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From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: EU Statistics
– 2025 Council conclusions on EU Statistics (13 November 2025)

Delegations will find attached the 2025 Council conclusions on EU Statistics as approved by the Council in its 4130th meeting held on 13 November 2025.

2025 COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS

ON EUROPEAN STATISTICS

The Council adopted the following conclusions:

Following the priorities set in the previous Council Conclusions on European statistics of November 2024, notably on the EFC Status Report on Information Requirements in EMU and taking into consideration the EU political priorities 2024–2029, the Council has reviewed the progress related to information requirements in EMU, statistics for the EDP, surveillance of macroeconomic imbalances and structural statistics.

European Statistics fit for the future

The Council WELCOMES the revision of Regulation (EC) 223/2009 on European statistics and ENCOURAGES the European Statistical System to leverage the new provisions related to enhanced access to administrative data and digital privately held data for fostering innovation and for compiling timelier, more granular and cost-effective European official statistics.

The Council TAKES NOTE OF the 20th anniversary of the European Statistics Code of Practice and RECOGNISES the importance of taking all the steps necessary to ensure that the professional independence of statistical offices is effectively respected in an era marked by rising disinformation. The Council INVITES the European Statistical System to reflect on a possible update of the Code with the aim to address the challenges arising from using Artificial Intelligence, new data sources and other innovative techniques in the production of European Statistics.

The Council REAFFIRMS its commitment to safeguarding the quality, timeliness and relevance of European statistics, while STRESSING the need to reduce administrative burden on businesses and public bodies. In this regard, the Council WELCOMES the efforts of the European Statistical System to contribute to the EU simplification agenda, in line with Commission's communication of 11 February 2025 on implementation and simplification, through reusing already collected data, new data sources and technological innovation. The Council URGES the European Statistical System to take as a priority the stress-testing of the EU statistical legislation with the aim to identify simplification and burden reduction measures that could be actioned and INVITES the Commission to report regularly on the progress achieved.

The Council WELCOMES the efforts to further strengthen the close cooperation between the ESS and the ESCB for the production of European statistics, as reflected in the revised Regulation (EC) 223/2009 on European statistics (Regulation (EU) 2024/3018) and in the ECB Recommendation for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2533/98 concerning the collection of statistical information by the European Central Bank (ECB/2025/17). The Council UNDERLINES that these reviews provide further impetus to maximise the benefits of close cooperation between the European Statistical System and the ESCB for the production of high-quality European official statistics.

Resourcing European statistics' priorities

The Council ACKNOWLEDGES that the implementation of the updated global system of national accounts is essential to ensure that European and national statistics reflect the realities of a digital, global and sustainable economy. The Council STRESSES the urgent need for Member States to ensure the adequacy of human and financial resources for the development and production of European official statistics, including the resources needed for the substantial work to be carried out on the update of the European System of National accounts and for harnessing the potential of new data sources and technologies.

The Council TAKES NOTE that the Commission proposal for a Single Market and Customs Programme includes a specific objective and dedicated annex covering the next programming framework for European statistics that aims to reflect the priorities and strategic goals laid down in the 2025 European Statistical System common position on the future of European statistics.

The 2025 EFC Status Report on Information Requirements in EMU

The Council APPRECIATES the further improvements in the quality and availability of the Principal European Economic Indicators (PEEIs). The Council UNDERLINES the continuing important role played by the PEEIs as a basis for monitoring short-term economic developments and LOOKS FORWARD TO further progress to close remaining gaps.

The Council WELCOMES the ongoing activities under the G20 Data Gaps Initiative, and in particular the work being undertaken on statistics on climate change and distributional measures of household income, consumption and wealth, which are instrumental to the conduct of key EU policies.

Statistics for the Stability and Growth Pact (SGP) and methodological support for European defence data

The Council STRESSES the need for the ongoing statistical work on advanced methodological guidance for the recording of defence expenditure in government finance statistics. The Council ENCOURAGES enhanced dialogue and coordination among the relevant European and national stakeholders to improve the comparability, reliability and transparency of defence expenditure statistics, and to ensure a timely provision of data by national statistical authorities on defence spending as defined by national accounts and expenditure under the SAFE instrument, as part of the EDP reporting to Eurostat, and in the context of the activation of National Escape Clauses.

Macroeconomic statistics

The Council WELCOMES the update of the UN global system of national accounts (SNA 2025) and the Balance of Payments Manual (BPM7), which bring important improvements in measuring digitalisation, globalisation, wellbeing and sustainability, and ENCOURAGES the European Statistical System to proceed with the update of the European System of Accounts (ESA 2010) to fully incorporate these improvements and maintain comparability internationally and between EU Member States to guarantee high quality statistics for the benefits of users, including for EU administrative purposes.

Statistics for the Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure (MIP)

The Council WELCOMES the quality assurance of statistics underlying the MIP and APPRECIATES the annual ESS-ESCB quality assessment report on MIP statistics by Eurostat and the ECB, TAKING NOTE OF the actions identified therein.

Commercial Real Estate Indicators

The Council TAKES NOTE of the Commission proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on non-financial commercial real estate statistics, which would contribute to addressing the ESRB recommendations and close the identified gaps in the availability of comparable statistics regarding the commercial real estate sector's prices, rents and the start of buildings construction.

Housing

The Council UNDERLINES the policy importance of the availability of timely and high-quality statistics on affordable and sustainable housing and APPRECIATES the effort of the European Statistical System to improve statistics in this area. The Council UNDERLINES the importance of considering the need to limit administrative burden and costs for Member States, businesses and citizens.

Revamping European Business Statistics

The Council WELCOMES the planned revamping of European Business and Trade Statistics to provide better insights into the competitiveness, productivity and resilience of EU businesses and their supply chains. The Council ENCOURAGES that special attention should be paid to the further reduction of administrative burden as well as costs attributed to the production of the respective statistics, whilst retaining their high quality.

Statistics for the green and energy transitions

The Council ACKNOWLEDGES the contributions that statistics brings to the green and energy transition, including on renewable energy and on electricity and gas prices, climate change mitigation, food security, and the shift of goods and passengers from more-polluting to less-polluting modes of transport. The Council APPRECIATES the effort of the European Statistical System to take forward the provision of timely and high-quality statistics under the revised Regulation (EU) 691/2011 on European Environmental Economic Accounts.

Agricultural and fishery statistics

The Council TAKES NOTE of the Commission proposal on European fisheries and aquaculture statistics, which would streamline existing legal acts and reduce the administrative burden by re-using relevant data from databases or registers set up by Union law.

Social statistics

The Council UNDERLINES the critical importance of high-quality integrated European social statistics for the development of European social policies, including the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Seventeenth report by the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board (ESGAB) on the implementation of the European Statistics Code of Practice

The Council TAKES NOTE of the seventeenth report of the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board (ESGAB), providing an independent overview of the European Statistical System as regards the implementation of the Code of Practice.
