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Design choices and storytelling

The map shows European countries and the colour represents the height of the countries GDP. The darker the blue the higher the GDP. When you click on the country you get to see the exact GDP in millions of euro. When the user clicks on the country the bargraph to the right automatically updates its values. In the bargraph you can see the countries import and export. These are useful economic measures to get an indication of the countries commerce. The dropdown menu can be used to change the year and get an insight on how these metrics change over time. When the fill is grey the corresponding country has no data. When the user clicks these countries the bargraph will not update. The websites design is based on the idea of a dashboard. All information can be seen in one blink of an eye. The colourscale of the map is based on the logscale of the GDP. This visualization is based on human instinct meaning darker is more. The interaction between the map and bargraph is by way of clicking on the country. This also works very naturally. The d3.maps has an easy way built in that has been utilised. A click on a country returns the GEO code of the country. When this code is in the data the bargraph updates. The onhover can also be added quite easily in the same way. When the hover happens some HTML code is returned which contains the table which is shown to the user.

Model

The visualization is a drill down story but does not have a clear cut reader-driven approach because the reader is only simply supported doing data diagnostics by giving them a sparse amount of economic measures. So it is not a purely reader-driven approach but more or less a hybrid combination with author-driven but mainly leaning towards the reader-driven approach.

Genre

A partitioned poster which contains a moderate amount of interactivity. Not all interactivity is clear when first loading the webpage. Most people immediately recognize the dropdown of the years and know by this that the user can select different years. However the maps interactivity and connectivity with the bargraph becomes clear when the user starts exploring the visualization. When first hovering a certain country the user will notice the change of colour and that a tooltip appeared. This will trigger the user to go further and start clicking countries. This will make the bargraph on the side change values and now the user has found all interactivity without hassle.