

# How data archives enhance access to official micro-data in Europe

***Roxane Silberman***  
*CNRS – Réseau Quetelet, Paris*

***Paola Tubaro***  
*University of Greenwich, London, and CNRS, Paris*



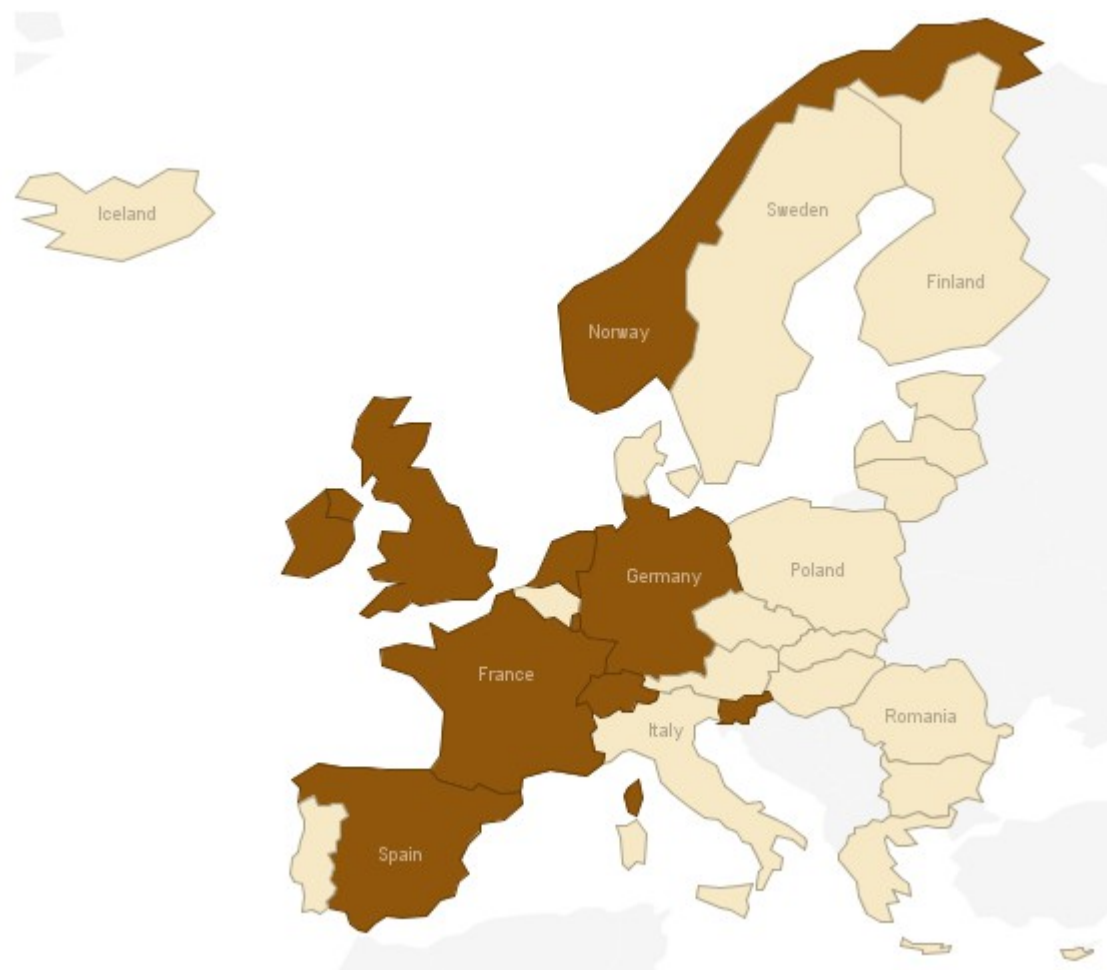
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# Data archives and microdata access

- The research access and researcher accreditation processes are most often managed by NSIs alone
- In some countries, responsibilities and tasks are shared with the research community, notably with data archives
- These responsibilities and tasks vary, with different degrees of integration, delegation and mutual trust
- What is the situation like today, and how is it evolving ?

