

**20  
26** EUROPEAN CONFERENCE  
ON QUALITY IN OFFICIAL  
STATISTICS | ŠIBENIK | CROATIA

# PROGRAMME

**2–5 JUNE  
2026**

**ŠIBENIK  
CROATIA**



**Organisation**



**eurostat** 

**Patronage**



Government  
of the Republic  
of Croatia



## Welcome to Q2026!

Dear all,

The Croatian Bureau of Statistics and Eurostat are pleased to invite you to the 12<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Quality in Official Statistics (**#Q2026**). The Conference will take place from **3 to 5 June 2026** in the coastal city of Šibenik, Croatia.

As a cornerstone event in promoting quality in official statistics, Q2026 will once again bring together statisticians, researchers, academics and professionals from various fields to explore the latest trends and address the key challenges under the motto: **Official Statistics: Enhancing Trust, Shaping the Future.**

Q2026 topics aim to cover the diversity of issues and aspects related to the quality of European official statistics. It will explore institutional frameworks supporting quality management in official statistics and highlight the challenges and opportunities in maintaining the quality of official statistics amid rising use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). The conference will emphasise quality as essential for building and maintaining user trust.

Continuing the well-established practice, Q2026 will offer a series of one-day training courses, to be held on 2 June 2026.

The Q2026 website has been designed to keep you updated with the most relevant information about the event. Should you have any questions, please contact the organising team at [Q2026HR@dzs.hr](mailto:Q2026HR@dzs.hr).

Looking forward to welcoming you in Šibenik!



Lidija Brković,  
Director General,  
Croatian Bureau of Statistics



Mariana Kotzeva,  
Director General,  
Eurostat

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## Scientific Committee

**Lidija Brković**, Co-Chair, Director General of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, (CBS), Croatia

**Mariana Kotzeva**, Co-Chair, Director General of Eurostat, Statistical Office of the European Union, Luxembourg

**Claudia Mann**, Director General for Statistics, European Central Bank (ECB), Luxembourg

**Alfred Camilleri**, Chair, European Statistical Governance Advisory Board (ESGAB), Luxembourg

**Roxane Silberman**, Chair, European Statistical Advisory Committee (ESAC), Luxembourg

**Tudorel Andrei**, President of the National Institute of Statistics (NIS), Romania

**Joost Huurman**, Deputy Director General and Director of the department for Dataservices, Research and Innovation at Statistics Netherlands (CBS), Netherlands

**Áron Kincses**, President of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office (HCSO), Hungary

**Jūratė Petrauskienė**, Director General of the State Data Agency, Statistics Lithuania

**Marek Rojčiček**, President of the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO), ESS Partnership Group Chair, Czechia

**Athanasios C. Thanopoulos**, Deputy Director-General of Eurostat, Statistical Office of the European Union, Luxembourg

**Jean-Pierre Poncelet**, Eurostat Director of Directorate B: Standards; Dissemination; Enlargement, Luxembourg

**Saša Drezgić**, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business (EFRI), University of Rijeka, Croatia

**Mato Njavro**, Dean of the Zagreb School of Economics and Management (ZŠEM), Croatia

## Programme Committee

**Andrea Galić Nagyszombaty**, Co-Chair, Director, Statistical Methodologies, Quality and Customer Relations, Croatian Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Croatia

**Avis Beneš**, Co-Chair, Head of Unit 03: Quality; ESAC and ESGAB Secretariat; Statistical Office of the European Union, Eurostat, Luxembourg

**Žaklina Čizmović**, Head of Department, Quality, Statistical Standards and GIS Development, Croatian Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Croatia

**Ivana Levačić**, Head of Department, Sampling, Statistical Methods and Analyses, Croatian Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Croatia

**Mateusz Kaleta**, Statistical Officer in Unit 03: Quality; ESAC and ESGAB Secretariat; Statistical Office of the European Union, Eurostat, Luxembourg

