

European databases and repositories for Social Sciences and Humanities research output

exploring comprehensiveness

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Outline

Method

Findings #1

- Overview of databases
- Defining national database for social sciences and humanities research output
- Defining comprehensiveness

Findings #2

- Overview of the comprehensiveness of databases

Final thoughts

Method

Method

Within the framework of the COST action «European Network for Research Evaluation in Social Sciences and Humanities» (ENRESSH, www.enressh.eu)

Scope: 41 European countries

Main sources of data: two questionnaires, interviews, scholarly literature, grey literature.

Questionnaire #1: identification of national databases

Questionnaire #2: detailed description of comprehensiveness

Data collection period: August 2016 – ongoing

Collaborators in the second survey

(in alphabetical order):

- Pavel Arefiev, Scientific Electronic Library - eLIBRARY.RU, Russia
- Kasper Bruun, Ministry of Higher Education and Science, Denmark
- Marta Dušková, Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information, Slovakia
- Gennady Eremenko, Scientific Electronic Library - eLIBRARY.RU, Russia
- Lotte Faurbaek, Ministry of Higher Education and Science, Denmark
- Viktor Glukhov, Scientific Electronic Library - eLIBRARY.RU, Russia
- Andras Holl, MTMT, Hungary
- Emanuel Kulczycki, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland
- Bojan Macan, Rudjer Boskovic Institute, Croatia
- Gustaf Nelhans, University of Borås, Sweden
- Michal Petr, Masaryk University, Czech Republic
- Marjeta Pisk, Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Slovenia
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- Jadranka Stojanovski, University of Zadar / Rudjer Boskovic Institute, Croatia
- Ari Stone, The Council for Higher Education, Israel
- Davor Šoštarič, Institut informacijskih znanosti (IZUM), Slovenia
- Jaroslav Šušol, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia
- Ruth Teitelbaum, The Henrietta Szold Institute, Israel
- Mimi Urbanc, Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Slovenia

Findings #1

Overview

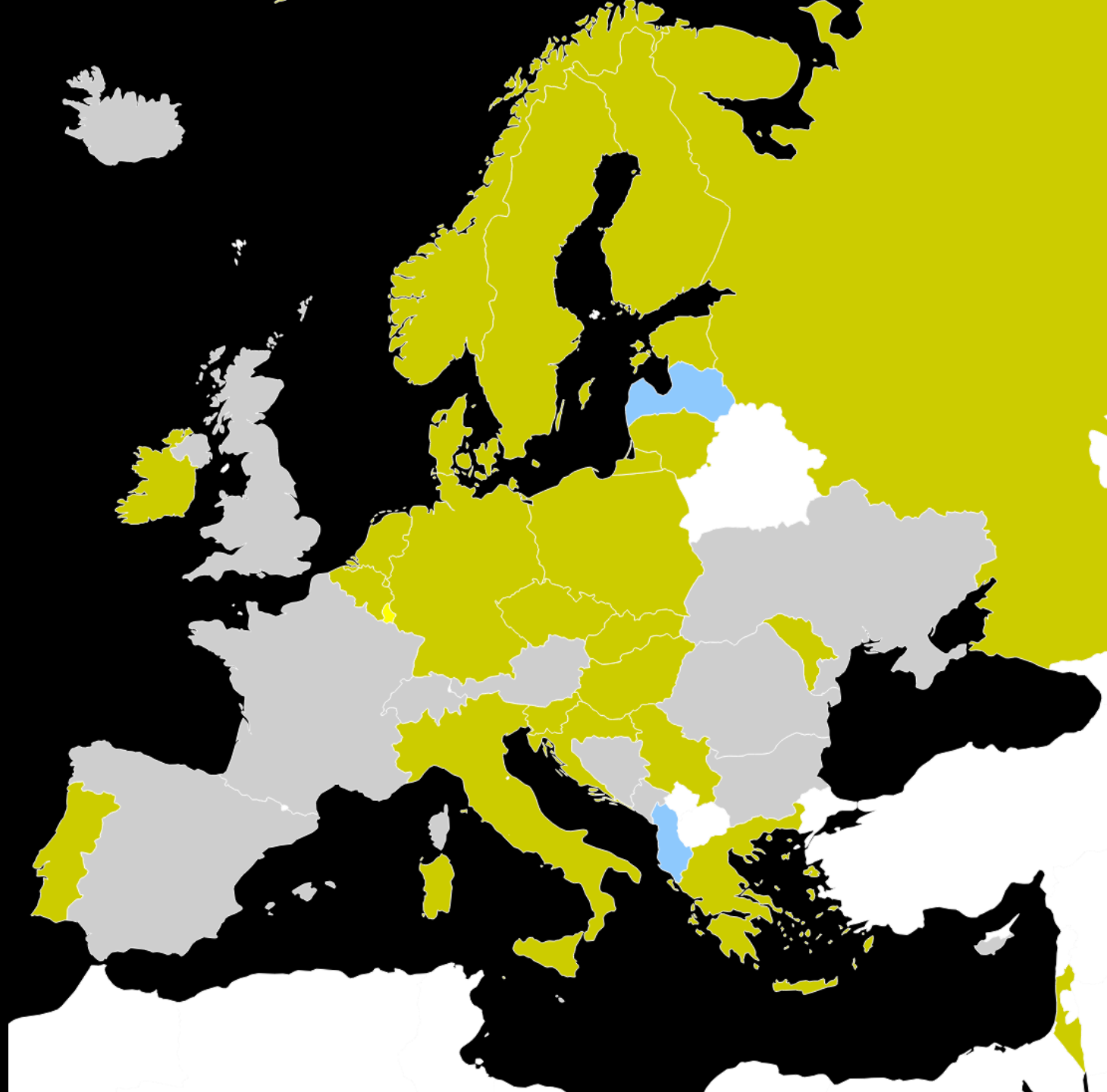
Responses received from 39
(out of 41) countries.

