



Europeana Cloud – Work Package 1 Additional Document

Research Themes for Aggregating Digital Content: Parliamentary Papers in Europe

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1. Research Themes for Aggregating Digital Content

Various studies on user requirements and information practices imply that the vast and differentiated field of the social sciences and the humanities is far from being uniform regarding researchers' practices and needs. Although some similarities might be present, different research methods, diverse resources and varied research goals entail different research behaviour and needs. In order to grasp this variation, it was considered suitable to focus on particular research fields which have been chosen on the basis of the research interests of the Work Package 1 members as well as of external colleagues. Such an approach would permit to document some specific research "paths" step-by-step and thus identify particular research practices and needs and provide User Requirements as well as tools use and Content Strategy recommendations.

The topics that have been elaborated are: Parliamentary Papers, Population Displacement, Political Propaganda, Children's Literature, School History, and The Ancient Mediterranean. In this document, the "Parliamentary Papers in Europe" are presented as a separate research area focusing on the availability and the use by researchers of the digitized Parliamentary Papers of the European Union member states.

2. Parliamentary Papers in Europe

What is your research topic?

The emphasis of this research topic is on the state of digitized Parliamentary Papers of European Union member states. The primary focus lies on their availability, but also investigation into how the data is used by professional research has been undertaken. In a final step the research potential of digitized Parliamentary Papers is examined as well.

Can you give a brief description of the topic, including the chronological and geographic span?

Parliamentary Papers are a rich and diverse source that is utilized by different disciplines in the Arts and Humanities - not only as a source for straightforward political history. The main emphasis lies on transcriptions of parliamentary debates in the main debating chambers. However, this is but one subcategory of a very diverse field. Parliamentary Papers can also include session papers, committee reports, petitions, etc.

Geographically speaking we concentrate on the European Union member states and their main debating chambers (national assemblies or upper and lower houses, depending on the administrative structure). This means, however, that regional parliaments, which are existing in numerous states, are not taken into account. The reason for this is that due to the diverse

parliamentary architecture within Europe a wealth of local knowledge is needed to yield high-quality results.

Many of the European parliaments commenced during the nineteenth century to produce Parliamentary Papers in a more structured manner as many of them introduced constitutions. Thus, the oldest digitized sources date from this era. But European nation states have very diverse histories. Thus, the time frame for each individual country rests of course on its administrative history.

It is worth adding that the focus of this work has been on the historic material. Many European have a great deal of material published from the last ten or fifteen years so. The arrival of the Internet has made the publication of all kinds of parliamentary outputs feasible. For instance, the Estonian Parliament has, amongst other collections, the *Riigi Teataja: State Gazette : legal acts in Estonian and English*, *Minutes of the sessions of the Maanõukogu* and *Asutaw Kogu, Minutes of the sessions of the Riigikogu* and *Videos of the Parliamentary Sessions*. However, this piece of work has not explored the availability of this contemporary material

Can you list a few possible research questions emerging from this topic?

{See below}

What are the academic disciplines corresponding to this topic?

These two questions are answered together, by stating possible research questions and their corresponding scientific field. It needs to be noted that these are only examples from a large range of possible questions.

History: By applying a comparative angle it could be asked how the development of parliaments differed within Europe. How differed the debating cultures within Europe? How were historical moments (e.g. crises, wars, etc) debated in parliaments?

Sociology: Who were the actors in European parliaments? Do they have similar social backgrounds in European parliaments? This topic has been tackled in a more traditional manner. One example is the study, published by the Austrian Academy of Sciences on the Austrian parliament's members between 1848 and 1918. Having digitized data ready would lift these studies to a new level by offering the possibility of comparative research.

Economics/Economic History: How were taxes, duties and other economic measures discussed? Was there an increased attention to economic arguments within debates? Which aspects received special attention? Which parties backed which budget cuts or increased spendings?

Political Science: How did certain groups (e.g. the extreme left or right) act in Parliament? What were the topics they were covering in their speeches?

Linguistics: How did the language employed in public debates change? What kind of vocabulary was employed in order to bolster an argument.

History, Political Science, Sociology are three of the most obvious fields of research, but the resources are conceivably of interest to anyone in the social sciences and large chunks of the humanities. For example, anyone studying literary, musical or artistic history may well find attitudes towards the fine arts and particular artists, cited in the Parliamentary Papers.

For work that is already being done in the realm of Digital Humanities - which is of course influencing possible research questions - some indication is given in question 9.

Can you identify any Europeana datasets which could support research on the topic?

