Exploring access control in INSPIRE and eGovernment

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the European Commission's in-house science service
Don’t you hate it when this happens?
Topics of today

1. Our research: objectives & approach
2. Motivations for restricting access
3. The role of eGovernment
Our research

29,876 INSPIRE metadata resources

Automatic screening of INSPIRE Geoportal content

Analysis of the harvested data & desk research:
- Access restriction
- Resource type
- Country
- Service type
- Motivation for restriction (fees, capacity, etc.)

Interviews to validate & elaborate findings
- Why is access restricted?
- How is access restricted?
- Are there alternatives to access restriction?
- What role can eGoverment solutions play?
About 1% of INSPIRE services are restricted

HTTP 200 93% Successful
HTTP 401 0.94% Restricted
Other 6.04%
... so why do we care?

The 1% can teach us a lot about

- **Issues of data-sharing** in INSPIRE
- The **evolution** of access restriction (increasing/decreasing?)
- **Opportunities** for eGovernment solutions (e.g. eIDAS)
- **User needs**: developers, businesses, public sector users, etc.
- **Improvements** to our services & SDIs in general
Statistical analysis showed no patterns

No clear correlation between access restriction and

- Resource type
- Content type
- Service category

Most restrictive countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Several **motivations** for access restriction

- Business models
- Performance
- Legal, policy and ownership
- Know your customer
Providing open data ≠ providing open services

Needed capacity & investment is impacted by

- Demand
- Maturity of the market
- Resource type: download vs. service
- Agreed service levels

- Clear reason for restricting access to services
- Restriction of services could increase as demand increases
- Restriction of data decreases
Authentication is not the issue, **authorisation** is

- **Authentication**: “I am Max”
- **Authorisation**: “Max is allowed to access service XYZ”
- Access restriction is **not** primarily a **technical** issue

SDIs are open to implementing an (EU) eGovernment solution, if they

- Identify **not only people**: roles, organisations & systems
- Are **standardised**: minimize impact on users
- Are **interoperable**: optimize data exchange
Remember? Remember!
Remember? **Remember!**

- Only <1% is restricted
- **Motivations:**
  - business – performance – policy – know your customer

- Data ≠ services
- Authentication ≠ Authorisation

- eGovernment solutions can play a role
- **Challenges:**
  - authenticate roles, standardisation and interoperability
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