**Monika Wozowczyk**, Deputy Head of Unit 02: Innovation and Digital Transformation, Statistical Office of the European Union, Eurostat, Luxembourg

**Monika Bieniek**, Consultant in Programming, Coordination of Statistical Surveys and Registers Department, Statistics Poland, Poland

**Susana Portillo**, Expert in Statistical Quality and Support Services, The Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ireland

**Remi Prual**, Consultant in Management and in Quality, Knowledge, Information, Statistics, Data and Metadata Management and Governance, Estonia

**Giorgia Simeoni**, Quality manager and member of Istat Quality committee, Italian National Statistical Institute (Istat), Italy

**Silvan Zammit**, Director, Data Resources, IT and Methodology at National Statistics Office (NSO), Malta

**Maria João Zilhão**, Member of the Board, Statistics Portugal (INE), Portugal

**Tomislav Baković**, Academic Specialist in Statistical Quality and Economic Analysis, Faculty of Economics and Business (EFZG), University of Zagreb, Croatia

**Vesna Buterin**, Associate professor and Researcher in Macroeconomics, Vice Dean for Cooperation with Business Community and Affairs, Faculty of Economics and Business (EFRI) University of Rijeka, Croatia

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## General Information

### DATES AND VENUE

Training courses: 2 June 2026  
Q2026 Conference: 3–5 June 2026  
Venue: Convention Centre Šibenik  
Address: Hoteli Solaris 86, 22000 Šibenik

### REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION DESK

The Registration and Information Desk are located in the venue's Lobby.

### TEHNNICAL SUPPORT

Technical support is available in all conference halls where participants attend sessions according to the Conference Programme. Participants are expected to respect the Programme schedule and announce any updates or changes to their presentations in advance at the Info Desk. Colleagues at the Info Desk will then direct them accordingly.

### Q2026 MOBILE APPLICATION

For a better Conference experience and easier navigation, download the Q2026 mobile app, where you can find essential information about the programme, social events, the Q Networking Corner, and more. We encourage you to enable notifications so you don't miss any Conference updates!



### INTERNET CONNECTION

Free Wi-Fi access is available at Convention Centre Šibenik.  
Wi-Fi: Amadria Park Congress  
Password: Sibenik1234

### SOCIAL EVENTS

#### WELCOME RECEPTION

Wednesday, 3 June 2026  
Time: 18:30–21:00

All participants and registered accompanying persons are invited to attend the welcome reception at the En Vogue Beach Bar, which is part of the Convention Centre Šibenik.

