

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

1. The source of the data is the Social Protection Statistics research according to ESSPROS (European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics), carried out based on *Regulation no. 458/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European system of integrated social protection statistics*.
2. **The social protection benefit** represents the cash or in-kind transfers to households or individuals, with the aim of protecting them from one or more risks (needs) without the existence of a simultaneous reciprocal arrangement.
3. **The social protection scheme** represents the regulatory act or group of regulatory acts developed and implemented by one or more institutional units that govern social benefits and their financing. The social protection scheme aims to ensure protection against one or more social risks or needs and targets a specific group of beneficiaries.
4. **The function of social protection** is defined in terms of the final goal that social protection must achieve, that is to protect individuals and families/households against the identified major social risk.
5. Social protection benefits granted on the basis of social protection schemes are classified according to eight social protection functions, corresponding to the eight major social risks identified by ESSPROS. According to the ESSPROS methodology, the eight **social protection functions** are:
 - 1) SICKNESS/HEALTH CARE;
 - 2) DISABILITY;
 - 3) OLD AGE;
 - 4) SURVIVOR;
 - 5) FAMILY/CHILDREN;
 - 6) UNEMPLOYMENT;
 - 7) HOUSING;
 - 8) SOCIAL EXCLUSION.
6. **Social protection incomes** represent the resources from which social benefits are granted. They are classified according to their composition in:
 - social contributions,
 - contributions from the central administration,
 - other incomes
7. **Social protection expenditures** include:
 - social benefits;
 - administrative costs (including other types of expenses such as bank interest connected to social funds);

8. **Expenditures on social protection benefits** represent the value of social protection resources allocated to beneficiaries in cash or in kind (goods and/or services).
9. **Administrative costs** represent the expenses involved in the organization and administering social protection schemes.

Additional information can be obtained from the statistical publication "Social protection statistics according to ESSPROS", which will be disseminated on November 27, 2024.