



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC**  
**HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY**

Piraeus, 20 October 2016

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

The European Statistics Day is celebrated this year, for the first time, on 20 October, at the initiative of the European Statistical Advisory Committee (ESAC) with the support of the members of the European Statistical System and the European System of Central Banks.

The European Statistics Day will be celebrated every year on the 20th of October, so as official statistics are kept in the loop during the 5-year gap between each United Nations' World Statistics Day.

The celebration of the European Statistics Day aims at raising awareness among European citizens as regards the importance and value of official statistics for society. Official statistics help governments drawing sound and evidence-based policies and users of statistics (researchers, academics, businesses, households, etc.) take informed decisions in their daily work.

At European level, the activities for the first celebration of the European Statistics Day will be hosted by the second Conference of European Statistics Stakeholders (CESS), in Budapest, during which European statisticians, producers and users of statistics have the opportunity to discuss users needs, to share best practices in the production of official statistics, to present innovative ways of visualizing and communicating statistics and to promote new methodological ideas for collecting and analysing statistical data.

On the occasion of the celebration of the European Statistics Day, ELSTAT informs all interested parties on the organization of the [European Big Data Hackathon](#), (Brussels, 13-15 March 2017) by the European Commission, in the context of the conference "New Techniques and Technologies for Statistics" (NTTS 2017). During the Hackathon, three-member teams from all EU Member States will compete for the creation of innovative applications and prototypes of data products aiming at supporting decision making on a current policy challenge Europe is facing, by combining official statistics and big data.

Finally, it should be noticed that ELSTAT participates actively in the implementing [portfolio of the ESS Vision 2020](#) and more specifically in the pilot projects aiming at modernizing the European Statistical System:

1. *Building Trade Statistics in the European Single Market – SIMSTAT and REDESIGN*, a project for exploring the implementation of a new data collection system for international trade in goods statistics, with an alternative method for reducing the burden on business in the context of intra-EU trade,
2. *Digital Dissemination and Communication-DIGICOM*, a project on user analytics and exploitation of digital tools for the creation of innovative products and services,
3. *Big Data for Official Statistics- BIGD* a project concerning the exploration of big data sources and their integration in the production of official statistics.