Europeana has a mass of data related to parliamentary processes around Europe. However, initial exploration indicates much of the data is not the Parliamentary Papers themselves, but related documentation. There are two key reasons for the limited usability of Europeana for this topic. Firstly, Europeana presents many documents from the same series as single, independent documents. This means in turn that a large number of hits are returned when searching a specific term relating to Parliamentary Papers. Secondly, as full-text search is unfortunately not available for documents in Europeana, queries need to be based on keywords likely to be found in title or abstract of a document. However, such keywords might return a large number of hits as they also appear in documents not related to Parliamentary Papers. For example a search for Hansard - a term used for transcripts of parliamentary debates - returns 28,010 hits. This number is quite simply overwhelming and an in depth analysis would be very time consuming. Thus, due to the language barriers and the diverse labels used for this material, it is rather cumbersome to uncover these sources in Europeana.

The following links represent examples of Parliamentary Papers within Europeana.

- British hansards in Europeana:
<http://www.europeana.eu/portal/search.html?query=title%3Ahansard&rows=24&qf=PROVIDER%3A%22The+European+Library%22&qt=false>
- Documents relating to the German Democratic Republic in Europeana:
<http://www.europeana.eu/portal/search.html?start=457&rows=24&query=sed&qt=false&qf=PROVIDER%3A%22Archives+Portal+Europe%22>
- Documents relating to the transitional time in Estonia

<http://www.europeana.eu/portal/search.html?query=stenogrammid&rows=96>

Can you identify any other datasets available on the topic?

{See below}

Do you have any indication of who is responsible for these datasets? How are they licensed? Would it be easy to aggregate this content into Europeana?

We have tried to identify the state of digitized Parliamentary Papers for every European Union member state. The results can be found by following this link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LLj-pPmo2WG1YWqA18U5hSAv9TpnZX4_wRa5bcPgvFo/edit?usp=sharing

A fruitful approach is to differentiate between historic and recent Parliamentary Papers, the latter describing digitized material of the last twenty or so years. Our research shows that almost all countries offer access to recent material. Only Cyprus has not any digitized material available¹. Other national parliaments offer recent material only. This is the case for Luxembourg, Romania and Malta. Their digital holdings start in 2002, 1996 and 1991, respectively.

Although perhaps surprising at first glance a fair number of states offer historic, digitized material on their parliamentary proceedings to the public. For ten countries the digital collection even starts in the nineteenth century, while some states (Ireland, Estonia) that gained their independence in the early twentieth century start their holdings in that period. Additionally, we have identified a digitized set of material on Yugoslavia. This shows that the focus is not solely on recent material but that a lot of effort is being undertaken to make historic Parliamentary Papers available to the public.

How is this data made available?

A key question for researchers in the realm of Digital Humanities is if material is available in full-text. If material is solely available as scans, its availability does of course help researchers but the source itself is approached in a traditional way. Independence from travelling or opening hours is gained, but the sources still need to be read page by page. If full-text is available, however, larger and different analyses can be made.

Not all countries have their Parliamentary Papers available in full-text. Of the researched countries Austria, Greece, Lithuania as well as older material from Belgium and Germany is only offered as scans. But this case is almost the exception because most of the other countries offer their material

¹ Unfortunately we were not able to confirm if Bulgaria and Croatia have digitized Parliamentary Papers available online.

as full-text. PDF is by far the prevalent download option. This format is used by any of the researched countries that allow for downloading (which is not the case for Ireland and Lithuania). A handful of states also offer other formats - html, epub or txt files (France, Italy, Slovenia, Sweden). An notable exception are the Netherlands, since the whole data set is offered for download.

Diversity is also found in the way the material is approachable. Most parliaments link to their respective websites and a search and browse portal makes the data retrievable. But there are also examples found of countries offering elaborate portals that allow searching their historic material. Notably are the Joint Czech and Slovak Parliamentary Library² or Debates Parlamentares³ from Portugal.

What does the diversity in availability of digitized Parliamentary Papers mean?

Our findings show that for most European member states at least scans are available. But this is only of limited use, both to the general public but particularly for researchers.

Most countries offer download as pdf, however not always as full-text pdf. This means that users and researchers alike can use the material but cannot search within the files. In short great variety is found both in term of availability and usability. This is where a centralized thematic portal could greatly support research in this area.

Licensing and Re-Use of the Data

In nearly all cases, there is little clear information about the license for re-use of the parliamentary material. Most resources do not explicitly refer to it. The website may have general copyright statement, but that applies to the website as a whole and one can assume that there has been no thinking applied to the copyright status of the historic material, much of which is likely to be out of copyright. One notable exception are the Netherlands who offer a digital dataset containing all material older than 1995 as a dataset licensed CC0 / PDM⁴. On the other side, the UK's parliamentary debates are licensed to a commercial publisher, ProQuest, who claims copyright over their House of Commons Parliamentary Papers site.