# Data archives disseminating official microdata in Europe



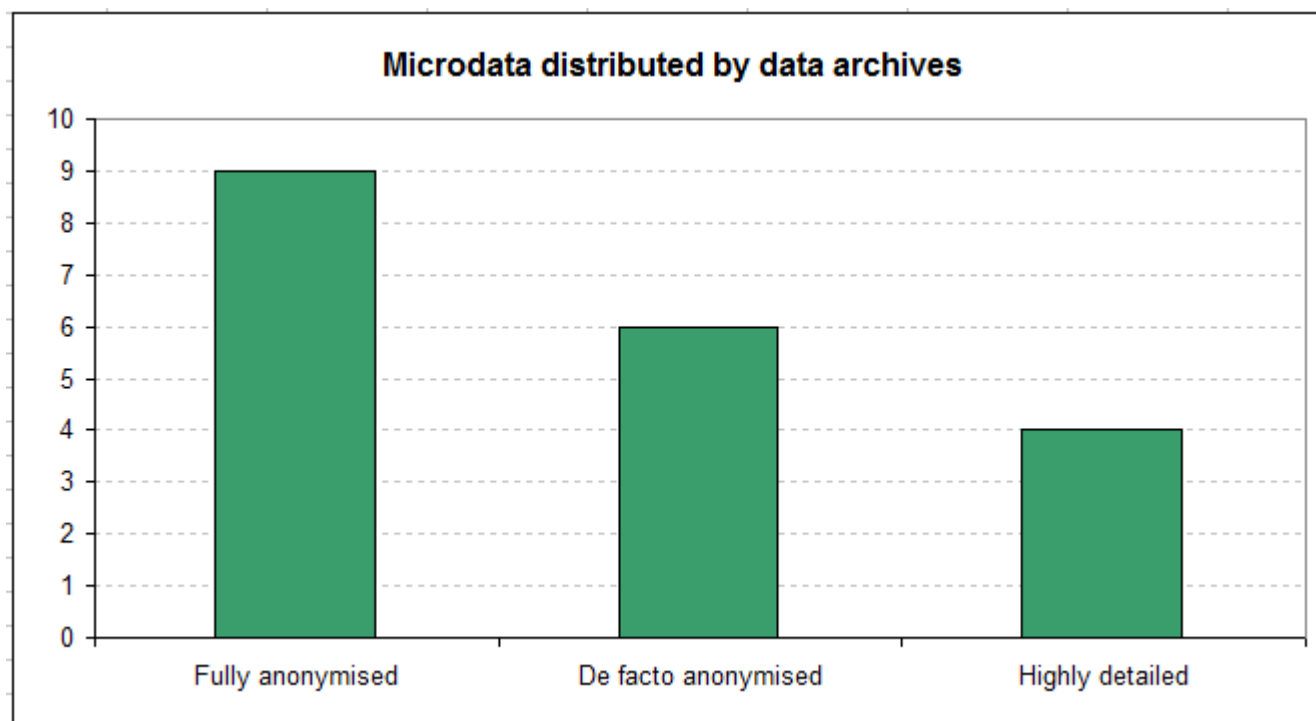
# Data archives and microdata dissemination

- Few archives contribute to managing research access to official microdata
- They correspond to cases where mutual trust NSI / research community has been built over a long period of time and there now substantial experience in collaboration (FR, SI, UK...)
- These experiences enable greater access for researchers with lower burden for NSIs, often resulting in significant returns (UK)

