Titel: Perspective in release of EU micro data for research purpose : the new Commission Regulation on access to EU confidential data for scientific purposes

Abstract:

Eurostat and MSs are in the process of revising the legal framework for access to EU confidential data for scientific purpose. This part of the Eurostat strategy for widening researchers’ access to confidential data for analysis in the interest of scientific progress in Europe.

The main orientations are being discussed at ESS management level and it is important to collect feedback from research community at this stage.

The paper will present for discussion the main orientation namely

- implement the risk management approach for the release of confidential data based on the so-called "safe data, safe people and safe settings" principle, with a view to broadening the supply of confidential data while preserving the confidentiality of respondents,

- open new modes of access to micro data, mainly remote access,

- foster decentralised access to microdata,

- enable other parties to be involved in the provision of access,

- streamline the procedures for the release of anonymised micro datasets on CD-ROMs (low confidentiality impact level micro data) in order to cope with the growing demand for such datasets.

The opportunities opened with this new regulation but also the threads will be discussed and a vision of an ESS infrastructure for access to confidential data will be sketched.