



2016/0265(COD)

11.1.2017

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

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 on the European statistical programme 2013-17, by extending it to 2018-2020
(COM(2016)0557 – C8-0367/2016 – 2016/0265(COD))

Rapporteur: Maria Arena

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The need for a political response to the profound economic crisis and its social impact has fuelled demands for better economic and social policies based on robust and comparable evidence. Evidence-based decisions are especially important for the performance management of EU policies. On numerous occasions, for instance in the ECOFIN Council conclusions of 8 December 2015, the Council has stressed the vital importance of official statistics for policymaking.

The main objective of the proposal by the Commission is therefore to extend this Regulation 99/2013 for the 2018-2020 period and provide the financial support that the European Statistical System needs in order 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 10 political priorities in the Commission's Agenda for jobs, growth, fairness and democratic change and other Union policies such as the European Semester, the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, and the European Energy Union;
- 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; and
- strengthen partnership within the European Statistical System (ESS) and beyond in order to further increase its productivity and secure its leading role in official statistics worldwide

The Rapporteur welcomes the Commission proposal. She suggests specifying and improving the social indicators to be provided by the ESS and strengthening synergies. She highlights, in particular, the importance of producing and disseminating social indicators to monitor the progress of the Europe 2020 strategy. She also recalls the importance of producing indicators which go beyond GDP as well as statistics on poverty and risks of social exclusion, on job quality, but also gender-based statistics, with a specific focus on gender-based violence. In the longer term, the Rapporteur also suggests modernising social statistics by implementing a common legal basis as well as by using a common infrastructure and common tools.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point -a (new)

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 1 – point 1.1 – introductory part

“1.1. Europe 2020

*The endorsement of Europe 2020 by the European Council of June 2010 has shaped to a large extent the strategic agenda for the Union and national policies in the years ahead. That agenda establishes a number of headline targets and flagship initiatives for which statistical indicators have to be delivered by the ESS in a number of areas (i.e. improving the conditions for innovation, research and development, promoting employment, meeting **Union** climate change and energy objectives, resource efficiency, improving education levels, **including** learning mobility, active and healthy ageing, **and** promoting social inclusion **through the reduction of poverty**).*”

(-a) In Point 1.1, the first paragraph is replaced by the following:

“1.1. Europe 2020

Endorsement of *the* Europe 2020 *strategy for ‘smart, sustainable and inclusive’ growth by the* June 2010 *European Council* has shaped to a large extent the strategic agenda for the *European* Union and national policies in the years ahead. That agenda establishes a number of headline targets and flagship initiatives for which statistical indicators have to be delivered by the ESS in a number of areas (i.e. improving the conditions for innovation, research and development, promoting *high-quality* employment, *promoting equality of treatment on the labour market irrespective of gender*, meeting *EU* climate change and energy objectives, resource efficiency, improving education levels, *reducing early school leaving, increasing lifelong vocational training and* learning mobility, active and healthy ageing, promoting social inclusion, *and reducing poverty, with a focus on vulnerable groups (children, migrants, minorities, and people with a disability). Gender-disaggregated statistics for all indicators are needed in order to understand what gender-based discrimination involves, with a focus on violence against women.*”

Or. fr

(<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R0099&qid=1484042701710&from=EN>)

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point a

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 1 – point 1.1 – point 1.1.1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Provide high-quality statistical information, which *should* be available in a timely manner *for the European Semester*, to *monitor the* implementation of Europe 2020. New indicators shall, to the extent possible, be based on available statistical data.

Amendment

Provide high-quality statistical information, which *must* be available in a timely manner, *with a view to monitoring* implementation of Europe 2020. New indicators shall, to the extent possible, be based on available statistical data.

