

“Commission proposal for the revision of the existing Regulation on European statistics”

EuroGeographics’ feedback

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EuroGeographics appreciate the opportunity to provide its opinion in this process of the revision of the existing Regulation on European statistics dated 2009 which establishes a legal framework for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics.

Our intention is to **highlight our common threads** and provide some general observation without commenting on statistical specific concerns. On this point, we fully support this action aiming to align existing statistic regulation with European Strategy for data since this is how we are also aligning our activity too.

The Strategy recognises the value and potential of public sector data in the geographical area as well and provides the instruments on how to boost its re-use, combination and integration. It is a long-term process and we believe that the horizontal, cross-sectorial governance framework for data provided by the **Strategy is an appropriate step forward to the integration of statistical and geospatial data**. It will help us to recognise and remove the barriers, and to avoid collecting the same information many times.

The Strategy provides an opportunity that we must not miss and we consider that **geospatial data is a key factor/component in the statistics framework and should be further mentioned in the Regulation**.

This point is further strengthened as both our sectors are going to be affected by the umbrella regulation and are required to implement the – Implementing rules on High Value Datasets. **Both, statistics and geospatial themes and thus datasets are in scope of these rules laying down the arrangements for their publication and re-use**. Knowledge exchange and cooperation of experts from different domains during the implementation period would be appreciated. We are already progress with an EU funded project to increase the availability of our data, and will continue with a new Open Maps for Europe project in 2023 which particularly focuses on High Value Datasets.

The integration of geospatial and statistical data is one of the most promising paths to provide more timely, reliable, relevant and detailed information. **Data integration (in this context the combination of geospatial and statistical information) that can result in new insights that we could not otherwise gain**. Statistics and geospatial information would thus be possible in a uniform and comparable manner throughout Europe to provide information with the right spatial resolution from local to global, allowing for policy interventions at the level where they are most effective.

EuroGeographics is also closely involved, has observer status and provide the Secretariat, for UN-GGIM: Europe (United Nations Committee of Experts of Global Geospatial Information Management) to ensure that our members the National Mapping and Cadastral Authorities contribute to the better integration of statistical and geospatial information at the EU level.

For all these reasons our opinion is that reference to the geospatial component in statistic regulation is well-founded. We stay open for close coordination towards integrating our high value datasets for effective statistical management and to avoid collecting the same information many times. Statistics should be visualised on the basis of authoritative geospatial data consequently enabling users to grasp the direct link between places and statistics.

About us

EuroGeographics is an independent international not-for-profit organisation representing Europe's National Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authorities. Our strength lies in our extensive membership and we believe in a modern digital and green society empowered by the use of trusted geospatial services from these official national sources. We also provide pan-European data produced using authoritative, reliable, comparable and verifiable geospatial data from official national sources. geospatial services from these official national sources.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Léa Bodossian".

Léa Bodossian,

Secretary General and Executive Director

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