



BUSINESS REGISTERS (51)

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BUSINESS REGISTERS

1. GENERAL BACKGROUND (1)

- Traditional uses of statistical business registers (BR)
 - A tool for the preparation and co-ordination of surveys and for grossing up the results; a survey frame for business and other surveys
 - A source of information for statistical analysis of the business population and its demography
 - For the detection and construction of statistical units
 - A tool for the mobilisation of administrative data
 - A dissemination tool
- Stakeholders of the BR Regulation
 - Member States' National Statistical Institutes and other national authorities that produce statistics
 - European Community
 - ...



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1. GENERAL BACKGROUND (2)

- Necessity to revise the BR Regulation
(The new BR Regulation has already been adopted by the European Parliament and is expected to be formally adopted by the Council in the coming weeks. It shall apply from 1 January 2007)
 - Growing importance of all-resident and multinational enterprise groups in the national economies
 - Compulsory coverage of all NACE sections (agriculture, forestry and fishing; public administration and defence, compulsory social security) necessary to obtain coherent statistics and surveys
 - Transmission of individual data on multinational groups between Eurostat and NSIs to harmonise and develop various statistics related to globalisation => need for a common European database, the EuroGroups register



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2. THE ACQUIS (1)

- Content of the existing BR Regulation (Council Regulation (EEC) No 2186/93)
 - Scope: enterprises contributing to GDP, their local units; smallest enterprises of no statistical importance can be excluded
 - Updating requirements
 - 3 compulsory units: legal unit, local unit and enterprise (defined in Statistical Units Regulation 696/93)
 - Characteristics:
 - Identification: identifier, name, address...
 - Demographic: dates of creation, cessation...
 - Economic/stratification: NACE class, employment, turnover...
 - Links with other registers: Intrastat, customs...



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2. THE ACQUIS (2)

- The Statistical Units Regulation (Council Regulation (EEC) No 696/93) on the statistical units for the observation and analysis of the production system in the Community
 - Concerns all business statistics (business registers, structural business statistics, short-term statistics,...)
 - Definitions and explanatory notes for: enterprise, institutional unit, enterprise group, kind-of-activity unit (KAU), unit of homogeneous production (UHP), local unit, local KAU and local UHP
 - Criteria used: legal, accounting or organisational; geographic; and activity criteria
 - Explanatory notes for ancillary activities and for government and non-profit bodies



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3. MOST PROBLEMATIC ISSUES (1)

- Concerning the existing BR Regulation
 - Existence of administrative sources varies by country
 - Access to some administrative sources may be denied in national legislation
 - Design of administrative sources differs from design of business register (definition of units in the registers, different identifiers and codes, spread responsibilities to register units, activity codes used, classifications used)
 - Delineation of enterprises: in most member states enterprise = (active) legal unit



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3. MOST PROBLEMATIC ISSUES (2)

- Concerning the existing BR Regulation
 - Procedures to update the register by using survey data, administrative sources, other sources
 - Difficulty to keep track of the quickly developing sector of SMEs
- Chances concerning the new BR Regulation
 - Access to all necessary administrative sources stated
 - Enterprises can be defined top-down within enterprise group



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4. FUTURE ACQUIS (1)

- New BR Regulation from 1 January 2007 (amendment proposal)
 - Scope: whole economy. Enterprises below ½ person employed and small all-resident groups can be excluded
 - New definitions: Active units, different types of enterprise groups, branches
 - Long transition period: Up to 5 years concerning new compulsory coverage and enterprise group characteristics
 - Comitology: Various practical issues to be decided by Statistical Programme Committee: transmission of data and quality reports (annual inquiry) to Eurostat and feedback to Member States, possible updating of characteristics, ...



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4. FUTURE ACQUIS (2)

- New BR Regulation from 1 January 2007 (amendment proposal)
 - 4 compulsory units: legal unit, local unit, enterprise and enterprise group (all-resident, truncated and global level)
 - New characteristics
 - Characteristics presented in a table indicating which are compulsory, optional or conditional (subject to availability in sources)
 - New characteristics concerning enterprise groups and their constituent legal units: identifier, demographic, economic...
 - Links between units and to other registers
 - Institutional sector code



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4. FUTURE ACQUIS (3)

- New BR Regulation implies creation of a database at European level: the EuroGroups Register
 - Article 2/3: BR shall include all-resident and multinational enterprise groups, data at truncated and global level
 - Article 10: Exchange of confidential data between Member States voluntary, only for statistical purposes in accordance with national law
 - Article 11/13d: Exchange of confidential data between Eurostat and Member States compulsory, only for statistical purposes
 - Article 11: Eurostat and the Member States shall treat confidential data confidentially



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4. FUTURE ACQUIS (4)

- Risks concerning the EuroGroups Register
 - Complexity of integration of data from different sources
 - Restrictions to use confidential data
 - Availability of financial and human resources
- Chances concerning the EuroGroups Register
 - Harmonisation of data at European level for statistics related to globalisation (foreign affiliates, direct investment...)
 - EuroGroups Register: a source regarding the role of multinational groups at national, EU and global level
 - Enrichment of the BR quality at NSI's



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5. SPECIFIC QUESTIONS (1)

- Revision of the EU Regulation on Business Registers
 - How will you face the most important challenges concerning the revised BR Regulation?
 - How do you plan to integrate enterprise groups into your future BR?
 - What kind of difficulties do you see concerning the extended compulsory coverage of NACE sections?
 - Which units are covered by your business register and how are they defined?
 - What classification is used for the units in the business register?



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5. SPECIFIC QUESTIONS (2)

- Revision of the EU Regulation on Business Registers
 - What are your updating procedures for the business register and which sources do you use for it?
 - Which administrative sources do you have access to according to your statistical law?
 - Are there any links between the register and existing administrative sources?
- EuroGroups Register
 - How is the availability concerning administrative and private data on multinational enterprise groups in your country?