

Data Seal of Approval

Case study GESIS Data Archive for the Social Sciences



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GESIS

- Infrastructure institution for the Social Sciences
- GESIS provides services in the fields of
 - Data: archiving, research, social monitoring
 - Methodology: consultation, developing complex methods
 - Information: social science literature and research activities



GESIS Data Archive

- Explicit mission: archiving social science research data
- Purpose of the GESIS Data Archive is to keep social science research data available for data sharing and data re-use
- International data exchange (e.g. CESSDA, IFDO)





Why certification activities?

- Ensuring stakeholders that the data they are using, producing or funding is treated according to established standards and norms
- Revision of our workflows
- Need to prove trustworthiness is not only an issue for new players but also for established ones like the GESIS Data Archive
- Trustworthiness among European Archives (CESSDA)



Our approach

- Data Seal of Approval within the context of CESSDA-AS: Agreement that every archive should make a self-assessment based on the DSA
- 2. Data Seal of Approval
- 3. nestor Seal based on DIN 31644
- 4. ...





Data Seal of Approval

Repositories that are committed to archiving and providing access to data in a sustainable way.

16 Guidelines reflecting different roles:

- Data producers
- Data repository
- Data users





Level of compliance

Statement of Compliance	Means	Comments and/or URLs	
0	Not Applicable	Provide an explanation	
1	No	Provide an explanation	
2	Theoretical	Provide a URL for the initiation document	
3	In Progress	Provide a URL for the supporting document	
4	Implemented	Provide a URL for the supporting document	





Assessment Process

- 1. Self-assessment
- 2. External peer-review of self-assessment
- 3. Question & response process if necessary

Once the DSA is awarded by the Board, the repository may display the DSA-Logo on its website and the assessment including review comments will be published.



Getting started

- Evaluation of existing workflows with regard to the requirements
- Detection of missing documentation und documents (internal as well as external)
- Workflows themselves are already in place (and work), but there was a lack of appropriate documentation, especially on our website



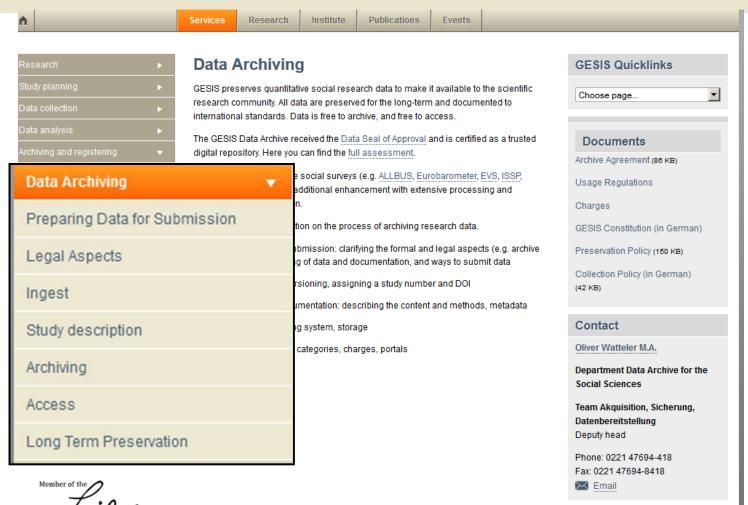
Newly created documents

- Preservation Policy
- Collection Policy
- Usage Guidelines for GESIS DBK Metadata
- Contract for on-site and off-site use (SDC)



gesis

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Documentation

- Excel sheet with all relevant documents and information:
 - General information and information on website
 - Contracts and guidelines
 - Access information
 - Technical documentation
 - Standards and policies
 - References





Experiences

- Reconsider workflows
- Update processes with regard to digital preservation
- Time intensive
- Many processes and activities at the same time depending on each other



Benefits

- Valuable effect of establishing a common understanding for the mission and goals of an institution
- Become aware of the capabilities, strengths and most important weaknesses or gaps within the institution
- Implementation of new tools (e.g. monitoring of checksums)
- Ensure fulfillment of the requirements of being a trusted digital repository and display this to the public
- Good preparation for the next step (nestor seal)



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Data Management Plan? Wir helfen Ihnen weiter!



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Any questions?



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