

Workshop: Metadata and Persistent Identifiers for Social and Economic Data

DESCRIBING THE INPUT AND OUTPUT OF EMPIRICAL RESEARCH IN A PERSISTENT WAY.

Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences
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Metadata are well known in libraries, as well as in information science and several other scientific communities. They are used in various forms as a means of cataloging archived information. More generally, metadata are a part of all segments of life: in the world of consumption, for example, in the form of nutritional metadata on food packaging or electrical properties of gadgets. In fact, in a world with multiple streams of heterogeneous input and output, metadata are a sine qua non. In economics and the social sciences, metadata document the who, what, when, where, why, and how of a data collection for a particular study.

As the number of digital objects such as datasets and research papers increase, so does the complexity of the web of interdependence, references and citations. For this complex web of knowledge and research to remain valid, meaningful and sustainable persistent identification of these objects is of great importance. There are several Persistent Identifier Systems which are largely comparable. They differ only with respect to such things as their hidden specifics, underlying technology or associated business model.

Metadata and Persistent Identifiers are complementary ingredients in the world of digital object management, making it possible to find, reuse, reference, cite and link digital content.

The purpose of this workshop is to discuss the role of metadata in the context of assigning Persistent Identifiers to primary data. It is the second workshop on Persistent Identifier Systems. The first workshop, which took place in Bonn in 2011, focused on the general topic. The upcoming meeting will look at Persistent Identifiers in greater detail. It aims at elaborating on how metadata can be combined with Persistent Identifiers, how best practice is ensured in the framework of existing systems and which add-on services have already been developed on top of such systems. Additionally, the workshop will explore available tools for generating metadata and the standards in use.

The workshop, co-organized by the German Data Forum (RatSWD), the GESIS Leibniz-Institute for Social Sciences, the ZBW Leibniz-Information Center for Economics, the Nestor Initiative and the International Data Service Center of the Institute for the Study of Labor (IDSC of IZA), will bring together international experts from the field, to inform participants about the current state of affairs. The workshop aims at introducing the subject matter to the German social sciences and economics, but it will be of interest to other empirical sciences as well.

The two-day workshop will open and close with a keynote speech and will combine individual presentations with a Pecha Kucha session, so the participants will be able to debate the issue in an informed way.

Participants: max 60