

08 February 2013

Institutional communiqué

In response to the statements made by the Chairman of the CEOE against the statistics produced by the INE, specifically against the reliability of the Economically Active Population Survey (EAPS), and the potential damage the latter may cause the credibility of the INE, this communiqué is hereby issued, following the recommendations made in the framework of the implementation of the Code of Practice of European statistics.

All social officials are members of the High Council on Statistics, among whose functions are passing judgment on and approving all operations carried out each year by the INE. Therefore, we do not understand how our work can be called into question by an institution that has previously approved and passed judgment favourably on the EAPS statistical operation in the technical area.

The EAPS methodology follows the recommendations of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), which have been approved by the employer and trade union organisations, as well as by government representatives of Spain.

Furthermore, the EAPS is based on standardised methodologies, in common with the whole of the European Union, and which are in response to European Council Regulations and in fulfilment of the Code of Practice of European Statistics, for the purpose not only of its data being reliable, but also of it being comparable in space and time.

The INE is committed to its function as a public service for producing statistics, which it performs at all times within a framework of autonomy, transparency and professionalism. This is not incompatible with ongoing improvements to its efficiency in the use of its resources regard to the fulfilment of needs entrusted to it. In this sense, existing administrative records are capitalised upon for supplementing surveys to the greatest extent possible. In the case of the EAPS, however, there is a strong consensus that this replacement is, to date, not feasible.