It is also worth to highlight the magnificent efforts of the Italian government in opening up its data. Its contemporary data sets for its Senate and Chamber of Deputies include downloadable datasets and SPARQL endpoints, all on data licensed as CC-BY.

² The Joint Czech and Slovak Parliamentary Library, <http://www.nrsr.sk/dl/?lang=en>

³ Debates Parlamentares, <http://debates.parlamento.pt/?pid=mc>

⁴ <https://www.kb.nl/bronnen-zoekwijzers/dataservices-en-apis/staten-generaal-digitaal>

Elsewhere, the lack of consideration for licensing also relates to the inability to access this data any other way but through the search and browse portals developed. For example, there is no way, on any of the sites surveyed, for a bulk download of metadata or full text, or any kind of API to permit programmatic access. Given the nature of the institutions (with plenty of other day to day concerns, and dealing with many other stakeholders before digital humanities developers and researchers) this is not surprising. However, until it is addressed a significant method for the better comprehension and analysis of Europe's shared political history is curtailed.

In conclusion we can say that a lot of effort has been made to digitize material, also historical papers, and offer them to the public. However these initiatives are very de-centralized. Europeana, or indeed other continent-wide actors, could fill the gap by offering centralized access to the data.

What other sources (digital or non) would you consult?

The scope of the work on this topic has a focus on parliamentary debates at a national level. It excludes an extraordinary amount of other documentation created by national parliaments (e.g. session papers, committee reports, petitions, details of politicians' lives) etc. It also has excluded regional parliaments - federal nations or those with some elements of decentralisation will have parliamentary documentation outside the capital.

Which other researchers' work would you monitor for this particular topic? In what ways?

There are several research projects working with these sources that can help display the potential of this topic.

Maybe the most elaborate is Digging into Linked Parliamentary Data (DiLiPaD)⁵. The project focuses on three countries: the United Kingdom (UK Hansard), Canada (Canadian Hansard) and The Netherlands (parliamentary proceedings of The Netherlands) and explicitly fosters comparative research. The project's research blog offers interesting insights in possible challenges but also opportunities of working with the mentioned data sets. The project also generated scientific articles (e.g. Richard Gartner, A metadata infrastructure for the analysis of parliamentary proceedings⁶) that might help guiding future initiatives.

⁵ Digging into Linked Parliamentary Data, <http://dilipad.history.ac.uk/>.

⁶ Gartner, "A metadata infrastructure for the analysis of parliamentary proceedings," in Big Data (Big Data), 2014 IEEE International Conference, pp.47-50, 27-30 Oct. 2014.

DiLiPaD itself is based on an earlier project called LIPARM project that ended in 2013⁷. There a controlled vocabulary and XML schema (the so called Parliamentary Metadata Language - PML) was developed which is now used in the project mentioned above.

Another scientific work based on the digitized parliamentary proceedings is Hinke Piersma, Ismee Tames, Lars Buitinck, Johan van Doornik and Maarten Marx, *War in Parliament: What a Digital Approach Can Add to the Study of Parliamentary History* published in 2014⁸. The 'War in Parliament'⁹ project, developed a search engine, which in turn was used to test if certain terms were associated with a right-wing party in the Dutch parliament. The paper shows two important elements: It investigates how the availability of full-text can take research further, by focussing on interdisciplinary approaches. But it also shows that digital scholarship is still text-based.

That Parliamentary Papers are of great interest both for the general public but also for researchers working on very specific topics is shown by the SPHERE project, which aimed to make the Stormont Parliamentary Hansards available online. The SPHERE team undertook the challenge to examine different measurements for the impact of their resource and their findings are quite interesting. The team concludes that "The resource is widely used for public engagement, is well known internationally, and usage is generally high." However, they also found that "an integrated corpus of Irish Parliamentary Papers would have far greater value than Hansard alone." The latter point is bolstered by interviews taken with researchers in that field. This highlights the potential of a resource or portal that brings together various types of Parliamentary Papers from a wide array of countries.

An highly interesting project both from its field of research but also from its administrative structure is the German project "Postdemokratie und Neoliberalismus." The project follows an explicit interdisciplinary approach in which researchers from the humanities, in this case Political Science, collaborate with researchers in the field of Linguistics. The goal is to investigate lines of argumentation within German debates. Although the project is mainly based on newspaper articles its methodology could also be applied to Parliamentary Papers.

Although there are only a few examples, these projects and their outcomes can give us few clues about the potential about this topic.

