



European Public Sector Information Platform

Topic Report No. 2016/02

The Best of 2015

Author: Luis Meijueiro

Published: February 2016

Table of Contents

<u>Keywords:</u>	3
<u>Abstract/ Executive Summary:</u>	3
1 Introduction	4
2 News in Europe	5
2.1 Promotion of a data-driven economy across Europe	5
2.2 Monitoring and Analysis of the PSI re-use.....	7
2.3 PSI & Open Data in the EU Member States	9
2.4 Other EU regional, local PSI & Open Data activities	12
3 Open Data highlights.....	15
3.1 The view of ePSI Platform correspondents.....	15
4 ePSI Platform: year in review	19
4.1 ePSI Platform in action!	19
4.2 An assortment of PSI & Open Data related projects.....	21
About the Author	23
Copyright information	23

Keywords:

year; compilation; review; 2015; happenings; events; Europe; summary

Abstract/ Executive Summary:

This document is a brief review of the highlights of the year regarding Open Data and PSI re-use in Europe. You will find a compilation of the most relevant information gathered by our team of experts in the platform, and structured by geographical coverage.

1 Introduction

This document is a brief review of the highlights of the year regarding Open Data and PSI re-use in Europe. You will find a compilation of the most relevant information gathered by our team of experts in the platform, and structured by geographical coverage. Some important milestones are listed such as the launch of the beta version of the European Data Portal by the European Commission, as well as a new study about the Open Data Maturity status of the EU28+ countries.

You can navigate through a selection of remarkable general news and events, and also check what was hot within the platform in every month of 2015.

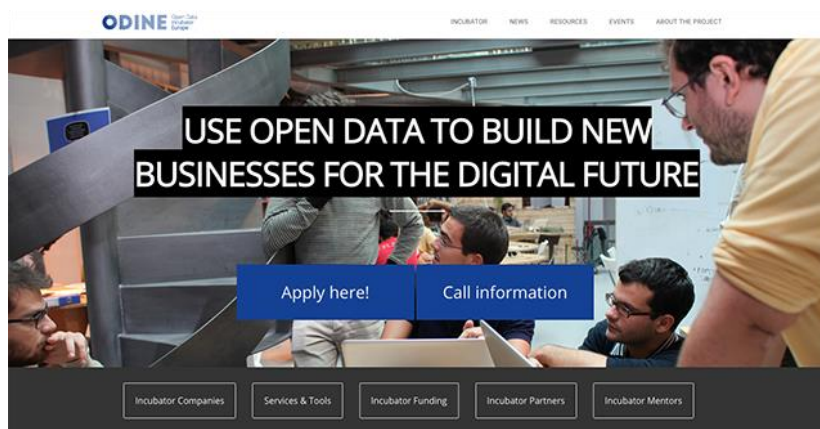
References to all the documents and news can be found after the corresponding sections of the document.

2 News in Europe

2.1 Promotion of a data-driven economy across Europe

During the first quarter of 2015, the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) published the first [public working draft](#)¹ of its **Data on the Web Best Practices** to facilitate interaction between publishers and consumers; and the [winners](#)² of the **Apps For Europe Competition** were announced.

In the second quarter: the **FINODEX project** launched its [2nd call for funding requests](#)³ for Open Data projects; Luxemburg hosted the 20th [meeting](#)⁴ of the **Public Sector Information Group** and of the 6th meeting of the **Working Group on the pan-EU Open Data portal**; **Europeana** [called on institutions](#)⁵ to share higher quality material; a [new updated edition](#)⁶ of the **Open Data Handbook** was made available; and the **Open Data Incubator Europe (ODInE)** began accepting [funding applications](#)⁷ from start-ups and SMEs for open data business ideas.



