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**The Interoperability Framework of the European System of Business Registers**

**Abstract**

One of the European Commission's ten priorities is to remove barriers to a digital single market in Europe. All EU Member States are digitising their public administrations to save time, reduce costs, increase transparency, and improve both data quality and the delivery of their output.

Interoperability is the key factor in making it possible. Interoperability allows different organisations at national or EU level to electronically exchanging meaningful information in ways that are understood by all parties. On 23 March 2017 the European Commission adopted the new European Interoperability Framework (EIF) as part of the Communication (COM(2017)134) to give guidance to European public administrations on how to set up interoperability for public services.

In the statistical domain, Eurostat and the European Statistical System (ESS) partners are working on the ESS VIP project European System of Interoperable Statistical Business Registers (ESBRs). The objective is to increase the consistency between the national statistical business registers (SBRs) and the EuroGroups Register (EGR). The desired target situation should be characterised by more standardised, automatized and hence more efficient data exchanges between the national statistical business registers and the EuroGroups Register. The data exchanged concern cross border statistical information of large and complex multinational enterprise groups operating in the EU and having a significant economic impact on the quality of global business statistics produced at national and EU level. Introducing more interoperability in the data exchange and data validation (including cooperative European Profiling activity), the ESBRs project should allow increasing the quality of its statistical output that is the EGR global frame on the structure of multinational enterprise groups and their statistical units. This could be used in the ESS by several countries and stakeholders as a 'backbone' for producing consistent global business statistics.

The paper will present the ESBRs Interoperability Framework under development in the scope of the project. It addresses all layers that affect the delivery of digital public services as defined by the European Interoperability Framework (EIF), including legal issues, organisational aspects, data/semantic concerns and technical challenges.

*Keywords: European Interoperability Framework, Statistical Business Registers, EuroGroups register (EGR), ESBRs project, EU Vision 2020, data exchanges, automation and standardization, sharing and re-using solution, European Statistical System.*