

D7.2 Guidance on how to use AGGREGATOR for Deep Dives

WP7 Deep Dives

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TRIGGER

TRends in Global Governance and Europe's Role

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1. Introduction

The AGGREGATOR datasets contain a variety of data, ranging from global governance regimes to governance instruments, from EU legal acts to impact assessments. They broadly belong to two groups: datasets on global governance (WP1) and datasets on EU governance (WP2). This deliverable explains how several of these datasets can be used in the TRIGGER deep dives (WP7).

The deep dives – four in-depth case studies on climate policy, SDGs, data protection and development aid/EU Africa partnership – are conducted in different conceptual phases. AGGREGATOR supports two phases in particular: First, during the phase on global and EU governance, AGGREGATOR provides a repository of information on relevant governance regimes, documents etc., which can be analysed individually or in aggregate. Second, for the phase on actorness, some datasets support the analysis of specific dimensions of actorness. This deliverable showcases an analysis of the EU's legal authority in the different deep dive areas.

The relationship of AGGREGATOR and the deep dives is, however, not only a one-way relationship: the case-specific research for the deep dives will also help nurture AGGREGATOR as the work on the data collection continues and the work packages cooperate.¹

The deliverable is structured as follows: Chapter 2 illustrates how the datasets on EU governance can be used in the deep dives, both by technical users (chapter 2.1) and non-technical users in an interactive web-application (chapter 2.2). Chapter 3 provides an overview of how the global datasets can be used during the deep dives.

¹ Two of the deep dives were chosen at the end of the first year of TRIGGER and the case-specific research on the deep dive started at this point. In addition, the conceptual framework of actorness was finalised at the end of M12 (D3.1 and D3.2). The data collection for AGGREGATOR, however, already started at the beginning of the first year. This inconsistency in the proposal has been addressed by integrating deep dive-specific data collection into the deep dives themselves.

2. EU governance datasets

The datasets on EU governance can be used in two primary ways in the deep dives. **Chapter 2.1** first shows how the raw datasets of EU documents can be used by technical users, both to search for EU governance related documents and conduct analyses based on these documents. Chapters 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 illustrate an analysis of the EU's legal authority – a dimension of actorness relevant for the four deep dives. The advantage of analysing raw data is the flexibility to adapt the analysis to the specific research question (e.g. analysing legal authority per policy area). It requires, however, the necessary time and knowledge of data analysis software. **Chapter 2.2.** therefore, shows how some of the analyses can be conducted by non-technical users via a web application in the browser. This method provides less flexibility, but greater ease of use.

2.1. Raw datasets for technical users

The following main raw datasets on EU governance are available in tabular, CSV² format and can be used in the deep dives:

- The EurLex dataset of 142.036 EU legal acts (102.304 regulations, 4.070 directives and 35.789 decisions) with up to 23 variables. The dataset is freely available on the Harvard Dataverse³.
- In addition, we provide 2737 international agreements 873 impact assessments, 267 evaluations and 148 green papers. We have also recently added a dataset of all European Commission communications (5100+).⁴

All of these datasets were scraped from the official eur-lex.eu website with the programming languages R and Python. The variables therefore represent the information as it is available on the website without additional interpretation by our researchers. Please note that not all variables are available for all acts, either because they were not available online (especially for older laws), or not cleanly scrapable. The following table provides an overview of: (1) the variable name as provided in the dataset; (2) a short explanation of the variable; (3) an example value from one cell to illustrate the format; (4) the number of legal acts containing a value for the specific variable. The table pertains to the EurLex dataset of 142.036 laws. The other datasets contain less variables and are not enumerated in separate tables, as they are very similar.

² Smaller versions of the datasets are also available in Excel format. Excel is, however, not the ideal format as cannot save large amounts of e.g. textual data.

³ <https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataset.xhtml?persistentId=doi:10.7910/DVN/0EGYWY>

⁴ We want to thank Jiri Hradec from the JRC for sharing this data with us.

Table 1 - Variables available in the EurLex dataset of EU legal acts

Variable Name	Explanation	Example value	Number of legal acts
Act_amends	CELEX number of the old act amended by the new act (see details on CELEX below)	32013R1311	36.307
Act_cites	CELEX number of other acts cited by the act	32013R1311; 32018D508	65.647
Act_name	Full name of act	Decision (EU) 2018/846 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on the mobilisation of the ...	139.889
act_raw_text	The full raw text of the act in one string. Mostly includes: title, recitals, legal articles and annex. Please note that the text of older laws is not always clean.	Long string of text, e.g. "DECISION (EU) 2015/2240 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 25 November 2015"	134.633
Additional_info	Additional information	"EEA relevance", or "Validity: end of financial year 2016"	28.686
Ammends_links	Link to previous act which is amended by the new act	http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/1968/823/oj	36.307
Authors	Name of the act's authors	European Parliament; European Council	142.035
CELEX	Unique CELEX identifier of the act. For details, see https://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/help/faq/celex-number.html	32019D0276	142.035
Cites_links	Link to other acts, cited by the act	http://data.europa.eu/eli/treaty/teec/art_233/sign ; http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/1964/111/oj	65.647
Date_document	Date of the document. The eur-lex.eu website does not provide an explanation of which exact date in the legislative process this represents. The dataset ranges from 1952 to August 2019.	2018-12-12	142.035
Date_publication	Date the document was published	2019-02-22	39.868

