



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

Piraeus, August 2015

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) has been following the continuing attempts to undermine its professional independence, discredit the produced statistical work and defame its senior officials, in order to serve external interests and expediencies. These attempts have considerably intensified, following the departure of the President of ELSTAT (2/8/2015), in the midst of the selection procedure for the new President and of a critical period for the compilation of statistics of great importance, both for the development of national and European policies as well as for the responsible information of citizens.

During the last days, publications in part of the press and interviews in some media aim at damaging the professional and reliable work of ELSTAT's people.

ELSTAT, being aware of the unfavorable environment and the adverse working conditions, fully supports its employees, stands by them and declares its determination to defend their professional and reliable work, contributing to the common effort to prevent the creation of a toxic working environment.

In any case, and irrespective of any deliberate pressures or intimidation, ELSTAT is consistently and assiduously committed to its duty by:

- unswervingly observing the Law establishing ELSTAT, as in force,
- continuing the smooth functioning of the modern independent ELSTAT within the Hellenic and the European Statistical System, for the production of reliable and indisputable statistics, which promote public information and underpin the development of policies in the interest of citizens,
- fully observing the European Statistics Code of Practice.
- building on the Commitment on Confidence in Statistics, signed by the Greek Government, which guarantees the protection of the professional independence of the Hellenic Statistical System (and particularly of ELSTAT), by promoting its work to the public through appropriate communication actions, and supports ELSTAT in upholding public confidence in the statistics of Greece by defending them against any efforts to undermine their credibility.