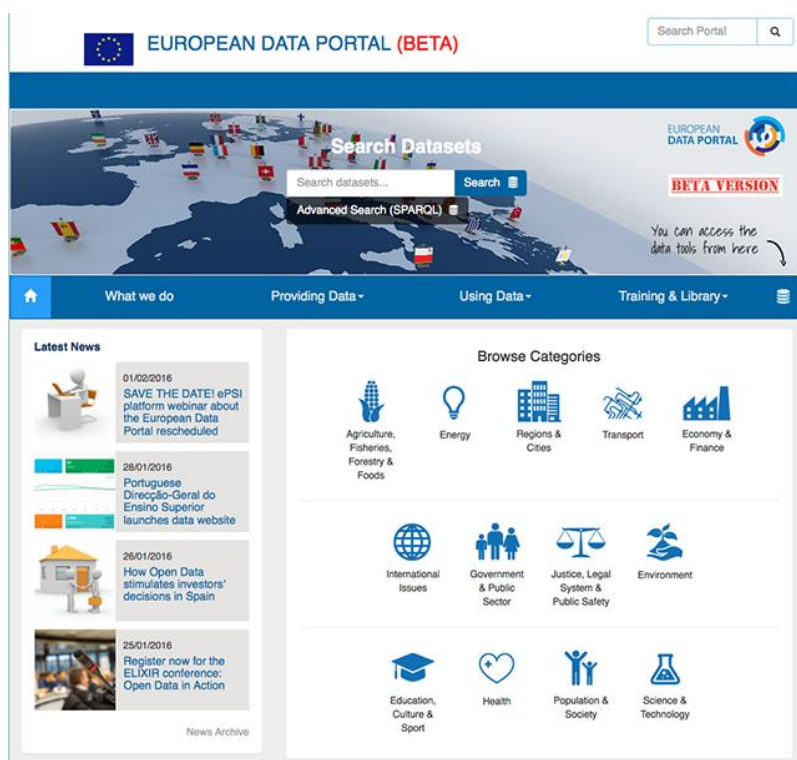
Open Data Incubator Europe portal (Source: opendataincubator.eu - © ODINE consortium / CC-BY 4.0)

In July, the [finalists](#)⁸ for the second edition of the **Open Data Awards**, promoted by the Open Data Institute, were announced, and [five of them](#)⁹ managed to win in their category. The same month the ISA Programme of the European Commission started an activity to [review and revise](#)¹⁰ the **DCAT Application Profile** for Data Portals in Europe. Also, in July the **EULife AppChallenge** for the [development of apps](#)¹¹ that reuse new Open Data related to quality of life was launched. The month ended with the announcement of a new joint **UK-France Data Taskforce** to [boost cooperation](#)¹² on Open Data.

The third quarter of the year ended with the selection of the first seven [businesses](#)¹³ for the **Open Data Incubator for Europe (ODINE)** program; in France [Etablabs launched](#)¹⁴ the 6th edition

of **Dataconnexions contest** that rewards reuse of public data; the European Commission started 17 **infringement cases** for late transposition of [2013 PSI Directive](#)¹⁵; the **International Open Data Charter** was officially [launched](#)¹⁶; and the **Open Data Mashup Challenge** called all UK Universities seeking [ideas for apps](#)¹⁷ that improve university students' learning journey.

Finally in October the European Commission and the United States signed [cooperation arrangement](#)¹⁸ on **Copernicus Earth Observation** data; Sweden's innovation agency VINNOVA launched call for improving [Open Data sources](#)¹⁹ using **DCAT-AP**; in November the beta version of the [European Data Portal](#)²⁰ was released during the European Data Forum in Luxembourg, while EU Member States [endorsed](#)²¹ **DCAT Application Profile for Data Portals in Europe** (DCAT-AP) version 1.1; and in December, the European Commission launched an [online survey](#)²² on topics with a direct impact on the future of the **EU's actions in the field of the data economy**.



