



23 May 2016
CEPS, Centre for European Policy Studies
Place du Congrès 1
1000, Brussels, Belgium

Expert Workshop Using Big Data to Advance Policy Research

General information

Advances in digital technologies now make it possible to collect, store and process massive amounts of data. This explosion of data holds an incredible potential to boost innovation and provide new insights that can help inform policy-making. Against this background, the workshop's aim is to bring together a group of experts to discuss the framework, structure, challenges and recent developments in big data. The event will touch upon the topics of employment and skills, migration and inequality, as well as the legal and political implications of using big data and notable methodological developments in this area.

The workshop is planned as a one-day event. The first session will take a vertical approach to the main question, specifically addressing the topics of employment, skills, migration and inequality. The second session will focus on methodologies, tools and software as well as the legal implications of using big data.

- ✓ **Session 1.** How can big data make a difference in research?
- ✓ **Session 2.** What methodological challenges are posed by using big data in policy analysis?

The expert speakers will discuss the methodologies and challenges in making the best use of big data in policy analysis. The sessions are designed to be highly interactive and practical in content. The speakers will be asked to confine their formal presentations to no more than 20 minutes, to be followed by 10 minutes of debate and questions.

Programme

Monday, 23rd of May

12:00 – 13:00 **Registration and lunch**

13:00 – 13:15 **Welcome remarks**

Miroslav Beblavý (CEPS)

13:15 – 13:45 **Introduction: *The role of big data in improving policy-making and its challenges***,
Martijn Poel (Technopolis)

Session 1. How can big data make a difference in research?

Moderator: *Colin Blackman, (CEPS Digital forum)*

13:45 – 14:15 ***Employment and skills***

Karolien Lenaerts (CEPS) & Brian Fabo (CEU Budapest)

14:15 – 14:45 ***Migration***

Jaan Masso (University of Tartu)

14:45 – 15:15 ***Inequality and exclusion***

Sanna Ojanpera (Oxford Internet Institute)

15:15 – 15:45 ***Discussion, wrap-up and coffee***

Session 2. What methodological challenges are posed by using big data in policy analysis?

Moderator: *Miroslav Beblavý (CEPS)*

15:45 - 16:15 ***Methodologies and tools for policy analysis***

Nikos Askitas (IZA)

16:15 – 16:45 ***Impact and value of big data across organisations and networks***,

Anne Fleur van Veenstra (TNO)

16:45 – 17:15 ***Ability of online vacancy to contribute Labour Market Intelligence and informing policies***

Kvetan Vladimír (CEDEFOP)

17:15 – 17:30 **Closing remarks**

Miroslav Beblavý (CEPS)

About InGRID

The InGRID (Inclusive Growth Research Infrastructure Diffusion) project, funded by the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for Research, involves 17 European partners. In the context of EU2020, the EU's growth strategy for the current decade, InGRID aims to integrate and innovate European social sciences research infrastructures on Poverty and Living Conditions and Working Conditions and Vulnerability. This integration will provide Europe's scientific community with new and better opportunities to fulfil its key role in the development of evidence-based European policies for Inclusive Growth.

The project organises three types of activities:

- ✓ Joint research to improve the quality, accessibility and comparability of data,
- ✓ Expert workshops and summer schools to promote the sharing and transfer of knowledge and
- ✓ Inviting researchers from other institutes and countries to data expert centres.

For more information on the project, see www.ingrid.eu