ParlaMint: Comparable Corpora of European Parliamentary Data

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CLARIN annual conference 2021
September 27, 2021
The project

- A mini-project supported by CLARIN-ERIC
- Budget: 135,000 €
- Duration: Jul 1 2020 – May 30 2021
- Motivation: Parliamentary data directly corresponds to the most recent events with global impact on human health, social life and economics such as the current COVID-19 pandemic.
- Goal: Provide resources and tools for focused observations on trends, opinions, decisions on lock-downs and restrictive measures as well as on the consequences with respect to health, medical care systems, employment, etc. during pandemic times.
Phase 1 (July 2020 – Sep 2020):
Compiled the corpora of Bulgarian, Croatian, Polish and Slovene parliamentary speeches:
Multilingual comparable corpora of parliamentary debates
ParlaMint 1.0. 2020. http://hdl.handle.net/11356/1345

Phase 2 (Dec 2020 – May (June) 2021:
- call for additional corpora, 13 respondents
- version 2.0 released towards the end of the project
- V2.0 used in the Helsinki Digital Humanities Hackathon
- version 2.1 built on the experience of DHH & fixed some errors
- **V2.1: 17 corpora (countries) with 16 languages and half a billion words**
Downloadable sets of corpora (CC BY) @ CLARIN.SI:

  http://hdl.handle.net/11356/1432.
- Linguistically annotated multilingual comparable corpora of parliamentary debates ParlaMint.ana 2.1. 2021,
  http://hdl.handle.net/11356/1431

- Integrated with noSketch Engine and KonText

- Available through a dedicated instance of ParlaMeter,
  https://parlamint.parlameter.org/
Using Git was quite helpful for the project (but could’ve been even more so)

https://github.com/clarin-eric/ParlaMint
  - XML schemas
  - samples of all corpora in ParlaMint (Parla-CLARIN/TEI) XML
  - also in the derived formats:
    - plain text, TSV metadata files, CoNLL-U and vertical format
  - XSLT and Perl scripts for validation and conversion
  - some derived metadata information
Data overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Millions of Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>BE</td>
<td>31.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>BG</td>
<td>20.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>CZ</td>
<td>22.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>DK</td>
<td>29.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>ES</td>
<td>13.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>32.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>HR</td>
<td>20.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HU</td>
<td>0.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IS</td>
<td>23.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IT</td>
<td>26.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LT</td>
<td>14.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LV</td>
<td>6.48</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>51.45</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PL</td>
<td>27.45</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SI</td>
<td>20.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>43.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>109.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Information included

- Oppositions/coalitions, political parties
- Speakers with party memberships, MP status, gender
- Sessions with term/session number and date
- Speeches with speakers (chair, regular)
- Transcriber comments
- Linguistic annotation:
  - Tokens and sentences
  - Lemmas
  - UD PoS and morphological features
  - UD syntactic dependencies
  - Named entities (PER, LOC, ORG, MISC)
Conclusions

- Presented the ParlaMint project and corpora
- Further work in continuation project:
  - Better documentation, validation
  - Better Git(Hub) rules and control
  - More corpora
  - Extend current corpora in time and with metadata
  - MT all the corpora to English
  - Experiment with adding speech data
  - Using the corpora: DHH 2022, shared task, tutorial
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