



## Welcome to the 4th Issue of the Policy Compass Newsletter

Dear reader,

As we are running into the second half of the 2nd year of the Policy Compass project, we are publishing our fourth newsletter that provides a glimpse at the use of the Visualisation methods used in the Policy Compass portal. We hope you will enjoy reading and stay in touch through our website for further information!

### Workshop in EGOV 2015 and ePart 2015 Conference

The annual international IFIP EGOV and ePart conferences are amongst the top ranked core conferences in the domain of ICT in the public sector and the public sphere, and electronic participation. Each year, scholars from all over the globe present the most recent advancements and findings of research and innovations in e-Government, e-Governance and related fields of study.

Policy Compass will be represented in the context of the dual conference in order to disseminate the project's platform and up to date results to all participating stakeholders.

In this context, Policy Compass coorganised with other GSS cluster projects the workshop "Enabling Effective Policy Making - Coupling the Power of the Data with the Wisdom of the Crowd" that will be held between 30/8-2/9/2015. For more information, visit the conference's website <http://www.egov-conference.org/> where the final programme will be announced.

### Visualisation in Policy Compass

The increased availability of data has led to a significant evolution in new and impressive ways of visualising and analysing those data sets. There are endless ways of viewing, analysing, interacting with and understanding data. Users are becoming more and more familiar with tools allowing them to interact with data and visualisations.

Visualisations in Policy Compass provide the means to visualise any form of dataset uploaded from open data sources or modified through the use of indexes and metrics within the Policy Compass platform. These visualisations are available in the form of interactive graphs, bar charts, pie charts and maps. The platform provides all the tools needed to create and share interactive visualisations from open data available in Policy Compass and also through data mashups by mixing up different datasets in order to compare performance of different organisations. Visualisations also provide the ability to annotate graphs with the use of historical events from a pool of trusted historical events available in the Policy Compass platform.

The Policy Compass platform allows visualising datasets in the form of line charts, bar charts and pie charts. After the initial release, improvements and new functionalities are added within each subsequent release. The image below shows a visualisation created in Policy Compass with the title "Germany's Labour Market 2002-2013" which describes the convergence of employment and unemployment in Germany between 2002 and 2013. Policies that affected the labour market are presumed to be part of the Hartz reforms.

Project Coordinator: Dr. Yury Glikman  
Fraunhofer FOKUS, Germany  
[yury.glikman@fokus.fraunhofer.de](mailto:yury.glikman@fokus.fraunhofer.de)

Dissemination Responsible:  
Dr. Sotiris Koussouris, NTUA-DSSLab, Greece  
[skous@epu.ntua.gr](mailto:skous@epu.ntua.gr)

## Project Partners



## At a glance

### The Project

Policy Compass will make better use of Europe's open public data resources and empower policy-makers and citizens (especially the younger generation) to better assess government policies in the policy analysis and monitoring phases of the policy cycle.

### Project Coordinator

Fraunhofer FOKUS (Germany) Partners

- Brunel University (UK)
- ATOS S.A. (Spain)
- Liquid Democracy E.V. (Germany)
- National Technical University of Athens (Greece)
- St. Petersburg National Research University (Russian Federation)
- Cambridgeshire County Council (UK)

