

Eurostat's path towards implementation of the European statistics Code of Practice and reflection on its future development

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Since the adoption of the European Statistics Code of Practice in 2005, the role to co-ordinate the implementation in the European Statistical System has been devolved upon Eurostat which also has the task to monitor compliance with the Code. The corresponding activities and results are well documented, lastly in a Commission report to the European Parliament and to the Council of 2008. However, at the same time and within the same framework Eurostat is responsible for implementing itself the Code of Practice and in 2007 it has undergone a peer review covering institutional and dissemination aspects of the Code. The creation of the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board inter alia to monitor compliance with the Code by Eurostat underlines the importance of this work.

This paper provides an overview on the implementation path of Eurostat so far and looks into the Code's suitability to address the specific profile of Eurostat. To this end it reviews individual principles of the Code of Practice in the light of Eurostat practices and functions and discusses possible options going beyond the current provision of the Code.