EDaWaX
European Data Watch Extended

RatSWD.
German Data Forum

ZBW
Leibniz-Informationszentrum
Wirtschaft
Leibniz Information Centre
for Economics

INNO-tec

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Questionnaire A) – For journals without data policies

Dear Mr. / Mrs. < name>,

In the context of our research project EDaWaX (European Data Watch Extended), which is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), we are currently working on the development of a publication-related data archive. Additionally, we would like to examine whether in the journal editor's opinion a data availability policy is useful and how it should be designed.

Hence, we first did desktop research of more than 150 international economic scholarly journals. These journals chosen for desktop research have been analyzed on the basis of a study by the German economists Bräuninger, Haucap and Muck.

Having done research on the web pages of the academic journal you edit, we found out that there is no data availability policy available yet.

We would like to ask you to answer some brief questions on this topic. The survey will take about 5 minutes. Reponses are aggregated for analysis and made anonymous. Neither your IP address nor any personal data will be imparted to or evaluated by us.

Regarding the conception of such a data archive as well as the analysis of data policies, your opinion as an editor is highly important to us. Therefore, we would be very pleased if you take the time to answer the following questions.

In case you would like to be informed of the results of this survey, we will gladly send you a summary. If you are interested in receiving such a summary, please fill in your email address: _____

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Dr. Joachim Wagner (German Data Forum – Leuphana University of Lüneburg)
Prof. Dr. Dietmar Harhoff (INNO-tec Institute of the LMU Munich)
Sven Vlaeminck (EDaWaX project manager – ZBW | Leibniz Information Centre for Economics)
Dr. Frank Mueller-Langer and Patrick Andreoli-Versbach (Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property and Competition Law and International Max Planck Research School for Competition and Innovation)

Please feel free to contact Mr. Vlaeminck (s.vlaeminck@zbw.eu) in case you need further information about this survey.

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Part 1) Appraisal & Use of Data Availability Policies

The replication of research data has consistently been a topic of discussions.

A1) In this context, have you ever heard of economic scholarly journals that have data availability policies?
- (1) Yes
- (2) No

- (88) Do not know

A2) According to our research, the economic journal you edit currently doesn't have a data availability policy.
What are the reasons for not having such a policy? (Multiple answers possible)

- (1) No added value for the journal=> A3
- (2) Too much effort for editors (e.g. checking the data, technical infrastructure needed, know-how, data administration) => A3
- (3) Too much effort for publishers (e.g. infrastructure needed, data administration) => A3
- (4) Too much effort for authors (e.g. preparation and submission of data) => A3
- (5) Disadvantages for the journal (e.g. apprehension that fewer articles are going to be submitted) => A3
- (6) Publisher advised against data availability policies => A3
- (7) Having a data availability policy doesn't fit in the journal's profile => A3
- (8) Legal situation regarding data hosting is ambiguous => A3

- (9) We already apply a data availability policy (please provide the link/ URL___) → A2A
- (10) Other (please specify) => A3

A2A) Please click the link below to reach our questionnaire for journals with data availability policies - thank you in advance! (-> Link to Questionnaire B)

A3) Are you intending to apply a data availability policy to your economic journal anytime soon?
- (1) Yes, we will implement a policy within the next _____ months
- (2) Yes, but we do not know the date of implementation yet
- (3) No, we are not planning to implement such a policy → A5
- (4) No, we generally don't publish any articles which deal with the analysis of experiments, datasets or simulations → A8

- (88) Do not know → A5

A4) Why are you intending to apply a data availability policy? (Multiple answers are permitted)
- (1) Potential improvement of journal's quality
- (2) Enhancing subsequent use of data
- (3) Potential upgrade of journal's ranking
- (4) Standard in a contemporary journal
- (5) Protection against scientific fraud
- (6) Condition set by third parties (e.g. by publisher, scientific organization, funder,...)

(7) Other (please specify)

A5) In your opinion, how would the implementation of a data availability policy affect the author's publication behaviour?

(1) Submission of fewer articles
(2) No change in the number of submissions overall
(3) Submission of articles would increase
(4) Attracting a different group of authors
(5) Other (please specify)

(88) Do not know

Part 2) Requirements for a digital infrastructure

~ Filter: This question only if A2=2 ~

A6) You declared that you as an editor feared considerable effort caused by the implementation of a data availability policy. Where exactly do you see additional effort?

(1) Data submitted by authors has to be checked
(2) If necessary, further specifications (metadata) have to be added to the submitted data
(3) Data has to be stored and provided online (e.g. on web pages or in data archives)
(4) More complex communication with authors to agree upon the quantity and quality of data to be delivered
(5) Legal competence to abide by the laws concerning the archiving and granting of access to personal data needs to be provided
(6) Other (Please specify):_____

A7) What kind of additional resources and infrastructure components would you require if you were to implement a data availability policy?