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ELI_link	European Legislation Identifier (ELI) link to the act. (Mostly leads to same content as Eurlex_link)	http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2018/1675/oj	142.035
EUROVOC	A group of EuroVoc keywords associated with the act. For details see https://op.europa.eu/en/web/eu-vocabularies	ENP; economic stabilisation; change of economic system; EU macro-financial assistance; Ukraine; IMF; structural adjustment	91.613
Eurlex_link	Link to act on eur-lex.europa.eu website. (Mostly leads to same content as ELI_link)	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32018D0846	142.036
First_entry_into_force	Date when act first entered into force	2019-01-01	104.135
Legal_basis_celex	The CELEX number of the act's legal basis	32013Q1220(01)	109.231
Oeil_link	Link to the European Parliament's Legislative Observatory (Oeil). Provides procedural information	http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/FindByProcnum.do?lang=en&procnum=COD/2016/0039	5.263
Procedure_number	Number of the legislative procedure leading to the act	2018/0058/COD	18.622
Proposal_link	Link to the Commission proposal preceeding the act	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:52018PC0150	14.807
Status	Whether the act was in force at the time of scraping (August 2019). ("In Force" or "Not in Force")	In Force	85.312
Subject_matter	Group of keywords representing the subject matter of the act. Similar to EUROVOC, only less detailed, more abstract.	cooperation policy; budget; EU finance; international security; migration	91.613
Temporal_status	Date of end of validity of the act	2021-12-31	18.479
Treaty	Name of the Treaty the act is based on	TFEU	109.648

The dataset(s) described above can be used in two primary ways. First, they can be manually queried to find documents relevant for a specific research question using any software like Excel. By using a simple string search on the EUROVOC column, one could, for example, receive an overview of all legal acts related to a specific keyword, or apply filters on different columns. Second, the data can be analysed and visualised with a data analysis software like Python. The

following chapters showcase how this kind of analysis can be useful for the deep dives and the analysis of the EU's legal authority – one dimension of actorness. Other kinds of analyses are possible, for example to find emerging actors in EU law (see D2.4) or to analyse the degree of differentiated integration per policy area (see D2.3).

2.1.1. An approach for analysing EU legal authority in the deep dives

This chapter showcases how one dimension of actorness - authority – can be analysed based on the EurLex dataset. We define authority as “the de jure authority of the EU, meaning the legal rights and competencies of the EU laid out in the Treaties of the European Union and other legal documents, which serve as a basis for European action. Hence, the indicator for this dimension of actorness is the legal competence in the EU, which can be measured by the amount and extend of competences that have been transferred from the Member States to the EU level (Rhinard and Sjösted, 2019)” (see D3.2). While the primary legal authority of the EU is defined in primary law (treaties), secondary law represents the actual *exercise of this legal authority*. While treaties provide the legal possibilities, secondary law put these possibilities into practice. As our EurLex dataset contains a large part of EU secondary law, we can approximate the EU's exercised legal authority quantitatively, by counting the number of laws in a given policy area.⁵

This simple approach of counting laws per policy area enables us to approximate legal authority for any topic without requiring additional in-depth qualitative research. At the same time, the disadvantage of this approach is, that it does not take into account the importance and content of individual acts. The analysis could be refined by introducing a weighing of different act types. The analysis is prepared in three main steps:

a.) Attributing EU documents to specific deep dive topics

First, the legal acts need to be attributed to the deep dive topics. Many documents in the datasets are annotated with different topic keywords. Most documents have two levels of keywords directly provided by the EU institutions: EUROVOC (detailed keywords) and Subject matter (more abstract keywords). The General Data Protection Regulation⁶, for example, has been annotated with the following keywords:

⁵ We also conducted additional experiments on the EurLex dataset to gain more insights on other dimensions of actorness. As a measure for coherence, we tried, for example, calculating the ratio of regulations vs. directives, assuming that relatively more directives indicate lower coherence because they are not directly applicable and require less agreement between the member states. The experiments did, however, not lead to useful results. The planned media analysis seems more promising for other dimensions of actorness (see D7.4).

⁶ See <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32016R0679>

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- **EUROVOC:** natural person; protection of privacy; cross-frontier data flow; data-processing law; access to information; data protection; disclosure of information; personal data; area of freedom, security and justice.
- **Subject matter:** area of freedom, security and justice; Consumer protection; Information and verification.

We can use these keywords to find all documents that relate to the 4 deep dive topics.⁷

b.) Defining the 4 deep dive topics based on the EU's category scheme

A document is considered to be part of a deep dive topic, if the document's 'EUROVOC' or 'Subject matter' keywords match a manually defined list of deep dive related keywords. Below is the list of keywords we extracted from the dataset to attribute a document to the 4 deep dive topics. All terms are based on the official EuroVoc category scheme. The symbol "|" represents an OR operator. Not only strict word matches are included, but also variations of the words.

- **Privacy/Data Protection:** data protection | privacy | personal data ⁸
- **Climate change:** climate change | climate action | IPCC | climate policy | global warming | Kyoto Protocol | greenhouse gas | energy efficiency ⁹
- **SDGs/Sustainability:** sustainable development | bio-economy¹⁰ | (all variations of the word "sustainab...") ¹¹
- **EU-Africa and development aid:** Africa AND (development | aid) ¹²

⁷ For details, see the EuroVoc category scheme here: <https://op.europa.eu/en/web/eu-vocabularies/th-top-concept-scheme/-/resource/eurovoc/100141?target=Browse>

Please note that there are different category schemes provided by the institutions and not all laws are tagged with the different types of categories.

⁸ Several other terms were tested, but these turned out to be the best ones.

⁹ This keyword selection follows a narrow approach. There are several additional keywords in the official scheme we could include, but we decided to limit the analysis to these central keywords. Other keywords for a more extended search could be: "emission allowance|EU ETS|carbon dioxide|carbon emission|marketable emission permit|carbon market|carbon footprint|carbon sequestration|carbon credit|greenhouse effect".

¹⁰ Please note that 'bio-economy' is, weirdly enough, the equivalent of 'sustainable development' in the EU's EuroVoc scheme.

¹¹ The SDGs were only created in 2015 and it is therefore hard to analyse them historically. These are the main, broad terms related to the SDGs and we decided to limit our first analysis to a narrow definition. Since there are very few documents specifically related to the SDGs, we also included keywords related to sustainability.

