From a research policy perspective, national data services provide a number of benefits to scientific communities that justify the needed investment. These benefits include:

- **Long-term access**: To ensure wider and more effective use of existing data, respecting FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) principles.

- **More efficient use of public finances**: Publicly funded data are further exploited by secondary users for new insights and scientific contributions.

- **Stronger research practice and quality**: By rendering research more transparent and open for replicability.

- **Funding and publication in journals**: Increasingly a requirement that data be deposited in archives/repositories.

- **Added value of secondary research**: Secondary data brings value to university lecturers and students, as well as to society and business.

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**About CESSDA ERIC**

CESSDA ERIC provides large scale, integrated and sustainable data services to the social sciences. It brings together social science data archives across Europe, with the aim of promoting the results of social science research and supporting national and international research and cooperation.

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Who are we?

The Austrian Social Science Data Archive (AUSSDA) is a core social science research infrastructure in Austria and was launched in November 2016. It is funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy (BMWFW) and is located at the Universities of Vienna, Linz and Graz.

Our mission

We make social science data accessible, creating opportunities for research and data reuse, benefitting science and society.

We aim to become the main supplier of data for reuse in the social sciences in Austria and the most prominent address for archiving Austrian social sciences data.

What do we do?

We offer high-quality, sustainable, and easy-to-use solutions for archiving of digital data and world-wide access to data. We implement international standards to make our data and documentation findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable.

However, AUSSDA offers many more services than simply a place to store data. It can accompany researchers throughout the data life cycle, from proposal development and data management plans, through project start-up, data collection and file creation, data analysis, preparing data for sharing, depositing data and finally, outreach.

We support an open data policy and work hard to achieve free data access whenever possible. We stand for integrity in data archiving and promote ethical research principles.

What kind of data do we have?

Our collection covers all disciplines of the social sciences. We accommodate various data sources such as surveys, content analyses, experiments, and others. By supporting the open data movement we maximise the potential for data reuse.

Who is it for?

The primary beneficiaries of our services are researchers, while our online services can also be used by students, educational institutions as well as media representatives and the public.

AUSSDA plays an important role in the development plans of Austrian universities by furthering the open data principles. AUSSDA actively advances the potential of the humanities, social sciences and cultural studies, as set out in the government programme. We can thereby shape the evolution and advancement of Austrian and international research and data infrastructures.

AUSSDA can rely on a large international and national network of support, including all members of the Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA ERIC). Through CESSDA ERIC, we are part of an essential European infrastructure and are integrated in the strategic development of data archives.

More information

See http://aussda.at or contact the Head of AUSSDA, Dr. Lars Kaczmirek (lars.kaczmirek@univie.ac.at).