Or. fr

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point a (new)

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 1 – point 1.1 – point 1.1.1 – paragraph 2

Present text

“The objective will be implemented by *the making available of*:

— updated headline target indicators for Europe 2020 (in the areas of employment, research and development, innovation, energy/climate change, education, environment, social protection, social inclusion and poverty) on the *Commission* (Eurostat) website;

— *statistics to support the monitoring of the implementation of Europe 2020 flagship initiatives*;

— additional indicators as an input for the ex-ante and ex-post evaluations of the economic, social and environmental policies of the Union; and

Amendment

(aa) In Objective 1.1.1, the second paragraph is replaced by the following:

“The objective will be implemented by:

— *the making available of* updated headline target indicators for *the* Europe 2020 *strategy* (in the areas of employment, *equality of treatment irrespective of gender*, research and development, innovation, energy/climate change, education, environment, social protection, social inclusion and poverty *reduction*) on the Eurostat website;

— *the inclusion, in connection with new statistical products, of the 17 goals and 169 targets under the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals strategy*;

— *the making available of* additional indicators as an input for the ex-ante and ex-post evaluations of the economic, social and environmental policies of the Union *as part of the Europe 2020 strategy in terms of growth, high-quality employment,*

— employment indicators distinguishing between part-time and full-time employment, as well as indicators on unemployment that take into account people in activation policies such as training.”

poverty reduction and social exclusion;

— *the making available of* employment indicators distinguishing between part-time and full-time employment, as well as indicators on unemployment that take into account people in activation policies such as training.”

Or. fr

(<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R0099&from=EN>)

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point b

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 1 – point 1.2 – point 1.2.1 – paragraph 2 – indent 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) In Objective 1.2.1, the second indent is replaced by the following:

deleted

— *providing statistical input for an enhanced Stability and Growth Pact specifically aimed at the production and provision of high-quality statistics on government deficit and debt;*

Or. fr

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point b a (new)

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 1 – point 1.2 – point 1.2.1 – paragraph 2 – indent 3

Present text

Amendment

“— developing and producing a set of indicators to measure competitiveness;

(ba) In Objective 1.2.1, second paragraph, the third indent is replaced by the following:

“— developing and producing a set of indicators to measure competitiveness **and**

and”

take account of its impact on employment rate, working conditions and pay, providing statistical input for an enhanced Stability and Growth Pact specifically aimed at the production and provision of high-quality statistics on government deficit and debt, and developing indicators to assess the types of investment carried out and the quality thereof in terms of sustainability and impact on growth.”

Or. fr

(<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R0099&from=FR>)

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point b b (new)

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 1 – point 1.2 – point 1.3.1 – paragraph 1

Present text

Amendment

“Enhance the indicators and statistical information available on economic globalisation and global value chains for *Union* decision-makers and the public at large.”

(bb) In Objective 1.3.1, the first paragraph is replaced by the following:

“Enhance the indicators and statistical information available on economic globalisation and global value chains for *EU* decision-makers and the public at large. *That information should make for a better understanding of the economic, social and environmental impact of globalisation.*”

Or. fr

(<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R0099&from=EN>)

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point b c (new)

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 1 – point 1.3 – point 1.3.1 – paragraph 2 – indent 2 a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(bc) In Objective 1.3.1, a new indent is inserted after the second indent as follows:

“— an analysis of the positive and negative consequences for the European market, in particular the EU’s labour market;”

Or. fr

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point e – point i

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 2 – point 2.1 – point 2.1.1 – paragraph 2 – indent 4

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

*“— reinforcement of links with national accounts in the areas of **social protection, health and education**”*

*“— reinforcement of links with national accounts in the areas of **health, education and social protection, including housing, access to services and social inclusion;**
— **development of a plan for measuring economic output beyond the sole criterion of GDP.**”*

Or. fr

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point e – point ii – introductory part

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 2 – point 2.1 – point 2.1.1 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

ii) ***Two*** new indents are inserted after the fifth indent as follows:

ii) ***Three*** new indents are inserted after the fifth indent as follows:

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point e – point ii

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 2 – point 2.1 – point 2.1.1 – paragraph 2 – indent -5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

“— the making available and processing of data in a form that makes visible the impact of the economic crisis on citizens in each individual Member State.”

Or. fr

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point f

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 2 – point 2.1 – point 2.1.2 – paragraph 2 – indent 5

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

“— the availability and extension of harmonised housing price statistics for all Member States.”