(1) Infrastructural resources, e.g. for hosting data in a data archive, or to describe data with metadata
(2) Human resources, e.g. for supporting authors when questions about data policy appear
(3) Human resources, for judging data quality
(4) Human resources, e.g. for technical processing and providing of data (metadata, hosting, formats)
(5) Financial resources, e.g. for paying the fees of hosting and storing data
(6) Improved knowledge about legal conditions for providing data, programs, codes, etc.
(7) Other (please specify):_____

Part 3) Final

A8) Do you think that implementation of a Data Availability Policy could improve the quality of published articles in general?

(1) Yes
(2) No

(88) Do not know

A9) Do you think that implementation of a Data Availability Policy could improve the quality of the scientific discussion in general?

  (1) Yes
  (2) No

  (88) Do not know

Now you have almost concluded the survey. To evaluate the response rate of the survey and verify that it is a random sample of the whole population we kindly ask you to state the journal you edit. This information will not be matched to your previous responses.

Please state the journal you edit:_____

If you need additional material concerning data availability policies or would like to have a conversation about this topic, feel free to contact us. Also, if you have any questions about this survey or the EDaWaX project in general, please contact the EDaWaX project manager, Mr. Sven Vlaeminck: s.vlaeminck@zbw.eu.

We would like to thank you for your cooperation and wish you a nice day.

Questionnaire B) – Journals with policy

Dear Mr. / Mrs. < name>,

In the context of our research project EDaWaX (European Data Watch Extended), which is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), we are currently working on the development of a publication-related data archive. Additionally, we would like to examine whether in the journal editor's opinion a Data Availability Policy is useful and how it should be designed.

Hence, we first did desktop research of more than 150 national and international economic scholarly journals. These journals have been analyzed on the basis of a study by the German economists Bräuninger, Haucap and Muck regarding their relevance and reputation.

Your journal currently belongs to the rather small group of journals which have implemented a data availability policy. In the context of our research project we are presently evaluating these policies. Furthermore, we are interested in the technical infrastructure you use as well as models for providing research data. Legal and technical aspects also are of interest.

Regarding the conception of such a data archive as well as the analysis of data policies, your opinion as an editor is highly important to us. Therefore, we would be very pleased if you take the time to answer the following questions.

Answering the survey will take about 8 minutes. Reponses are aggregated for analysis and made anonymous. Neither your IP address nor any personal data will be imparted to or evaluated by us.

In case you would like to be informed of the results of this survey, we will gladly send you a summary. If you are interested in receiving such a summary, please fill in your email address: _____
This Information will not be matched to your previous responses.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Dr. Joachim Wagner (German Data Forum and Leuphana University of Lüneburg)
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Part 1) – Content of the Data Policies

Economic scholarly journals handle their guidelines regarding the provision of data sets and other materials quite differently. So we would like to acquire knowledge about the practical implementation of such policies in your journal. Therefore we would be very pleased if you would provide us with information concerning this topic.

B1) When did the journal introduce the data policy? Please indicate volume, issue, and year, if possible:
- (1) Year:_____ (please specify)
- (2) Volume:_____ (please specify)
- (3) Issue:_____ (please specify)

(88) Do not know

B2) Does the data availability policy only apply to papers submitted after the introduction of the policy or does it also apply to papers that were submitted but not accepted for publication before the introduction of the policy?

- (1) The policy applies only to papers submitted after the introduction of the policy.=> B3
- (2) The policy also applies to papers already submitted but not accepted before the introduction of the policy.

(88) Do not know => B3

B2A) Did any author retract his or her submission after your notice of a data policy change?

- (1) Yes
- (2) No => B3

(88) Do not know => B3

B2B) Can you provide us with information on the approximate number of authors who retracted the submissions?

- (1) Yes, approx._____ authors (Please specify)
- (2) No

(88) Do not know

B3) What kind of requirements for authors does the data policy of your journal impose?

- (1) Authors are obligated to provide their data sets with submission of the article.
- (2) Authors are obligated to submit their data to the editors after the article has been published.
- (3) Authors are supposed to make their data available on request. => B14
- (4) Authors are obligated to make their data public on their own web pages after the article's publication.
- (5) Providing data is optional. => B8

(6) Other (Please specify):_____

B4) When publishing an empirical article in your journal, what kind of materials do authors have to submit? (Multiple answers possible)

(1) Final dataset
(2) Interim dataset
(3) Original (raw) dataset
(4) Readme file that describes every single file
(5) Readme file that describes every single file and variable
(6) Scripts/Code (e.g. Do-Files) which generate results
(7) Scripts/Code (e.g. Do-Files) which also generate interim results
(8) Programs used to interpret data (if possible)
(9) Other (Please specify):_____

Part 2) Examination of policies, guidelines, and consequences

B5) Who monitors whether the guidelines of the Data Policy / Replication Policy are followed?