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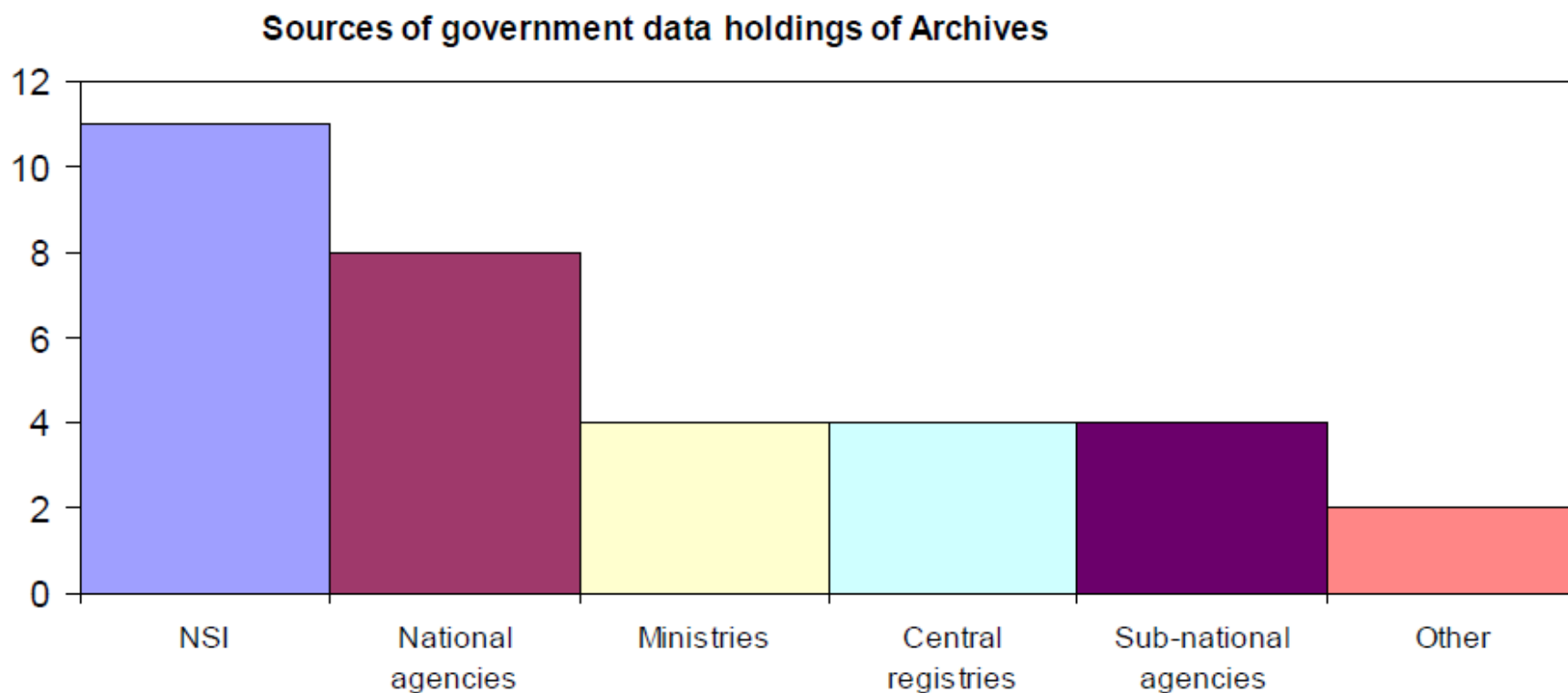
## Microdata distributed by archives



# Data holdings of archives

- Most archives are involved in the dissemination of fully anonymised microdata (IE, CH, ES, SI...)
- A relatively large number are in charge of data files at intermediate level of anonymisation (DE, FR, NO, UK...)
- New experiences of collaboration for dissemination of highly detailed (confidential) data (FR, NO, UK)
- In other countries, archives do not distribute microdata but aggregate data and tables (GR, HU, IT)

