| Brief description of the organisation<sup>1</sup> | ▪ Eurostat is the Statistical Office of the European Union and is situated in Luxembourg.  
▪ Eurostat was established in 1953 to meet the requirements of the Coal and Steel Community. When the European Community was founded in 1958, it became a Directorate-General (DG) of the European Commission. |
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| Mission<sup>2</sup> | ▪ Eurostat's mission: to be the leading provider of high quality statistics on Europe. Its task is to provide the European Union with statistics at European level that enable comparisons between countries and regions.  
▪ European Statistical System (ESS): ESS comprises Eurostat and the statistical offices, ministries, agencies and central banks that collect official statistics in the 28 EU and 4 EFTA Member States. Eurostat’s role in the ESS is to lead the way in the harmonisation of statistics in close cooperation with the national statistical authorities. |
| Fields of Activity/structure | ▪ Fields of activity - production of European statistics: economic and monetary union, sustainable development, social agenda, competitiveness…  
▪ Eurostat is organised in seven Directorates: Cooperation in the European Statistical System, international cooperation, resources; Methodology, corporate statistical and IT services, National accounts, prices and key indicators; Government finance statistics and quality; Sectoral and regional statistics; Social statistics; Global business statistics |
| Mandate | ▪ In June 1997, Article 285 was inserted in the EU Treaty, providing Community statistics with a constitutional basis for the first time. Article 285 was a key step for EU statistics. More and more statistics have to be collected at Community level because of the development of the Union and it is no longer possible to ensure the availability of EU statistics on the basis of agreements alone.  
▪ March 2009: New European Regulations establishing a legal framework for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics |
| Statistical work programme | ▪ Multiannual 5 year programme: It is intended to provide an overview of the strategies, priorities and work plans for the period.  
▪ The five-year programmes are backed up by annual programmes that set more detailed objectives for each year.  
| Number of staff Total/Statistical division | ▪ Around 900 |
| Flagship Publications | ▪ Eurostat yearbook, regional yearbook  
▪ Statistics explained  
▪ Statistics in Focus |

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<sup>1</sup> Description of the statistics section/department in the organization  
<sup>2</sup> Mission of the statistics section/department of the organization
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