

**Memorandum of Understanding  
on the Establishment of the International Network for Exchanging  
Experience on Statistical Handling of Granular Data (INEXDA)**

between

Banca d'Italia  
Via Nazionale 91  
00184 Roma, Italy

Banco de Portugal  
Av. Almirante Reis 71  
1100-012 Lisboa, Portugal

Bank of England  
Threadneedle Street  
London, EC2R 8AH, United Kingdom

Banque de France  
31 rue Croix des petits champs  
75001 Paris, France

and

Deutsche Bundesbank  
Wilhelm-Epstein-Straße 14,  
60431 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

## **Preamble**

- Having regard to the statistical tasks of the signing parties pursuant to the respective applicable legal frameworks
- Respecting the independent status of the signing Central Banks
- Acknowledging the relevance of micro data in the area of independent scientific research, policy advices (for example monetary policy or financial stability) and statistics and their importance for international comparisons
- Ensuring privacy and confidentiality of micro data in accordance with the respective applicable legal frameworks under which the data were collected and are stored
- Promoting the G20 Data Gaps Initiative II, in particular recommendation 20, addressing the accessibility of granular data
- Acknowledging and supporting the work on data sharing of the Irving Fisher Committee on Central Bank Statistics
- In the mutual endeavour to further develop the long-standing and trusting cooperative relationship between the signing parties
- Having a reciprocal understanding of the legal, organisational, staffing and financial framework in which the parties operate and with the will to take advantage of existing and potential synergies and the desire to develop, produce and disseminate high-quality statistical data
- Having regard to the United Nations' Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, international recommendations for upholding the quality of official statistics and best practices

## **Section 1 Objective**

The signing parties do hereby declare their willingness to further strengthen their cooperation on the basis of the self-commitments set out in this Memorandum of Understanding and, in light of the multiple challenges facing official statistics, to press ahead with the said cooperation in the area of granular data statistics in an effective and forward-looking manner.

## **Section 2 Definitions**

For the purposes of this Memorandum of Understanding the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) Micro data are data at the level of individual reporters or at a low level of aggregation that may lead to the identification of individual reporting units.
- (2) Anonymised micro data are transformed micro data that do not allow the identification of individual reporting units (complete anonymisation) or micro data that can only be traced to their source with a disproportionately large amount of time, costs and labour (de facto anonymisation).
- (3) Granular data cover less aggregated data than traditional statistics (e.g. finer breakdowns of aggregates in traditional statistics), anonymised micro data and micro data.

## **Section 3 Subject and scope of the cooperation: The International Network for Exchanging Experience on Statistical Handling of Granular Data (INEXDA)**

- (1) The signing parties establish the International Network for Exchanging Experience on Statistical Handling of Granular Data (INEXDA).
- (2) INEXDA will provide a basis for exchanging experiences on the statistical handling of granular data which are accessible to users external to the signing parties. 'Statistical handling' covers issues such as the accessibility of data and metadata, techniques for statistical analysis of granular data and includes procedures for confidentiality and security of data and procedures for output control.
- (3) INEXDA will provide a framework for investigating possibilities to harmonise access procedures and metadata structures, to develop comparable structures for existing data and to further foster efficiency of statistical work with granular data.
- (4) The overall aim is to facilitate the international use of granular data (as defined in paragraphs 2 and 3) for analytical, research and comparative purposes without jeopardizing and always subject to the respective applicable confidentiality regimes.

## **Section 4 Organisation and working arrangements**

- (1) Members of INEXDA are senior level representatives of the signing parties.
- (2) They will meet at least annually.

(3) The parties agree on a chair of INEXDA for a two year term on a consensual basis. After two years, the chair shall be passed to another party. The outgoing chair will assist the new chair at the beginning of the new chairmanship if needed.

(4) The chair is responsible for organizing the annual meeting, the coordination of the activities and a draft report at the end of the chairmanship, which has to be agreed on a consensual basis.

(5) The members of INEXDA will exchange information in a comprehensive manner on the fields in which cooperation is pertinent under this agreement (as agreed in the work programme referred to in paragraph (6) below) and will have open discussions. The information is shared for purely internal uses of the signing parties (exceptions need to be agreed unanimously).

(6) INEXDA will elaborate a work program which needs to be agreed on a consensual basis.

(7) The work will be performed at the operational levels of the signing parties.

(8) INEXDA will allow for (pilot) projects of some members. These members will report on their experience within the framework of INEXDA.

(9) Actual exchange and use of data, which come under the respective applicable confidentiality regimes, are not covered by this Memorandum of Understanding. Progress in some areas (e.g. granular data sharing) may need additional arrangements (e.g. legal contracts). INEXDA will aim to deliver mutually agreeable suggestions. It is at the discretion of the individual parties to decide whether to enter into such additional arrangements. Continuing membership of INEXDA does not depend on entering into such additional arrangements.

(10) The first chair of INEXDA is Stefan Bender, Head of the Research Data and Service Center of the Deutsche Bundesbank.

## **Section 5 Costs**

The parties shall not charge each other any costs under this agreement.

## **Section 6 Amendments**

(1) The signing parties encourage other central banks, national statistical institutes and international organisations to join INEXDA and sign this Memorandum of Understanding.

(2) An application to join INEXDA shall be expressed in a letter signed by the head of the statistical department (in case of national statistical institutes: the head of the

responsible statistical department) of the respective institution to the chair of INEXDA. Any application by a new institution to join INEXDA and sign this Memorandum of Understanding must be agreed by all parties.

(3) If so requested by any party, but in any event no later than five years after the date it is entered into, the parties shall mutually review this Memorandum of Understanding and amend it as appropriate.

(4) Any extension or amendment of this Memorandum of Understanding has to be agreed by all participating parties.

(5) This Memorandum of Understanding (together with an up-to-date list of all parties to it) is a public document. The signing parties will publish it on their individual websites.

### **Section 7 Termination**

(1) This Memorandum of Understanding is unlimited in duration.

(2) Any party may terminate their participation in this Memorandum of Understanding by giving one year's notice by sending a signed letter to the chair of INEXDA who will distribute this letter to all members.

### **Section 8 Final provisions**

(1) This Memorandum of Understanding has been drawn up in duplicate. Each party shall receive one copy and confirm receipt thereof.

(2) This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of its execution.

(3) This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to be legally binding.

Banca d'Italia

Roma, 29 December 2016



Eugenio Gaiotti

Head of Directorate General Economics, Statistics and Research

Banco de Portugal

Lisboa, 20 December 2016



João Cadete de Matos

Director Statistics Department

Bank of England

London, 6 January 2017

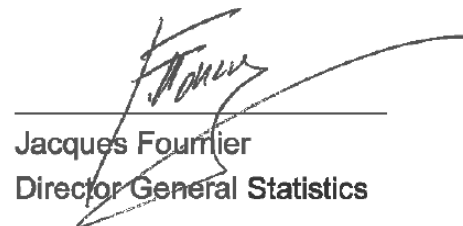


Andy Haldane

Chief Economist and Executive Director, Monetary Analysis, Research and Statistics

Banque de France

Paris, 20 December 2016



Jacques Fournier

Director General Statistics

Deutsche Bundesbank

Frankfurt am Main, 14 December 2016



---

Reinhold Stahl  
Director General Statistics



---

Robert Kirchner  
Deputy Director General Statistics