### Duration

Start: 1 October 2013; 36 months

### URL

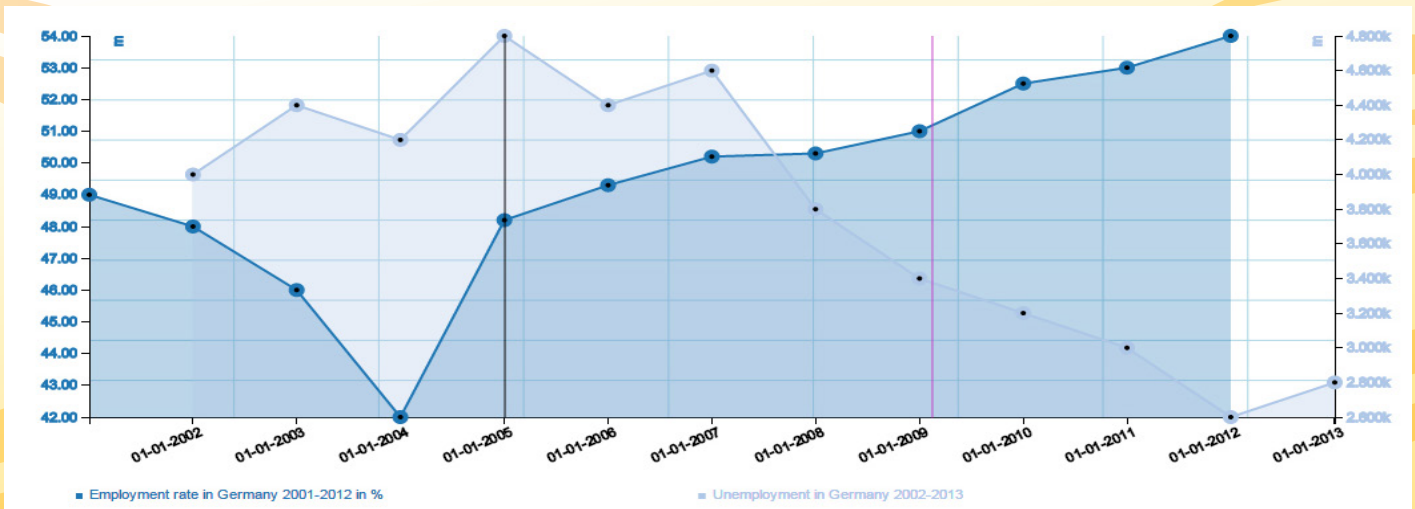
<http://www.policycompass.eu>

### Programme

FP7 – ICT – 2013 - 10

### Research areas

Policy Compass combines research and technologies from several research areas including Policy impact evaluation, Open Data exploitation, Fuzzy Cognitive Maps, Argumentation and eParticipation.

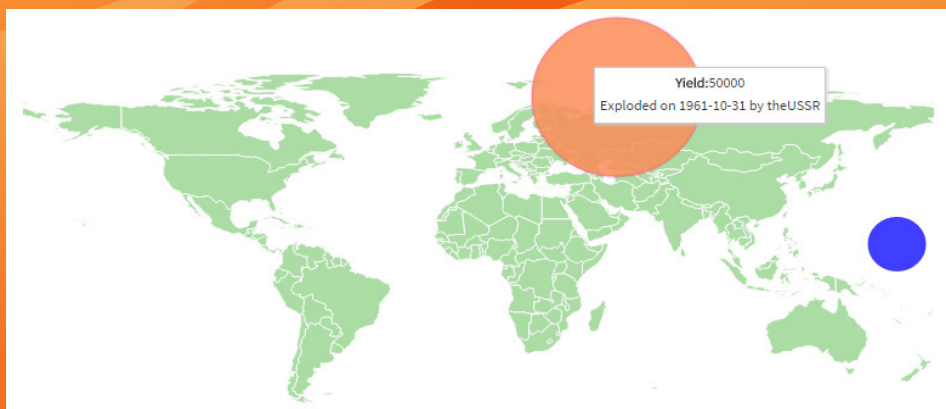


The above visualisation is annotated by three historical events which describe the effect of those events/policies on the data representing the employment and unemployment in Germany. The details below show the information of those historical events which are reflected with the corresponding colour on the above graph.

