

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2016/8**  
**of 5 January 2016**  
**specifying the technical characteristics of the 2017 ad hoc module on self-employment**  
**(Text with EEA relevance)**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 of 9 March 1998 on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 7a(5) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) For the purpose of monitoring progress towards the common objectives set out in the Europe 2020 strategy the Commission should receive from the Member States a comprehensive set of data on self-employment that allows comparisons to be made between Member States.
- (2) Commission Regulation (EU) No 318/2013 <sup>(2)</sup> establishes an ad hoc module on self-employment.
- (3) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1397/2014 <sup>(3)</sup> specifies and gives a description of the areas of specialised information ('ad hoc sub-modules') which should be included in the 2017 ad hoc module on self-employment.
- (4) The Commission should specify the technical characteristics, the filters, the codes and the deadline for the transmission of data under the ad hoc sub-module on self-employment.
- (5) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the European Statistical System Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

The technical characteristics of the 2017 ad hoc module on self-employment, the filters, the codes to be used and the deadline by which the results shall be sent to the Commission are laid down in the Annex to this Regulation.

*Article 2*

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 77, 14.3.1998, p. 3.

<sup>(2)</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 318/2013 of 8 April 2013 adopting the programme of ad hoc modules, covering the years 2016 to 2018, for the labour force sample survey provided for by Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 (OJ L 99, 9.4.2013, p. 11).

<sup>(3)</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1397/2014 of 22 October 2014 amending Regulation (EU) No 318/2013 adopting the programme of ad hoc modules, covering the years 2016 to 2018, for the labour force sample survey provided for by Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 (OJ L 370, 30.12.2014, p. 42).

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 5 January 2016.

*For the Commission*

*The President*

Jean-Claude JUNCKER

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## ANNEX

This Annex sets out the technical characteristics, filters and codes to be used in the ad hoc module on self-employment scheduled to be carried out in 2017. It also sets the dates for submission of data to the Commission.

*Deadline for transmission of the results to the Commission:* 31 March 2018.

*Filters and codes to be used for sending data:* as set out in Annex III to Commission Regulation (EC) No 377/2008 <sup>(1)</sup>.

*Columns reserved for optional weighting factors, to be used in cases of subsampling or non-response:* columns 222-225 containing whole numbers and columns 226-227 containing decimal places.

(1) **Sub-module ‘Economically dependent self-employment’**

Name/Column	Code	Description	Filter
MAINCLNT		<b>Economic dependency</b>	STAPRO = 1,2
211		<i>Number and importance of clients in the last 12 months</i>	
	1	No client in the last 12 months	
	2	Only one client in the last 12 months	
	3	2-9 clients in the last 12 months, but one was dominant	
	4	2-9 clients in the last 12 months, and none was dominant	
	5	More than 9 clients in the last 12 months, but one was dominant	
	6	More than 9 clients in the last 12 months, and none was dominant	
	9	Not applicable (not included in the filter)	
	Blank	No answer/Don't know	
WORKORG		<b>Organisational dependency</b>	STAPRO = 1,2 AND MAINCLNT ≠ 1
212		<i>Influence over deciding working hours</i>	
	1	The respondent decides	
	2	The client/s of the respondent decide(s)	
	3	Any other party decides	
	9	Not applicable (not included in the filter)	
	Blank	No answer/Don't know	

<sup>(1)</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 377/2008 of 25 April 2008 implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community as regards the codification to be used for data transmission from 2009 onwards, the use of a subsample for the collection of data on structural variables and the definition of the reference quarters (OJ L 114, 26.4.2008, p. 57).