(1) Editors and their staff
(2) Reviewers
(3) Publisher and his / her staff
(4) Authors themselves => B7
(5) No one => B7
(6) Other (Please specify):_____

(88) Do not know => B7

B6) How detailed your journal is checking whether submissions comply with the requirements of your data availability policy?

(1) Data and any other materials are examined very precisely – Replication tests are carried out.
(2) Data and any other materials are examined precisely
(3) Data and any other materials are examined randomly
(4) Usually data and any other materials are not examined
(5) Only certain parts of data and materials get examined (e.g. only the readme file or codes, but not the data). Please specify:_____
(6) Submission of data is voluntary, therefore no examination is undertaken
(7) Submission of data is not intended, hence there is no examination
(8) Other (Please specify):_____

B7) What is the procedure for authors who fail to comply with the requirements of the data policy (e.g. by not providing data, even if the policy states that providing data is mandatory)? (multiple Answers possible)
(1) Authors are reminded
(2) The article will not be published until the specifications of the data policy are fulfilled
(3) The article will be published but the author is exempted from publishing in our journal in the future
(4) The author's funding agency or institution receives a notification
(5) Submission of data is voluntary, hence nothing happens

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(6) Providing data is not intended, hence nothing happens
(7) Other (please specify):_____

(88) Do not know

Part 3) Infrastructure/ Organization of the data archive

B8) Where are data or any other materials made available for researchers/ the public?

(1) On the editor's web pages (of the journal)
(2) On the publisher's web pages (of the journal)
(3) On the author's personal or institutional web pages
(4) In a centre for research data (Please specify the name of the data centre):_____
(5) In a repository for research data (Please specify the name of the research data repository):_____
(6) Data are for internal use only (e.g. examination by reviewers) => B14
(7) Data are not made available => B14
(8) Elsewhere (Please specify):_____

(88) Do not know => B14

B9) Who manages the data archive?

(1) Editor's staff
(2) Publisher's staff
(3) Authors themselves (if data is available on the author's personal web page)
(4) Staff of centre for research data
(5) Staff of repository for research data
(6) Other (Please specify):_____

(88) Do not know

B10) Are there any standards regarding the format and structure of data (e.g. all data in ASCII format)?

(3) Yes (Please specify):_____
(4) No

(88) Do not know

B11) Is submitted data edited?

(1) Yes, always (Please specify in which way data is edited) :_____
(2) Sometimes (Please specify in which way data is edited) :_____
(3) No, never

(88) Do not know

B12) Is data described with additional information (so-called metadata, e.g. author, publication year, URL/DOI, origin of data, etc.)?

>   (1) Yes
>   (2) No => B14

>   (88) Do not know => B14

B13) Which metadata schemata do you use for describing data and materials?

- Data Documentation Initiative Metadata Standard (DDI)
- Dublin Core (DC)
- METS
- SDMX
- Other (Please specify):_____

>   (88) Do not know

Part 4) Experiences with replications

B14) Does your journal publish replication results or replication attempts of articles that were published in your journal previously?
>   (1) Yes
>   (2) No => B17

>   (88) Do not know => B17

B14A) How many replication studies do you publish on average in a year?

>   (1) Approx.:_____ (please provide a rough estimate)

>   (88) Do not know

B15) Do you have a special section for replication studies in the published version of your journal or on the journal's website?
>   (1) Yes
>   (2) No

>   (88) Do not know

B16) Are the replication results or replication attempts you are familiar with usually stored in the archive in addition to the data submitted by authors?

>   (1) Yes
>   (2) Sometimes (Please specify the criteria):_____
>   (3) No

>   (88) Do not know

Finally, we would like you to tell us about the experiences concerning your data availability policy that you have made so far.

B17) Have there been any requests for data / downloads of datasets, codes or programs?

(1) Yes
(2) No

(88) Do not know

B18) Do you know of any replications or replication attempts from articles that have been published in your journal?

(1) Yes, there have been attempts, but I Do not know any results
(2) Yes, there have been attempts, but most of them failed.
(3) Yes, most of the results have been replicated
(4) Yes, almost all results have been replicated
(5) Yes, there have been attempts, but most results couldn't be replicated

(88) I Do not know of any attempts

Part 5) Final

Now you have almost completed the survey. Finally, we need some statistical information to help us evaluate whether our survey achieved adequate quality and coverage.

Therefore we kindly ask you to state the journal you edit. This information will not be matched to your previous responses.

Please name the journal you edit: _____

If you need additional material concerning data availability policies or would like to have a conversation about this topic, feel free to contact us. Also, if you have any questions about this survey or the EDaWaX project in general, please contact the EDaWaX project manager Mr. Sven Vlaeminck: s.vlaeminck@zbw.eu.

We would like to thank you for your cooperation and wish you a nice day.