

# Press Release

## **INSTAT is twinning with the Central Statistics Office of Ireland (CSO).**

**Tirana, on July 07, 2015:** The Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) and the Central Statistics Office of Ireland (CSO) signed a cooperation agreement on 17 June 2015, during the Conference of European Statisticians in Geneva in the presence of the deputy Director General of Eurostat, Ms. Mariana Kotzeva. This agreement was signed by the Director General of INSTAT, Mr. Gjergji Filipi and the Director General of CSO, Mr. Pádraig Dalton.

The signing of this agreement indicates an important step in fulfilling the Albanian Government's commitment which is determined in its official programme for twinning of the Institute of Statistics with a similar institute of a member country of the EU.

The twinning of the two institutes of statistics is made in the framework of statistical cooperation and improvement of the statistical production in line with European Standards. The process of formalizing the cooperation between INSTAT and CSO/Ireland has been developed in close cooperation with statistical office of the European Union – Eurostat.

In the present stage, this agreement will serve as a cooperation protocol in general terms, primarily to provide institutional strategic orientation towards achieving compliance with the European Standards, thus consolidating the proper background for the further development and intensification of the cooperation in other forms of assistances and exchanging of experiences.

The twinning between INSTAT and CSO, it will serve not only to INSTAT, but also will contribute to establish cooperation and enhance capacities of the entire National Statistical System, contributing to the participation of Albania in the European Statistical System compliant to the standards required by the EU.

The close cooperation with the Central Statistics Office of Ireland will not only be an institutional commitment for exchange of experiences but will also be a certificate for Albanian Statistics in reaching European Standards.