



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

2011/0459(COD)

31.5.2012

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
on the European statistical programme 2013-2017
(COM(2011)0928 – C7-0001/2012 – 2011/0459(COD))

Rapporteur: Ádám Kósa

PA_Legam

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs calls on the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation Recital -1 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(-1) Solid empirical data and statistics are of vital importance in order to measure the progress and evaluate the efficiency of Union's policies and programmes, especially in the context of the EU 2020 Strategy.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(2) In accordance with that Regulation, the European statistical programme should provide the framework for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, the main fields and the objectives of the actions envisaged for a period not exceeding five years. It should lay down priorities concerning the needs for information for the purpose of carrying out the activities of the European Union. Those needs should be weighed against the resources needed at Union and national level to provide the required statistics, and also against the response burden and the respondents' associated costs.

(2) In accordance with that Regulation, the European statistical programme should provide the framework for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, the main fields and the objectives of the actions envisaged for a period not exceeding five years. It should lay down priorities concerning the needs for information for the purpose of carrying out the activities of the European Union. Those needs should be weighed against the resources needed at Union and national level to provide the required statistics, and also against the response burden and the respondents' associated costs, ***paying***

particular attention to cost-effectiveness.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation Recital 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3a) The implementation of the programme should be an opportunity to produce harmonised European statistics in order to contribute to the development, production and dissemination of common, comparable and reliable statistical information at the European level.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4) *Statistics* developed, produced and disseminated under this programme should contribute to the implementation of the policies of the European Union, as reflected in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and other policies addressed in the Commission's strategic priorities for 2010-2014 (i.e. strengthened and integrated economic governance, climate change, reformed agricultural policy, growth and social cohesion, people's Europe and globalisation) and should be fostered through actions financed under this programme where the European Union can bring a clear added value.

(4) ***High-quality statistics*** developed, produced and disseminated under this programme ***are vital for evidence based decision-making and*** should contribute to the implementation of the policies of the European Union, as reflected in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and other policies addressed in the Commission's strategic priorities for 2010-2014 (i.e. strengthened and integrated economic governance, climate change, reformed agricultural policy, growth and social cohesion, people's Europe and globalisation) and should be fostered through actions financed under this programme where the European Union can bring a clear added value.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4b) In addition, particular attention should be paid in statistical studies to the impact on workers and citizens of the measures taken by the EU in agreements between states and the Troika to overcome the worldwide financial and economic crisis. To that end, statistical data should be collected in such a way as to ensure the visibility of developments in individual Member States, e.g. unemployment, job movements, amount of and changes in social transfer payments, number and quality of jobs, socio-geographical changes resulting from job movements within the Member States, within the EU, from the EU and into the EU, changes in pay structure and training measures.

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 7 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The financial envelope of the Programme should also be allocated in such a way so as to cover the expenses needed for improving the processes and the capacity of producing high-quality statistics, at national level, and for the training needs of national statisticians.

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation
Article 1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The European statistical programme for the period from 2013 to 2017 (hereinafter

The European statistical programme for the period from 2013 to 2017 (hereinafter

referred to as ‘the programme’) is hereby established.

referred to as ‘the programme’) is hereby established. ***The programme is included in the Annex.***

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The programme represents the added value of ensuring that European statistics are focused on the information needed to design, implement, monitor and evaluate Union policies. In addition, it contributes to the effective use of resources by fostering actions which provide an essential contribution to the development, production and dissemination of harmonised, comparable and reliable statistical information.

Amendment

The programme represents the added value of ensuring that European statistics are focused on the information needed to design, implement, monitor and evaluate Union policies. In addition, it contributes to the effective use of resources by fostering actions which provide an essential contribution to the development, production and dissemination of harmonised, comparable and reliable statistical information, ***on the basis of uniform standards and common quality assessment criteria, in particular "relevance", "accuracy", "timeliness", "accessibility" and "coherence".***

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The general objective of the programme is ***for*** the European Statistical System to be the leading provider of high-quality statistics ***on Europe***.