23 existing databases identified and
described

Green – national database exists

Blue – national databases currently
implemented

Grey – no national database



Definition of a national database for research output

Valid

Database records refer to existing research output

Comprehensive

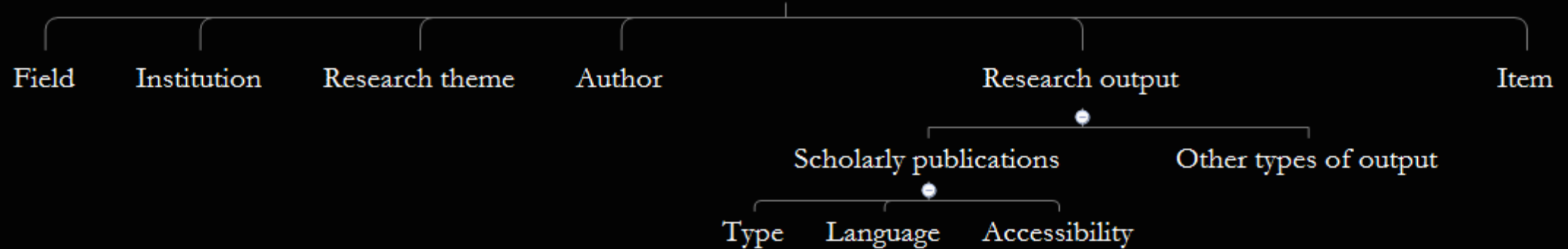
Database represents the total volume of the (social sciences and humanities) research output of a country

Reliable

Data collection and registration method provides accurate and traceable information

Comprehensiveness

(differences in the) comprehensiveness of national databases



Comprehensiveness

(all) Types

(all) Tokens

National database for research output within the social sciences and humanities

(1) includes

(a) all academic disciplines within social sciences and humanities **defined as...**

(b) all research-active institutions **defined as...**

(c) all research themes **defined as...**

(d) all authors **defined as...**

(e) all types of research output **defined as...**

...

in a country X.

