

## BULLETIN DE DOCUMENTATION

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*Abstract*

*After the introduction of the Maastricht criteria it became necessary to create a general framework on the way the National Accounts should be kept in a uniform way for all EU member states.*

*This framework resulted in a set of regulations known as European System of Accounts 1995 (ESA95).*

*The main purpose of these regulations is to define the procedure for determining the annual budget deficit and the total government debt.*

*In this article the fundamentals of the procedural rules are examined.*

*Beside that, in most European countries, e.g. in the context of setting up Public Private Partnerships (PPP), new independent entities are created by some or other government (federal, regional or local), but where in many cases government is still the majority shareholder. For a number of these entities it is not always clear whether they still belong to the public or the private sector. In this article it is also examined how ESA95 deals with this problem.*

*At last ESA95 regulations deal with the public deficit and debt involved in specific projects and use of special financial instruments due to PPP settings. From this point of view the new ESA95 regulations are also explored and commented.*

**Keywords:** public private partnership, government debt, budget deficit, ESA95

**JEL Classification:** H54, H62, H63