

Question for written answer E-015631/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Ivana Maletić (PPE)

Subject: Joint reporting by Eurostat and the ECB

Further to my question, raised in session on 7 December 2015, regarding the need to harmonise Eurostat and ECB reporting requirements in the area of fiscal statistics, I want to emphasise the differences in the reporting regulations and guidelines in this area prescribed by Eurostat, on the one hand, and the ECB, on the other. For example, there are two different reports on government finance statistics (GFS): the Eurostat GFS report, based on ESA transmission tables transmitted by national statistical institutes (NSIs) and/or national central banks (NCBs); and the 'GFS for ECB' report, prescribed by the ECB in its Guidelines. The reports are identical in content to 90 %, but the differences in the remaining 10 % create an additional reporting burden for NSIs and NCBs. Similar problems exist with regard to differences between the Eurostat report on intergovernmental lending (IGL) and the ECB's report on financial assistance measures (FAM): Eurostat collects only stock data, while the ECB collects mainly transaction data (with a detailed breakdown of financial instruments).

In the light of this further explanation, the Commission is again asked to answer the following:

- Does Eurostat plan to establish a dialogue with ECB, and to hold expert consultations, in order to harmonise, as much as possible, Eurostat and ECB reporting requirements in the area of fiscal statistics, thereby reducing the reporting burden?
- Is it possible for Eurostat and the ECB to establish a joint reporting system (data hub) in the area of fiscal statistics?