UNICA. Building a UNified theory for the development and resilience of Institutions for Collective Action for Europe in the past millennium

A Data Management Plan created using dmponline

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Project abstract:

The new bottom-up and self-governing institutions for the provisioning of energy, food, care and many other goods and services that are currently increasingly being set up by citizens have many similarities in institutional design with guilds, commons, cooperatives and other institutions that have been developed in Europe’s history. UNICA aims at building a unified theory that explains the factors behind the development and spread of institutions for collective action (ICAs) across Europe over the past millennium, and that identifies which elements have contributed to the claim they would be more resilient than top-down, share-holder types of organisations. This will be done by 1. creating a spatio-temporal taxonomy of archetypes of ICAs for the past millennium (SubProject1-for 6 EU-countries), 2. the analysis of the scaling strategies of various ICAs over time (SP2-for 4 ICA-archetypes) and 3. a study of the relationship between size and heterogeneity of both members and resources (SP3&4: for fishing collectivities and mutuals) and their impact on the institutional design of the ICA. Hereby a novel conceptual framework for the historical study of various types of institutions for collective action (ICAs) will be

applied in order to capture the dynamic interaction between membership, institutional features and resources of ICAs. The project will allow us to connect micro-changes to macro-results, and to reflect on the potential outcomes of the current new “wave” of institutions for collective action. These results will be transferred to MODUSCOOPERANDI, a self-governing platform for self-governing ICAs today (SP6), which will be developed on the basis of the principles of Extreme Citizen Science, in cooperation with and co-funded by several external parties. Other means of communication and valorisation will be an interactive redesign of www.collective-action.info, two conferences, further elaboration of the ICA-team’s network among academics, and by strengthening the ties with non-academic partners (SP6).

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Copyright information:

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General Information

Name applicant and project number

Tine De Moor
VI.C. 191.052

Name of data management support staff consulted during the preparation of this plan and date of consultation.

Jeroen Rombouts, TBA

1. What data will be collected or produced, and what existing data will be re-used?

1.1 Will you re-use existing data for this research?

If yes: explain which existing data you will re-use and under which terms of use.

- Yes

Data collected for other research projects led by the PI, see collective-action.info -> datasets. The current project will add to and re-analyse these previously collected data. These data are already anonymized and made publicly available via DataverseNL.

1.2 If new data will be produced: describe the data you expect your research will generate and the format and volumes to be collected or produced.

Sub-project 1 is primarily based on literature study.
Sub-project 2 produces country-level databases for NL and BE in order to describe the quantitative development of ICAs over time. This includes the collection of internal

regulation data of ICAs. Moreover, a per country overview will be made of the possible threats to ICAs (economic crises, warfare, climate changes, political decisions/legislation aimed at weakening or dissolution of ICAs) for the whole period of ICA-development to understand the speed of ICA-developments and possible interuptions thereof.

Sub-projects 3 & 4 involve case studies on the internal functioning of fishing collectivities and mutuals. Data is collected on how services and goods offered to the collectivity of members evolved over time (stock and flow of the resources), how the diversity in functions was adjusted to the needs of the members over time (changes in utility), and to what extent rules were adjusted to balance changes in the members' needs.

The data that is produced is of various nature: numeric (databases, spreadsheets, statistical data as .csv, .xls and .dat respectively), textual (archival documents as .pdf), image (photos as .jpeg), and audio (interview recordings as .mp3).

1.3. How much data storage will your project require in total?

- 0 – 10 GB

2. What metadata and documentation will accompany the data?

2.1 Indicate what documentation will accompany the data.

Stored data will be accompanied by documentation in the form of a READ ME text file listing the following:

- Title of the project
- Creator: names and contact information of data collectors
- Identifier: project number
- Funder
- Rights: Intellectual property or licensing rights for the data
- Access Information
- Language(s)
- Dates (of collection, deposit, distribution, and publication)
- Geographic coverage
- Project description
- Methodology: how data was generated
- Data Structure: including the file structure and relationships between files
- Programmes used to read and process data
- Data Citation: Preferred format for citing data

2.2 Indicate which metadata will be provided to help others identify and discover the data.

Each data package is archived with a set of metadata (the READ ME text file) in DataverseNL. These data packages will be registered with a persistent identifier (DOI).

Any publication resulting from the project will be listed on collective-action.info, and will include the following metadata:

- Reference, including author list and date.
- DOI-link where the Open Access manuscript can be downloaded

The Open Access manuscript will provide metadata on:

- Division of roles among authors; indicating who analysed the data
- Date on which the manuscript was accepted

3. How will data and metadata be stored and backed up during the research?

3.1 Describe where the data and metadata will be stored and backed up during the project.

- Institution networked research storage

Data will be stored using the SURFdrive service provided by Erasmus University Rotterdam, which provides an automatic backup service.

3.2 How will data security and protection of sensitive data be taken care of during the research?

- Default security measures of the institution networked research storage

The research makes an effort to minimize the collection of data that can identify individuals. In addition, much of the data is of an historical nature. However, it may be possible to indirectly identify contemporary individuals based on some of the data in the research. For this reason, data is stored securely using the SURFdrive service.

4. How will you handle issues regarding the processing of personal information and intellectual property rights and ownership?

4.1 Will you process and/or store personal data during your project?

If yes, how will compliance with legislation and (institutional) regulation on personal data be ensured?

- No

The current project will only process historical data, based on archival documents. In case interviews would be conducted, these data will be anonymized.

4.2 How will ownership of the data and intellectual property rights to the data be managed?

Data collected in this research is sourced from historical archives, some of which may be copyrighted works. The use of data and sources will therefore be properly cited. The responsibility for data capture, metadata production, data quality, and storage and backup will be with the principal investigator, Tine De Moor.
No copyright currently exists, nor will exist, over new data collected by this research, therefore, there is no restriction on the sharing of data. New data collected by the research will be licensed under Creative Commons to ensure the data is accessible and open for researchers in the future.

5. How and when will data be shared and preserved for the long term?

5.1 How will data be selected for long-term preservation?

- All data resulting from the project will be preserved for at least 10 years

The anonymized data will be archived and made available for reuse via DataverseNL. This does not include interview recordings, which are destroyed after transcription.

5.2 Are there any (legal, IP, privacy related, security related) reasons to restrict access to the data once made publicly available, to limit which data will be made publicly available, or to not make part of the data publicly available?

If yes, please explain.

- No

5.3 What data will be made available for re-use?

- All data resulting from the project will be made available

5.4 When will the data be available for re-use, and for how long will the data be available?

- Data available as soon as article is published

5.5 In which repository will the data be archived and made available for re-use, and under which license?

The anonymized data will be archived and made available for reuse via DataverseNL. New data collected by the research will be licensed under Creative Commons to ensure the data is accessible and open for researchers in the future.

5.6 Describe your strategy for publishing the analysis software that will be generated in this project.

Researchers will be able to access, interpret and use the data without recourse to any specific software.

6. Data management costs

6.1 What resources (for example financial and time) will be dedicated to data management and ensuring that data will be FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Re-usable)?

None. The EUR SURFdrive is a service provided by the University and hence is not financed by the project.