



Press release

Date 15.12.2023

Federal statistics: Federal Council opens consultation on new ordinance

At its meeting on 15 December 2023, the Federal Council opened the consultation procedure on the new Federal Statistics Ordinance. This text sets out the activities of all the Confederation's producers of statistics. It regulates the carrying out of surveys, the processing of data and their use for statistical purposes, as well as various services in the field of data science and artificial intelligence.

As part of the "National Data Management (NaDB)" programme, the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) has been mandated by the Federal Council to implement the reuse of data within the federal administration, in collaboration with other departments and offices. This implementation is being developed in stages at organisational, technical and legal levels.

The first stage at a legal level was taken with the amendment of Art. 10 of the Ordinance on the Organisation of the Federal Department of Home Affairs, which came into force on 1 January 2023. The new tasks assigned to the FSO are now included. It specifies, among other things, that the Office is developing a data science competence center, administering the I14Y interoperability platform and providing the secretariat for the Confederation's Competence Network for Artificial Intelligence, as well as the roles of Swiss data steward and statistical data steward.

The second stage consisted of the full revision of two ordinances linked to federal statistics: the ordinance on statistical surveys and the ordinance on the organisation of federal statistics. They have been combined into a single new ordinance, the Ordinance on Federal Statistics. This provides a transparent overview of the activities of the FSO and various federal producers in official statistics. These activities include carrying out surveys, processing and disseminating data, as well as providing a range of data science and artificial intelligence services, all for statistical purposes. The requirements of the Data Protection Act, which comes into force on 1 September 2023, have also been taken into account.

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Federal Department of Home Affairs (FDHA)

Annex:

Draft new ordinance on federal statistics —
Opening of the consultation procedure