<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Date added:</b>	May 22, 2015
<b>Keywords:</b>	test
<b>Linked to Metrics:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unemployment in Germany 2002-2013</li> <li>Employment rate in Germany 2001-2012 in %</li> </ul>
<b>Linked to Historical Events:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> ALG II goes into effect in Germany</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 10px; height: 10px; background-color: purple; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Lehman Brothers filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy</li> </ul>

In the second version of the platform which is expected by June 2015, the following important functionalities will be available:

- An option will be added below the graph which will allow the visualisation of the same graph in the form of % by setting the initial point of the graph to 0. This will permit the visualisation of the increase or decrease of data over time having as the same point of initial reference.
- Recommendations will be available when annotating graphs with historical events. When initiating the wizard and before one searches for relevant historical events, they will be presented with recommendations based on the date clicked on the graph, the datasets used, etc.
- Visualise data over maps since the platform will support the storage of location data. Data will be represented on top of the corresponding locations on a world map with bubbles, maintaining the same colours as in the rest of visualisations for consistency. The size of the bubble will represent the data itself. A time slider will be available to show how data changes over time. An example is shown below.



## 4th Policy Compass Plenary Meeting

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The 4th Plenary Meeting of the Policy Compass consortium, accompanied by a technical one, will take place in the Cambridgeshire County Council premises in Cambridge, UK between the 9th and 11th of June, 2015.

Discussions around the Policy Compass platform, the project's pilots and future dissemination and exploitation activities are expected to take place.

Stay tuned for more info!

## Workshop in EGOV 2015 and ePart 2015 Conference

The annual international IFIP EGOV conference is the top-2 ranked core conference in the domain of ICT in the public sector and the public sphere. Each year, scholars from all over the globe present the most recent advancements and findings of research and innovations in e-Government, e-Governance and related fields of study.

The annual international ePart conference is the top-ranked conference in the domain of electronic participation and the 5th-ranked overall conference dedicated to information technologies in the context of public administration and the public sphere.

Policy Compass seeks to be represented in the context of the dual conference in order to disseminate the project's platform and up to date results to all participating stakeholders.

## Participation in EMCIS 2015

European, Mediterranean and Middle Eastern Conference on Information Systems (EMCIS) is an annual research event addressing the IS discipline with regional as well as global perspective. EMCIS has successfully helped bringing together researchers from around the world in a friendly atmosphere conducted to free exchange of innovative ideas.

In the context of EMCIS 2015 (held in Athens, Greece between 1-2 June), Brunel University will organise a special session relevant to Policy Compass, aiming to gather useful feedback from wider audiences. A relevant paper will be presented, accompanied by a tutoring and a feedback collection session. All stakeholders are welcome to participate and provide us their thoughts and ideas on Policy Compass.

In addition, NTUA will be presenting in the main conference sessions a Policy Compass oriented paper, titled "Policy Impact Evaluation through Prosperity Metrics and Open Data Sources".

## Participation in the 4th International Symposium and 26th National Conference on Operational Research

The purpose of the 4th International Symposium and 26th National Conference on Operational Research (held in Chania, Greece between 4-5 June), is to disseminate recent scientific advances in operational research and management science (OR/MS) and to promote international co-operation among researchers and practitioners working on OR/MS.

In the context of the conference, NTUA will be presenting Policy Compass and discussing findings and advancements with all participating stakeholders!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Details
<b>EMCIS 2015</b>	When: 1-2 June 2015 Where: Athens, Greece Website: <a href="http://emcis.eu/">http://emcis.eu/</a>
<b>Helors 2015</b>	When: 4-5 June 2015 Where: Chania, Greece Website: <a href="http://www.helors2015.tuc.gr">http://www.helors2015.tuc.gr</a>
<b>EGOV 2015 &amp; ePart 2015</b>	When: 30 August - 3 September 2015 Where: Thessaloniki, Greece Website: <a href="http://www.egov-conf.ifmo.ru">http://www.egov-conf.ifmo.ru</a>
<b>EGOSE 2015</b>	When: 10-15 November 2015 Where: St. Petersburg, Russian Federation Website: <a href="http://egov-conf.ifmo.ru/">http://egov-conf.ifmo.ru/</a>



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