## Sources of official microdata distributed by archives

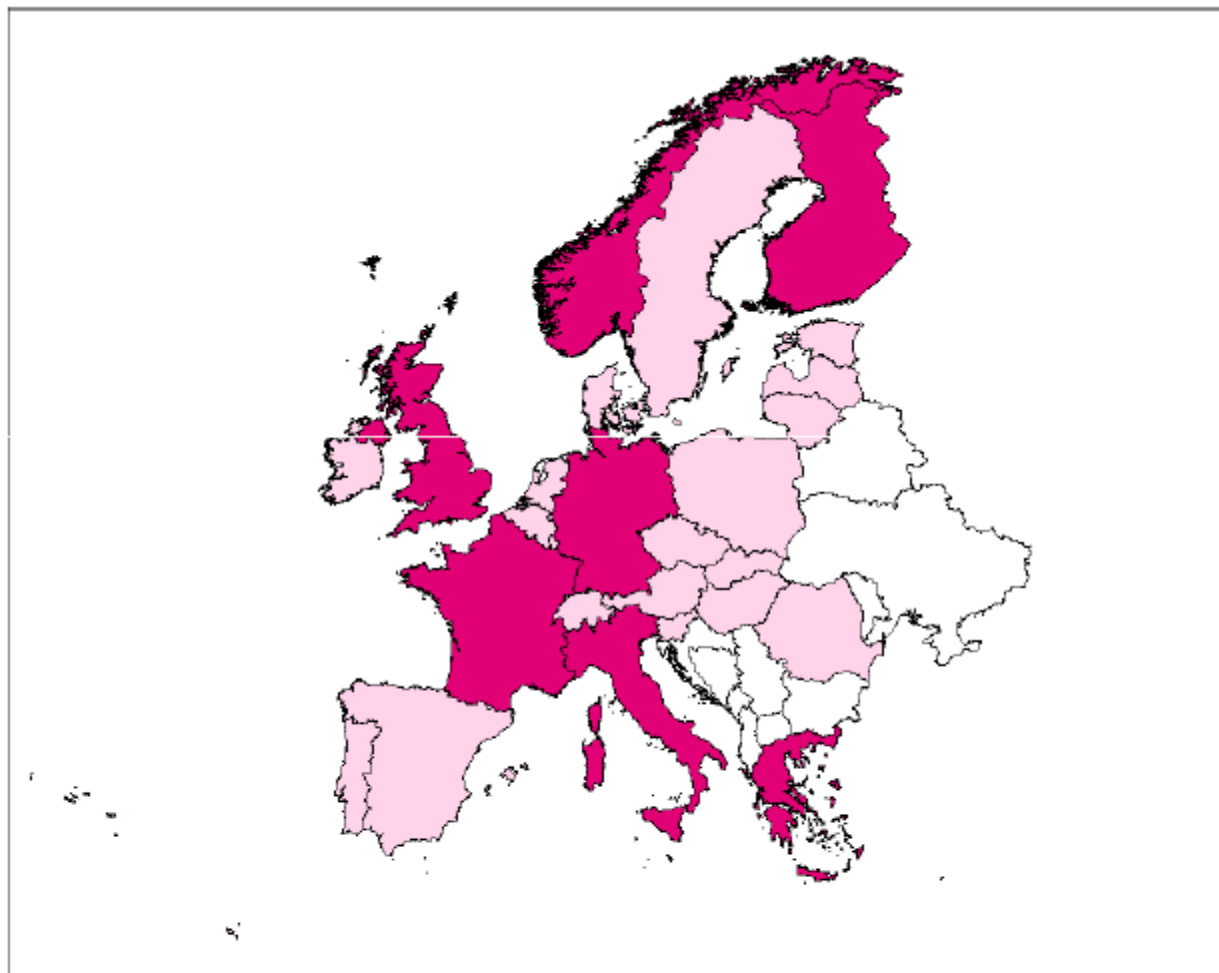




# Sources of data distributed by archives

- NSIs as main interlocutor in all countries
- Other government agencies producing official statistics : depends on the organisation of the statistical system and may vary from one country to another
- Where there are other agencies, the NSI often acts as intermediary

# Data archives and metadata dissemination



Where can metadata be found ?