Amendment

1. The general objective of the programme is ***to secure and promote the status of*** the European Statistical System, ***which is the partnership between the Union statistical authority and the national statistical institutes and other national authorities,*** to ***continue to*** be the leading ***public*** provider of high-quality ***European*** statistics ***for policy-making and wider range of users, including citizens and should be easily accessible to everyone.***

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The objectives referred to in this Article are specified in the Annex together with the indicators used for monitoring the implementation of the programme. In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 they shall be subject to detailed annual planning that will include a priority-setting mechanism as an integral part of the process. They shall be achieved through a close and coordinated cooperation in the European Statistical System, ***which is the partnership between the Union statistical authority and the national statistical institutes and other national authorities.***

Amendment

3. The objectives referred to in this Article are specified in the Annex together with the indicators used for monitoring the implementation of the programme. In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 they shall be subject to detailed annual planning that will include a priority setting mechanism as an integral part of the process. They shall be achieved through a close and coordinated cooperation in the European Statistical System. ***The programme will cover the development of appropriate instruments leading to enhanced quality, greater flexibility of the European Statistical System and increased ability to satisfy users' needs in a timely manner.***

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation Article 5 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The programme shall be implemented in accordance with the principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice with a view to producing and disseminating high-quality, harmonised European statistics and ensuring the proper functioning of the European Statistical System as a whole. Appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure good coordination

Amendment

The programme shall be implemented in accordance with the principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice with a view to producing and disseminating high-quality, harmonised ***and comparable*** European statistics and ensuring the proper functioning of the European Statistical System as a whole. Appropriate measures shall be taken ***and resources provided*** to

and effective priority setting within the ESS in order to contribute to the reduction of *administrative* burden on *statistical* respondents. National authorities and the Union statistical authority shall ensure that European statistics comply with the European *quality standards* and serve the needs of European Union institutional users, governments, regional authorities, research institutions, civil society organisations, enterprises and the public.

ensure good coordination and effective priority setting within the ESS in order to contribute to the reduction of burden on respondents *and better use the limited resources at the EU and the Member States level. In introducing new actions, the Commission shall duly justify those actions and shall provide information in accordance with Article 14(3) of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009.* National authorities *competent for European statistics* and the Union statistical authority shall ensure that European statistics comply with the European *Statistics Code of Practice* and serve the needs of European Union institutional users, governments, regional authorities, research institutions, civil society organisations, enterprises and the public *and that European statistics are based on well-defined priorities in compliance with the principle of a free and transparent access to European statistics.*

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

In order to implement the programme the Commission shall adopt annual work programmes which shall satisfy the requirements laid down in Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 and shall set out the objectives pursued and the expected results.

Amendment

In order to implement the programme the Commission shall adopt annual work programmes which shall satisfy the requirements laid down in Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 and shall set out the objectives pursued and the expected results, *in compliance with the objectives referred in Article 4 of the present regulation. Each annual programme shall be submitted to the European Parliament.*

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 1.1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

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. This 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 EU 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***).

Amendment

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. This 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, ***poverty reduction***, meeting EU climate change and energy objectives, resource efficiency, improving education levels, including ***preventing early school leaving and exclusion of students with disabilities***, learning mobility, active, ***barrier-free*** and healthy ageing, and promoting social inclusion ***and employment with special regard to people with disabilities or minority background***).

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 1.1 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Provide quality statistical information to monitor the implementation of Europe 2020 policy for smart, sustainable, inclusive growth.

Amendment

Provide quality statistical information to monitor the implementation of Europe 2020 policy for smart, sustainable, inclusive growth. ***New indicators shall, as far as possible, be based on available statistical data.***

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 1.1 – paragraph 3 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Updated headline target indicators for Europe 2020 (in the area of employment, research and development, innovation, energy/climate change, education, environment, social protection **and** social inclusion) available on the Eurostat website;

Amendment

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

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 1.1 – paragraph 3 – indent 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 1.2 – paragraph 3 – indent 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

A set of social indicators in order to monitor economic governance in the context of the Europe 2020 Strategy for Growth and Jobs.

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 1.3 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The effects of the financial crisis, the increase in cross-border flows and the fragmentation of production processes have highlighted the need for a more coherent framework and enhanced measurement of globalised production.

Amendment

The ***social and economic*** effects of the financial crisis, the increase in cross-border flows and the fragmentation of production processes have highlighted the need for a more coherent framework and enhanced measurement of globalised production.