¹² There is a large number of documents mentioning only 'Africa'. Since this would dwarf the other topics we chose to include documents that contain both the keyword "Africa" AND either "development" OR "aid".

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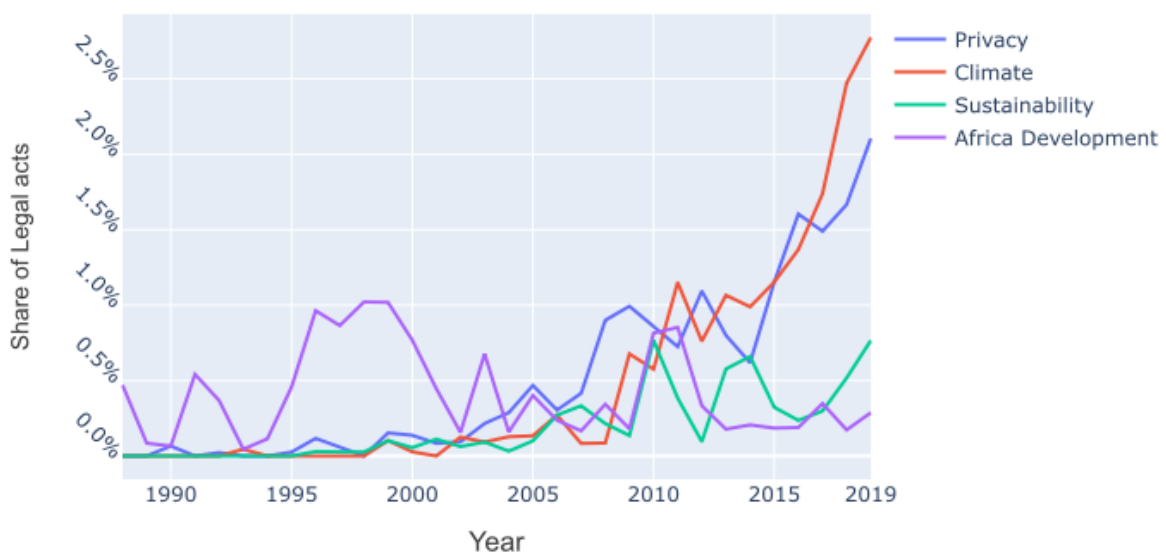
Some details on the selection of keywords is provided in the respective footnotes. It is important to note that the definition of topics via the keywords above strongly influenced the subsequent analysis. The decision which keyword to include or not is not always clear cut.

c.) Analysis with a data analysis software

Based on these keywords, we can extract the documents related to the deep dives and run the following analyses. This analysis can be conducted with any software capable of processing large amounts of tabular data. In this case, the analyses and visualisations were created with the programming language Python.

2.1.2. Comparative analysis of the four deep dive topics

Figure 1 - EU legal authority: Legal acts related to the four deep dive topics

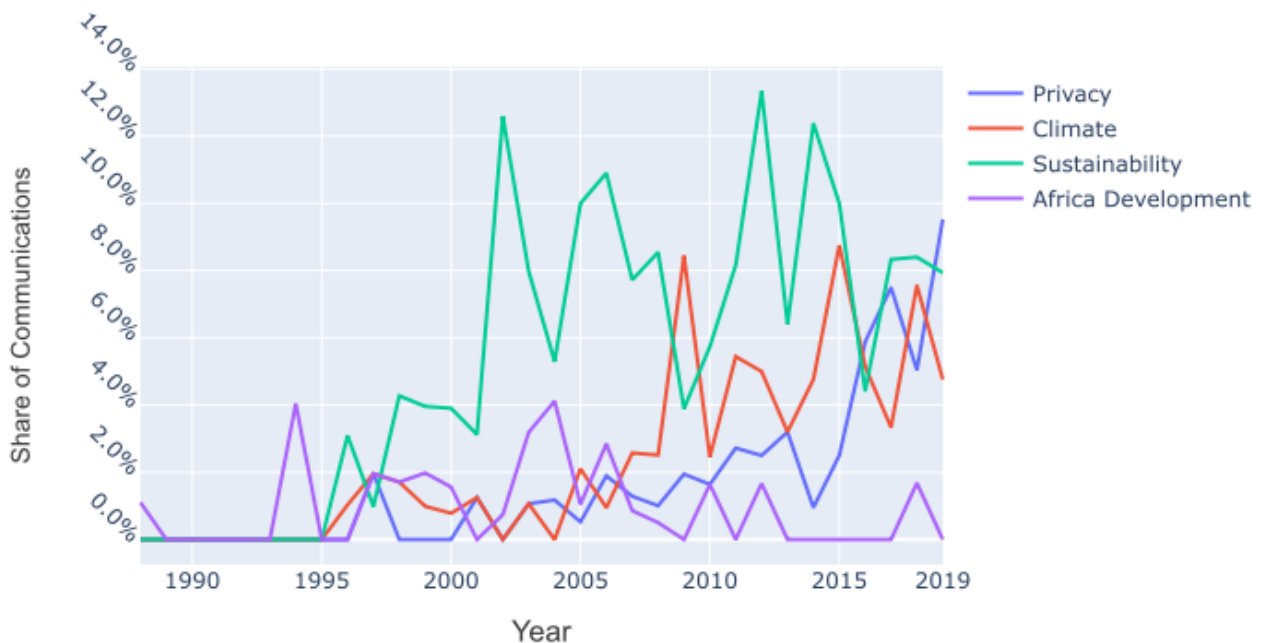


Explaining the figure: The figure above shows the share of new legal acts related to the deep dive topics (regulations, directives, decisions in aggregate), of the total amount of new legal acts in a given year. This means that, for example, in 2019 around 2.7% of all newly passed legal acts were related to climate policy, while only around 0.7% were related to sustainability.¹³

¹³ It is important to note that the topics are not 100% directly comparable: sustainability is much more horizontal than data protection. In addition, the analysis could be refined by introducing a weighing of different act types. A cumulative analysis of how many legal acts were in force per year would also be interesting, but unfortunately the dataset does not contain consistent information on the end date of the legal validity of every legal act, but only when the legal acts first entered into force.