- Both NSI and data archive provide metadata
- Only NSI provide metadata

# Metadata distributed by archives

- Major role of data archives in metadata production and dissemination, even when they do not themselves give access to microdata
- Role of CESSDA consortium in providing a more homogeneous, Europe-wide framework for release of metadata and (more generally) information
- Not yet a single point of access – further improvements needed

# Other roles of data archives

- Contributing to training of researchers : knowledge of main datasets, techniques of analysis, and ethical and legal standards (DE, FR, NO, UK)
- Contributing to raising awareness of official data and showing the value of government data collections (FR, IE, SI...)
- Offering guidance and support for researchers who need help in preparing applications for NSI data (DE, FI, SE)

# Remaining problems: silos

- Data available from different sources / accessible in different places are more difficult to locate, discover and use
- A major practical problem for users despite existing efforts to improve access and cooperation
- Some examples

Country	Sources of data	Years for which data are included	Data Producer
Germany	Zumabus	1976-7, 1979(2), 1980, 1982	ZUMA-GESIS : data come from collections of firms that carry out most of the academic social research in Germany
	German socio-economic panel	1986, 1999	DIW, German Institute for Economic Research
France	Formation qualification professionnelle Insee surveys	1970, 1977, 1985, 1993	INSEE
Italy	National survey on social mobility	1985	Universities of Bologna, Trento, and Trieste
	Italian Household longitudinal survey	1997	Universities of Trento, Milano, and Bologna, Istituto Trentino di Cultura, Istat
Great Britain	General household survey	1973, 1975-6, 1979-84, 1987-92	ONS
Poland	Slomczynski 1989	1988	Polish Academy of Sciences
Hungary	Social mobility and life history	1973, 1983, 1992	Hungarian Central Statistical Office



Sources: Richard Breen. 2004. Social Mobility in Europe. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

LIS is a cross-national data center, located in Luxembourg. LIS is home to the Luxembourg Income Study Database (LIS) and the Luxembourg Wealth Study (LWS) Database.

Cyprus	LWS	2001	Primary Economy Unit	Central Bank of Cyprus and University of Cyprus
Finland	LWS	1998	Household Wealth Survey	Statistics Finland
Germany	LWS	2001	German Socio Economic Panel	German Institute for Economic Research, DIW
Italy	LWS	2002	Survey of Household Income and Wealth	Bank of Italy
UK	LWS	2000	British Household Panel Survey + cross national equivalent files	Institute for Social and Economics Research
	LIS	1999	Family Resource Survey	Department for Work and Pension , ONS, National Centre for Social Research

Country	Data sources	Years	Data collection	Provider
France	DADS	1993-	Fiscal and social administration, INSEE	Reseau Quetelet (CMH, GENES)
Germany	<i>Sample of Integrated Labour Market Biographies (SIAB)</i>	1975-2008	IAB	IAB
	<i>Lohn- und Einkommensteuerstatistik – faktisch anonymisierte Daten (FAST)</i>	– 1992-2004	Fiscal administration; DESTATIS	DESTATIS
	<i>Verdienststrukturerhebung (VSE)</i>	1990-2006	DESTATIS	DESTATIS
United Kingdom	New Earnings Survey (NES)	1975-2003	ONS	Secure data service, UKDA
	Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE)	2004-		
	Annual Business Inquiry			



