The Dynamics of Data Sharing and Data Policies in Germany

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Begun 1248
completed 1880

Changing the paradigm

Starting in the 1950ies
Stein Rokkan, Erwin K. Scheuch , Warren Miller
Alexander Szalai with ISSC, Paris

40 years of working on infrastructure building
sharing data for comparative research

Large Scale Facilities EC
ECPR ESF
NESSIE
1999 Strasbourg Conference Data Infrastructure

Infrastructure Panel 1999

Humanities and Social Sciences

On the European level the system of infrastructures in the humanIties and social sciences is still weak but can be strengthened under the condition that its inclusion in the development efforts on research infrastructure in general is expanded.

‘Online survey on scientific information in the digital age July to Sept. 2011

EUROPEAN COMMISSION (2012)

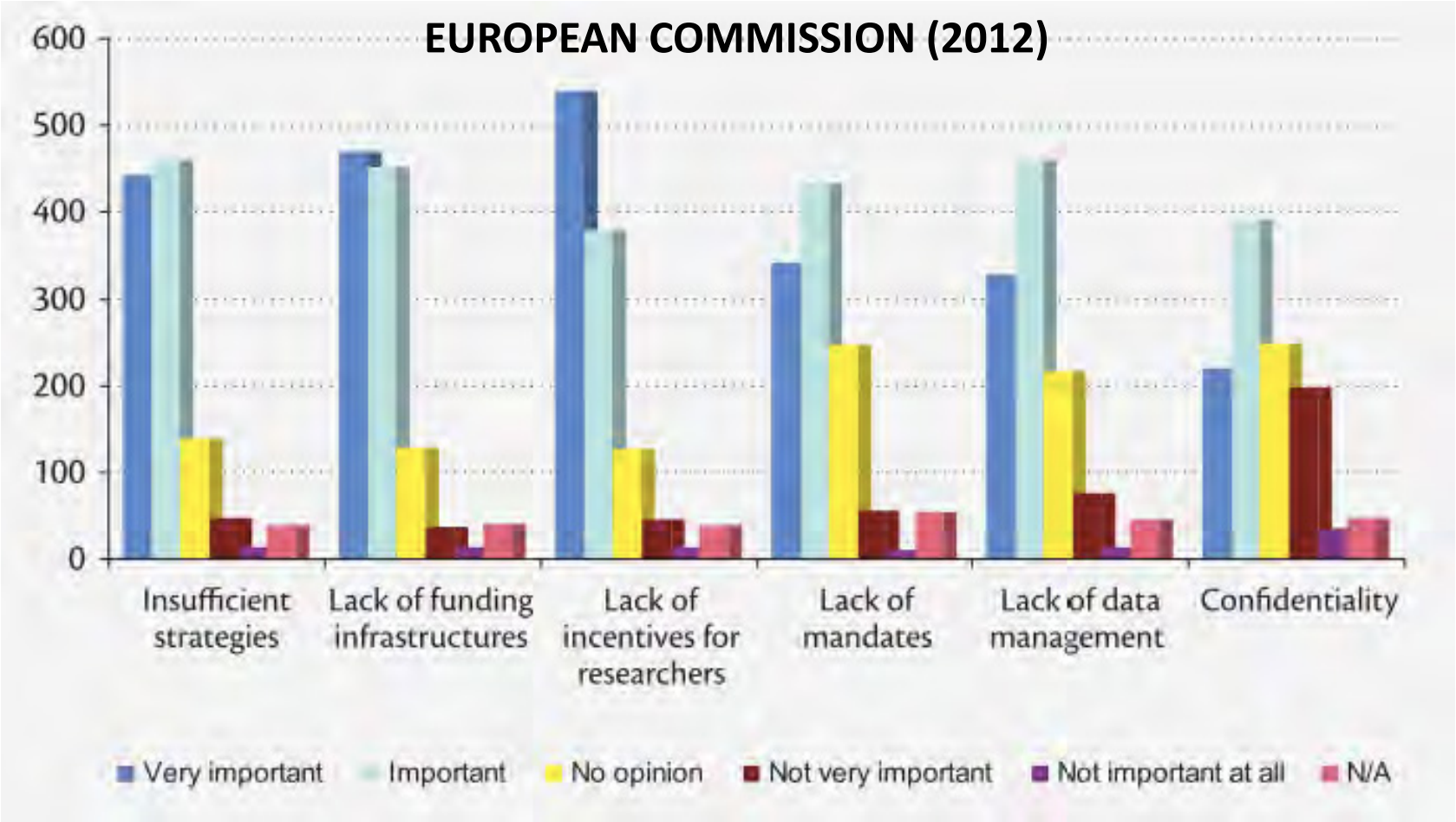
„As for the question of access to research data, the vast majority of respondents (87 %) disagreed or disagreed strongly with the statement that there is **no** access problem for research data in Europe.”

