

His Excellency Prokopios Pavlopoulos
President of the Hellenic Republic
Presidential Mansion
Vasileos Georgiou B 2
Athina 106 74
GREECE

20 September 2016

Dear Excellency

Prosecution of the past president of ELSTAT

I am writing on behalf of the Royal Statistical Society (RSS), to express our concern about the recent decision of the Greek Supreme Court to press charges against Andreas Georgiou, past president of ELSTAT.

Standards for the production of official statistics, both in terms of quality and integrity, are well established at international level in the United Nations' statement on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. As one of the world's leading statistical societies with a membership that includes official statisticians from many countries, the RSS is keenly interested in the adherence to these standards across the world.

It is vital that those working within the Greek statistical service can be confident that their work to deliver data of integrity can be done according to their professional duty and in line with the United Nations' principles. They should be in no doubt that they do so free of any interference or pressure, implied or real.

On the basis of the information available to us, we have deep concerns about the validity of the case against Mr Georgiou. We wish to urge that all is done to ensure that he is given a scrupulously fair hearing.

Yours Sincerely



Professor Peter Diggle
President of the Royal Statistical Society