“— the availability and extension of harmonised housing price statistics for all Member States, **taking account of regional disparities and construction quality.**”

Or. fr

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point g

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 2 – point 2.1 – point 2.2.1 – paragraph 2 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

“— the development of a coherent system

“— the development of a coherent system

of environmental accounts as ‘satellite accounts’ to the main national accounts, providing information on atmospheric emissions, energy consumption, flows of natural resources, trade in raw materials, environmental taxation and spending on environmental protection, possibly including green growth/procurement;”

of environmental accounts as ‘satellite accounts’ to the main national accounts, providing information on atmospheric emissions, energy consumption, flows of natural resources, trade in raw materials, environmental taxation and spending on environmental protection, possibly including green growth/procurement, ***taking account of potential carbon leakage such as, for example, through consumption of imported products with a high environmental footprint;***”

Or. fr

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point g

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 2 – point 2.1 – point 2.2.1 – paragraph 2 - indent 3

Text proposed by the Commission

— the development of indicators measuring environmental ***"footprints"***.”

Amendment

— the development of indicators measuring environmental ***“footprints” and global environmental pressure.***”

Or. fr

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point h – point i

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 3.1.1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

“Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of statistical production processes.
Considering the fact that the Lisbon Treaty has called for better regulation, a streamlining of the legislation related to the pillar of business statistics is needed.”

Amendment

“Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of statistical production processes. Provide high-quality statistics on key areas where enterprises are the centre of interest, such as business statistics, short-term indicators, their investment in human capital, ***in-***”

In so doing, due consideration should be given to the limitations of the resources available to producers and the overall burden on respondents in line with the Commission Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme (REFIT).

Provide high-quality statistics on key areas where enterprises are the centre of interest, such as business statistics, short-term indicators, their investment in human capital and skills, international transactions, globalisation, internal market monitoring, R&D and innovation, and tourism. Special attention should be paid to the availability of data in high value-added industrial or services sectors, in particular in the green, digital or social economy (such as health and education). “

service training and skills, international transactions, globalisation, internal market monitoring, R&D and innovation, and tourism. Special attention should be paid to the availability of data in high value-added industrial or services sectors, in particular in the green, digital or social economy (such as health and education). “

Or. fr

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point i – point -i (new)

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 3.2.1 – paragraph 1

Present text

“Provide statistics on **key** areas of social policy where the citizen is the centre of interest, such as well-being, sustainability, social cohesion, poverty, inequalities, demographic challenges (in particular population ageing and migration), the labour market, education and training, including **childhood** education, adult **learning**, vocational training and learning **mobility of young people**, culture, physical activity, quality of life, safety, health, disability, consumption, free movement and the internal market, mobility of young people, technological innovation and new lifestyle choices. Those statistics shall be

Amendment

(-i) The first paragraph is replaced by the following:

“Provide statistics on **the main** areas of social policy where the citizen is the centre of interest, such as well-being, sustainability, social cohesion, poverty, inequalities, demographic challenges (in particular population ageing and migration), the labour market, education and training, including education **for children**, adult **education**, vocational training and learning, culture, physical activity, quality of life, safety, health, disability, consumption, free movement and the internal market, mobility of young people, technological innovation and new lifestyle choices. Those statistics shall be

disaggregated by gender where appropriate, for groups that are of special interest to social policy makers. Priorities shall be set in accordance with Article 6.”

disaggregated by gender, where appropriate, for groups that are of special interest to social policy makers. Priorities shall be set in accordance with Article 6.”

Or. fr

(<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R0099&from=EN>)

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point i – point ii – introductory part

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 3.2.1 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

ii) A new *indent is* inserted after the seventh indent as follows:

Amendment

ii) **Three** new *indents are* inserted after the seventh indent as follows:

Or. fr

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point i – point ii

Regulation (EU) No 99/2013

Annex I – point I – point 3 – point 3.1 – point 3.2.1 – paragraph 2 – indent 7 b and c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

“— the development of a methodology for an investigation into gender-based violence, in cooperation with the Union institutions acting in this area;

— the establishment of a common legal basis for social statistics and the production of a common infrastructure and of common tools.”

Or. fr