

## METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

**1. Data source** consist of the quarterly statistical random surveys concerning „The travel expenditure of non-residents” (ACNER) that aim to collect quarterly data on the expenditure of non-residents accommodated in the collective establishments of tourists’ reception( hotels and tourist boarding houses) for the annual compilation of the Tourism Satellite Account by the NIS and for the quarterly compilation of the Balance of Payments, respectively, by the National Bank of Romania.

### **2 Concepts and definitions**

**The arrival of a tourist** in an establishment of tourists’ reception with functions of tourists’ accommodation is registered when a person signs in the register of the respective establishment for one night or several nights’ accommodation. In each establishment of tourists’ reception with functions of tourists’ accommodation, no matter the number of overnight stays, the continuous stay of a tourist counts as one arrival.

**3. Coverage:** Non-resident tourists accommodated in the collective establishments of tourists’ reception (hotels and tourist boarding houses) selected in a sample of collective accommodation establishments, classified by the National Tourism Authority.

**4. Sample survey:** For the collective establishments of tourists’ accommodation(hotels and tourist boarding houses), the established sample is of cut-off type. Thus, the selected structures are exhaustively surveyed over a threshold that ensures a degree of representativeness in terms of the number of non-resident tourists of over 90%. Consequently the following have been selected:

- The accommodation structures (hotels and similar units) that received over 650 foreign tourists accommodated in the year prior to the data collection;
- Tourist boarding houses with over 150 foreign tourists accommodated in the year prior to the data collection;

The number of non-resident tourists (foreign) who fill in the ACNER statistical questionnaires is around 40 000 annually.

**5. Method of recording data:** Field data collection is done by receptionists working in tourist accommodation establishments. Upon arrival in the tourist accommodation establishment, after being recorded at the reception desk, the foreign tourists are asked to fill in the questionnaire related to the travel expenses of the non-residents accommodated in the collective establishments of tourists’ reception (**ACNER**), questionnaire to be returned at the reception desk at the end of their stay in the respective accommodation establishment.

The method of recording the data is the auto-registration, the non-resident tourist being given a questionnaire translated in the foreign language of his/her preference (English, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Russian and Hungarian).