(2) contains all records that meet the definitions in (1)

Minimum requirements for comprehensiveness

- Includes **not only open-access** research output
- Includes **more than one research output type**
- Includes research output in **more than one language**

Grey – databases that meet the criteria

Green – databases included in the second stage of the study



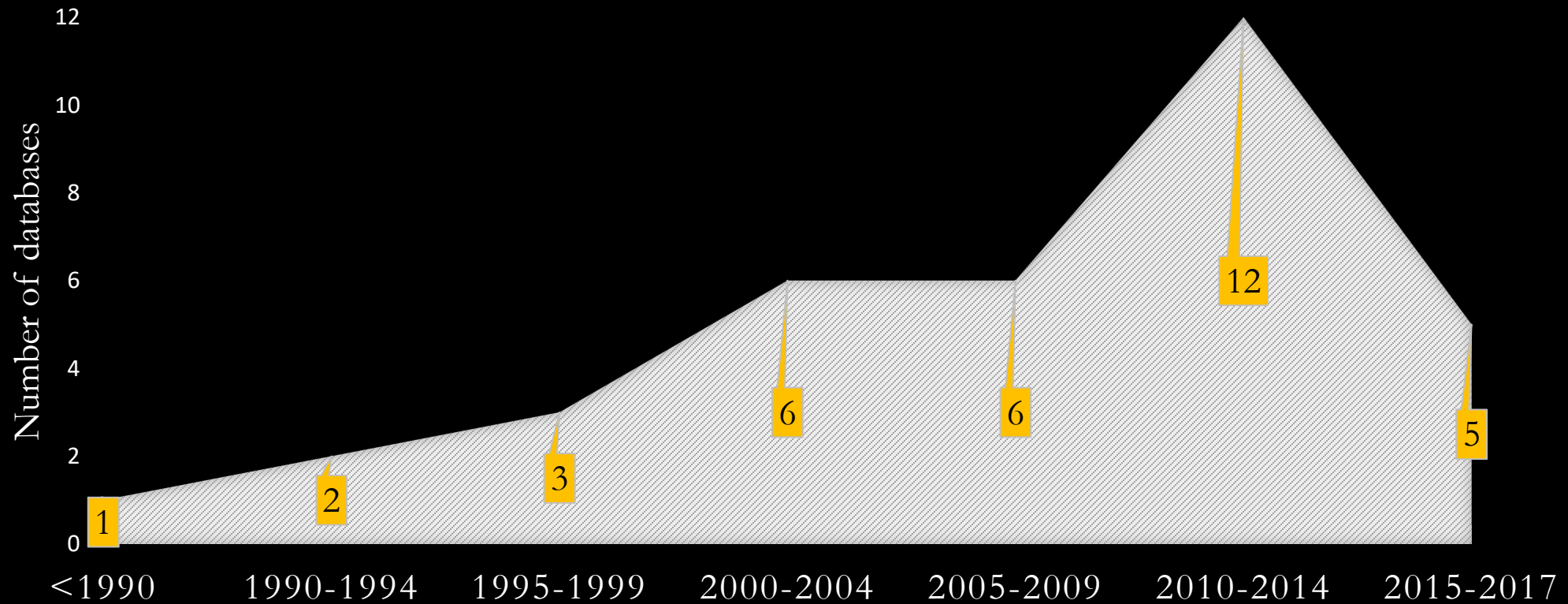
Findings #2

(all) Types



(all) Tokens

Time span for research output included in the databases*



*Overview is based on the coverage all years within the sub-periods

Research output types and audience

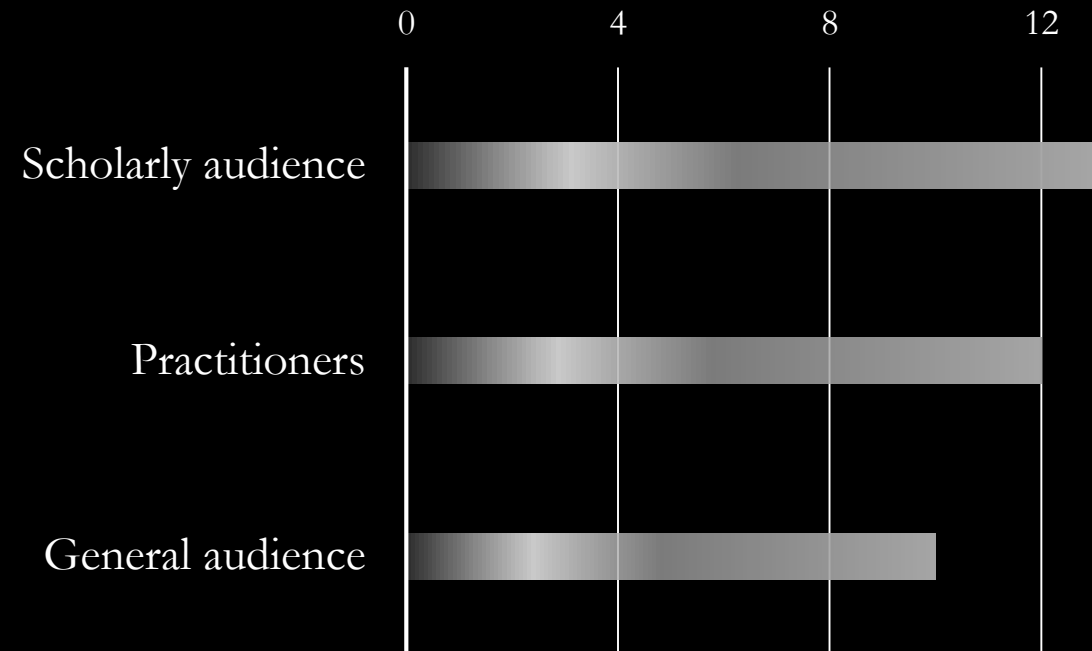
All (13) databases include data on:

- Journal articles
- Monographs
- Articles or chapters in books
- Edited books

12 of 13 databases include data on:

