

Descriptions

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2015-10-28 13:08:44

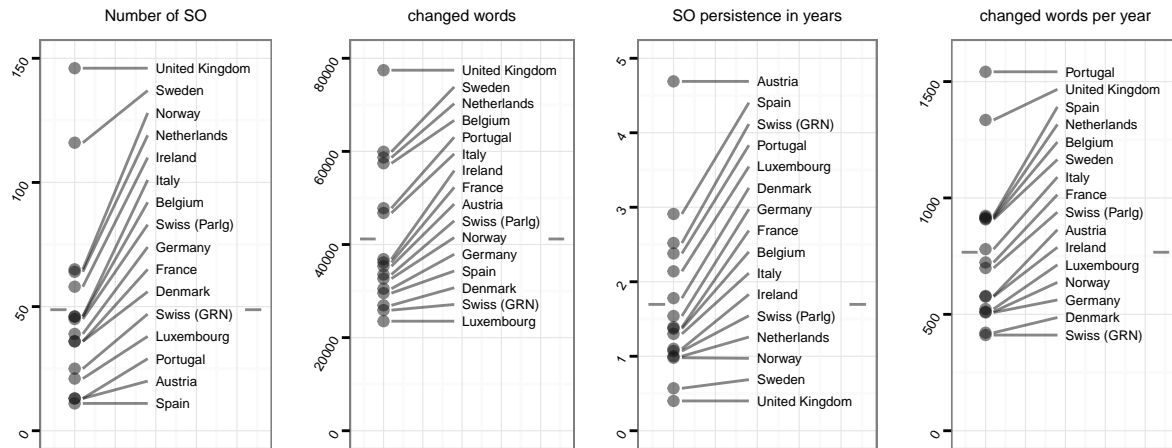
General Overview

The ISOR dataset entails 15 countries, namely: Austria, Belgium, Swiss (GRN), Swiss (Parlg), Germany, Denmark, Spain, France, United Kingdom, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal and Sweden. Switzerland has two parliamentary Standing Orders and therefore is included twice. The timeframe under consideration in the dataset ranges from Standing Orders passed at November 22, 1945 up to ones passed at July 01, 2011.

All in all the corpus encompasses 12,678,306 words of relevant content structured in 364,545 sub-paragraphs and 780 documents - that is 7 times the first five books of G.R.R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire*. 25,199 times a sub-paragraph had been changed within our sample amounting to 659,071 changed words - or 1.5 times J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*.

	N SO	min y	max y	chg	min w	max w	wdns	persist	chg per y
Austria	13	1948	2009	35335	7882	23332	0.90	4.69	579
Belgium	46	1946	2009	57448	10004	31911	1.01	1.37	912
Swiss (GRN)	25	1946	2009	25903	4105	6781	0.90	2.52	411
Swiss (Parlg)	45	1962	2010	33565	3725	12373	0.90	1.07	699
Germany	39	1949	2009	30508	5041	19390	0.90	1.54	508
Denmark	36	1945	2009	26937	5122	10648	1.05	1.78	421
Spain	11	1977	2009	29550	11678	19579	1.05	2.91	923
France	36	1959	2009	36157	20149	29417	1.01	1.39	723
United Kingdom	146	1951	2009	77439	11894	41476	1.00	0.40	1335
Ireland	58	1946	2010	36855	9923	25296	1.00	1.10	576
Italy	46	1949	2009	46776	9442	28139	0.95	1.30	780
Luxembourg	21	1965	2010	23530	8750	16874	1.01	2.14	523
Netherlands	64	1947	2011	58685	11262	15295	1.00	1.00	917
Norway	65	1946	2010	32673	7025	10218	0.86	0.98	511
Portugal	13	1976	2007	47797	14493	22794	0.98	2.38	1542
Sweden	116	1945	2011	59913	6193	14972	0.86	0.57	908

The above table gives an general overview across all countries within the dataset. Both the differences in length (measured as relevant words, column: '*min w*' and '*max w*') as well as the differences in the amount of change (measured as relevant words changed, column: '*chg*') are striking. The British SO are more than four times as long as e.g. the Norwegian and most change within the dataset happened in Great Britan amounting to nearly 80000 words changed in over 60 years compared to Denmark with only approximatly 25000 words changed in the same time period. Nonetheless, all SO are changed considerably. While an SO usually is changed more than once per legislative term (column: '*ys per SO*') Austria and the UK manage to set themselves apart by having SO changes only occuring once every 5 years, respectively by having more than two SO per year.

