

Press release

European Statistics Day 2019

Initiated four years ago in order to emphasise the value of official statistics for society, as Mrs. Mariana Kotzeva, Director-General of Eurostat, stated in her last year's message, the **2019 European Statistics Day** that we celebrate on 20 October finds a strong Romanian official statistics, whose place in the European Statistical System is highly appreciated, and deservedly so.

In 2019, the year when it celebrates 160 years since the birth of the institution, now fully aligned with the European standards in terms of methodology and results, the official statistics of Romania, through the National Institute of Statistics, has proven the level of professionalism of its employees by co-ordinating the Working Party on Statistics in the framework of Romania's EU Council Presidency. Keeping in mind the motto "we must act towards overcoming the challenges facing European statistics", the Presidency's files were dealt with in a realistic and diligent manner and, not least, demonstrating remarkable negotiation skills. As a result, two important, complex and difficult files were successfully closed, namely the **Framework Regulation Integrating Business Statistics (FRIBS)** and the **Integrated European Social Statistics (IESS)**.

The Romanian official statistics has thus proven, at the highest level, its ability to contribute, with commitment and competence, to the harmonisation and development of European statistics.

Moreover, considering that past and present achievements should be a springboard for future ones, the National Institute of Statistics, on the initiative and with the support of Eurostat, is organising the "Pilot statistical knowledge competition", which is addressed to high-school pupils. On 21 October 2019, the participants (pupils from Iași, Timișoara, Băilești-Olt, Brașov) will answer quiz questions on the platform made available by the NIS, questions that are meant to increase the appeal of statistics to young generations and improve their skills regarding access to and use of statistical information by employing the modern communication tools.