Interpretation: The EU did not pass many laws on Privacy/Data Protection and Climate Change until the early 2000s. Since then, the two topics have continuously grown more and more important in the EU's legislative agenda – the EU's legal authority grew steadily. The EU's legal authority related to sustainability has grown, but did not reach the same level. Africa and development aid played a bigger role in the late 1990s, but it has since become less important on the legislative agenda.

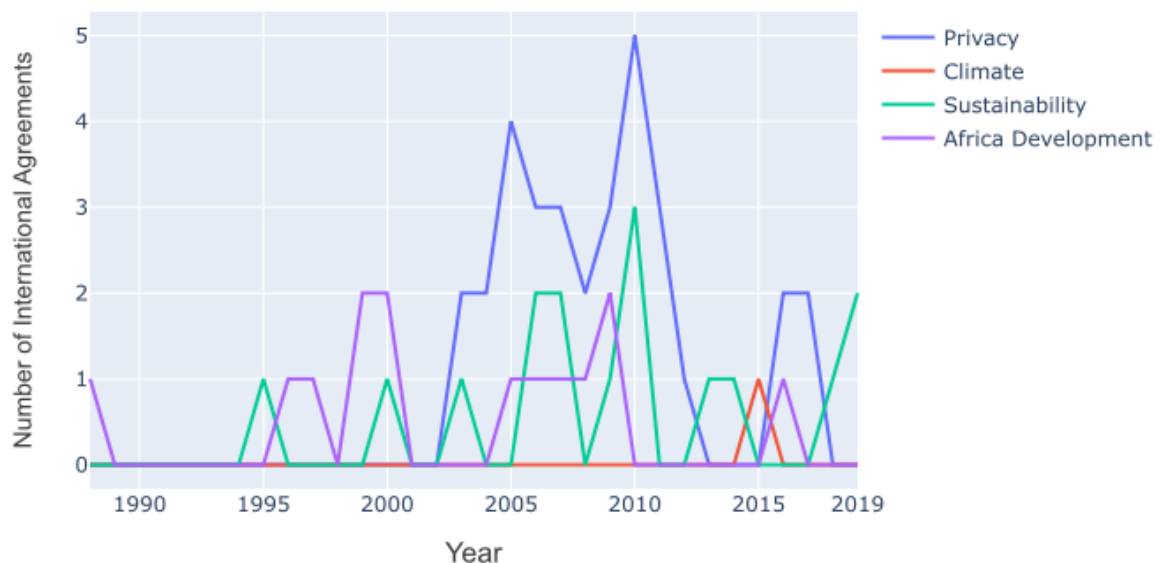
Figure 2 - EU Communications related to the four deep dive topics



Explaining the figure: The figure above shows the share of new communications related to the deep dive topics, compared to the total amount of new communications in a given year. This means that, for example, in 2012 around 13% of all EU communications were related to sustainability. (All communications are from the European Commission alone, while many legal acts are passed jointly by the Council, EU Parliament and Commission, depending on the act)

Interpretation: While the EU does not pass many legal acts related to sustainability (see previous figure), the European Commission talks a lot about sustainability in its communications. Historically, the European Commission talked less about Privacy and Climate Change, but the two topics have continuously become more important over time. Similar to legal acts, Africa and development aid plays a smaller role in the Commission's communications. The topic has actually become less important in the past decade.

Figure 3 - EU International Agreements related to the four deep dive topics



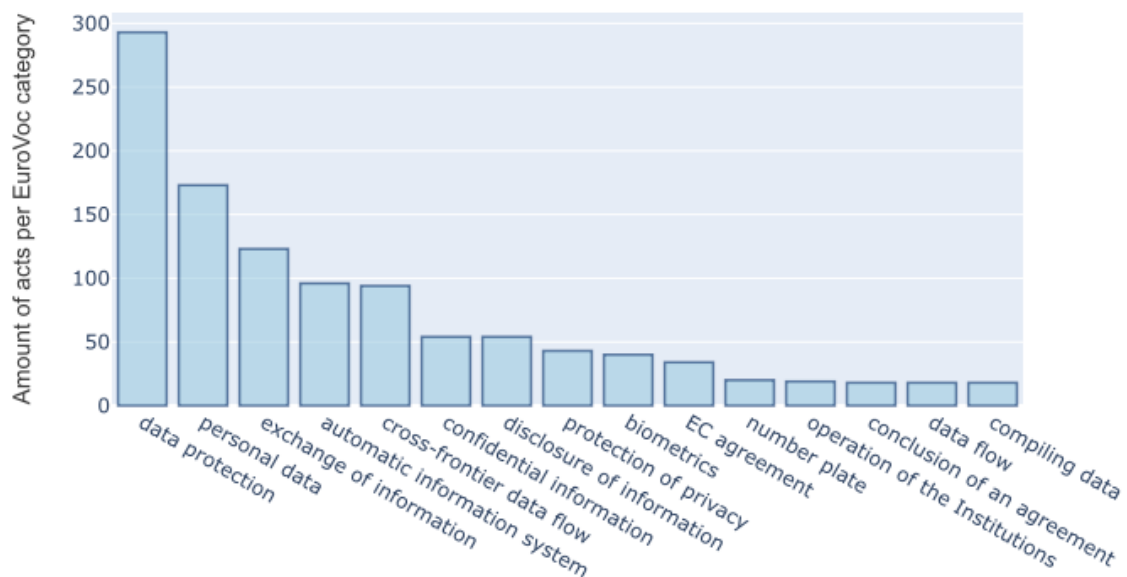
Explaining the figure: The graph above shows the number of international agreements passed by the EU per year. In 2010, for example, 5 international agreements related to Privacy/Data Protection were passed.