„The barriers to access research data considered very important or important by respondents were:
lack of funding to develop and maintain the necessary infrastructures (80 %);
the insufficient credit given to researchers for making research data available (80 %);
and insufficient national/regional strategies/policies (79 %).”

„There was strong support (90 % of responses) for research data that is publicly available and results from public funding to be, as a matter of principle, available for reuse and free of charge on the Internet.”

„Lower support (72 % of responses) was given for data resulting from partly publicly and partly privately funded research.”

How would you rate the importance of the following potential barriers to enhancing access to research data?



Existing Data Infrastructure in Germany

Data Archive for Empirical Social Research

(ZA since 1960, now department of GESIS)

Ongoing Data Collection Programmes

like Allbus, ISSP, Bildungspanel, SHARE, SOEP ….

KVI Commission on the Improvement of the Informational Infrastructure:

RDCs and DSCs for statistical micro data RatSWD

25 RDCs and DSCs

The research data centers (RDCs) and data service centers (DSCs) are accredited and supported by the German Data Forum (Rat SWD) with the aim of improving the research data infrastructure for the social, economic, and behavioral sciences, both at a German as well as international level.

Whilst pursuing this goal, the German Data Forum also bears in mind that infrastructure also has to be installed in areas that go beyond the scope of traditional infrastructure as given by governmental statistics (for example, departmental research, evaluati on studies, research based surveys, and research focal points using public funding).

http://ratswd.de/en/data-infrastructure/rdc

RDC - Examples:

Research Data Center (FDZ) of the Institute for Educational Quality Improvement
Research Data Center of the Socio-Economic Panel Study (FDZ-SOEP)

Research Data Centre ALLBUS at GESIS

Research Data Center International Survey Programmes at GESIS
Research Data Center Elections at GESIS
Research Data Center German Microdata Lab (GML)

Research Data Center of the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe

Research Data Centre of the German Centre of Gerontology (FDZ-DZA)
Research Data Center PsychData of the Leibniz-Institute for Psychology Information

Research Data Center of the German Family Panel (FDZ pairfam)

Research Data Centre Ruhr at the RWI (FDZ Ruhr)
LMU-ifo Economics & Business Data Center (EBDC)

'Health Monitoring' Research Data Centre at the Robert Koch Institute (RKI)

Research Data Center German Microdata Lab (GML)
International Data Service Center (IDSC) at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA)

German Data Service Center for Business and Organizational Data (DSZ-BO)

Principles for the Handling of Research Data

These principles were adopted by the
Alliance of German Science Organisations on 24 June 2010:

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation)
German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft
Helmholtz Association
German Rectors' Conference (Hochschulrektorenkonferenz - HRK)
Leibniz Association
Max Planck Society
Wissenschaftsrat (German Council of Science and Humanities)

Alliance Principles

Preamble

Quality-assured research data are a cornerstone of scientific knowledge and, independent of the purpose for which they were originally obtained, can often serve as the basis for further research. This applies especially to the aggregation of data from various sources for combined utilization. Preserving research data over the long term and making them available therefore does not only serve the verification of prior results, but also, to a large extent, the obtaining of future ones. It is a strategic task to which science and the humanities, politics as well as other parts of society, must contribute. With the objective of supporting the quality, productivity and competitiveness of science and academia, the Alliance of German Science Organisations has adopted the following data policy for a coordinated further course of action.

