ESAC Statement on Official Statistics in Greece

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The European Statistical Advisory Committee (ESAC) representing the users of European Statistics attaches great value to the quality and independence of official statistics in all European countries. It therefore endorses the Statement of the Members of the European Statistical System on their commitment to professional independence of statistical authorities and the credibility of European statistics and on statistics in Greece (ESSC, 21 May 2015) and the Statement on official statistics in Greece of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) of 12 June 2015.

The principle that 'official statistics should be prepared using objective methods and following international standards' is critical to their acceptability by users. Since 2010, Greek Statistics have passed all European quality checks.

The ESAC expresses the hope that justice will prevail in this case and that the threat of prosecution will finally be lifted from Mr Georgiou, the current head of ELSTAT, and his managers.