

# Towards relevant, simplified and cost-efficient European official statistics

**IMPLEMENTATION  
DIALOGUES**

*Ready to listen*

## Summary conclusions

The Implementation Dialogue on European official statistics ‘Towards relevant, simplified and cost-efficient European official statistics’ was held in Brussels on 27 June. It featured an open and fruitful exchange with EU business community and representatives of national statistical authorities.

The objective was to gather feedback on challenges with current statistical reporting and identify simplification and burden reduction measures in the field of business and trade statistics while considering unmet user needs. Exchanges also addressed the opportunities in terms of simplification and burden reduction offered by the implementation of the recently revised Regulation (EC) 223/2009 on European statistics, notably through re-using already collected data, enhanced data sharing, and innovative approaches.

There was broad consensus on the need to step up efforts towards simplification and burden reduction in the production of European official statistics but also on the opportunities created by the new digital environment in that respect. Participants called for an increased digitalisation of the entire statistical process, including data collection from businesses and use of artificial intelligence. Stakeholders from the business community stressed the importance of combined efforts to encourage public authorities for wider re-use of already available data that are suitable to produce European official statistics, which in practice will implement the ‘once-only’ principle. Reality checks could also be organised by Eurostat to help identifying further areas for improvement regarding the collection of data from businesses. Concerning the re-use of privately held data for statistical purposes, participants highlighted the necessity to establish sustainable partnerships between statistical authorities and data holders based on trust and open dialogue, and the need to prioritise those areas with the most promising potential in terms of burden reduction.

Commissioner Dombrovskis concluded the Implementation Dialogue by stressing his firm resolve to work and deliver on simplification objectives and his intention to consider stakeholders’ views, notably in the context of the forthcoming evaluation of the legislative framework on business and trade statistics and of the implementation of the revised Regulation on European statistics.