⁷ Linking Parliamentary Records through Metadata, http://www.liparm.ac.uk/?page_id=61.

⁸ Piersma, Tames, Buitnick, Doornik, Marx, "War in Parliament: What a Digital Approach Can Add to the Study of Parliamentary History", in *Digital Humanities Quarterly*, Vol. 8, 2014.

⁹ WIP: War In Parliament, <http://www.clarin.nl/node/410>.

Firstly, digitizing Parliamentary Papers is only the first step. There are numerous initiatives by nearly every European Union member state works in this direction. But as Piersma et al. wrote: “Unfortunately, digitized sources are generally used in much the same way as the originals. The advantage of digitization is then limited to easy access (no more trips to the university library) and to finding what you are looking for (a particular debate or speaker) more quickly.” Therefore real innovation comes from taking it a step further. Having enriched full-text available for a growing number of states would enable researchers to pose new, transnational questions, that have the potential of yielding new results. Having such a resource available would as give strong incentive to collaborative, interdisciplinary research.

Which digital tools/services would you consider to be most useful when processing such data?

The projects cited in the section above give some sense of how the Digital Humanities might take the analysis of Parliamentary Papers beyond the search and browse portals offered by the existing parliaments.

Much of the focus of these projects (as with other Digital Humanities projects working with full text) is on refining the metadata and understanding the richness of the full text to allow for more fine-grained analysis. In the case of Digging into Linked Parliamentary Data , the richness comes from searching across multiple datasets.

In theory, the richness of the full text material could allow its reuse in myriad ways. Tools for linguistic or semantic annotation, topic modelling, analysis, visualisation etc could all be applied. However, this is entirely dependent on the full text not only being licensed for such use, but for it being available in the first place. Of those parliaments that had digitized historical Parliamentary Papers, many had produced the resultant images only as jpegs or pdf without automated transcription into full text. This fully restricts its potential for further research.

Are there any infrastructures (national and/or European) relating to this research area?

The European Information and Research Network on Parliamentary History (short name EUPARL.NET¹⁰) is the obvious candidate. This is a combined group that brings together many national interests. Initial contact was made with some members though this could be extended to pursue formal collaboration.

¹⁰ <http://euparl.net/9353213/v/>.

Country	Title	URL	Features	Time Span
Austria	ALEX Historische Rechts- und Gesetzestexte Online	alex.onb.ac.at	Minutes and passed laws from about 1848 until now. Including minutes from regional parliaments (so called crown lands, later Bundesländer) both from today's Austria as well as the successor states of Austria-Hungary. All material is scanned but not OCRRed (only titles of laws are OCRRed).	About 1848/1860 until now
Belgium	Chambre des représentants de Belgique	http://www.dekamer.be/kvvcr/showpage.cfm?section=riwb&language=fr&ctm=ListDocument.cfm	Documents parlementaires of the Belgian Chambre starting from 1831. Available as pdf, most but not all are OCRRed.	1831 until now
Belgium	Senate	http://www.senate.be/www/?Mlval=/index_sefate&MMENTUID=24400&LANG=fr	Session reports starting from 1848 up until now. Historical records are available as pdfs but unfortunately not yet OCRRed. Full-text available starting from 1995.	1848 until now
Bulgaria				
Croatia				
Cyprus				
Czech Republic	The Joint Czech and Slovak Digital Parliamentary Library	http://www.nrsr.sk/dl/?lang=en	OCRRed bills, resolutions, stenographic reports and other, related documents starting from 1848 to the present.	1848 until now
Denmark	Folketinget	http://www.ft.dk/Dokumenter/Webartiv.aspx	Html pages from 1980s onwards.	1980s until now
Estonia	Riigikogu (Parliament)	riigiteataja.ee	Riigi Teataja (State Gazette) features legal acts in Estonian and English.	from 1997
Estonia	Maanõukogu/Asutaw Kogu/Riigikogu	http://www.digar.ee/arhiiv/ev/raamatud?id=38	Minutes of the sessions of the Maanõukogu and Asutaw Kogu as well as Stenographic Records of the Riigikogu.	1917-1919/1919-1920/2003-2011 respectively
Estonia	Riigikogu	digar.ee	Minutes of the sessions of the Riigikogu and Minutes of the sessions of the Estonian Supreme Soviet.	1921-1940/ 1990-1992 respectively
Estonia	Eesti Ülemnõukogu	http://www.riigikogu.ee/tutvustus-ja-ajalugu/riigikogu-ajalugu/ensiv-ulemnoukogu-estenoqrammid/	Stenographic Records of the Estonian Supreme Soviet.	1990-1992
Estonia	Riigikogu	http://stenoqrammid.riigikogu.ee/let http://www.riigikogu.ee/riigikogu/komisjonid/ http://www.riigikogu.ee/tegevus/eeinoud/	Stenographic Records of the Riigikogu; Minutes of the sessions of the Riigikogu; Legal Bills of the Riigikogu	from 1992/2007
Finland	Eduskunta	https://www.eduskunta.fi/FI/search/Sivutvaskitulos.aspx	Some documents from 1907 onwards, which is when the parliament reform established a unicameral parliament and introduced universal suffrage. But there seems to be only little documentation from early years.	1907 onwards