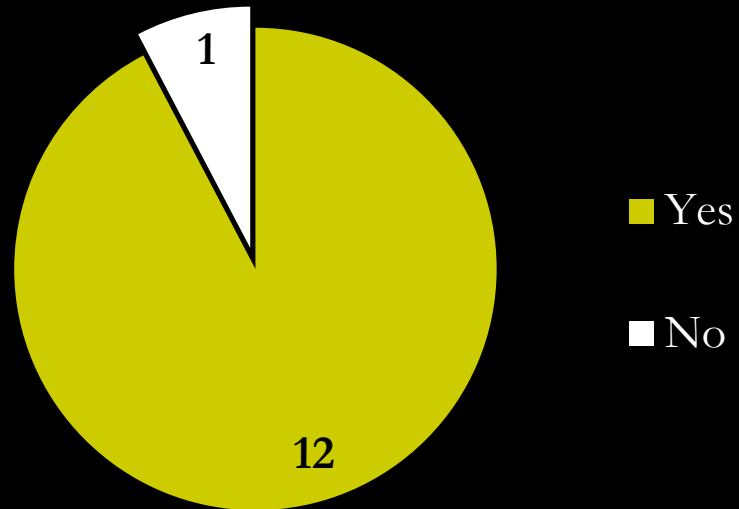
- Articles in conference proceedings

Audience for research output

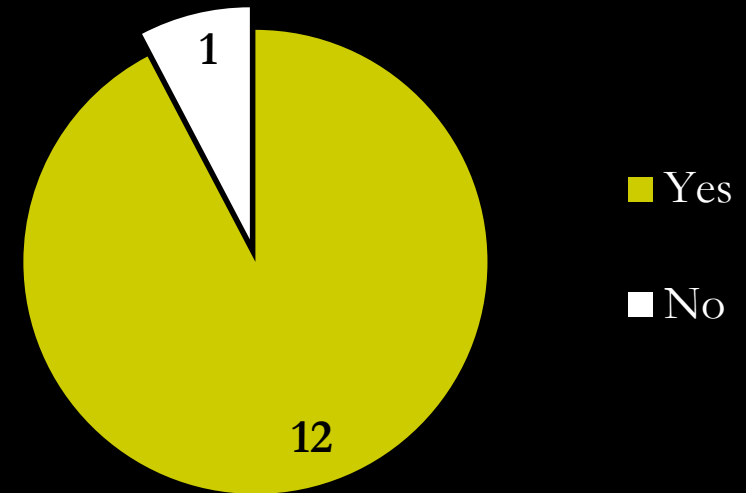


Academic disciplines and language

Database includes all disciplines within
Social Sciences and Humanities



Database includes research output in any
language



Range of research-active institutions included



- 1 – All publicly funded universities
- 2 – All universities
- 3 – All publicly funded higher education institutions
- 4 – All higher education institutions
- 5 – All publicly funded research active institutions (HEI, government, commercial, not-for-profit sectors)
- 6- All research active institutions

Adjustments:

- +0.5 Included some institutions within the next more inclusive category
- +1 Included all institutions of one subtype within the next more inclusive category

Internationally mobile authors

50%

6 of 12** databases include research output from periods when an author has been affiliated to a foreign institution

** Information was not available for 1 database.

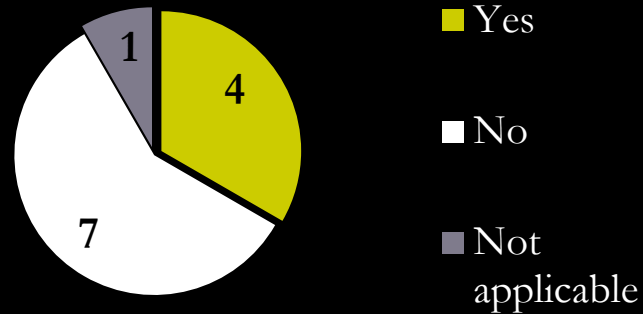
(all) Types

(all) Tokens

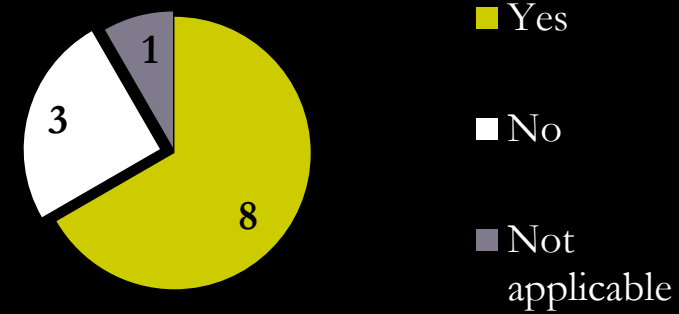


Procedures ensuring comprehensiveness

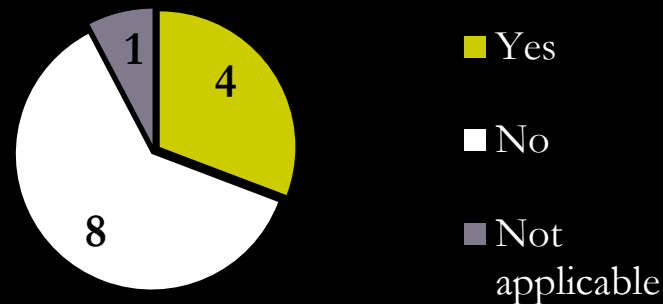
Completeness is confirmed by authors



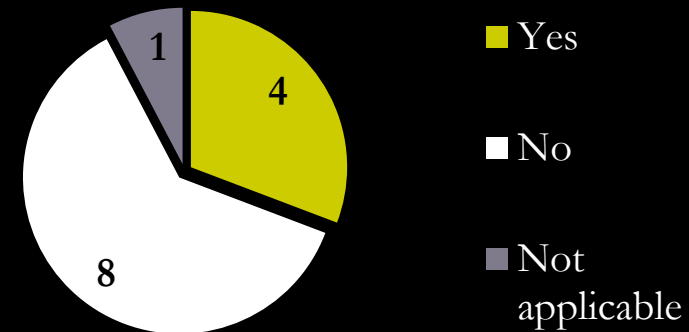
Completeness is confirmed by reporting institutions