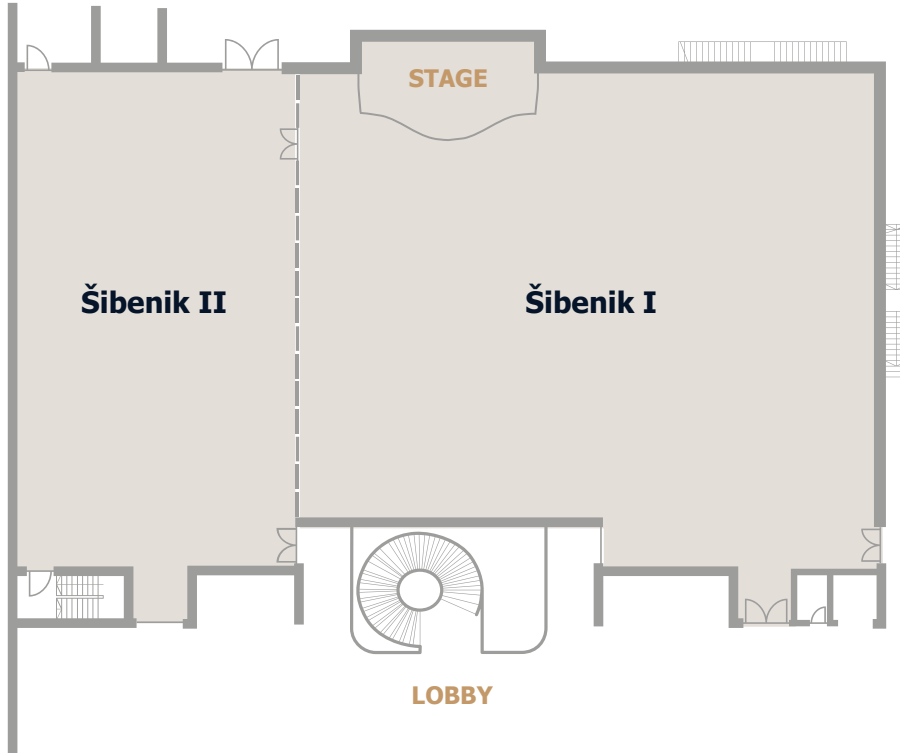
#### CONFERENCE DINNER

Thursday, 4 June 2026  
Time: 18:30–22:00

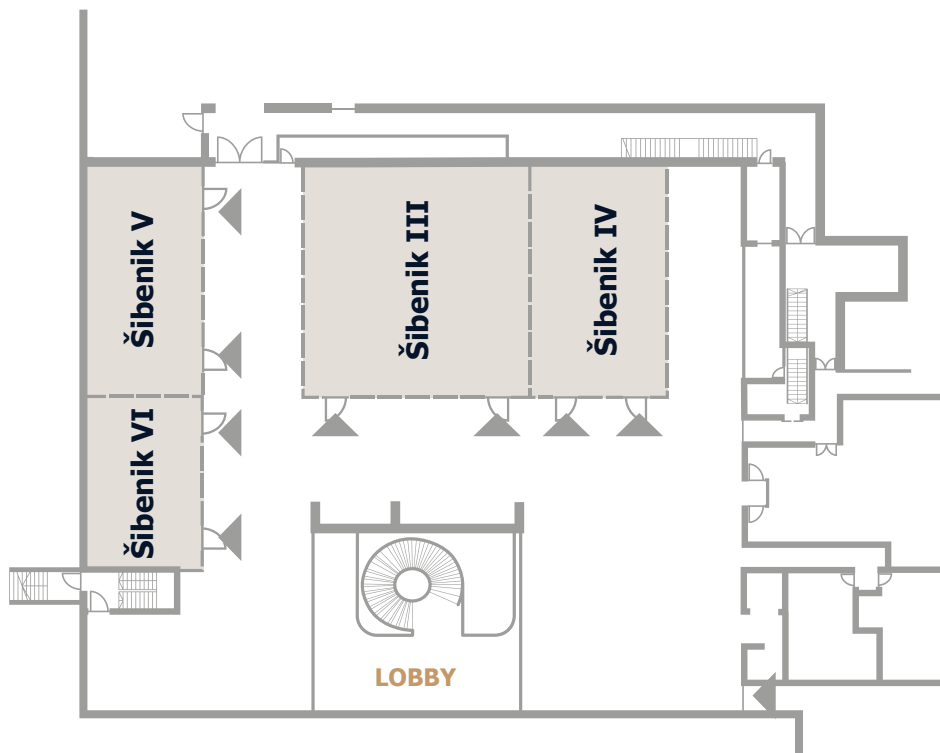
Participants who have registered for the official Conference Dinner, guests and accompanying persons are welcome to this event, which will take place at the Mediterranean City, which is part of the Convention Centre Šibenik.

