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(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 2877/76
of 23 November 1976
on the organization of a sample survey of manpower

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 213 thereof,

Having regard to the draft Regulation submitted by the Commission,

Whereas in order to carry out the tasks which are assigned to it by the Treaty, in particular in Articles 2, 117, 118, 122 and 123 thereof, the Commission must know the situation and the developments in employment and unemployment;

Whereas the statistical information available in each of the Member States does not provide a suitable basis for comparison, particularly because of the differences between the laws, rules and administrative practices of the Member States on which these statistics are based;

Whereas by reason of the considerable changes which take place in the field of employment and unemployment, it appears necessary to make available at regular intervals statistics permitting proper comparisons between Member States;

Whereas the best method of knowing the level and the structure of employment and unemployment consists in carrying out harmonized and synchronized Community sample surveys of manpower; whereas only the renewal in 1977 of the surveys already carried out in 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1973 and 1975 enables this information to be obtained;

Whereas special problems arise in certain Member States concerning their participation in such a survey and whereas this situation should be taken into account,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

In the spring of 1977, the Commission shall undertake a manpower survey based on a sample of households in each of the Member States.

Article 2

This survey shall be carried out in the form of personal interviews in each of the Member States in a sample of households whose residence is in the territory of these States at the time of the survey. The information shall be collected for each member of the households included in the sample.

Article 3

The sample shall comprise between 60 000 and 100 000 households in Germany, France, Italy and the United Kingdom; between 30 000 and 50 000 in Belgium, the Netherlands and Ireland; between 30 000 and 40 000 in Denmark, and approximately 10 000 households in Luxembourg.

Article 4

The basic survey shall cover:

(a) the individual characteristics of all members of the households questioned;

(b) the occupations of these persons (status, branch of activity, hours of work, etc.) at the time of the survey and one year prior to it;

(c) the search for work, taking into account the type of employment sought, reasons for seeking it, and the length of time spent seeking it.

Article 5

A supplementary survey shall be conducted as part of the basic survey referred to in Article 4. It shall relate to:

(a) persons not economically active who are outside the labour market, having failed to find employment;

(b) persons receiving one or more pensions (stating the category, type and number of pensions; the year in which they were first received, and why; the principal means of subsistence).

Article 6

The information shall be gathered by the statistical authorities of the Member States on the basis of a list of questions drawn up by the Commission in cooperation with the said authorities.

The Commission shall determine, in collaboration with these authorities, the technical details of the survey (basic survey and supplementary survey). It shall also establish, under the same conditions, the starting and closing dates of the survey and the deadlines for answers to the questionnaires.

Article 7

The statistical authorities of the Member States shall check the answers collected. They shall forward to the Commission the results of the survey for each respondent, who shall remain anonymous.

Article 8

The individual items of information provided in the context of the survey may be used only for statistical purposes. They may not be used for fiscal or other purposes and may not be communicated to third parties.

The Member States shall take appropriate measures:

(a) to ensure that the information requested is furnished truthfully and in its entirety within the times specified;

(b) to punish any infringement of the obligation to preserve the confidentiality of the information gathered, referred to in the first subparagraph.

Article 9

In order to take account of special problems experienced by certain Member States which participated in the survey for the first time in 1975, the technical details referred to in Articles 1, 2 and 3 may be adapted to specific circumstances and shall be decided upon by common agreement between these States and the Commission.

Article 10

For the conduct of this survey, Member States shall receive a flat-rate sum proportional to the number of households questioned. This amount shall be set off against the credits provided for this purpose in the budget of the European Communities.

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

Done at Brussels, 23 November 1976.

For the Council

The President

A. P. L. M. M. van der STEE