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| **28th Meeting of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers The Hague, 2 – 6 October 2023** |
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| Session 2: Profiling complex Statistical Units (SUs) |
| Happy Birthday 696/93 |

**Abstract**

30 years ago, in 1993 the European Union laid down legislation on statistical units in official statistics in the EU. Council Regulation (EEC) No 696/93 of 15 March 1993 became binding and directly applicable. It provided definitions and explanations about a variety of statistical units for use in business statistics and beyond. In the legal architecture of official statistics in the EU, 696/93 was intended as a cornerstone regulation many other statistical legal acts refer to. The contribution resumes the – supposed – aims which the authors of the regulation may have had in mind when initiating this legal framework and recapitulates some landmarks in the time that followed and the state of implementation of the content of the regulation till date.