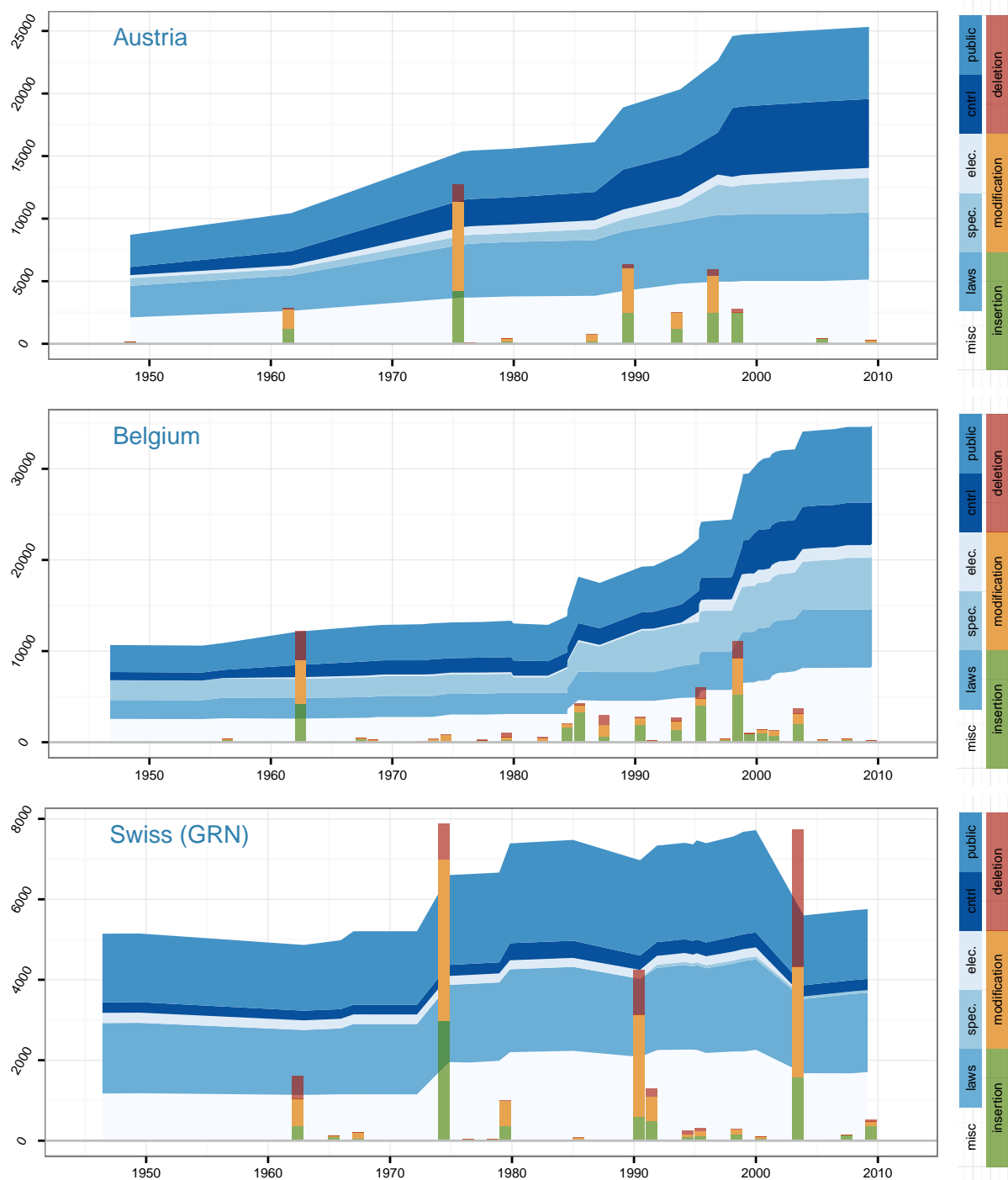


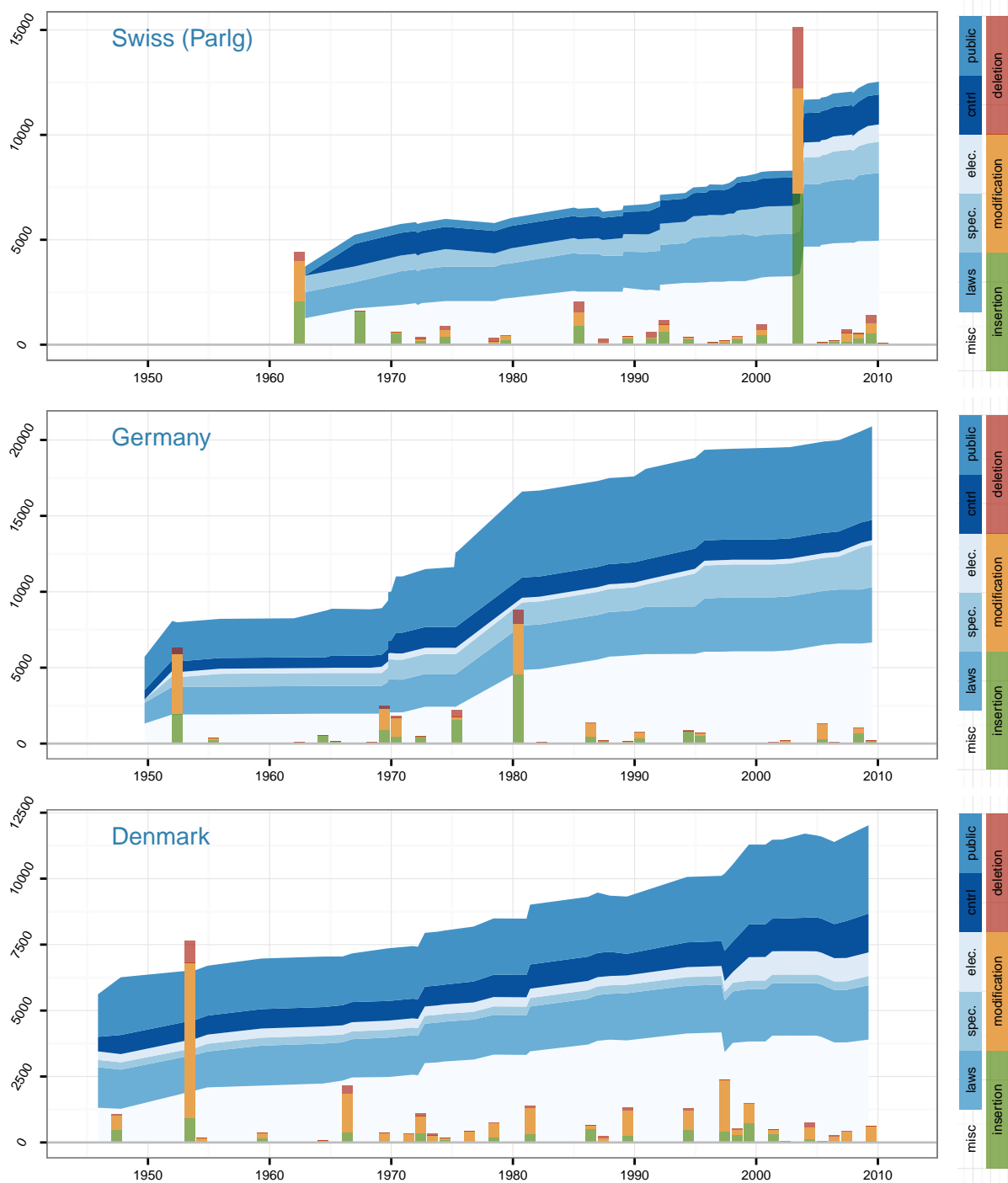
The graphics above give a brief overview of four basic variables in the data set. They show they show the value as well as the rank for the number of SO in the data set, the amount of changed that occurred to those SO, how many years it takes on average until it is replaced by a new version, the average amount of words that are changed per year.

