



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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## PRESS RELEASE

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) and the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies of France (INSEE) jointly organised a high level conference on *“The European Statistics Code of Practice: enhancing the credibility of official statistics»*.

The conference was held in Lagonissi, near Athens, on June 27, 2011. The main theme of the conference was the role, which the European Statistics Code of Practice can play in buttressing the credibility of official statistics of EU Member States and more generally in enhancing the quality of European statistics.

The conference focused on the amendments, which should be made not only to the national legislative frameworks but also to the European Statistical Law in order to reinforce the implementation of the Code of Practice and particularly the principle relating to professional independence of National Statistical Institutes.

Furthermore, the participants highlighted the important role of governments and public administrations in enhancing the quality of official statistics. It is very crucial that public agencies, including the bodies that produce primary statistical data, adhere to the principles of the Code of Practice. In addition, the allocation of adequate financial and human resources to the statistical authorities by the government is a fundamental prerequisite for assuring the quality of statistics.

The participants also emphasized that, at this stage, the relevant European legislative framework has already been updated to reinforce the audit powers of Eurostat on public finance statistics produced by Member States and moreover to introduce infringement procedures in cases of falsification or misreporting of statistical data. One of the main messages expressed during the conference was the importance of the credibility of the European statistics in the operation and governance of the European Union.

Among the participants at the conference were Heads of National Statistical Institutes of the EU and senior officials of Eurostat and of the European Statistical System. Greece was represented by members of the Greek government and senior officials of the public administration, representatives of the social partners, members of the Council of the Hellenic Statistical System, as well as executives and senior officials of ELSTAT.

The organization of this conference in Greece is indicative on the one hand of the great importance that ELSTAT attaches to issues of quality in statistics, and on the

other hand of the recognition by European partners of the ongoing recovery of the credibility of the statistics of Greece.

**More :** [Agenda – Lectures](#)  
[List of Participants](#)  
[Press Release \(in Greek\)](#)  
[Press coverage](#)  
[Photos](#)

**Information**

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