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 2.1 – title

Text proposed by the Commission

2.1 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
PERFORMANCE

Amendment

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
PERFORMANCE ***AND EMPLOYMENT***

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 2.1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The economic crisis has reinforced the need to have a set of high-quality macroeconomic indicators to better understand and analyse economic fluctuations and thereby facilitate the decision-making process. Increasingly globalised production makes it necessary to develop a consistent framework that facilitates the interpretation and integration of statistics from different domains.

Amendment

The economic crisis has reinforced the need to have a set of high-quality macroeconomic indicators to better understand and analyse economic fluctuations ***also in relation to social consequences*** and thereby facilitate the decision-making process. Increasingly globalised production makes it necessary to develop a consistent framework that facilitates the interpretation and integration of statistics from different domains.

Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 2.1 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Supplement measurement of economic performance by different dimensions of globalisation, the quality of life, environmental sustainability, health, well-being **and** social cohesion. Develop a framework for the analysis of globalised production.

Amendment

Supplement measurement of economic performance by different dimensions of globalisation, the quality of life, **access to goods and services**, environmental sustainability, health, well-being, social cohesion **and social inclusion**. Develop a framework for the analysis of globalised production.

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 2.1 – paragraph 3 – indent 4

Text proposed by the Commission

Satellite accounts developed for at least two new areas (e.g. research and development, health, social accounts);

Amendment

Satellite accounts developed for at least two new areas (e.g. research and development, health, **education**, social accounts, **including housing and access to services, social inclusion**);

Amendment 23

Proposal for a regulation

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

Text proposed by the Commission

A database for growth **and productivity** measurement created;

Amendment

A database for growth measurement created;

Justification

Although the creation of a productivity database would be useful for users, its setting up would require a lot of resources from data producers which is not in line with the requirement of burden reduction.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 2.1 – paragraph 2 – indent 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

***Harmonisation of the corresponding
accounting and statistical concepts.***

Justification

*This would lead to reduce response burden and increase the efficiency of the use of
administrative data.*

Amendment 25

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 2.1 – paragraph 2 – indent 6 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

***A conceptual framework for the
measurement of quality of life and
wellbeing developed.***

Amendment 26

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 2.1 – paragraph 5 – indent 5

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Harmonised housing and related statistics
available for all Member States.

Harmonised housing, ***including the
affordability and accessibility of housing,***
and related statistics available for all
Member States.

Amendment 27

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 2.2 – paragraph 3 – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

A coherent system of environmental accounts developed as ‘satellite accounts’ to the main National Accounts, providing information on atmospheric emissions, energy consumption, flows and reserves of material natural resources and water, trade in basic and in critical raw materials, environmental taxation and spending on environmental protection, possibly including green growth/procurement;

Amendment

A coherent system of environmental accounts developed as ‘satellite accounts’ to the main National Accounts, providing information on atmospheric emissions, energy consumption, flows and reserves of material natural resources and water, trade in basic and in critical raw materials, environmental taxation and spending on environmental protection, possibly including green growth/procurement;
Consideration, when defining statistical areas to be developed, of the objectives of Regulation No 691/2011 on European environmental economic accounts, which relate to the development of new environmental economic account modules.

Amendment 28

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 3.1 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of production processes. Provide 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, single 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.

Amendment

Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of production processes. Provide 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, single 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, ***especially in green or digital economy sectors.***

Amendment 29

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 3.2 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

European citizens are at the heart of a large number of EU policies. Consequently, social statistics in the broad sense are in heavy demand to support the decision-making process but also to help European citizens assess the impact of these policies on their lives.

Amendment

European citizens are at the heart of a large number of EU policies. Consequently, social statistics in the broad sense are in heavy demand to support the decision-making process, ***in particular by relating them to economic indicators***, but also to help European citizens assess the impact of these policies on their lives.

Amendment 30

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 3.2. – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Provide quality statistics on key areas of social policy where the citizen is the centre of interest, such as social cohesion, poverty, demographic challenges (elderly people and migration in particular), the labour market, education and training, including learning mobility of young people, culture, physical activity, quality of life, safety, health, disability, consumption, free movement and the single market, mobility of young people, technological innovation and new lifestyle choices.

