



## **Statistics as instruments for prosperous, transparent and democratic societies.**

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In January 2014 the General Assembly of the United Nations endorsed the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, which was adopted by the Statistical Commission in April 1994, following an initiative of the Conference of European Statisticians. Hence the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics have universal acceptance and should be adhered to by all nations and societies. Valid and reliable information is essential for the management of the affairs of a democratic society aiming at generalised f T T VP S a b Ta ch & b important that users and stakeholders of official statistics and the citizens at large have total confidence in statistics. To produce valid and reliable statistics it is necessary that Governments provide the legal framework and resources to the statistical system of their countries to allow statisticians to produce the required statistical information, without interference, using the best available methodology and techniques from the best suited sources of information. Respondents, be they individual, enterprises or organisations have to provide the required information truthfully and as complete as possible.. Official statistics has to guarantee that such individual information will be used for statistical purposes only. Moreover statistical results have to be made available undistinguished to all users. Such basic requirements to official statistics were not respected before 1989 in the central planned economies. During the transition process toward democracies and market economies of the countries from Eastern and Central Europe it was recognized that official statistics plays an essential role for preserving democracy and its special and unique role be recognized in the government services. The Conference of European Statisticians took the initiative to propose to its member countries the acceptance of a Charta called Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. F ith the years it was recognized cWpcWbT a R Tb bWd S WPeTP d eTabP validity. This was reached in 2014 with the acceptance UeW a R Tb by the United Nations General Assembly..

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