

Recommendations of the Session
**"International Comparisons of Statistical Indicators
of Russia and the EU: achievements, challenges and solutions"**
29th of January 2014, St. Petersburg

In order to improve the comparison of statistical indicators of the EU and Russia, participants of the session propose the following:

1. The institutionalisation of the work in this direction. To establish a working group for the comparison of statistical indicators, thus making the work more consistent. To hold meetings and seminars in order to exchange experience in comparing statistics and highlight the list of prospective areas where comparison of statistical indicators is topical within the framework of the group. To hold the same section during the next conference on statistics in 2016.
2. Holding joint activities. To hold a session together with currently forming Russian Association of Statisticians within the XIII All-Russian Forum "Strategic Planning in the Regions and Cities of Russia" devoted to the questions of international comparisons of statistical indicators of Russia and the EU.
3. Developing cooperation of the statistical institutions of Russia and the EU. It is necessary to further elaborate the cooperation with the Eurostat governing body to discuss the possibilities of comparing statistical indicators of Russia and the EU. This initiative will be supported by Rosstat in the case an increasing interest of various statistical institutions appears, the Order from the Government of the Russian Federation is issued and resources for the international relations are available.
4. The need to periodically update the data within the framework of the transnational project of the Baltic Sea Region territorial monitoring. The session participants emphasized the importance of the BSR TeMo project and the necessity for permanent working cooperation of the project partners with the representatives of statistical offices of Russia and the EU, as well as Russian experts. Updating of statistical indicators should be done on a permanent basis. The participants of the session also noted that TeMo project may exist together with other regular monitoring activities and surveys of statistical data in the EU regions on the basis of mutual interest of participating states and their statistical bodies.
5. The significance of local, municipal statistics. During the discussion, it was observed that the complexity of problems of the comparison of statistical indicators is growing while coming down to the local level, than when comparing countries. However, the regional and local statistics is essential when building international comparisons and projects such as Urban Audit must be developed.