European Data Portal (Source: www.europeandataportal.eu - © European Union)

¹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/w3c-publishes-best-practices-publishing-data-web>

² <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/winners-apps-europe-2015-competition-announced>

³ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/finodex-project-launches-its-2nd-call-funding-requests-open-data-projects>

⁴ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/20th-meeting-psi-group-%E2%80%93-minutes-now-available>

⁵ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/europeana-calls-institutions-share-higher-quality-material>

-
- ⁶ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/new-updated-edition-open-data-handbook>
 - ⁷ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/sme-and-start-funding-open-data-business-ideas>
 - ⁸ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/open-data-award-2015-winners-announced>
 - ⁹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/summary-odi-open-data-awards>
 - ¹⁰ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/revision-dcat-application-profile-data-portals-europe>
 - ¹¹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/eulife-appchallenge-help-us-understand-europe-we-live>
 - ¹² <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/unveiled-new-joint-uk-france-data-taskforce-boost-cooperation-open-data>
 - ¹³ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/first-winners-odine-programme>
 - ¹⁴ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/6th-edition-dataconnexions-contest-announced>
 - ¹⁵ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/european-commission-starts-17-infringement-cases-late-transposition-2013-psi-directive>
 - ¹⁶ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/international-open-data-charter-officially-launched>
 - ¹⁷ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/open-data-challenge-all-uk-universities>
 - ¹⁸ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/eu-and-usa-sign-cooperation-arrangement-copernicus-earth-observation-data>
 - ¹⁹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/vinnova-launches-call-improving-open-data-sources-using-dcat-ap>
 - ²⁰ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/european-data-portal-opening-europe%E2%80%99s-public-data>
 - ²¹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/dcat-ap-v11-endorsed-isa-committee-1>
 - ²² <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/help-impact-future-eus-data-economy-0>

2.2 Monitoring and Analysis of the PSI re-use

At the beginning of the year the LAPSI project released a set of [eight Policy Recommendations](#)²³ for policy makers to better understand the PSI Directive; in the Netherlands a report presenting a [study](#)²⁴ into the **perceptions of Open Data** was launched; and the Agency for Digital Italy published a [report](#)²⁵ based on a public consultation held to identify **useful datasets** for their future release as Open Data.

During the second quarter of 2015 a [test](#)²⁶ by the Open State Foundation revealed that the Dutch government Open Data Portal was still struggling with **broken links**; the Open Data Institute (ODI) launched a **self-assessment tool**²⁷ to help assess how well an organisation publishes and consumes open data; a [report](#)²⁸ revealed that administrative silence rates for Spanish **FOI requests** was still a major barrier; and [four country reports](#)²⁹ on the Impact of Open Data in the **fight against corruption** relating to Italy, Spain, and UK were presented under the TACOD project.

By mid-year a **new Data Index** of both open and closed [transport datasets](#)³⁰ was launched in UK to address the problems surrounding transport data discovery and its uneven availability; the **Open Data 200** study to [map the re-use](#)³¹ of Open Data in Italy was launched. In August, we had the launch of a [prototype map](#)³² of **Open Data availability** in UK local authorities, and the third quarter ended with the release of a [report](#)³³ on the issue of **open budget data**.

In November, an **Open Data Challenge Series (ODCS) Impact Report** [reviewed](#)³⁴ the revenue, beneficiary and impact projections provided by the finalists and winners; and the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA) launched a new **CEF Telecom** [call for proposals](#)³⁵ in several areas including Public Open Data.

The year began to slip away when we learn from a [new study](#)³⁶ about the **Open Data Maturity status of the EU28+ countries**, published as part of the European Data Portal project.



Cover and sample page of Open Data Maturity in Europe 2015 study

(Source: europeandataportal.eu/en/content/open-data-maturity-europe © European)

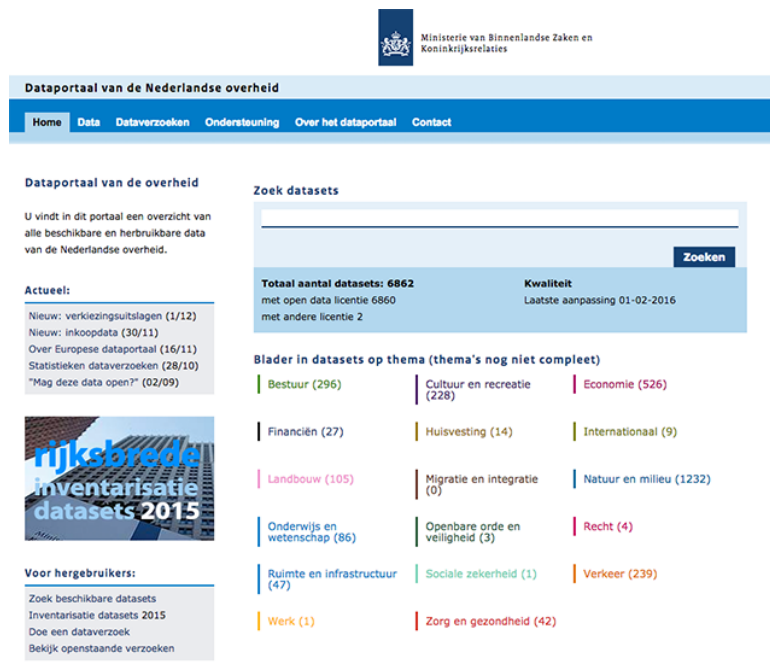
Finally the year ended up with the [2015 edition](#)³⁷ of the **Global Open Data Index**, including an additional insights page.

