

# **Recommendation of the Committee of Experts**

## **to the Minister of Economy and Finance**

Following the international call for expressions of interest for the selection of the President of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) (Ref. No. 214477 ΕΞ 2025, 9 December 2025), eleven (11) candidates submitted applications. One application was received after the deadline.

In accordance with the criteria set out in the call, the Committee of Experts shortlisted five (5) candidates for interview.

The eligibility criteria stipulated in the call were:

- a) Possession of high scientific qualifications, demonstrated through professional or academic specialisation in statistics or related disciplines, or in an area relevant to statistical surveys and studies;
- b) Demonstrated ability, as evidenced by the candidate's professional and scientific record, to meet the requirements of the statistical principles laid down in Article 338(2) TFEU, Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009, and the European Statistics Code of Practice; and
- c) Possession of a doctoral degree.

The Committee distinguished between essential eligibility criteria and a broader set of desirable characteristics and attributes. In relation to the essential criteria, the Committee assessed:

- Professional/academic expertise in statistics or in a field relevant to statistical surveys;
- Commitment and ability to implement the fundamental principles of official statistics (including independence, reliability, and integrity of statistical output).

In addition, the Committee identified a set of competencies critical for effective performance in the role of President of ELSTAT, which are not always fully observable from applications or CVs and are best assessed during interviews. These competencies include:

- Leadership and management experience;
- Experience and ability in budget formulation and decision-making;

- Strategic vision and innovation, including the capacity to drive institutional change and introduce new methods and data sources;
- A clear vision for change and improved public communication;
- Stakeholder engagement and the ability to work with and influence different stakeholders, including effectiveness in building relationships and influencing outcomes in European and national fora;
- Clear and credible communication with policymakers, media, academia, and the public to build trust.

The Committee also noted that the position requires sustained energy, adaptability, and the capacity to manage a demanding workload.

The interviews took place on 16 and 17 February 2026 in Athens. The Committee discussed with candidates a range of topics, including their strategic vision for ELSTAT, key challenges facing the Greek Statistical System and proposed solutions, budgetary and human resources management, leadership approach, and issues related to specific statistical domains. One candidate withdrew from the process.

On the basis of the information submitted by the candidates and the interview assessments, the Committee of Experts recommends to the Minister of Economy and Finance the appointment of Professor Athanasios Katsis as President of ELSTAT.

### **Justification**

Professor Athanasios Katsis fully meets the selection criteria set out in the international call for expressions of interest for the position of President of ELSTAT. He holds a Ph.D. in Statistics from The George Washington University (USA) and has a substantial scientific output, including publications in peer-reviewed international journals and book chapters. During the interview, Professor Katsis articulated a strong vision for enhancing ELSTAT's record in producing high-quality and reliable statistics and for strengthening engagement with relevant stakeholders and the public.

Furthermore, based on the interview assessment, Professor Katsis demonstrated the key competencies required for effective performance in this role. In particular, he showed strong

leadership and management experience, sound strategic decision-making abilities, and a well-articulated vision for institutional development and innovation.

During the interview process, Professor Katsis also demonstrated strong stakeholder engagement skills, clear and effective communication with key audiences, and the capacity to represent ELSTAT credibly at both national and European levels. The Committee is satisfied that he possesses the energy, motivation, adaptability, and resilience necessary to fulfil the responsibilities of the position successfully.

Professor Katsis is fluent in English.

In light of the above, the Committee of Experts considers Professor Athanasios Katsis to meet fully the selection criteria and recommends his appointment as President of the Hellenic Statistical Authority.

Athens, 6 March 2026



Ioannis Tsoukalas, Chair of the Committee of Experts



Ioannis Ntzoufras, Member



Jean-Luc Tavernier, Member



Priit Potisepp, Member



Pádraig Dalton, Member