

Editorial

Économie et Statistique becomes *Economie et Statistique / Economics and Statistics*

This latest issue marks a new milestone in the development of *Économie et Statistique*, which now becomes *Economie et Statistique / Economics and Statistics*, under the sign of continuity and internationalisation, as reflected in the new name.

Articles will continue to appear in French in the print edition of the journal and in its online edition, which can be accessed on the Insee website, free of charge, on the day of publication. The novelty is that the online articles will also appear in English at the same time.

Published by Insee, the journal will continue to present articles on economic and social phenomena, drawing on data from official statistics and other sources, together with articles on statistical and econometric methodology of interest to applied research. The journal will also continue to issues alternating between articles on a variety of topics, and special issues focusing on a particular theme or major official statistical surveys. As part of its effort to reconcile scientific excellence with readability, the journal continues to target a broad and diverse readership which includes students, researchers, methodologists, producers and users of statistical data and political and economic decision-makers.

It intends to go on informing the economic and social debate in France. In today's globalised world, many economic and social phenomena concern advanced economies beyond the borders of France; the same economic and social policy issues often recur, even if the responses may differ at the international, European and national

levels. While many surveys are designed within a European (Eurostat) or international (OECD) context, and official statistics are governed by European regulations, *Economie et Statistique / Economics and Statistics* now seeks to fuel thinking and shed light on these phenomena through national and foreign contributions written from an international perspective.

These questions and phenomena are the subject of forthcoming issues. They include: the financial crisis and its transmission to the real economy ten years later; technical progress and uneven regional development; housing inequality; and the Big Data revolution and the construction of official statistics by European national statistical institutes. The present issue on "Age and generations" looks at differences between public and private sector pensions and intergenerational comparisons of living standards, drawing extensively on data from Insee's Household Expenditure surveys (*enquêtes Budget de famille*). Professor Sir Richard Blundell of University College London, renowned for his work on consumption and savings behaviour, on labour markets, and his contributions to panel data econometrics, has done us the honour of writing the foreword to this issue. Didier Blanchet, the former Editor-in-Chief and a specialist in pensions and demographic issues, returns to the subject of intergenerational equity in the introduction to this issue, a project to which he made a substantial contribution.

A great deal of work has gone into opening up the journal and helping it find its place in the demanding academic world. Founded in 1969, nearly half a century ago, the journal

was initially designed to publish the work of Insee's statisticians and researchers. As of the late 1980s, it began to publish a growing number of articles by authors from outside the Institute. Pierre Morin, Editor-in-Chief from 1993 to 2011, accentuated the policy of opening up the journal and gradually aligned its way of working with that of other scientific journals. Articles undergo thorough review procedures and, in 2003, a scientific council was set up to review the previous year's publications and help define the editorial strategy. Then Didier Blanchet, who directed the journal from 2011 to 2016, set up an editorial board in 2013 to assist the scientific council in selecting articles. The position that the journal now occupies was thus acquired through a constant effort to support

authors, article by article. The editorial team has every intention of continuing this effort.

For more than a quarter of a century, the priorities of the journal have been to open up to a broad range of topics and disciplines rooted in the worlds of official statistics and research. These priorities are confirmed by this latest initiative to open up the journal further still, by attracting authors, including reviewers, and addressing readers outside the French-speaking world, and thus provide *Economie et Statistique / Economics and Statistics* with the means to gain international recognition. □

Laurence Bloch, Editor-in-Chief
