

Strengthening statistical legislation in Georgia

Teimuraz Gogishvili

National Statistics Office of Georgia

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Legislative basis of official statistics in Georgia

Constitution of Georgia

Law on Official Statistics

Other laws and by-laws

Regulation of the National Statics Office (approved by the government of Georgia)

Regulation of the Board of National Statistics Office

Annual programme of statistical work (approved by the Government of Georgia)

Historical development

Law on Official Statistics (in force till August 30, 2023)

Adopted – December 2009

Amendments – 10 times: 2010 (twice), 2011, 2013 (twice), 2015 (twice), 2016 (twice), 2017

Substantial changes in 2015 and 2016

AGA 2012 recommendations – substantial part of amendments

Need for the adoption of the new law

EU-Georgia Association Agreement (signed in 2013)

- Articles 286–291, Chapter 4 (Statistics), Title V (Economic Cooperation)

AGA 2019 recommendations

NSDS 2020–2023

Generic Law on Official Statistics – GLOS

Work launched – 2014

Unanimously endorsed by CES – 2016

Structure and main provisions are based on the legal regulations of the EU statistical system

Intended mainly for the EECCA countries, although countries beyond the region also benefit

LOS vs GLOS – major incompatibilities

- Rules for selection and appointment of Executive Director
- Functions of a management board
- Data confidentiality
- Coordination of the National Statistical System
- Definition of other producers of official statistics and their functions

GA 2019 recommendations

Professional independence

Selection and appointment of Executive Director and his status

Role and mandate of Board

Access to data held by private companies

Data confidentiality (*to exclude the current reference in Article 28.2*)

Access to microdata for research purposes

Process of working

Task force was set up

Support from the STEP project

International expert

Consultations with other producers and data providers

Consultations with stakeholders

Final consultations with government ministries and agencies

Content of new law

Based on GLOS structure and main principles

Compared with the current law following issues are more clearly described:

- Definition of “Official statistics” and its difference from administrative data
- Definition of producers of official statistics
- Professional independence of statistical bodies
- Geostat’s role and significance in the coordination of the NSS
- Mandate and functions of the management board and advisory council
- Access to administrative and other data sources
- Access to microdata for research purposes
- Data quality management

Difference from the current law (1)

General changes:

- Renewed definition of terms
- Better presentation of fundamental principles of official statistics
- The rule for the definition of other producers
- Role of Geostat in coordinating the NSS

Difference from the current law (2)

Selection and appointment of the executive director

- Selected on the basis of open competition
- Elected by an independent competition commission
- Appointed by the prime minister with the consent of the Parliament of Georgia
- Upon appointment as the director, becomes a member of the Geostat Board and the Advisory Council - in the capacity of chairman of both boards (Article 10, Paragraph 10.1.-10.7)

Responsibilities of the Executive Director

- To approve/introduce statistical standards, classifications and methodologies to be used in statistical activities

Difference from the current law (3)

- Data confidentiality
- Confidentiality criteria update
- Access to confidential data and relevant obligations
- Access to microdata for research purposes
- Use of individual data for non-statistical purposes (criminal investigation, surveillance, conducting court proceedings, making administrative decisions, etc.)

Difference from the current law (4)

Censuses

- Population census
- Agricultural census
- Economic census

Entry into legal force

August 30, 2023

Preparation of additional documents

- Access to microdata for research purposes
- Other producers of official statistics

Thank you for the attention!