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**RESOLUTION OF THE 1st STANDING COMMITTEE**

(Constitutional affairs, Affairs of the Prime Minister's Office and Home Affairs, General Legal System of the State and the Civil Service)

*(Rapporteur MANCUSO)*

*adopted at the sitting of 18 October 2016*

ON THE

**PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL AMENDING REGULATION (EU) NO 99/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL OF 15 JANUARY 2013 ON THE EUROPEAN STATISTICAL PROGRAMME 2013-17, BY EXTENDING IT TO 2018-2020 (COM (2016) 557 FINAL)**

*pursuant to Article 144(1) and (6) of the Rules of Procedure*

**Sent to the Prime Minister's Office on 25 October 2016**

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The Committee,

having examined the Proposal for a Regulation, pursuant to Article 144(1) and (6) of the Rules of Procedure,

whereas:

the Proposal amends Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Statistical Programme 2013-17, by extending it to 2018-2020, assuring the European Statistical System (ESS) of the financial assistance it needs to provide high-quality statistical information and close the current gaps,

considering that:

the availability of high-quality, comparable statistics on the economic, social and environmental situation in the European Union and on national and regional aspects thereof is particularly important for the purposes of implementing and monitoring the policies of the Union,

given also that:

the legal basis of the document is correctly identified as Article 338 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), which refers to the adoption of measures for the production of statistics necessary for monitoring the activities of the Union;

the document is in line with the principle of subsidiarity, in that the aim of the proposal, i.e. the development, production and dissemination of European statistics – in the context of an extension of the European Statistical Programme to the period 2018-2020 – cannot be implemented sufficiently by the Member States;

in line with the principle of proportionality, the Proposal for a Regulation restricts itself to that which is strictly necessary for the achievement of its aim,

issues a favourable opinion.

## **Opinion of the 14th Standing Committee**

(EUROPEAN UNION POLICIES)

(Rapporteur: MOLINARI)

11 October 2016

The Committee, having examined the Proposal,

considering that the aim of the Proposal is to extend the European Statistical Programme to include the period 2018-2020 and provide the financial assistance which the European Statistical Programme needs to be able to: provide high-quality statistical information and close the statistical gaps that need to be addressed most urgently, focusing on a number of priority areas that reflect the Commission's ten political priorities; build the permanent capacity needed to respond more quickly to emerging needs and to adapt the statistical infrastructure so as to harness the potential of new data sources; strengthen partnership within the ESS (comprising Eurostat, the national statistical offices and other competent authorities) and beyond in order to further increase its productivity and secure its leading role in official statistics worldwide;

noting that the Proposal, by amending the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2013, is intended to focus the collection of data on certain sensitive topics for the European Union, such as: social indicators, to reinforce the EU's social dimension; the impact of technological change and innovation on growth and employment and the system for monitoring the circular economy; energy consumption and energy balances; accessing services provided by intermediaries in content distribution, confidence in online platforms and intermediaries and the obstacles faced by households making cross-border purchases; house prices; external policies and assistance programmes and contributing to good governance and the democratic debate in partner countries ,

comments favourably on the proposal, within its area of responsibility, with the following observations:

The legal basis of the document is Article 338 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) on adopting measures for the production of statistics. These statistics should be produced only where necessary for the activities of the Union, i.e. with respect for the principle of subsidiarity. That Article also establishes that the production of European statistics must conform to standards of impartiality, reliability, objectivity, scientific independence, cost-effectiveness and statistical confidentiality; furthermore, it should not entail excessive burdens on economic operators, in line with the proportionality

principle. The Proposal respects the above-mentioned legitimacy requirements provided for by the Treaties;

In this regard, the Committee expresses its full consent to the production of European statistics on social indicators, useful for better understanding the impact of economic policies on the populations of the Member States, with particular reference to data on employment, labour market trends, poverty levels and social exclusion.