- ²³ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/lapsi-project-releases-policy-recommendations>
- ²⁴ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/research-perceptions-open-data-netherlands>
- ²⁵ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/identifying-useful-open-datasets-italy-report-published>
- ²⁶ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/dutch-government-open-data-portal-still-struggling-broken-links>
- ²⁷ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/odi-launches-new-tool-assess-open-data-capabilities>
- ²⁸ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/administrative-silence-rates-spanish-foi-requests-still-major-barrier-despite-drop>
- ²⁹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/tacod-project-country-reports-now-available-comment>
- ³⁰ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/imdata-intelligent-mobility-data-index>
- ³¹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/opendata200-new-study-map-re-use-open-data-italy>
- ³² <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/uk-local-open-data-availability-map>
- ³³ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/new-report-issue-open-budget-data>
- ³⁴ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/open-data-challenge-series-impact-report>
- ³⁵ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/cef-telecom-launches-2015-call-proposals>
- ³⁶ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/report-open-data-maturity-europe-2015-0>
- ³⁷ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/2015-edition-global-open-data-index-0>

2.3 PSI & Open Data in the EU Member States

The year began with the **Slovak Republic** publishing the [registry of the accounts](#)³⁸ of all the legal entities; in the **Netherlands** the Dutch Air Traffic Control (LVNL) started with the regular publication of concrete [safety-related incidents](#)³⁹; in **France** ‘Caisse des Dépôts’ launched a [call for projects](#)⁴⁰ to improve the openness and sharing of public data by governmental agencies and ministries; and in **Spain** AENOR, the Spanish Association of Standardization and Certification, issued the first standard with a [set of requirements](#)⁴¹ for opening and reusing PSI in the field of Smart Cities. Also in Spain and around these dates a Public Private Partnership [Forum on PSI Re-use](#)⁴² was held to progress on the realization of economic and social benefits of open data. The month ended in the **United Kingdom** with the National Health System (NHS) re-launching the postponed [Care.data initiative](#)⁴³.

In February: the Government of the **Netherlands** revealed an [upgrade of its open data portal](#)⁴⁴ with new features and extensions; in **France** the National Assembly [adopted an amendment](#)⁴⁵ that required transport companies to provide their data about timetables and routes as Open Data; in **Germany** the Federal Government held a [workshop](#)⁴⁶ with the civic society as part of the implementation of the G8 Open Data Charter, while the Federal Cabinet drafted a changed [version of the Law](#)⁴⁷ on the Re-Use of Public Sector Information.



The Dutch National Data portal (Source: data.overheid.nl - © CC-BY 4.0)

The first quarter of 2015 ended with the adoption in **France** of a [Public Health draft bill](#)⁴⁸ that included a chapter on open access to health data; in the **United Kingdom**, the Environment

Agency released a new set of [flood data APIs](#)⁴⁹, the Ordnance Survey launched new [location, roads, rivers and map](#)⁵⁰ OpenData products, the UK Government appointed its first ever [Chief Data Officer](#)⁵¹, and new [transparency rules](#)⁵² for public sector contracts were set out. Around these dates in **Germany** the Government and the tech NGO Initiative D21 started a [public participation process](#)⁵³ on the use of Open Government Data; and in **Finland** the Patent and Registration Office (NBPR) opened a [new web service](#)⁵⁴ for Open Data.