Interpretation: Privacy/Data Protection is the topic in which the EU is the most active in international negotiations, even before the GDPR in 2016. These international agreements mostly concern data exchanges with international partners. The EU also continuously signed selected agreements related to Sustainability and Africa/Development Aid. Climate policy is remarkably absent from the EU's international agreements. This is partly due to the fact that documents like the Kyoto protocol are not part of the 'International Agreements' category on eur-lex.eu, but of the 'Protocols' category, which is not included in our dataset.

2.1.3. Diving deeper into individual topics

In addition to comparing the four different topics, we can also use the datasets and method to dive deeper into individual topics. We illustrate this approach for the deep dive on Privacy/Data Protection. First, we can investigate which other topics are treated in the legal acts related to data protection besides data protection itself (see figure 4).

Figure 4 - EU Legal Acts on Data Protection – Related EuroVoc keywords



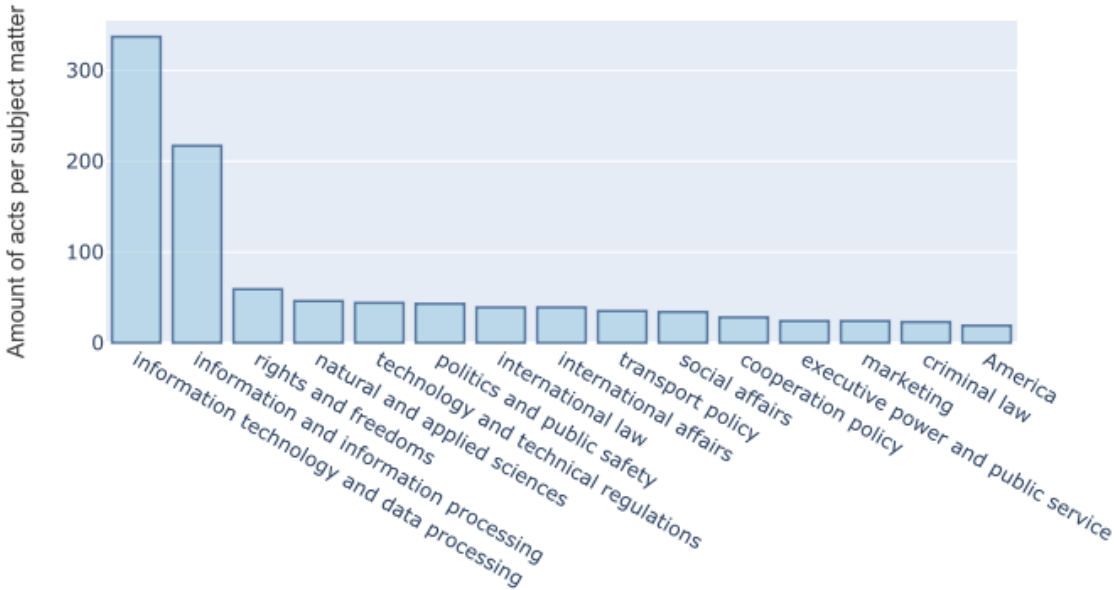
Explaining the figure: The figure above shows the 15 most frequent ‘EuroVoc’ keywords which the EU associated with legal acts related to data protection. For example, around 100 legal acts related to data protection also had the keyword ‘cross-frontier data flow’. (Please note that every law is annotated with around 6 ‘EuroVoc’ categories at the same time)

Interpretation: Legal acts on data protection seem to be broadly related to two general topics:

- (1) Free flow of data: the main task of the EU is the advancement of the internal market and free flows of data are an increasingly important part of the integration of the internal market. This is expressed in keywords such as ‘exchange of information’, ‘cross-frontier data flow’ or ‘data flow’.
- (2) Fundamental rights: the free flow of data creates risks for the fundamental rights to privacy and protection of personal data (articles 7 & 8 Charter of Fundamental Rights)¹⁴. This is expressed in keywords such as ‘data protection’, ‘confidential information’, ‘protection of privacy’ (unsurprisingly, since these were the keywords used to select the legal acts).

¹⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:12012P/TXT>

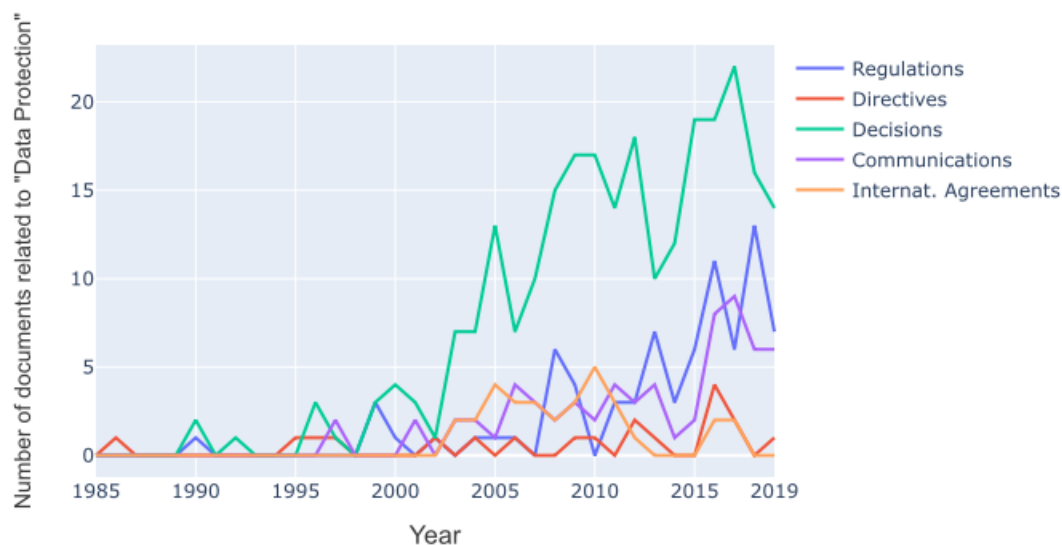
Figure 5 - EU Legal Acts on Data Protection – Related Subject Matter keywords