## (2) Sub-module 'Working conditions for self-employed people'

Name/Column	Code	Description	Filter
REASSE		<b>Main reason for becoming self-employed</b>	STAPRO = 1,2
213		<i>Main reason for becoming self-employed when starting to work as self-employed in the current job</i>	
	1	Could not find a job as an employee	
	2	The respondent's former employer requested the respondent to become self-employed	
	3	It is the usual practice in the respondent's field	
	4	A suitable opportunity presented itself	
	5	Continued the family business	
	6	Did not want to or plan to become self-employed, but started working as self-employed for another reason than listed previously	
	7	Wanted to be self-employed because of flexible working hours	
	8	Wanted to be self-employed for other reason	
	9	Not applicable (not included in the filter)	
	Blank	No answer/Don't know	
SEDIFFIC		<b>Main difficulty as self-employed</b>	STAPRO = 1,2
214		<i>Self-perceived main difficulty in working as self-employed during the last 12 months</i>	
	0	Lack of influence on setting the price of own work	
	1	Lack of access to financing for the business	
	2	Delayed payments or non-payments	
	3	Inappropriate levels of administrative burden	
	4	Lack of income in case of sickness	
	5	Periods of financial hardship	
	6	Periods of having no customer, no assignments or project to work on	
	7	Other difficulty	
	8	Had no difficulties	
	9	Not applicable (not included in the filter)	
	Blank	No answer/Don't know	
REASNOEM		<b>Main reason for not having employees</b>	STAPRO = 2
215		<i>Self-perceived main reason for not having any employees</i>	
	0	Respondent primarily wants to employ him/herself	
	1	There is not enough work	

Name/Column	Code	Description	Filter
BPARTNER 216	2	Difficult to find suitable staff	STAPRO = 1,2
	3	Legal framework is too complicated	
	4	High social contributions	
	5	Not possible in the respondent's occupation	
	6	Respondent prefers to work with sub-contractors or associates	
	7	The respondent's client/s want(s) the respondent to do the work	
	8	Other reason	
	9	Not applicable (not included in the filter)	
	Blank	No answer/Don't know	
		<i>Working with a co-owner and/or in a network of other self-employed</i>	
PLANEMPL 217	1	Works together with a co-owner	STAPRO = 1,2
	2	Works together with other self-employed in a network	
	3	Both	
	4	Neither	
	9	Not applicable (not included in the filter)	
	Blank	No answer/Don't know	
		<i>Plans to employ or sub-contract in the next 12 months</i>	
	1	Plans to employ only permanent employees	
	2	Plans to employ only temporary employees	
	3	Plans to employ both permanent and temporary employees	
	4	Plans to only hire subcontractors	
	5	Plans to hire subcontractors and employ employees	
	6	Does not plan to hire employees or subcontractors	
	9	Not applicable (not included in the filter)	
	Blank	No answer/Don't know	

## (3) Sub-module 'The self-employed and employees'

Name/Column	Code	Description	Filter
JBSATISF 218		<b>Job satisfaction</b> <i>The level of job satisfaction in the main job</i>	WSTATOR = 1,2
	1	Satisfied to a large extent	
	2	Satisfied to some extent	

Name/Column	Code	Description	Filter
AUTONOMY 219	3	Satisfied to a small extent	WSTATOR = 1,2
	4	Not satisfied at all	
	9	Not applicable (not included in the filter)	
	Blank	No answer/Don't know	
	<b>Job autonomy</b>		
	<i>The level of influence over content and order of tasks in the main job</i>		
	1	Able to influence both contents and order of tasks	
	2	Able to influence contents but not order of tasks	
	3	Able to influence order but not contents of tasks	
	4	Not able to influence contents, nor order of tasks	
9	Not applicable (not included in the filter)		
Blank	No answer/Don't know		
PREFSTAP 220	<b>Preferred professional status for the main job</b>		WSTATOR = 1,2
	<i>Preference to work as an employee if currently self-employed, or preference to work as self-employed if currently working as an employee</i>		
	1	Does not want to change professional status	
	2	Is self-employed but wishes to work as an employee	
	3	Is working as an employee or family worker but wishes to be self-employed	
	9	Not applicable (not included in the filter)	
	Blank	No answer/Don't know	
OBSTACSE 221	<b>Main reason for not becoming self-employed in the main job</b>		PREFSTAP = 3
	<i>The main reason why current employees or family workers who wish they were self-employed have not switched to their preferred professional status</i>		
	1	Financial insecurity	
	2	Difficulties with getting financing for the business	
	3	Too much stress, responsibilities, or risk	
	4	Less coverage from social protection	
	5	Other reason	
	9	Not applicable (not included in the filter)	
	Blank	No answer/Don't know	