

**Arrangement on Statistical Cooperation**

**Between**

**The UK Statistics Authority, the National Statistical Institute of the United Kingdom**

**And**

**Eurostat, the Statistical Authority of the European Union**

## **1. Purpose**

In accordance with Article 730 of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, of the one part, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, of the other part, the UK Statistics Authority, the National Statistical Institute of the United Kingdom, and Eurostat, the Statistical Authority of the European Union and a Directorate-General of the European Commission (individually a “Side” and together the “Sides”) hereby establish this Arrangement with a view to enabling cooperation on relevant statistical matters, including making available statistical data on the United Kingdom, including, in particular, data on the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the United Kingdom by Eurostat, with the agreement of the UK Statistics Authority.

This Arrangement also sets out principles and plans for the cooperation between the Sides on other relevant statistics-related matters of common interest. Cooperation under this Arrangement is intended to be consistent with other UK/EU bilateral arrangements.

## **2. Scope**

The scope of this cooperation covers specific exchanges of statistical data and related information in the area of UK GDP for the purpose of Article 714(6) of the TCA (Annex A) and other statistical domains in areas of common interest and relevant statistical matters to the TCA (Annex B).

As required, and with the mutual acceptance of both Sides, additional specific technical Annexes may be established with a view to specifying more details on the cooperation in the different areas and concrete actions that the Sides will carry out to reach the purpose of this Arrangement.

The Annexes to this Arrangement, including any additional Annexes that may be established, are an integral part of this Arrangement and are without prejudice to the general principles laid down herein.

## **3. Operating principles**

The Sides will cooperate based on the principles of equality, openness, mutual respect and mutual benefit.

Each Side will be governed by its own rules.

Cooperation between the Sides will be based on respect for, and mutual understanding of each Side’s institutional structures, remits and institutional capacities. Taking into account their respective fields of specialisation, the Sides will in particular focus on:

- Exchanging information to enable statistical comparability on matters relevant to this Arrangement, with a view to transparency of methodological standards and developments, including where relevant and giving due regard to the autonomy and independence of both Sides, to their application and governance.
- Contributing to, and cooperating on, the development and application of the highest international methodologies and standards, including future methodologies and standards.

- Sharing statistical data, including relevant quality and metadata reports, with a view to meeting user needs for statistical series that include both UK and EU data where both Sides accept the specific data being processed and published by the other, and having due regard to relevant data confidentiality considerations.
- Cooperation on other general matters of mutual interest.

As a means to ensure that all users of statistics are presented with the most accurate statistical data, through this Arrangement either Side may provide the other Side with revisions of statistical data previously shared under this Arrangement or any other basis whenever such data have subsequently been revised or updated.

At annual meetings, the Sides will review progress achieved in the implementation of this Arrangement. They may discuss specific areas of work to be carried out during the year ahead as well as further areas for cooperation. They will also evaluate at regular intervals any Annexes to this Arrangement. If necessary, an update to this Arrangement or its Annexes can be mutually accepted and confirmed using an Exchange of Letters.

#### **4. Intellectual property and disclosure, use of name and logo/copyright**

The Sides recognise the importance of protecting and respecting intellectual property rights. Any intellectual property rights arising from the cooperation carried out under this Arrangement should be detailed in the Technical Annexes established in accordance with point 2. The Sides decide not to use the other Side's name or logo in any press release, memo, report, or other published disclosure related to this Arrangement without the prior written consent of the Side concerned.

#### **5. Resources**

This Arrangement does not give rise to any budgetary expenditure for either Side. Each Side will bear its own costs arising from its participation in the above-mentioned activities, where applicable.

This Arrangement does not affect the implementation of any joint programmes or activities carried out under the 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (or previous multiannual financial frameworks).

#### **6. Duration, differences in interpretation and implementation**

This Arrangement will come into effect on the date of signature. It is subject to review every five (5) years. Either Side may terminate the Arrangement by giving the other Side a notice in writing of no less than three (3) months.

Any amendment, including any addenda, to this Arrangement or to its Annexes are subject to the mutual acceptance of both Sides. Any such amendments or addenda will be deemed an integral part of this Arrangement.

If disputes arise in relation to the interpretation or application of this Arrangement, the Sides will attempt to reach a mutually acceptable solution.

This Arrangement is of an administrative nature and the plans set out herein express technical intent only and are not intended to create legal rights or obligations under international or domestic law.

Nothing in this Arrangement can be interpreted as a waiver of any privileges or immunities accorded to either Side by its constituent documents, privileges and immunities agreements, domestic or international legal obligations.