Country	Title	URL	Features	Time Span
France	l'Assemblée nationale	http://www2.assemblee-nationale.fr/recherche/simple	Large amount of documentation from French National Assembly. Questions écrites (written questions), Amendments, compte rendus and rapports (reports); includes links to library and archive.	start date depends on document type
France	Le Sénat	http://www.senat.fr/somtravaux.html	Similarly to the Assemblée Nationale, the Sénat offers a wide array of documents starting at different periods. Verbatim reports, for example, start in 1914, while law texts start from 1958.	Depending on document type oldest 1914 until now
Germany	Reichstag	http://www.reichstagsprotokolle.de/en_index.html	Session Reports of the German Reichstag and its predecessors (North German Confederation 1867-1895; Reichstag of the German Empire 1895-1918; Reichstag of the Weimar Republic and during National Socialism 1918-1942).	1867-1942
Germany	Bundestag	http://podok.bundestag.de/	Session reports and documents from 1949 up to now.	1949 until now
Greece	Hellenic Parliament	http://www.hellenicparliament.gr/en/Vouli-ton-Ellinon/-Bibliothiki/Koinovoulieftiki-Sylogi/Praktika-Synechaseon/	Parliament proceedings	1843-1935 National Assembly; 1864-1861 Senate; from 1990 up till now
Hungary	Országgyűlési Dokumentumok	http://mpgy.ogyk.hu/	Stenographic protocols and other material: Digitized materials are available as full texts and also downloadable as pdf.	1861 until now
Ireland	Dail Éireann (lower house)	http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debate/S%20aifforing/daaisinnipeis.nsf/%28topicsdail%29?openview&count=-1	Official reports of debates starting from 1919.	1919 until now
Ireland	Seanad Éireann (upper house)	http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debate/S%20aifforing/debateswebpack.nsf/yearlist?readform&chamber=seanad	Official reports of debates starting from 1922.	1922 until now
Ireland	Oireachtas (Parliament)	http://www.oireachtas.ie/parliament/oireachtasbusiness/billslegislation/	Acts and bills, committee reports, parliamentary inquiries, parliamentary questions, budget and related documentation.	1922/1997 until now
Italy	http://storia.camera.it/	http://storia.camera.it/	Parliamentary work, discussions, deputies.	1848 until now
Latvia	Latvijas Republikas	http://titania.saeima.lv/LIVS12/saeimalivs_lm.p.nsf/webAll?OpenView&Count=30 - also http://periodika.lv/#periodicalitems:periodicalid=120443059500088665005414615187708183054 (1920-1933)	site is only available in Latvian, therefore it is not really clear which materials are covered and which time frame is available.	1920-1933
Lithuania	Steigiamojo Seimo darbai	http://www.epaveldas.lt/object/recordDescription/LNB/C1CTB0000092954	The Constituent Assembly papers.	1920-1922
Lithuania	Seimo stenogramos	http://www.epaveldas.lt/object/recordDescription/LNB/C1TB00000939338	Stenographic transcripts of parliamentary proceedings.	1922-1927; 1936-1936
Lithuania	Vyriausybės žinios	http://www.epaveldas.lt/object/recordDescription/LNB/C1T0000743886	The Government Official Gazette.	1918-1940