Explaining the figure: The figure above shows the 15 most frequent ‘Subject Matter’ keywords (more abstract keywords) which the EU associated with legal acts related to data protection. For example, over 300 EU legal acts related to data protection where about ‘Information technology and data processing’. (Please note that every law is categorised in around 3 ‘Subject Matter’ categories at the same time)

Interpretation: Most legal acts related to data protection where categorized in ‘information technology’ and ‘data / information processing’. The dominance of these two categories indicates that data protection is mostly treated as a technical topic. ‘Value’-based categories like ‘rights and freedoms’ or ‘social affairs’ are present, but seem to be less important for EU legal acts related to data protection. These figures can provide quantitative indications, which then need to be deepened with qualitative research.

Figure 6 - Number of different documents related to data protection



Description of the figure: The figure above shows the number of new documents related to data protection per year by type of document.

Interpretation: The EU is playing an increasingly important role in the (legal) governance of data protection. This is demonstrated by the increasing amount of all document types on data protection in the past two decades. While it seems like the EU has passed less international agreements related to data protection in the past years, this is partly due to the low absolute amount of international agreements. The share of international agreements on data protection compared to the absolute amount of international agreements shows, that data protection is actually particularly dominant in international agreements.

2.2. A web application for non-technical users

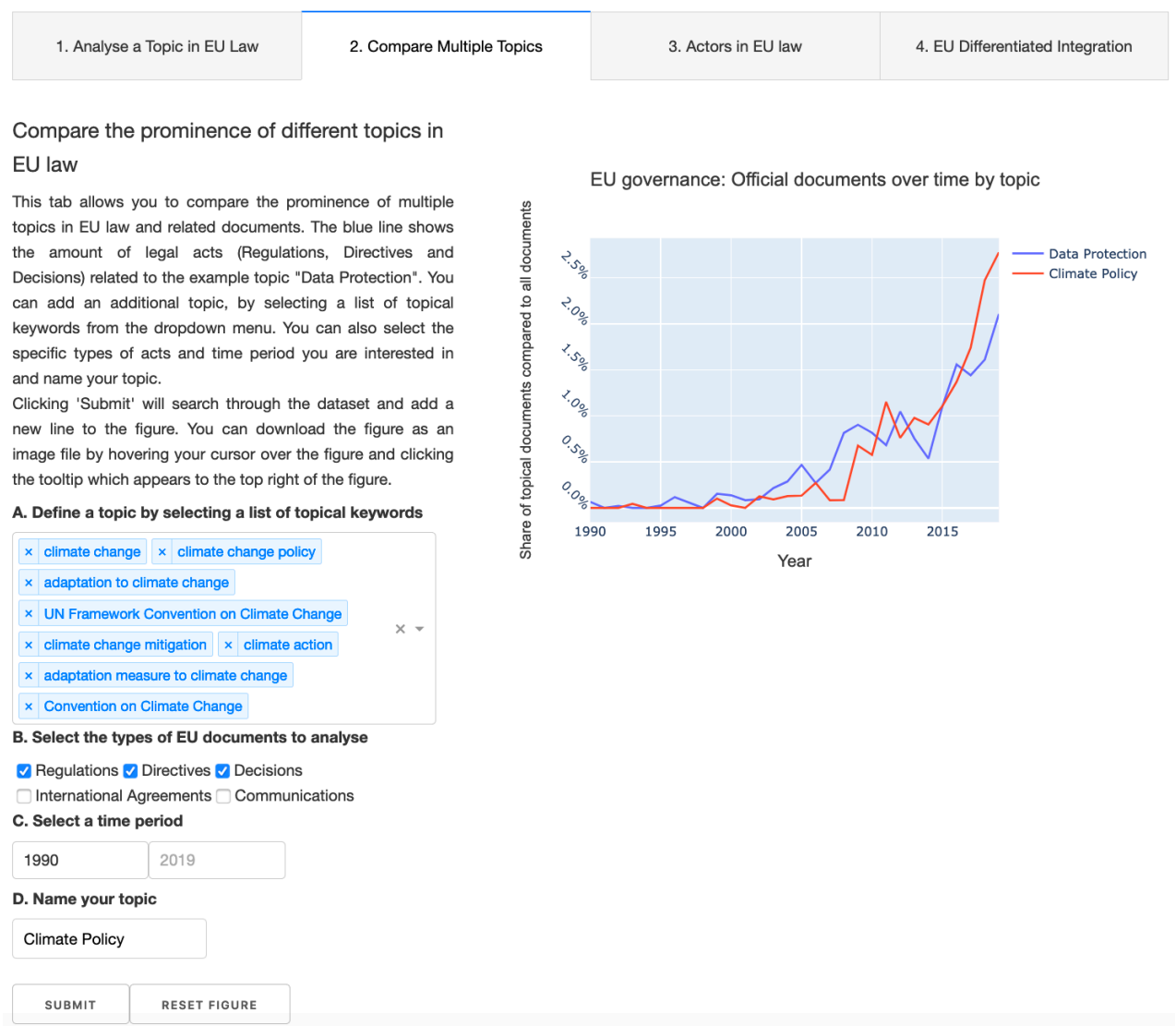
The analysis above illustrates one example of how the EurLex data can be used in the deep dives to analyse EU governance and the EU's legal authority in different policy areas. These kinds of analyses require, however, time and technical expertise in quantitative data analysis, creating a barrier for users. We are therefore creating an interactive web application, which enables non-technical users to replicate similar analyses in any internet browser. The application takes user input and executes the underlying Python code in the background. This ease of use comes, however, at the cost of flexibility, as the user is bound to the pre-programmed interface.