## Conference Venue Plan

### FLOOR 0



### FLOOR -1



## Programme at a glance

Day 1 (3 June 2026)

Room Time ↙	Šibenik I	Šibenik II	Šibenik III	Šibenik IV	Šibenik V	Šibenik VI
<b>08:00 – 08:50</b>	<b>Registration (available throughout the conference days)</b>					
<b>09:00 – 10:00</b>	Welcome addresses					
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>Keynote speech</b> Professional Independence of National Statistical Institutes and Eurostat: A Pillar of Strengthening Trust in European Official Statistics					
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>					
<b>11:00 – 12:30</b>		<b>Session 1 /special/</b> European Statistics Code of Practice – Past, Present, Future	<b>Session 2</b> Challenges for Quality Assurance of New Data Sources	<b>Session 3</b> When Artificial Intelligence Meets Official Statistics	<b>Session 4</b> Continuous Improvement of Quality Management Systems	<b>Session 5</b> Standards and Interoperability
<b>12:30 – 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>					
<b>13:15 – 14:00</b>		<b>Speed talk session 1</b> Process and Risk Management	<b>Speed talk session 2</b> Partnerships for Integration of Data Sources	<b>Speed talk session 3</b> High-Quality Imputations with Machine Learning Techniques	<b>Speed talk session 5</b> Communicating Quality through Metadata	
<b>14:00 – 14:15</b>	<b>Break / Intermission</b>					
<b>14:15 – 15:45</b>		<b>Session 6 /special/</b> Towards More Inclusive Data Collection for European Statistics	<b>Session 7</b> Building Quality through Standards	<b>Session 8</b> Machine Learning Methods for Statistical Production and Quality	<b>Session 9</b> Cooperation, Coordination and Certification	<b>Session 10</b> Quality as a Shield Against Misinformation
<b>15:45 – 16:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b> <b>Poster session 1</b>					
<b>16:30 – 18:00</b>		<b>Session 11 /special/</b> Quality Culture in the Enlargement and the ENP-East Countries: How Can Peer Reviews Support Developing a Quality Culture	<b>Session 12</b> Rethinking Quality Framework	<b>Session 13</b> Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence in Statistical Production	<b>Session 14</b> Improving Quality of Social Statistics	<b>Session 15</b> Confidentiality and Data Protection
<b>18:30 – 20:00</b>	<b>Welcome reception &amp; group photo</b>					

## Programme at a glance

Day 2 (4 June 2026)

Room Time ↙	Šibenik I	Šibenik II	Šibenik III	Šibenik IV	Šibenik V	Šibenik VI
<b>09:00 – 09:30</b>	<b>Keynote speech</b> Artificial Intelligence: A Sine Qua Non for the Future of Official Statistics					
<b>09:30 – 10:30</b>	<b>Plenary session</b> Artificial Intelligence and Its Impact on Quality and Trust in European Statistics					
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>					
<b>11:00 – 12:30</b>		<b>Session 16 /special/</b> Quality Dimensions of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence in Official Statistics	<b>Session 17</b> Embedding Quality in Practice	<b>Session 18</b> Communication Methods for User Engagement	<b>Session 19</b> Automatic Classification Using Artificial Intelligence	<b>Session 20</b> Shaping the Statistical Future
<b>12:30 – 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>					
<b>13:15 – 14:00</b>		<b>Speed talk session 6</b> Coordination of the National Statistical System	<b>Speed talk session 7</b> Strengthening Quality Control	<b>Speed talk session 8</b> From Metadata to Trust	<b>Speed talk session 9</b> Inside the Quality Toolbox	<b>Speed talk session 10</b> Statistics as a Social Good
<b>14:00 – 14:15</b>	<b>Break / Intermission</b>					
<b>14:15 – 15:45</b>		<b>Session 21 /special/</b> Collaborating with Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for Quality	<b>Session 22</b> European Statistical System Peer Review Recommendations	<b>Session 23</b> Quality Initiatives in the ENP-South Countries and Their Implementation	<b>Session 24</b> Improving Comparability and Coherence	<b>Session 25</b> Data Integration
<b>15:45 – 16:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b> <b>Poster session 2</b>					
<b>16:30 – 18:00</b>		<b>Session 26 /special/</b> Mixed Modes in Social Surveys and Impact on Quality of European Official Statistics	<b>Session 27</b> Statistics under Development	<b>Session 28</b> Quality in Administrative and Multi-Source Statistics	<b>Session 29</b> Measuring Equality with Quality	<b>Session 30</b> Innovative Practices in Agricultural Statistics
<b>18:30 – 20:00</b>	<b>Conference dinner</b>					

