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To cite this publication, please use the final published version (if applicable).
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THIRD WAVE OPEN DATA: IDENTIFYING AND OVERCOMING THE BARRIERS TOWARDS OPEN DATA OF PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

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ABSTRACT

The creation of open data has seen a series of waves in which every growing resources of data are becoming accessible to a growing number of users from a diversifying number of public entities. The European Commission anticipates this movement by setting a new scope to the re-use of Public Sector Information Directive. Instead of exclusively focussing on Public Sector Information (PSI), the new scope of its successor, the Open Data Directive (ODD), includes data from public undertakings as well. In order for public undertakings to comply with this future legislation, research into the current openness of public undertakings and the barriers to open data is key. This research presents three different levels of openness of data: (1) data is only open for the own organisation, (2) data is open for the internal organisation and trusted parties can use the data, and (3) open data for all. In this case three Dutch public undertakings and several Croatian public undertakings were studied. The data of the public undertakings researched were at different levels of openness and none of the public undertakings are at this moment ready to comply with the future rules when the ODD requirements become mandatory. Barriers that are associated with achieving a higher level of open data are related to institutional, financial, legal, and quality and technical aspects. Overcoming these barriers requires, among other things, highly motivated staff to provide open data.

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