Figure 7 illustrates the current prototype of the web application. Thanks to the application, users themselves can choose the EuroVoc and Subject Matter keywords to define the topic themselves via a dropdown menu. The user can add several topics to the graph on the right, enabling a direct

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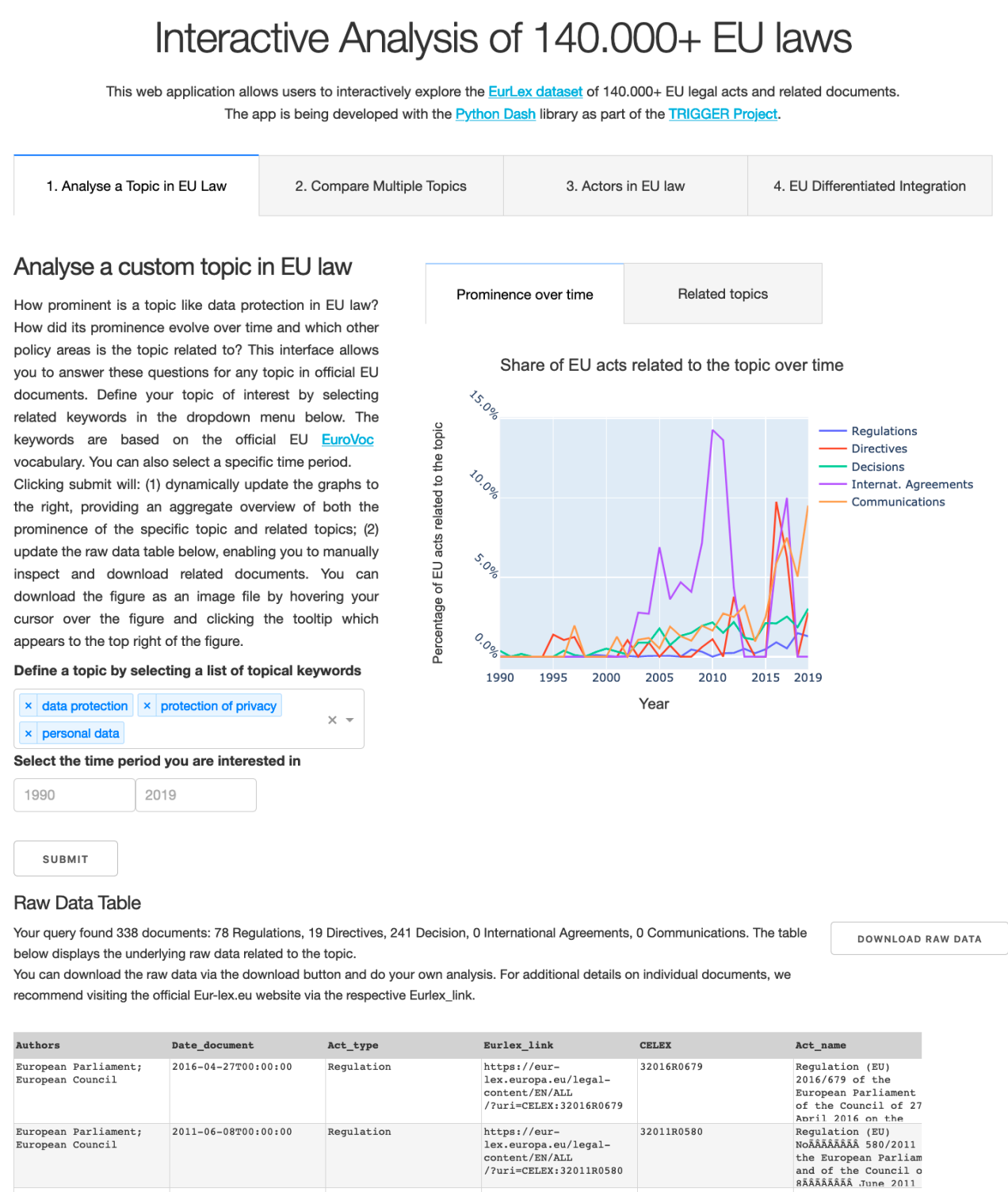
comparison of the EU's approximate legal authority in a given domain. In addition, they can choose the time period and document type they are interested in. Upon clicking submit, the web application adds a line plot to the graph to the right, executing essentially the same analysis explained in chapter 2.1.2 on a cloud server.

Figure 7 - Web application: compare the EU's legal authority in different policy areas



Moreover, the user can also dive deeper into individual topics (see Figure 8) and generate similar figures as those explained in chapter 2.1.3. In addition, a raw data table is returned below the submit button, enabling the user the user to manually inspect and download the raw dataset for the specified topic.

Figure 8 - Web application: Dive deeper into user-defined topics



integration (D2.2) and emerging actors in EU governance (D2.4) are programming in Python, it is possible to add interactive versions of these or similar analyses to the application.

3. Global governance datasets

TRIGGER's global governance datasets provide deep dives with an overview of key global governance arrangements, instruments and actors. They can also be used to find relevant institutions, regimes or policies in the four selected deep dive areas and to inform the deep dives about various aspects of global governance in the respective policy realms. By the time of the original delivery of the datasets, two deep dive topics (climate change and the SDGs) had been defined and integrated into the data collection. Two additional deep dive topics (data protection and EU-Africa relations) were defined after the original delivery date of the datasets. Relevant information for the two new deep dives will hence be added in a second round of data collection. By directly consulting the individual Excel-files, deep dive analysts will find different information within the four datasets on global governance to brief them on various elements of global governance:

- D1.1: Existing global governance regimes (e.g. agencies, funds, programmes);
- D1.2: International Regulatory Cooperation (e.g. EU international agreements);
- D1.3: Transnational private regulatory regimes (especially private standards);
- D1.4: Measurements of global governance instruments (overview of different indices and measures).