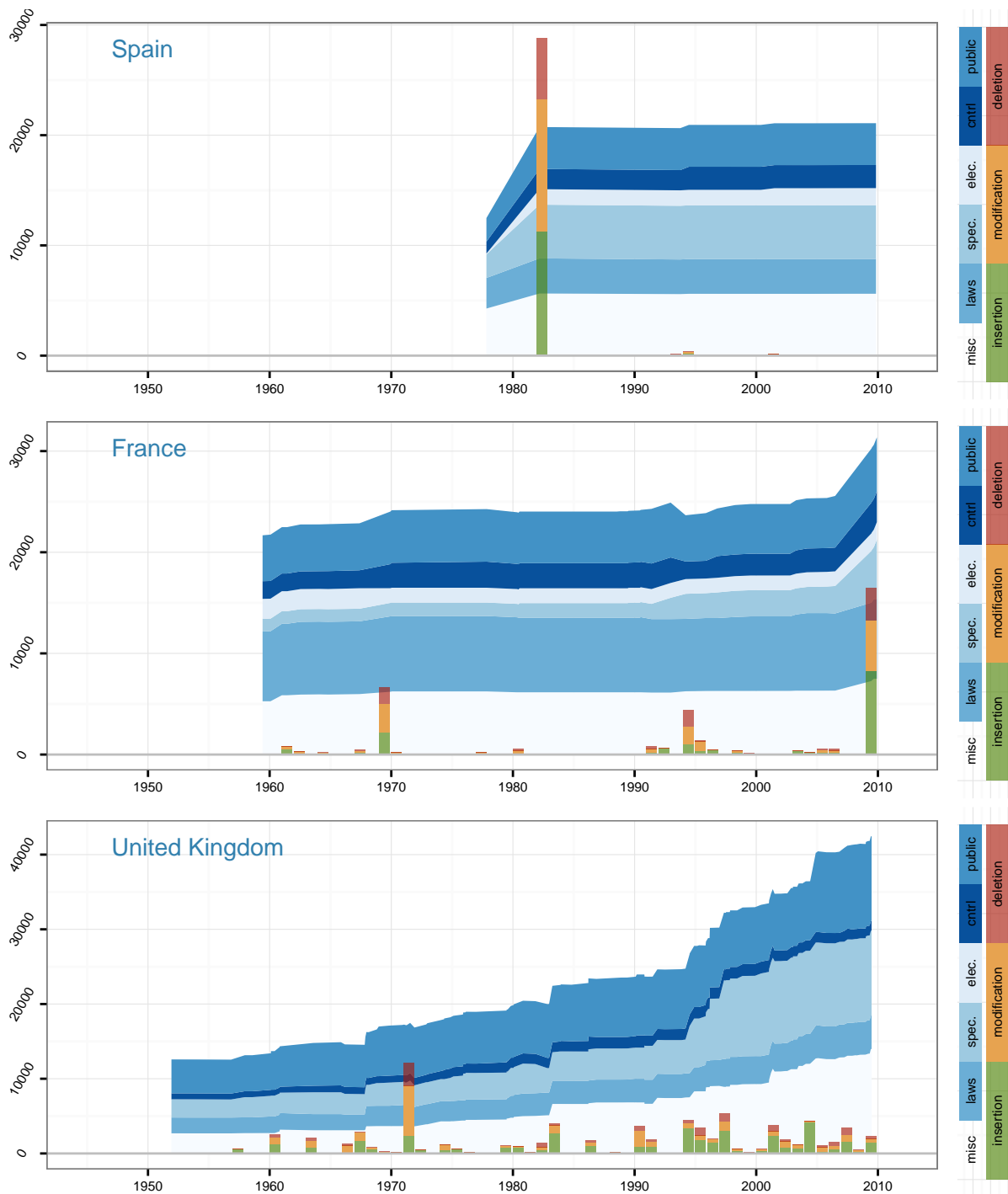
First of all, all countries under consideration do change their SO frequently and to an substantial amount. On average SO are changed every 1.7 years with an change rate of approximately 770 words per year. Within the variables there is considerable variance as well. UK and Sweden are the most frequent changers with more than one version per year while Austria's SO have an exceptional high lifespan with over 4.5 years - in the UK all matters seem to require a change of SO even the creation or disolving of a single committee while in Austria changing the SO requires a super majority. In regard to the amount changed especially Portugal and UK seem to play a special role. In addition to beeing a hyper-frequent changer UK also manages to change much more than other countries. One reason for this is that in UK all rules for the Grand Committees for Northern Ireland. Scotland and Wales are speleld out explicitly and redundantly. Portugal on the other hand had very view changes (13) since 1976 with one reform beeing extremely extensive so that over time the Portugese change rate might wander nearer towards the other countries.

