

# Contents

<b>Contents .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>List of tables.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Abbreviations.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>1 Introduction.....</b>	<b>7</b>
1.1 European statistics on international trade in goods.....	7
1.2 EU legislation .....	7
1.3 Quality assurance .....	8
1.4 Quality assessment.....	9
<b>2 Relevance.....</b>	<b>10</b>
2.1 User needs.....	10
2.2 User satisfaction .....	10
2.3 Completeness .....	10
<b>3 Accuracy.....</b>	<b>11</b>
3.1 Thresholds and non-response .....	11
3.1.1 Collected and estimated data in intra-EU trade.....	11
3.1.2 Collected and estimated data in extra-EU trade.....	14
3.2 Estimating trade value and quantity.....	15
3.2.1 Trade value.....	15
3.2.2 Quantity .....	18
3.3 Data revisions .....	18
3.4 Confidentiality .....	19
3.5 Control procedures .....	23
<b>4 Timeliness and punctuality .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>5 Accessibility and clarity.....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>6 Coherence and comparability .....</b>	<b>27</b>
6.1 Comparability over space .....	27
6.1.1 Community figures versus national figures .....	27
6.1.2 Asymmetries in extra-EU trade statistics.....	28
6.1.3 Asymmetries in intra-EU trade statistics.....	29
6.2 Comparability over time .....	31
6.3 Coherence with other statistics .....	33
6.4 Internal coherence .....	33
<b>7 Trade-offs between output quality components .....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>8 Assessment of user needs and perceptions .....</b>	<b>35</b>

<b>9 Performance, cost and respondent burden.....</b>	<b>36</b>
9.1 Performance and cost.....	36
9.2 Respondent burden .....	36
<b>10 Confidentiality, transparency and security.....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Annex — Data for 2011 .....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Glossary .....</b>	<b>53</b>