**7. Key points of contact**

Each Side designates below its representative with overall responsibility for coordinating the implementation of this Arrangement, including Annexes, and any Exchanges of Letters under this Arrangement. The representative or a delegate they nominate will be responsible for formulating work plans for activities to be carried out on the basis of this Arrangement.

For the UK Statistics Authority:

[Redacted signature line]

For Eurostat:

[Redacted signature lines]

**8. List of Annexes**

<b>Annex A</b>	<b>Specific exchanges of statistical data and related information in the area of UK Gross Domestic Product for the purpose of Article 714(6) of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement</b>
<b>Annex B</b>	<b>Administrative procedures and specifications for cooperation in other areas of mutual interest</b>

**9. Signature**

The foregoing represents the understanding reached between the Sides on the matters referred to in this Arrangement.

Signed in Warsaw on 9 October 2024, in English.

**For the UK Statistics Authority**

**For Eurostat**

*Sir Ian Diamond*  
**Chief Executive of the UK Statistics Authority**

*Mariana Kotzeva*  
**Director-General of Eurostat**

## Annex A

### **Specific exchanges of statistical data and related information in the area of UK Gross Domestic Product for the purpose of Article 714(6) of the TCA**

This Annex sets out the working procedures to be applied in respect of the transmission of UK Gross Domestic Product (GDP) data for the purpose of Article 714(6) of the TCA.

#### **1. GDP constituencies and relevant National Accounts domains: list of components**

The core constituencies relevant to calculating and understanding UK GDP data compiled in the framework of national accounts following the System of National Accounts (SNA) standards are detailed in Table 1.

The transmissions of GDP data should include at least the last four years and main underlying components from the output, expenditure and income approaches, following the current Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) standards as specified on the website: [https://sdmx.org/?page\\_id=1498](https://sdmx.org/?page_id=1498)

Further supplementary components and tables relating to National Accounts relevant to calculating and understanding UK GDP data for the purposes of this Annex may be jointly decided as set out in paragraph 5. below.

#### **2. Coordination of data and metadata information exchanges**

A schedule of the data and metadata information exchanges for the core constituencies and supplementary components detailed in paragraph 1. will include:

- A first estimate of UK GDP data and related metadata for year N-1 which will be transmitted by the end of March of year N, following national publication.
- The latest estimate of UK GDP data and related metadata for year N-1 which will be transmitted by the end of November of year N.

A more detailed schedule can be jointly decided by the Sides on an annual basis, taking into account Article 714(6) of the TCA and relevant national publication timescales.

Data and metadata information exchanges may also include the transmission of intermediate updates, explanatory information, and revisions to ensure consistency with national publications.

#### **3. Confirmation of data quality using quality standards and transparency processes**

When the core constituencies and supplementary components of UK GDP data are transmitted by the UK Statistics Authority, the datasets will be processed by Eurostat and the quality of the data will be checked against quality standards and transparency requirements that have been established by the Sides (see point 5 below). To support this process, the Sides may request

metadata and other information exchanges to allow checks on accuracy, accessibility and clarity, comparability and coherence.

The process of considering quality standards and transparency requirements in the area of UK GDP data will be established by the Sides when setting out relevant datasets and the timetable for their transmission. These processes must be in accordance with this Arrangement.

#### **4. Use of UK GDP data by Eurostat**

In accordance with Article 714(6) and Article 730 of the TCA, Eurostat will provide the UK GDP data at market prices that is the latest available as of 1 January of the year in which the payment is due as soon as it is available.

For the purposes of Article 714(6), UK GDP data in Pound Sterling (GBP) will be based on the latest available data transmitted by ONS to Eurostat and will be converted to Euro (EUR) based on the annual average GBP/EUR exchange rate published by the ECB (and re-published by Eurostat).

#### **5. Implementation and evaluation**

Direct responsibility for implementing these working procedures will be assigned to a relevant Director from each Side, as nominated by the respective key point of contact for this Arrangement.

The relevant Director will address any technical clarification issues or methodological questions that may arise in the context of the quality confirmation of the transmitted UK GDP data to the established quality standards and transparency requirements. They will promptly inform each other of any actual or anticipated problems and discuss any additional steps that may be required by either Side. If necessary, further operational details for the implementation of these working procedures may be worked out by the key points of contact (listed in point 7 of this Arrangement) and confirmed by means of an Exchange of Letters.

These working procedures will be evaluated each year by the Sides in line with this Arrangement, in order to determine whether any amendments are needed to ensure they reflect the highest standards and processes available.