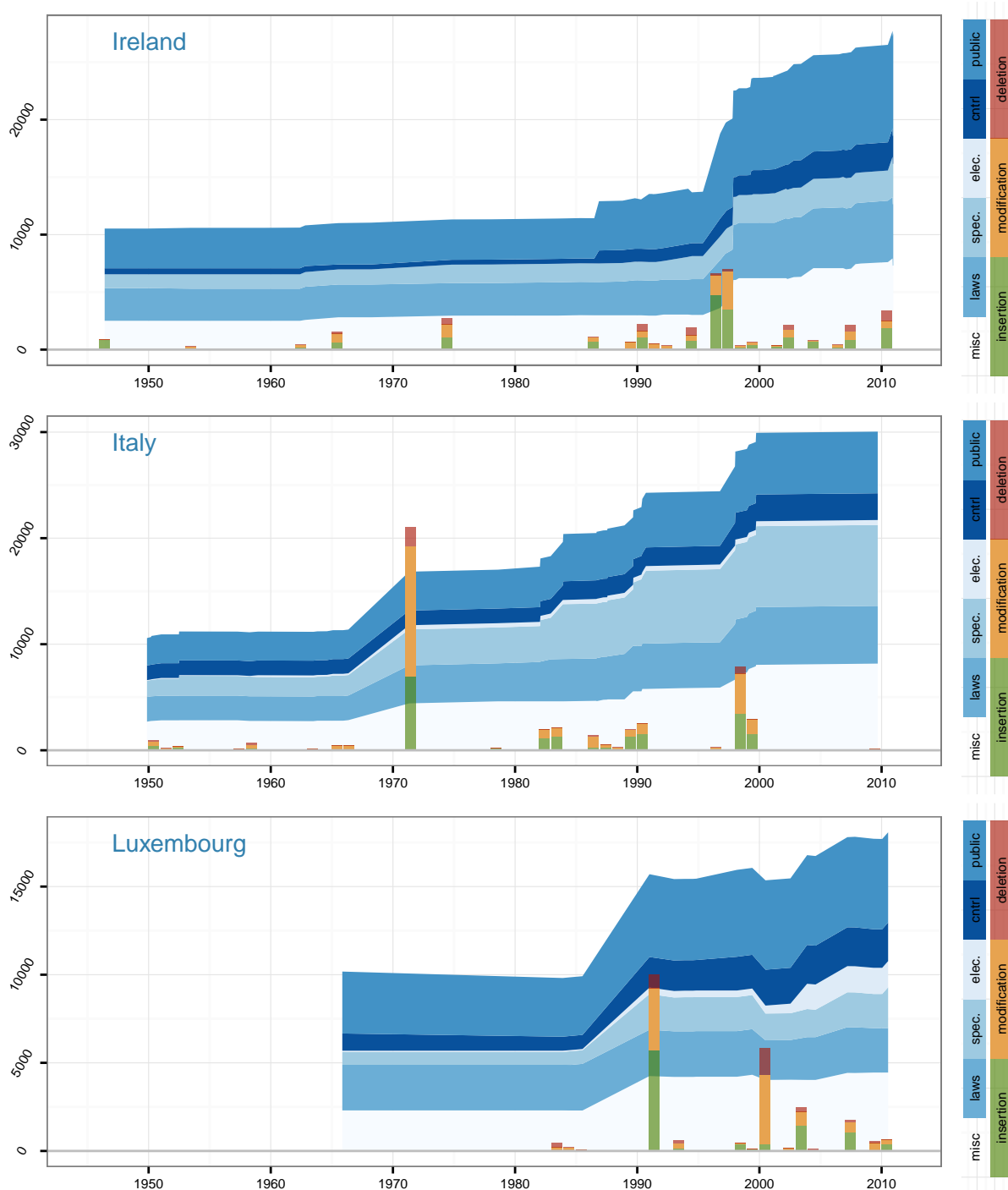
Reforms per country

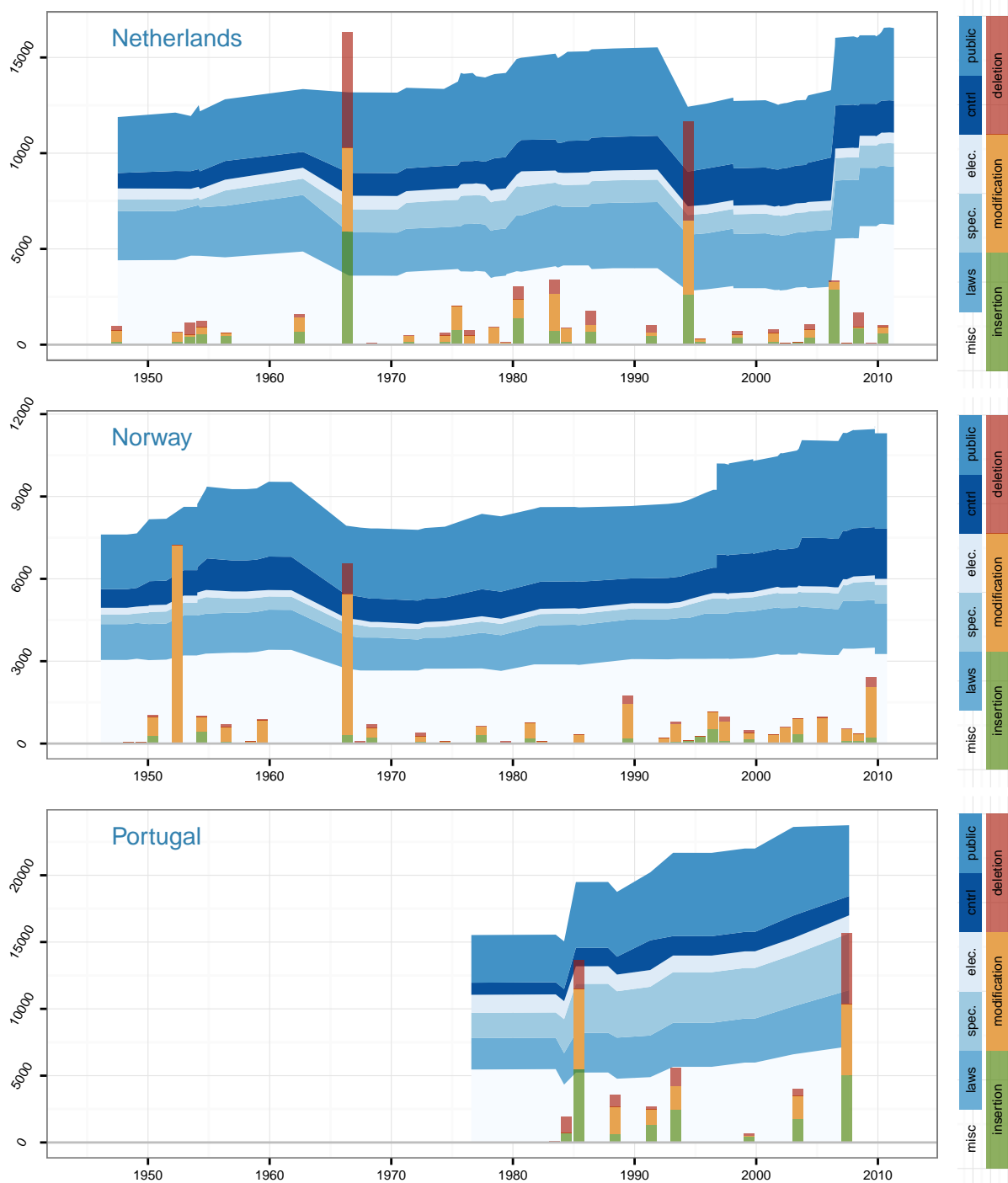
In the following the the length, topical distribution as well as the