Country	Title	URL	Features	Time Span
Lithuania	The Register of Legal Acts (TAR)	https://www.e-tar.lt	The Register of Legal Acts (TAR) contains legal acts adopted from 11 March 1990 onward. legal acts adopted from 15 June 1940 onward which were in effect on 11 March 1990 and which have not been amended by others legal acts or declared as invalid, legal acts which were in effect from 16 February 1918 to 15 June 1940, provided that their validity is confirmed by other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania, consolidated versions of legal acts, depersonalised decisions, rulings, court resolutions, international treaties.	1918 until now
Lithuania	IS of Legal Acts (database)	http://www3.lrs.lt/dokpaieska/forma.L.htm	IS of Legal Acts (database) – includes legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania, decisions of the Board of the Seimas, minutes of the sittings of the Seimas and the Board of the Seimas verbatim reports of the sittings of the Seimas, Documents of the Constitutional Court, documents of the Baltic Assembly (in the Lithuanian, English and Russian languages), documents of the Assembly of Members of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania and the Sejm of the Republic of Poland, international conventions and covering documents, bilateral or multilateral treaties of the Republic of Lithuania, draft laws and covering documents, translated English and Russian versions of legal acts and consolidated versions since 1990. It also covers official documents adopted by the Parliament (i.e. laws, statements) and the executive branch (cabinet resolutions, ministerial orders, etc.) of period 1918–1940.	2002 until now
Luxembourg	Chambre des Députés du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg	http://www.chd.lu/wps/portal/public/Archives#	Parliamentary documents starting from 2002.	1991 until now
Malta	Parlament Ta' Malta	http://www.parliament.mt/sitting/legislation?i=1	Parliamentary documents starting from 1991.	1814-1995
Netherlands	Staten-Generaal der Nederlanden (Parliament)	http://www.statengeneraal.digitaal.nl	Parliamentary documents starting from 1814 until 1995.	1995 until now
Netherlands	Staten-Generaal der Nederlanden (Parliament)	https://zoek.officielebekendmakingen.nl/zoek-en/parlementaire_documenten	Dutch Parliamentary Papers starting from 1995 until now.	1919-1991
Poland	Bibliotek Sejmowa	https://bs.sejm.gov.pl/F/?con_lng=ENG&func=fil&title_name=find-nowek&ocal_base=ars01	Parliamentary documents from both chambers starting from 1919-1991.	1820-now
Portugal	Assembleia da República	http://debates.parlamento.pt/?pid=mc	Parliamentary documents ranging from 1820 up until now. The data is available through an excellent portal. Full text a download option are available. Unfortunately site is only in Portuguese.	1996-now/2002-2010
Romania	Romanian Parliament (both chambers)	http://www.cdep.ro/pls/steno/steno.home?i=Z	Debates from 1996 (for the Senate from 2002-2010) up to now.	1848 until now
Slovakia	The Joint Czech and Slovak Digital Parliamentary Library	http://www.nsr.sk/dl/?lang=en	OC-Red bills, resolutions, stenographic reports and other, related documents starting from 1848 to the present.	

Country	Title	URL	Features	Time Span
Slovenia	Sistory - Zgodovina Slovenije	http://www.sistory.si/publikacije/?menu=415	Stenographical minutes of the executive and legislative bodies of Slovenia. These are: Provincial Assembly of Carniola 1861-1918, Narodna vlada in Deželna vlada za Slovenijo (1918-1921) / National Government session minutes, shorthand minutes of the People's Assembly of the People's Republic of Slovenia (1947-1963), assembly of the Socialist Republic of Slovenia (1963-1990).	1861-1990
Slovenia	Slovene National Assembly	http://www.dz-rs.si/wps/portal/Home/deloDZ/seje/sejeDzrazv?egaZborar/PODatumuSeje	Sessions of the National Assembly, archive records; Meetings of working bodies, Meetings of the Council of the president; Parliamentary questions and motions.	1990 until now
Spain	Congreso de los Diputados	http://www.congreso.es/portal/pager/portal/Co	Speeches held in the Congreso de los Diputados from 1977-now can be found here.	1977 until now
Spain	Congreso de los Diputados	http://www.congreso.es/portal/pager/portal/Co	Initiatives starting from 1977 can be found here.	1977 until now
Sweden	Sveriges Riksdag	http://www.riksdagen.se/sv/Dokument-Lagar/	Parliamentary records are available from 1971-now	1971-now
United Kingdom	House of Commons Parliamentary Papers (HCPP)	http://parlipapers.chadwyck.co.uk/home.do	Behind authentication	1715-present
United Kingdom	The Stormont Papers - 50 Years of Northern Ireland Parliamentary Debates Online	http://stormontpapers.ahds.ac.uk/stormontpa	This site offers access to the Parliamentary Debates of the devolved government of Northern Ireland from June 7 1921 to the dissolution of Parliament in March 28 1972.	1921-1972
United Kingdom/Ireland	EPPJ-Enhanced British Parliamentary Papers On Ireland	http://www.dippam.ac.uk/epji	EPPJ contains a complete set of British Parliamentary Papers relating to Ireland and Irish affairs published during the period of the Act of Union (1801-1922).	1801-1922
United Kingdom		http://hansard.millbanksystems.com/	This site has been produced from digitised editions of Commons and Lords Hansard, the Official Report of debates in Parliament. This was part of a project led by the Commons and Lords libraries.	1803-2005
Switzerland (Not-EU)	Schweizerisches Bundesarchiv Online-Amtsdruckschriften	http://www.amtsdruckschriften.bar.admin.ch/sfart.do#	Lawtexts and protocols from the Swiss confederation starting with 1848 up early 2000s.	1848 to 2000s
Yugoslavia	Sistory - Zgodovina Slovenije	http://www.sistory.si/publikacije/?menu=416	Stenographical minutes of the executive and legislative bodies of Yugoslavia (Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes; Kingdom of Yugoslavia; Federal Peoples Republic of Yugoslavia)	1919-1953