Completeness is confirmed by authors and reporting institutions

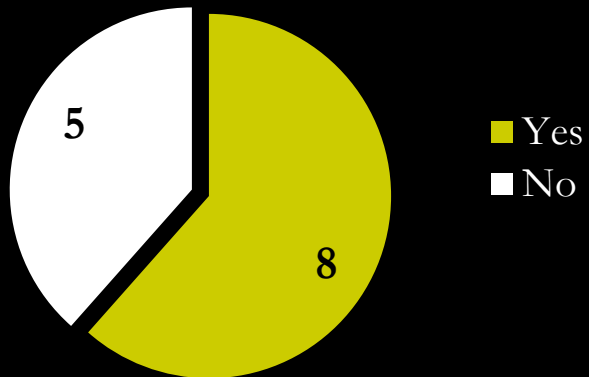


Completeness is not confirmed

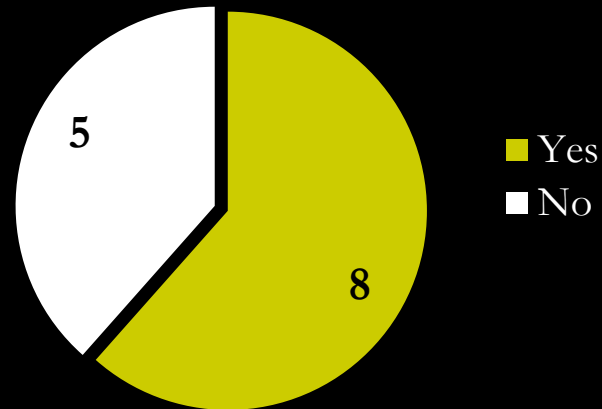


Procedures ensuring comprehensiveness

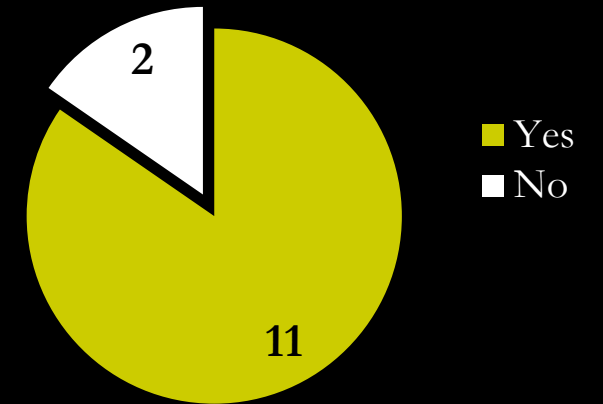
Data reporting is mandated on national or institutional level



Data are used for research evaluation purposes



Data are used to calculate bibliometric indicators for research funding allocation purposes



Final thoughts

To sum up,

The presented study has led to:

1. An overview of national databases for (social sciences and humanities) research output in Europe
 - a. A more detailed conceptualisation of national databases for research output

2. Insight into the comprehensiveness of 13 databases
 - a. A more detailed conceptualisation of Comprehensiveness of databases for research output.

Implications for bibliometrics

(1) Specifics of databases have to be taken into account in bibliometric research

Aspects of particular importance:

- Purposes of databases
- Contexts of databases
- Database setups

(2) Differences in databases have to be further explored

Ongoing work

- Survey on comparability of databases
- Bibliometric comparison of social sciences and humanities in 11 European countries
- Qualitative inquiry into classifications of academic disciplines and publication types

Thank you!

The report of the first stage of the survey on databases:

Sile, L. et al. (2017). European Databases and Repositories for Social Sciences and Humanities Research Output. Antwerp: ECOOM & ENRESSH. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.5172322.v1>

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