Preservation and Accessibility

In accordance with important international organisations involved in funding and performing research1, the Alliance supports the long-term preservation of, and the principle of open access to, datafrom publicly funded research.

This principle shall be balanced against the scientific and legal interests of researchers. The protection of the personal data of participants, patients and others affected by the collected data, as well as obligations to third parties — e.g. cooperation partners — have to be taken into account. The principles of good scientific practice must also to be observed2.

[1] "The EUROHORCs and ESF Vision on a Globally Competitive ERA and their Road Map for Actions to Help Build It", ESF Science Policy Briefing 33, June 2008, http://www.esf.org/publications/policy-briefings.html;

"OECD Principles and Guidelines for Access to Research Data from Public Funding", OECD 2007.

DFG resolution: Proposals for Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice, DFG 1998; http://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/legal_conditions/good_scientific_practice/index.html..

Differences between the scientific disciplines

The ways of and conditions for access to research data must be developed separately for the individual scientific disciplines, taking into account the methods of data acquisition, the volume and potential for integration of the data, as well as its practical usability. At the same time, the respective lifecycles and usage scenarios of the data in the specific research fields have to be considered.

Scientific recognition

The provision of research data for further use is a service which benefits the sciences and humanities in their entirety. The Alliance encourages the recognition and support of this additional costly and time consuming effort.

Teaching and qualification

For those involved in research, an appropriate range of training and support services for ***professional data management must be made available, meeting the specific requirements of the different disciplines.

Use of standards

Proper use of research data requires that the data are documented and provided with appropriate metadata in a standardised manner. Observing subject-specific requirements, standards, metadata catalogues and registries are to be developed in such a way that interdisciplinary use is also possible.

Development of infrastructures

Sustainable research data management imposes a wide range of technical and organisational requirements. These requirements must be defined through the cooperation of researchers and information specialists. Infrastructures are to be developed according to these requirements and, if possible, interoperably integrated in international and interdisciplinary networks from the start.

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DFG **Leitfaden für die Antragstellung**

Projektanträge

2.4 Data Handling

Improving the handling of research data is a priority both for national and international research organisations and for science in general. In order to enhance the long term preservation of research data the DFG funds projects that seek to achieve an efficient and sustained use of research data.

If research data will be systematically produced using DFG project funds describe what measures will be implemented to ensure their management, curation and longterm preservation for future reuse. Please regard existing standards and data repositories in your discipline where appropriate

Challenges

DMP - Requirements and specifications- Potential for contributions!

Contextualisation and integration of data

New data types and management challenges

Capacity building and data science

In its 'Digital Agenda for Europe' the Commission identified the re-use of public sector information, alongside fast and ultra fast internet access, as key to delivering a Digital Single Market (12/12/2011).

VAN DER GRAF & WAAIJERS (2011)

Funding organisations requirements	Data plan	Access/ sharing	Long-term curation	Monitoring	Guidance	Costs
UK						
AHRC	+	+	+/-	-	+	-
BBSRC	+	+	+	+	+	+
CRUK	+	+	+	+	-	-
EPSRC	+	+	+	+	-	+
ESRC	+	+	+	+	+	+
MRC	+	+	+	-	+/-	-
NERC	+	+	+	+	+	-
STFC	-	+	-	-	+/-	-
Wellcome Trust	+	+	+	+	+	+
Germany						
Deutsche Forschungs Gemeinschaft	(+)	(+)	(+)			(+)
Denmark						
Council for Independent Research	-	-	-	-	-	-
Council for Strategic Research	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Netherlands						
NWO: arts and humanities social sciences	+	+	+	+	+	+
NWO: other scientific disciplines	-	-	-	-	-	-
STW	-	-	-	-	-	-
Senter Novem	-	-	-	-	-	-

How would you rate the importance of the following potential barriers to enhancing access to research data? (EC 2012)

In addition, respondents were asked to rate the importance of the barriers to an enhanced access scientific to research data.

The barriers indicated were the following:

insufficient national/regional strategies/policies on access to research data;

lack of funding to develop and maintain the necessary data infrastructures;

insufficient credit given to researchers making research data available/lack of incentives;

lack of mandates to deposit research data;

lack of data management requirements in research projects;

confidentiality/privacy issues.