Table 1

The transmissions of GDP should include at least the last four years and the main underlying components from the output, expenditure and income approaches, following SDMX standards as specified on the website:

[https://sdmx.org/?page\\_id=1498](https://sdmx.org/?page_id=1498);

For NA\_MAIN; Main Aggregates, datasets

## **Annex B**

### **Administrative procedures and specifications for cooperation in other areas of mutual interest**

This annex sets out the administrative procedures and specifications for cooperation in other areas of mutual interest.

#### **1. Cooperation in areas of mutual interest**

As an important part of their ongoing horizontal collaboration, the Sides agree to carry out collaborative work in the following areas of mutual interest:

- National accounts (other than GDP data covered by Annex A)
- Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices & House Price Index
- International Trade in Goods Statistics
- International Trade in Services Statistics
- Balance of Payments and International Investment Position
- Foreign Direct Investment

Collaborative work may include sharing of statistical data, including relevant quality and metadata reports, as well as exchanging information to enable statistical comparability and to ensure transparency of methodological standards and developments, having due regard to relevant data confidentiality considerations.

The exact list of datasets and components relating to the above-mentioned areas will be jointly decided by the Sides as set out in paragraph 6 below.

#### **2. Specific exchanges of statistical data and related information in the area of Purchasing Power Parities (PPP)**

Considering the existing regional PPP programmes across the world that are linked together at global level by the World Bank in the International Comparison Programme (ICP), it is appropriate to include the UK in the country coverage of the Eurostat-OECD PPP Programme through Eurostat.

For that purpose, UK price input data for household final consumption expenditure, individual government consumption, collective consumption and gross fixed capital formation will be transmitted to Eurostat by the UK Statistics Authority and based on the methodology of the PPP Programme as published in the current edition of the "Eurostat-OECD Methodological Manual on Purchasing Power Parities<sup>1</sup>". The transmission will be accompanied by an annual update of the "PPP Inventory" describing the data sources and methods used to produce these PPP as jointly decided.

These source data will feed into the overall calculation of PPPs by Eurostat at the product, product group (or basic heading) and aggregate levels, including GDP. Overall PPP calculations take place in June and December of each year and are released through the dissemination database on Eurostat's website. All data and procedures related to the Eurostat PPP exercise are incorporated into the central PPP database and associated tools.

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<sup>1</sup> [Eurostat-OECD Methodological Manual on Purchasing Power Parities](#)



### **3. Data transmission enablers**

Data and metadata sharing should take place using Eurostat's Single Entry Point services (EDAMIS and ESS Metadata Handler), which ensures secure data transmission.

Data and metadata should be exchanged using the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) standards.

### **4. Jointly elaborated explanatory memorandum for users**

The re-dissemination and publication by one Side of specific datasets shared by the other Side in accordance with this Annex or following any further operational details jointly decided by the Sides as set out in paragraph 6 below, must be approved by the other Side.

Such re-dissemination or publication must be accompanied by a jointly elaborated explanatory memorandum, either generic or specific, to provide adequate information to users.

### **5. Access to UK microdata for scientific purposes**

The Sides recognise the importance of ensuring continued access to microdata for analysis in the interest of scientific progress, without compromising the high level of protection that confidential statistical data require. The Sides decided to cooperate in this respect, notably with a view to making available the most recent microdata for scientific purposes.

Access to UK microdata for scientific purposes may be granted by Eurostat following the rules in place, including rules pertaining to the recognised status of the research entity requesting access, the submission of an appropriate research proposal, the indication of the requested type of confidential data for scientific purposes, the provision of access by Eurostat or by another access facility accredited by Eurostat.

Eurostat will consult the UK Statistics Authority on incoming research proposals when the research proposal covers UK microdata. Access to UK microdata will only be granted subject to the explicit prior written approval of the UK Statistics Authority.

### **6. Implementation and evaluation**

Direct responsibility for implementing these administrative procedures will be assigned to a relevant Director from each Side, as designated by the respective key point of contact for this Arrangement.

The relevant Director will address any technical clarification issues or methodological questions that may arise in the context of the implementation of this Annex. They will promptly inform each other of any actual or anticipated problems and discuss any additional steps that may be required by either Side. The relevant Director on each Side may designate domain-specific contact persons, the names of whom should be communicated to the other Side. If necessary, further operational details for the implementation of these working procedures may be worked out by the relevant key points of contact and confirmed by means of an Exchange of Letters.

These administrative procedures and specifications will be evaluated each year by the Sides in line with this Arrangement, in order to determine whether any amendments are needed to ensure they reflect the highest standards and processes available.