## Programme at a glance

**Day 3 (5 June 2026)**

Room Time ↘	Šibenik I	Šibenik II	Šibenik III	Šibenik IV	Šibenik V	Šibenik VI
<b>09:00 – 10:15</b>		<b>Session 31</b> Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for Text-to-Code in Official Statistics	<b>Session 32</b> Innovative Practices in Economic Statistics	<b>Session 33</b> Building Statistical Literacy Trust	<b>Session 34</b> Leveraging Statistical Registers	<b>Session 35</b> Innovating Sources and Methods for High-Quality Statistics
<b>10:15 – 10:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>					
<b>10:30 – 11:45</b>		<b>Session 36</b> Statistical Scraping – the Use of Web Data for High-Quality Official Statistics	<b>Session 37</b> Balancing Accuracy and Timeliness	<b>Session 38</b> Telling the Statistical Story	<b>Session 39</b> Data Visualisation for Geostatistics	<b>Session 40</b> Innovating Data Collection Methods and Sources
<b>11:45 – 12:00</b>	<b>Break / Intermission</b>					
<b>12:00 – 13:00</b>	<b>Plenary session</b> Enhancing Trust in Official Statistics					
<b>13:00 – 13:30</b>	<b>Closing remarks</b>					
<b>13:30 – 14:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>					

## **TRAINING PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE**

**TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 2026, 09:00–17:00**

### **1 Statistics that Shape the Future through Dissemination and Communication**

**TRAINERS: LEO MRŠIĆ, ZDRAVKO KUNIĆ**

#### **Course description**

This course offers a practical, collaborative approach to improving statistical communication. Participants work in small groups to analyse a real-world case, identifying key goals, audiences, communication channels, and messaging strategies. Groups present their findings to the full cohort, sparking discussion and exchange of ideas. Trainers provide personalised feedback to help refine strategies and highlight strengths. The course wraps up with a summary of key insights and best practices. Participants reflect on their learning and explore how to apply new skills in their professional roles.

#### **Main goals**

- Enhance understanding of the role of dissemination and communication
- Equip participants with frameworks and best practices
- Develop skills in case-based problem solving
- Improve presentation and communication capabilities
- Foster interactive learning and peer exchange
- Build confidence in designing user-focused dissemination strategies
- Ensure readiness for practical application

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## 2 Official Statistics Quality Accelerator with AI Boost

**TRAINERS: VLADO CETL, OLGA BJELOTOMIĆ ORŠULIĆ**

### Course description

This applied course introduces participants to ESS Quality Indicators and how AI/ML (machine learning) methods enhance data quality in official statistics. Participants will examine a case study on regional indicators and acquire methodological expertise in the use of open source tools for constructing reproducible workflows encompassing data ingestion, visualization, and automated reporting, thereby developing transferable skills applicable to their own research and professional projects. A dedicated AI segment will demonstrate coding acceleration, anomaly detection, and basic interpretability using machine learning and language models.

### Main goals

- Apply Quality Assurance indicators (e.g. missingness, plausibility) in real workflows
- Build reproducible pipelines with spatial and temporal QA
- Use AI to automate coding and enhance statistical interpretation

## 3 The Power of Quality Management in Official Statistics

**TRAINERS: MARIA JOÃO ZILHÃO, MAGDA RIBEIRO**

### Course description

The power of quality management in official statistics lies in the ability to ensure that the systems underlying its production processes deliver relevant, accurate, accessible, timely, coherent, comparable, protected and confidential statistics thus upholding public trust and the institutional legitimacy of the organisations that produce them.

