Producers of European statistics, the so-called ONAs (other national authorities) are an integral part of the European Statistical System (ESS) and therefore should comply with the European Statistics Code of Practice (CoP). ONAs are responsible for ensuring the quality of the statistics they produce and are entitled to submit data directly to Eurostat.

In previous rounds of peer reviews, the participation of ONAs in peer reviews has been found to be extremely beneficial. On the one hand, it has helped to establish closer cooperation within the national statistical system and, on the other hand, it has increased the CoP awareness of the ONAs and their important role in the production of European statistics.

Therefore, the participation of ONAs was guaranteed in the third round of peer reviews. Participating in peer reviews can bring many benefits to ONAs, such as more structured and effective coordination by the national statistical office and greater integration into the national statistical system. A peer review gives ONAs the opportunity to express their views and concerns both when completing the self-assessment questionnaire and when participating in the audit team visit as part of the review. In the case of giving a recommendation to ONAs, this should foster improvements in the quality of the statistics produced.

However, due to the limited visit duration and peer review resources, it is not possible for all ONAs to participate in them. Three institutions were selected to participate in the review of the Polish statistical system, in accordance with the ONAs selection criteria of described in the methodology of the third round of ESS peer reviews:

* Ministry of Finance,
* Ministry of Justice,
* Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

A separate, simplified self-assessment questionnaire has been developed for ONAs. In addition to the completed self-assessment questionnaire, ONAs will be asked to provide some core documents. In addition, ONAs may receive recommendations addressed to them by the audit team. In such a case, they will be required, in cooperation with Statistics Poland, to formulate appropriate improvement actions and participate in their implementation and monitoring of these actions. However, the final decision on the shape of the improvement actions rests with Statistics Poland as the coordinator of the national statistical system.

The list of ONAs selected to peer reviews in the ESS countries is available on the Eurostat website: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/64157/4372828/12_ONA-list-May+2022.pdf/7ac9c16e-9b73-db03-c234-b14f1d56b028?t=1652955834305>