Item 4c Summary of feedback from econsultation on the in-depth review on social cohesion

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Feedback from e-consultation – in-depth review on social cohesion

Replies to consultation

UNECE

- 11 countries responded
- The countries welcomed the in-depth review and supported further work in this area
 - Malta: acknowledged the relevance of topic and considered it to be very interesting and highly important.
 - United States: the examples included in the paper are helpful for NSOs looking to undertake further research.
 - Hungary: supported continuous development of the methodology of data collection on social cohesion and appreciated the approach of mapping threats to social cohesion.
 - **Netherlands:** an excellent review of the concept of social cohesion through time, and its different operationalizations.
 - Ecuador and Mexico: countries should assess progress taking account of dimensions and indicators according to the national context.
 - Poland: dimensions of social cohesion can vary not only at national but also at regional levels, therefore taking the neighbourhood or community perspective is equally important.

Some common points

- The importance of looking at the social cohesion phenomenon in different groups as well as exploring the issue of political polarization in this context. (Ecuador, Poland, United States)
- Social cohesion and the impact on NSO's work, as individuals with low levels of trust in government or coming from vulnerable population subgroups may be less likely to respond to surveys than other individuals. (Netherlands, United States)
- Exploring alternative data sources (e.g., web-scrapping of publicly available social media data) to diversify and improve measurement of social cohesion. (Mexico, Netherlands, United States)

Task Team

- Canada (Chair), New Zealand, United Kingdom, Ireland, Poland, Eurostat, OECD (1y mandate)
- Take on board suggestions from the consultation, including further detailed comments and references to national work
- Finland and Netherlands expressed interest in joining the work