

Implications of the economic and financial crisis on the European Statistical System

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The economic and financial crisis starting in 2008 had and still has a deep impact on the functioning of the European Union. This paper focusses on the implications of the crisis for the European Statistical System (ESS) and the change initiated since in the ESS. The challenges faced by the ESS are partly of an institutional nature, partly they lie in the requirement for new and/or more readily available data on financial, economic, but also social issues. Quality assurance of statistical data becomes more and more important as European economic policy heavily relies on benchmark indicators produced by the statistical system. In order to best prepare the ESS for the future statistical producers need to enter in a close dialogue with policy makers, operating, however, from a position of strengthened institutional independence.

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