amount of change and the type of change are plotted country by country.

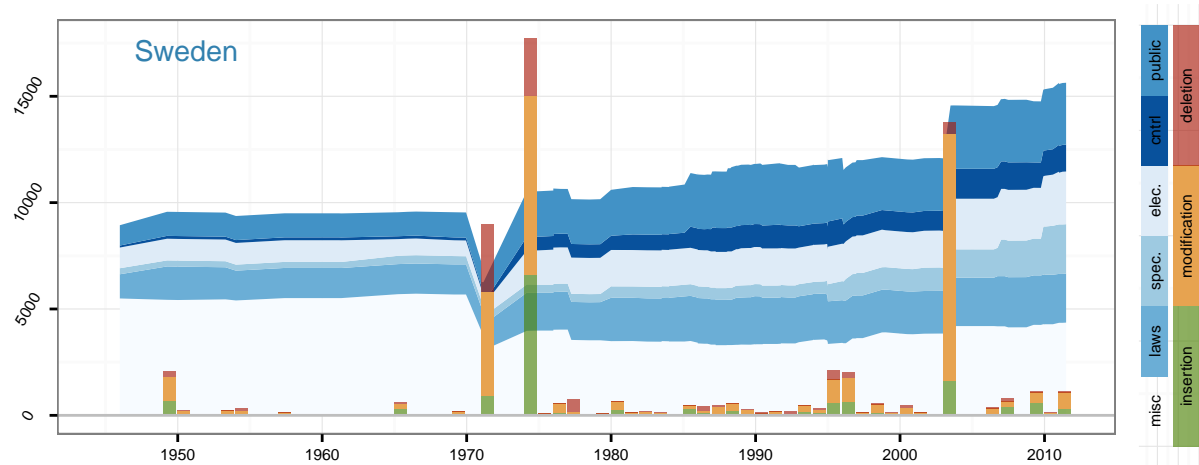












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