Together, the datasets offer deep dives detailed information on global governance as a complex political reality and on regulatory practices at transnational and global political level. They contain information on structures of public authority in multilevel decision-making constellations of the selected topics at global level. The information included touches upon various actors, from international organisations and nation states, over private sectors towards civil societies to promoting interactions between the three groups across all levels of global governance in the deep dive areas. As general-purpose datasets they add to case-specific research, they do not replace it. The research of the deep dives therefore requires additional case-specific data search and collection beyond the original datasets that form the starting point for in-depth research on specific case-related research questions.

By accessing the global governance datasets, information on existing arrangements in the deep dive fields is offered, including international agreements and institutions active in the field, key international regulatory cooperation initiatives, standards and private regulatory schemes. All this information helps describe the status quo of developments in the deep dive areas and supports

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extrapolation and/or prospective counterfactual analysis based on reflection upon potential improvements of the status quo.

Building on dataset D1.1 on existing global governance regimes helps the deep dives to describe the landscape of global governance arrangements in the given field and to substantiate the diversity of instruments, regimes, processes and partnerships applied and evolution over time. The data consists of governance arrangements on different levels of global, intercontinental, and regional integration. 22 variables for institutional and policy entries support an in-depth analysis of the institutional and policy quality, development and relevance of the deep dives. Moreover, a substantive amount of further information on the legal basis, institutional details, and policies are contained in the datasets. From the information provided, deep dives can extract essential information on global governance concerning the years of establishment, geographic scope and continental reach of arrangements and/or initiative; its treaty base, development and legal status; its institutional principles, priorities and aims; its internal organs and focus; the number and quality of members; formal membership requirements and criteria; decision-making modes, instruments and sanction mechanisms. Moreover, the key institutional units dealing with the deep dive areas and the relevant institutional (policy) output can be found as well as their adoption date and a link to the original source.

From datasets D1.2 on international regulatory cooperation and D1.3 on transnational private regulatory regimes, the deep dives can extract information on free and regional trade agreements; bilateral investment agreements; mutual recognition agreements; and transnational private regulation to analyse central characteristics of their area of interest. The data provides information on many different types and degrees of cooperation that range from integration through supranational institutions like the EU, to informal dialogues such as the transatlantic dialogue; from cooperation between states in trade agreements, to regulatory cooperation between private actors in transnational private networks. Concretely, deep dives will find information on EU trade agreements, inter alia related to the type, status, and objectives of the agreement; the sectors covered and the country parties to the agreement. Moreover, they can extract information on international agreements to plot their development over time in the relevant policy areas or by authors/countries. Bilateral investment agreements can be searched by contracting parties or frequency of agreements over time. Exemplary mutual recognition agreements can be analysed according to type; treaty base; current status; geographical and sectoral reach; important obligation and conformity assessment bodies and the deep dives can use these examples as a starting point for finding relevant agreements in their specific domain. Data on private standards offer information on the focus; key features; regional scope; and type of conformity assessment among others. Finally, data on transnational private regulatory regimes support the classification of transnational private regulatory regimes to understand the current evolution of private regulation and the potential for public-private cooperation for the global good. They offer deep dives insight into the diversity of instruments, regimes, processes and partnerships applied and

D7.2 Guidance on how to use AGGREGATOR for Deep Dives

allow for in-depth analysis of their quality, development and relevance. Stock-taking of their quality and texture is a valuable entry point into any further deep dive analysis. By consulting the data collected, deep dives will find information on e.g. the type and geographic scope of regimes; the sectoral reach, institutional focus and functions; years of establishment; membership; standard and/or certificates; and assessment procedures to inform their analysis of particular instruments.

From D1.4 on measuring global governance instruments, deep dives are informed on how international organisations and private actors measure governance at which level. Measuring governance quality in different areas has become an important tool for global development (as 'good' governance is now a development goal in itself) and for international politics (where governance measures are seen as a means of political pressure on states behaviour). This information adds to the general conceptualisation of actorness and provides information on relevant indicators used by official sources to define actorness as well as efficiency of states. Moreover, the data offer insight into the differentiation between governance and good governance qualities. Extrapolation from the central unit of observation 'state' to the EU will support the reflection on particular EU actorness qualities. The deep dives gather from the dataset information on the content and governance dimension of measures; on variables used by these tools as well as additional background information on who assesses what by applying these approaches. This content provides a matrix of state/governance capacity qualities that define efficient, and in some cases also good, (state/governance) actorness. The deep dives' understanding of the actorness qualities of the EU on the respective interest area and on indicators for assessing these qualities and the effectiveness of the EU will strongly benefit from using the data provided on state capacity (legal and administrative capacity of states); democratic governance (political rights, civil liberties, representation); corruption and integrity; press freedom and accountability; rule of law; protection of property rights; functioning of political institutions. These will provide the backdrop variables against which to assess the EU's activities in a given deep dive field. Even if the EU lacks the full set of characteristics of nation states, its performance is oftentimes compared and assessed as that of an actor with a state-like agenda and variables applied in the measures analysed in D1.4 partially also support the EU's performance assessment. That is why extrapolation from the variables represented in D1.4 can support the reflection on EU performance within the deep dives.

4. Conclusion

The deliverable has shown how the AGGREGATOR datasets can be used in the TRIGGER deep dives. It provided guidance on how to analyse the raw datasets – all of which can currently be accessed by all deep dive leaders and which will be published as part of the AGGREGATOR database. In addition, we have shown how the datasets can also be explored by non-technical users, enabling anyone to analyse EU documents via a web application in the browser.

The datasets support for the case study research during the four deep dives. As the data collection and cooperation between work packages continues, the partners will continue stimulating the interdisciplinary research of TRIGGER.



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