

25th Meeting of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers
- International Roundtable on Business Survey Frames

Tokyo, 8 – 11 November 2016

Name of author(s) Amerigo Liotti and Ronald Jansen

Organisations: Eurostat and UNSD

Session No. 7

Globalisation and profiling

Towards a possible Global Group Register. Can the European model for the EuroGroups Register and the European profiling be used at global level?

Abstract

The statistical capture of aspects relating to the globalisation phenomena is a challenge for the official statistics, as the underlying activities are trans-national or multinational, while statistics tends to just measure national or bilateral aspects of the phenomena and have problems in following flows beyond the national boundaries. With the increased fragmentation of the production in regional or global networks, the contributions of firms in the value-added activities of particular global value chains are more difficult to track.

The production networks are often organized through multi-national enterprises. Understanding the structures of those multi-national (often global) enterprise groups would be a big step forward in measuring the value-added contributions within the global value chains. In the European Statistical System, that step was made by constructing the EuroGroups Register (EGR) and by developing the European Profiling.

Would it be feasible to export the European model (legal framework, cooperation, principles, methodologies, processes, etc.) at global level?

The paper will shortly illustrate the present status of the EGR and of the European Profiling. It will focus in particular on the issue of the identification of legal entities, making also reference to the “Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)” initiative.

Then the possibility to create in the future a Global Group Register, mainly based on the EGR experience, will be explored, stressing the possible positive outcomes as well as the difficulties and the risks. Based on the European experience the main issue seems to be the sensitivity and confidentiality of microdata.

Finally the paper will report on the first outcomes of the starting cooperation between Eurostat and the UNSD on this matter.