In a context of a fast-evolving technological transformation and data ecosystems, regulatory frameworks, and growing demands, Quality management has become a cornerstone of institutional resilience, credibility and trust.

This course aims at offering a practical and integrated approach to quality management in official statistics, based on widely recognised international frameworks. Special attention is given to the integration between ISO-based quality management systems and the operational and ethical frameworks of statistical systems, regardless of their level of institutional maturity, by using practical examples at process level. Discussion on the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in statistical production will also be addressed.

## Main goals

- Apply international quality frameworks to official statistics (UN, ESS QAF, ISO 9001, GSBPM)
- Integrate risk management into statistical processes (e.g. ISO 31000)
- Evaluate and improve process maturity (CMMI model)
- The importance of knowledge management to ensure organisational continuity (e.g. ISO 30401)
- Discuss AI challenges to statistical quality and trust in line with European and international principles
- The role of audits for monitoring, improvement and accountability (ISO, peer reviews)
- Explore Quality 4.0 in official statistical production

## 4 Leveraging Administrative and Privately Held Data for Greater Quality and Scope

**TRAINERS: PETRA POSEDEL ŠIMOVIĆ, AZRA TAFRO**

### Course description

This hands-on course helps public-sector professionals modernize statistical production by integrating administrative and privately held data. Participants explore key data types - like tax records and digital traces, along with governance and legal issues. Using RStudio, they learn practical techniques for cleaning, harmonizing, and reconciling data, with a focus on income and wealth estimation. The training wraps up with a case study, equipping participants with both technical skills and a strategic framework for using external data in official statistics.

### Main goals

- Train analysts to integrate administrative and privately held data into official statistics for better quality and coverage
- Teach practical techniques to clean and align survey and administrative data, especially for income and wealth estimates
- Provide hands-on experience with a full statistical workflow, adaptable to their own institutions

# Q-conferences

## 2001–2026

<p><b>Sweden</b></p> <p> <b>2001</b> Stockholm, Sweden</p> <p>The International Conference on Quality in Official Statistics (Q2001) Stockholm, Sweden, 14–15 May 2001</p> <p>  Statistics Sweden          </p>	<p><b>Germany</b></p> <p> <b>2004</b></p> <p>European Conference on Quality and Methodology in Official Statistics (Q2004)</p> <p>   </p>	<p><b>United Kingdom</b></p> <p> <b>2006</b></p> <p>European Conference on Quality in Survey Statistics</p> <p>   </p>	<p><b>Italy</b></p> <p> <b>2008</b></p> <p>European Conference on Quality in Official Statistics</p> <p>   </p>
<p><b>Finland</b></p> <p> <b>2010</b> Helsinki</p> <p>European Conference on Quality in Official Statistics</p> <p>   </p>	<p><b>Greece</b></p> <p> <b>2012</b></p> <p>European Conference on Quality in Official Statistics (Q2012)</p> <p>  </p>	<p><b>Austria</b></p> <p> <b>2014</b></p> <p>European conference on quality in official statistics</p> <p>  </p>	<p><b>Spain</b></p> <p> <b>2016</b></p> <p>European Conference on Quality in Official Statistics</p> <p>   </p>
<p><b>Poland</b></p> <p> <b>2018</b></p> <p>European Conference on Quality in Official Statistics</p> <p>   </p>	<p><b>Lithuania</b></p> <p> <b>2022</b> VILNIUS</p> <p>EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON QUALITY IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS</p> <p>   </p>	<p><b>Portugal</b></p> <p> <b>2024</b> ESTORIL - PORTUGAL</p> <p>EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON QUALITY IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS</p> <p>   </p>	<p><b>Croatia</b></p> <p> <b>2026</b></p> <p>EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON QUALITY IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS   ŠIBENIK   CROATIA</p> <p>   </p>



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