Country	Access	Notes	Availability	Format
Austria	Freely Online: driven by search and browse portal	Also available at http://www.v4dplplus.eu/ ; Official portal of the Austrian Parliament (for both chambers): http://www.parlament.gv.at/PAKT/STPROT/ .	scans only	pdf
Belgium	Freely Online: portal - only possible to browse via date. no full text search		full-text	pdf
Belgium	Freely Online: portal - only possible to browse via date. no full text search		Scans only full-text (depending on time)	pdf
Bulgaria		Unfortunately, we were unable to confirm if Bulgarian Parliamentary Papers are digitized. The parliamentary library offers an online catalogue http://library.parliament.bg/absw/abs.htm .		
Croatia		Unfortunately, we were unable to confirm if Bulgarian Parliamentary Papers are digitized. The library at the parliament only offers an online catalogue: http://www.sabor.hr/Default.aspx?art=2354 .		
Cyprus		Papers from Cyprus parliament are not digitized.		
Czech Republic	Freely Online: driven by search and browse portal	This is a joint Czech and Slovakian initiative. All digitally available documents are OCREd. Also available at http://www.v4dplplus.eu/ .	full-text	pdf
Denmark	Freeonly online; browseable not searchable		html	
Estonia	Freely online	English version at https://www.rigiteataja.ee/en/ .	full-text	pdf,xml,txt
Estonia	Freely online		full-text	pdf
Estonia	Freely online		full-text	pdf
Estonia	Freely online		full-text	pdf
Estonia	Freely online	58 videos of a collection of approx. 1800 videos of the Parliamentary Sessions starting from 1999 are also available under: http://www.film.ariiv.ee/fis/ .	full-text	pdf
Finland	Freely online	Available as metadata and pdf. Not clear what contents are available.	Scans only tho mixed with metadata	pdf
France	Freely Online: driven by search and browse portal	Also has list of deputies at http://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/sycomore/ ; More historic, digitized material available here: http://eudocs.lib.byu.edu/index.php/France:_1872_-_1945	full-text	pdf/image/txt
France	Freely Online: different portals for different documents.	Documents are available as full-text searchable pdfs.	full-text	pdf

Country	Access	Notes	Availability	Format
Germany	Freely Online: driven by search and browse portal	Available as pdf though not OCRRed. Session Protocols of Southern German states as for example Bavaria are not included. Also missing is a common resource on papers from the German Democratic Republic. However some of them are available through Europeana: http://www.europeana.eu/portal/search.html?query=what%3A%22Archival+material%22&rows=96&qf=TYPE%3ATEXT&qf=LANGUAGE%3Ade&qf=false&qf=protokoll	scans only	pdf
Germany	Freely Online: driven by search and browse portal	Available as pdf and OCRRed. Parliamentary papers of GDR are missing - for regional parliaments (Landtage) see: https://www.parlamentsstenoграфен.de/cms/links/stenografische_protokolle_online	full-text	pdf
Greece		Available as pdf, though not OCRRed.	scans only	pdf
Hungary	Freely Online: driven by search and browse portal, though only in Hungarian	Website unfortunately only available in Hungarian; Also available at http://www.v4dplus.eu/ .	full-text	pdf
Ireland	Freely Online: documents ordered and accessible by date, date and Topic, Date, Member and Topic, Member and Topic, Topic as well as full text search	Material available as full text (enriched with info on speakers) but download option is missing.	full-text	no download option
Ireland	Freely Online: documents ordered and accessible by date, date and Topic, Date, Member and Topic, Member and Topic, Topic as well as full text search	Material available as full text (enriched with info on speakers) but download option is missing.	full-text	no download option
Ireland	Freely Online: different modes of searching the contents depending on material	Further material on Irish Parliamentary Papers before Independence might be found here: http://www.dippam.ac.uk/eppi/ (search and browse portal).	full-text	no download option
Italy	Freely online	Contemporary data on Senate and Deputies available at http://dati.camera.it/it/ and http://dati.senato.it/ - probably the most advanced in terms of open govt data.	pdf, full text searchable	pdf
Latvia			scans only	no download option
Lithuania	Freely Online: Portal based on sessions	Only images via a viewer are accessible; no full-text search.	scans only	no download option
Lithuania	Freely Online: Portal based on sessions	Only images via a viewer are accessible; no full-text search.	scans only	no download option
Lithuania	Freely Online: Portal based on sessions	Only images via a viewer are accessible; no full-text search.	scans only	no download option
Lithuania	Freely Online: driven by search and browse portal	Documents are available as DOCX, PDF, ODT; Site itself is available in English, German, French and Russian.	full-text	docx, pdf, odt
Lithuania	Freely Online: driven by search and browse portal	Documents are available as full-text and word files; Site available in English as well.	full-text	docx

