

Early Warning System - Case 15

Wholesale trader

Final methodological assessment - prepared by the EWS secretariat with the approval of relevant EWS network members

Based on information available in January 2020

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In April 2019 the national statistical authority of country A notified the EWS secretariat that they had received information from a wholesale trading unit in their country that would be moving outside the EU. The information was received during a company visit, initiated by the company to discuss the data collection over 2019.

The unit is part of a global producer of consumer articles. At present the unit has an employment of around 450 staff and a turnover of almost 10 billion Euro in 2018.

Similar information was also published in the press in the non-EU country.

The unit stopped activities in November 2019 in country A. In the non-EU country, a new unit was registered in September 2019. The unit has not yet been surveyed and there is no further statistical information available. However, according to further research the unit is recruiting for different levels and positions in the organization with the aim to recruit a total of about 100 employees.

Methodological assessment: The relocation of active units, shutting them down in one country and opening them in the same or a similar way in a new country, should be treated in the normal way of updating business registers and statistical samples. There appears to be no need for further investigations within the EWS.

Further steps: The case is closed.