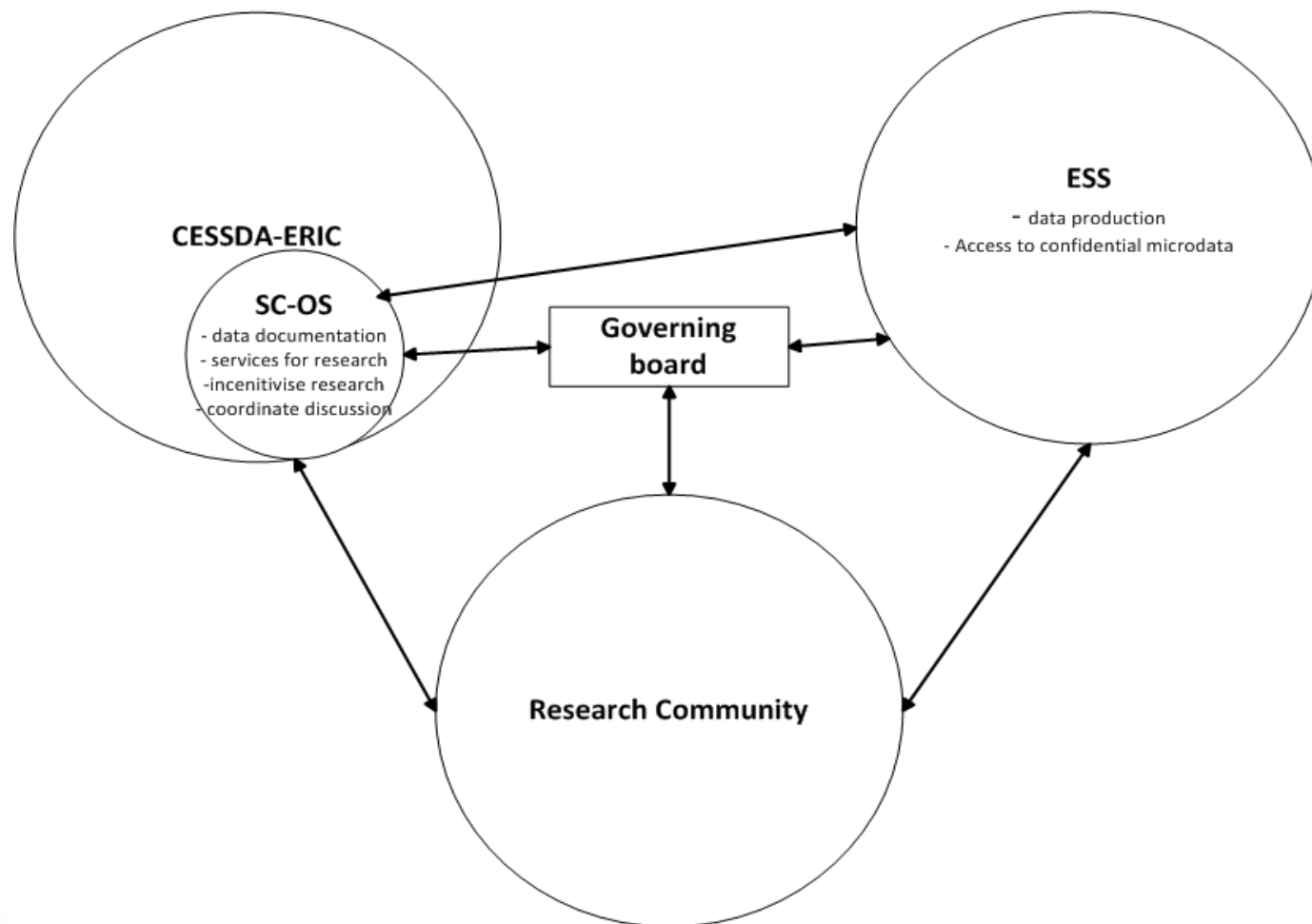
# Future perspectives: an ESC-OS?

- A European Service Centre for Official Statistics ESC-OS as a single point of access linked to the CESSDA Portal
- That could offer a range of services: metadata, training, support for accreditation...
- CIMES Centralising and Integrating Metadata from European Statistics

# The tasks of ESC-OS

- Establish a comprehensive web service for European OS-microdata and census data
- Promote use of OS-microdata by hosting training courses, organizing user conferences and by incentivizing research
- Improve and coordinate data access by organizing Data Access Forums, assisting the European Statistical System in administration of transnational access, supporting transnational accreditation and the EU-RAN

# Institutional framework



# Conclusions

- Few data archives are involved in microdata dissemination in Europe, but their number is growing and they are increasingly participating in initiatives to enhance access to highly detailed microdata
- More widespread roles of data archives in offering metadata, information and more generally support
- Existing experiences as an example to develop more researcher-friendly, and cost-effective, models for data access
- ESC-OS as a future perspective

# Thanks for your attention

[contact@dwbproject.org](mailto:contact@dwbproject.org)

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