, and Decision 89/382/EEC, Euratom establishing a Committee on the Statistical Programmes of the European Communities.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 01/04/2009.