Country	Access	Notes	Availability	Format
Luxembourg	Freely Online: driven by search portal		full-text	image, pdf
Malta	Freely Online: searchable via parliamentary sessions;	transcripts available as Word files.	full-text	docx
Netherlands	Freely Online: searchable via a search and browse portal	Also available Dutch Parliamentary Papers as data set (CC0/PDM) via this link: https://www.kb.nl/bronnen-zoekwijzers/dataservices-en-apis/staten-generaal-digitaal (description unfortunately not available in English). Dutch parliamentary papers are also part of the project "digging into linked parliamentary data" http://dilipad.history.ac.uk/	full-text	pdf
Netherlands	Freely Online: driven by search portal	Overheid.nl is the central access point to all information about government organisations of the Netherlands.	full-text	pdf, xml, odt
Poland	Freely Online: searchable by dates and sessions. no full text search	Available for download as pdf, though papers aren't OCRred. Also available at http://www.v4ddpiplus.eu/ .	scans only	pdf
Portugal	Freely Online: driven by search portal	Very user friendly and visually appealing portal	full-text	pdf, txt
Romania	Freely Online: searchable via date of debate			
Slovakia	Freely Online: driven by search and browse portal	This is a joint Czech and Slovakian initiative. All digitally available documents are OCRred. Also available at http://www.v4ddpiplus.eu/ .	full-text	pdf
Slovenia	Searchable via session number	Available as full-text searchable pdf and XML-files	full-text	pdf, XML
Slovenia	Freely Online: Portal based on sessions	Unfortunately only in Slovenian; OCRred material.		
Spain	Freely Online: search portal	Documents are available as text and pdfs	full-text	pdf
Spain	Freely Online: search portal	Documents are available as text and pdfs. Recent material is available under http://www.senado.es/web/activdadparlamentaria/actualidad/agenda/index.html .	full-text	pdf
Sweden	Freely Online: driven by search and browse portal	This is the link to the Swedish parliament's (Riksdag's) page where one can search for all existing documents regarding laws, parliamentary reports, discussions, protocols, voting procedures and results etc. For many of the laws adopted in the 2000s, apart from the laws and the supporting documentation, in many cases one can even watch a video of the discussion/debate and the voting process. As I see, you cannot reach this page through the English version of the Parliament's website, by pressing "Documents and Laws" in English you will only receive general information on laws and procedures.	full-text	pdf, html
United Kingdom	Behind Authentication		n.a.	
United Kingdom	Freely Online: driven by search and browse portal	Full-text and images available (no pdfs). Outcome of a project funded as an award winner of the November 2002 round of the Resource Enhancement scheme of the Arts and Humanities Research Council.	full-text	image

Country	Access	Notes	Availability	Format
United Kingdom/Ireland	Freely Online; driven by search and browse portal	Documents are available as full-text pdfs. A more extensive description of the source material can be found here: http://ahne12-dev.cch.kcl.ac.uk/projects/eppi_enhanced_british_parliamentary_papers_ireland_1801_1922 .	full-text	pdf
United Kingdom	Freely Online; driven by search and browse portal	Source code available under https://github.com/mlbanksystems/hansard .		
Switzerland (Not-EU)	Freely Online; driven by search and browse portal	Session protocols are only OCR'd up to 1903; all other documents are available as OCR'd pdf. Unfortunately, there is no English version of the portal, but it is available in German, French and Italian. Papers on Swiss Foreign Policy are also available through Europeana: http://www.europeana.eu/portal/search.html?qt=false&rows=96&qf=PROVIDER%3A%22Diplomatic+Documents+of+Switzerland%2C+dods.ch%22	full-text	pdf
Yugoslavia	Searchable via session number	Available as full-text searchable pdf and XML-files.	full-text	pdf/xml