


Draft regulation on access to confidential data for scientific purposes

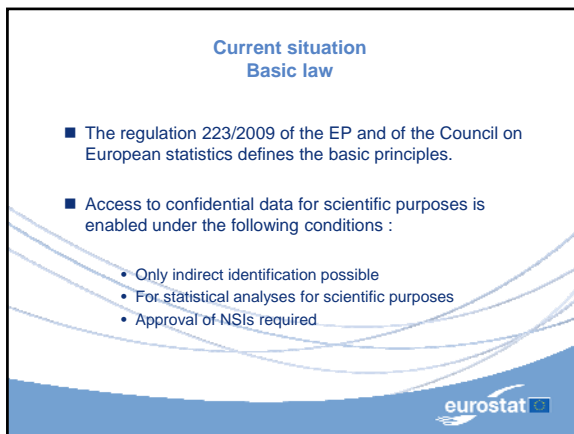
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Current situation
Basic law

- The regulation 223/2009 of the EP and of the Council on European statistics defines the basic principles.
- Access to confidential data for scientific purposes is enabled under the following conditions :
 - Only indirect identification possible
 - For statistical analyses for scientific purposes
 - Approval of NSIs required

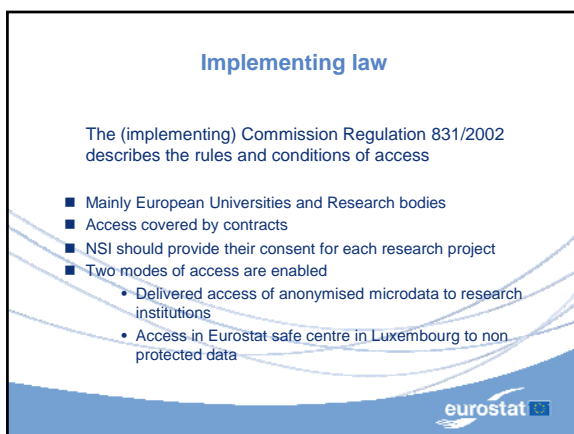


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Implementing law

The (implementing) Commission Regulation 831/2002 describes the rules and conditions of access


- Mainly European Universities and Research bodies
- Access covered by contracts
- NSI should provide their consent for each research project
- Two modes of access are enabled
 - Delivered access of anonymised microdata to research institutions
 - Access in Eurostat safe centre in Luxembourg to non-protected data



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Current situation

- NSIs collect data according to harmonized definitions/methodologies
- NSIs transmit files to Eurostat for the sake of production of EU statistics – in some domains (mainly household statistics) microdata are transmitted
- Methods for anonymisation are agreed with 27 MS
- Files are prepared by Eurostat
- Eurostat handles research requests and releases data according to appropriate procedures



What is available, what is delivered ?

- In 2011
 - 12 surveys covered in the Regulation 831 but only 6 currently available : ECHP, LFS, CIS, AES, SILC, SES
 - Delivery of micro data : more then 200 contracts
 - Access in Eurostat safe center : 5 per year



Principles of the new draft Regulation

- Users: recognized research entities
- Purpose: statistical analysis for scientific purposes indicated in the research proposal
- Datasets available:
 - scientific use files (delivered access)
 - secure use files (access in secure environment)
- Access provided by Eurostat or another accredited entity: access facility
- Approval of access by MSs
- Transparency and efficiency



Process

1. Recognition of research entity
 - Application form, confidentiality undertaking and terms of use to be signed by the head of research entity
 - Assessment by Eurostat
 - ⇒ Publication of the name of research entity on Eurostat website
2. Research proposal
 - Application form and confidentiality declaration to be signed by researchers having access to confidential data
 - Consultation of the national authorities
 - ⇒ Opening of the access



[Thank you for your attention](#)