



## ‘Communication and dissemination in times of Covid-19 in the ESS’

Timothy Allen<sup>1</sup>; Maja Islam<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Eurostat

<sup>2</sup> Eurostat

### **Abstract:**

The COVID-19 crisis had a direct impact on the production of European official statistics and, at the same time, led to an increased demand for data published by Eurostat and the National Statistical Institutes (NSIs) of the European Statistical System (ESS). Eurostat was faced with a rapidly evolving demand, not just for data but also for methodological support. And at the same time, we had to cope with very significant changes in our working practices, with universal teleworking becoming the norm.

This part of the presentation gives an overview of Eurostat’s response, including methodological support, making key data highly visible, and the development of a recovery dashboard.

Members of the ESS shared many of the challenges that the crisis brought about. Eurostat and its ESS partners worked closely together to develop practical solutions and concrete responses to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 outbreak in the area of communication.

In March 2020, Eurostat and 18 NSIs created a dedicated ‘Task Force on ESS strategic communication’. In 2020, the Task Force focused on strategic communication during the COVID-19 crisis and on communication practices related to the use of new data sources in the ESS. The aim of the activities was to identify the key challenges and opportunities presented to statistical offices during this crisis, to learn from each other’s responses, identify synergies and create a basis for potential joint ESS action in the future.

This part of the presentation will give an overview of the results of this work.

### **Keywords:**

communication; dissemination; COVID-19; crisis; European statistics