Amendment

Provide quality statistics on key areas of social policy where the citizen is the centre of interest, such as social cohesion, poverty, demographic challenges (***including*** elderly people, ***disabled people, people with minority background***, and migration in particular), the labour market, (***including the working poor***), education and training, including ***childhood education, adult learning, and learning*** mobility of young people, culture, physical activity, quality of life, safety, health, disability(***including barrier-free environment and services***), consumption, free movement and the single market, mobility of young people, technological innovation and new lifestyle choices.

Amendment 31

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 3.2 – paragraph 3 – indent 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Statistics provided on the nature and quality of jobs: qualitative indicators on employment distinguishing between part-time and full-time, as well as qualitative indicators on unemployment that take into account people in activation policies such as training.

Amendment 32

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 3.2. – paragraph 2 – indent 5

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Statistics provided on safety, health and disability;

Statistics provided on safety, health and disability, ***including accessibility***;

Amendment 33

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 3.2 – paragraph 3 – indent 7

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Quality of life indicators to measure progress of societies provided.

Quality of life indicators, ***including housing and access to services, to*** measure progress of societies provided.

Amendment 34

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter I – point 3.3 – paragraph 9 – indent 3

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Statistics on transport safety, passenger mobility, road traffic measurement and intermodal freight transport produced and disseminated.

Statistics on transport safety, passenger mobility ***and accessibility of transport means and modes***, road traffic measurement and intermodal freight

transport produced and disseminated.

Amendment 35

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter II – point 3 – paragraph 2 – indent 11 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Improve the provision of ‘necessary information’, i.e. background information on how data are collected, on the quality of data and on the methods used to ensure that users can more readily understand the data collected.

Amendment 36

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter II – point 4 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Make the ESS the first data source on EU statistics for all users and, in particular, for public and private decision-makers, by providing a quality statistical information service based on the principles of free access to European statistics.

Make the ESS the first data source on EU statistics for all users and, in particular, for public and private decision-makers, by providing a quality statistical information service based on the principles of free ***and easy*** access to European statistics.

Amendment 37

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter II – point 4 – paragraph 6 – indent 7

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

An increased offer of micro-data sets for statistical research purposes.

An increased offer of micro-data sets for statistical research purposes ***and easier access to data for researchers.***

Amendment 38

Proposal for a regulation

Annex – chapter II – point 5 – paragraph 3 – indent 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Training programmes offered addressing
user needs;

Amendment

Training programmes offered addressing
user and *citizens'* needs;

PROCEDURE

Title	European statistical programme 2013-2017		
References	COM(2011)0928 – C7-0001/2012 – 2011/0459(COD)		
Committee responsible Date announced in plenary	ECON 17.1.2012		
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	EMPL 17.1.2012		
Rapporteur Date appointed	Ádám Kósa 19.1.2012		
Discussed in committee	27.3.2012	24.4.2012	30.5.2012
Date adopted	31.5.2012		
Result of final vote	+: 41 -: 2 0: 0		
Members present for the final vote	Regina Bastos, Heinz K. Becker, Jean-Luc Bennahmias, Phil Bennion, Pervenche Berès, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Philippe Boulland, Alejandro Cercas, Ole Christensen, Derek Roland Clark, Minodora Cliveti, Marije Cornelissen, Frédéric Daerden, Karima Delli, Sari Essayah, Richard Falbr, Thomas Händel, Marian Harkin, Nadja Hirsch, Ádám Kósa, Jean Lambert, Veronica Lope Fontagné, Olle Ludvigsson, Thomas Mann, Elisabeth Morin-Chartier, Csaba Óry, Konstantinos Poupakis, Elisabeth Schroedter, Joanna Katarzyna Skrzydlewska, Jutta Steinruck, Inês Cristina Zuber		
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Tamás Deutsch, Filiz Hakaeva Hyusmenova, Iliana Malinova Iotova, Sidonia Elżbieta Jędrzejewska, Svetoslav Hristov Malinov, Ramona Nicole Mănescu, Anthea McIntyre, Ria Oomen-Ruijten, Antigoni Papadopoulou, Evelyn Regner, Csaba Sógor		
Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote	Jens Nilsson		