In March a new national [Open Data portal](#)⁵⁵ was unveiled in **Croatia**, and the mapping, cadastral and land registration authority of **Sweden** announced the release of its [small-scale map information](#)⁵⁶ as open data. At the end of the month the **Netherlands** Court of Audit published a new [Open Data Trend Report](#)⁵⁷.

In the second quarter of the year: **Bulgaria** launched its National [Open Data Portal](#)⁵⁸, **France** launched a portal to give access to the information, data and tools linked with the [National Address Database](#)⁵⁹; **Spain** approved a [draft law](#)⁶⁰ that transposed the revised PSI Directive; and **Norway** approved to establish a [central registry](#)⁶¹ of company beneficial ownership information to boost company transparency.



French National Address Database portal (Source: adresse.data.gouv.fr - © SGMAP)

In June, SNCF, the French mobility group, launched an [improved API](#)⁶² to access all TGV, TER, Transilien, and Intercités train data in **France**; a [public consultation](#)⁶³ on Government Open Data strategy and Data Portal was launched in **Ireland**; and in the **United Kingdom** the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) announced the future release of [open satellite imagery](#)⁶⁴ that could transform food and farming.

In the third quarter of 2015: hundreds of [new publicly available datasets](#)⁶⁵ were discovered after Dutch government-wide inventory, in the **Netherlands**; the Federal Government of **Belgium** approved an [Open Data strategy](#)⁶⁶ with concrete actions up until 2020; and in the **Netherlands** the Dutch public broadcaster (NPO) launched a [challenge](#)⁶⁷ to develop applications that reused NPO open data. The quarter ended with **France** opening a [Public Consultation](#)⁶⁸ on Digital Republic bill, a legislative proposal with impact on more open data and knowledge dissemination.

In **France** the Government launched in October the [Le.TAXI Open Data platform](#)⁶⁹ to foster innovation in French taxi services, and around these dates 20 years of [crime statistics](#)⁷⁰ were released as Open Data in the French national data portal. The month ended with the launch of a new Open Data portal in **Belgium** run by the main statistical authority in charge of the (official) [national statistics](#)⁷¹.

The year ended with the news that the **Netherlands** increased the number of [Open Datasets](#)⁷² and laid out a National Open Data Agenda for 2016.

*Note. All the information related to the **Czech Republic**, **Romania**, and **Italy** can be found in [another section](#) later in this document.*

³⁸ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/registry-companies-accounts-slovakia-0>

³⁹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/dutch-air-traffic-control-publish-safety-performance-information>

⁴⁰ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/french-government-invest-%E2%82%AC25m-open-data>

⁴¹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/spain-issues-standard-open-data-smart-cities>

⁴² <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/working-session-spanish-public-private-partnership-forum-psi-reuse>

⁴³ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/uk-re-launches-its-controversial-nhss-caredata-initiative>

⁴⁴ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/upgrade-dutch-government-open-data-portal>

⁴⁵ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/france-opens-public-transport-data>

⁴⁶ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/german-action-plan-open-data-report-milestone-workshop>

⁴⁷ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/german-federal-cabinet-drafts-law-psi-re-use>

⁴⁸ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/public-health-draft-bill-sets-open-access-french-health-data>

⁴⁹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/uk-environment-agency-launches-real-time-flood-monitoring-api>

⁵⁰ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/ordnance-survey-launches-new-location-roads-rivers-and-map-opendata-products>

⁵¹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/uk-government-appoints-its-first-ever-chief-data-officer>

⁵² <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/new-transparency-rules-public-sector-contracts-uk>

⁵³ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/open-government-data-online-idea-collection-started>

⁵⁴ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/finnish-patent-and-registration-office-publishes-open-data>

⁵⁵ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/croatian-government-unveils-national-open-data-portal>

⁵⁶ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/swedish-land-registration-authority-plans-open-map-information-free>

⁵⁷ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/netherlands-court-audit-publishes-new-open-data-trend-report-2015>

⁵⁸ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/bulgaria-finally-launches-national-open-data-portal>

⁵⁹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/france-launches-its-national-address-database>

⁶⁰ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/spain-approves-draft-law-transposes-revised-psi-directive>

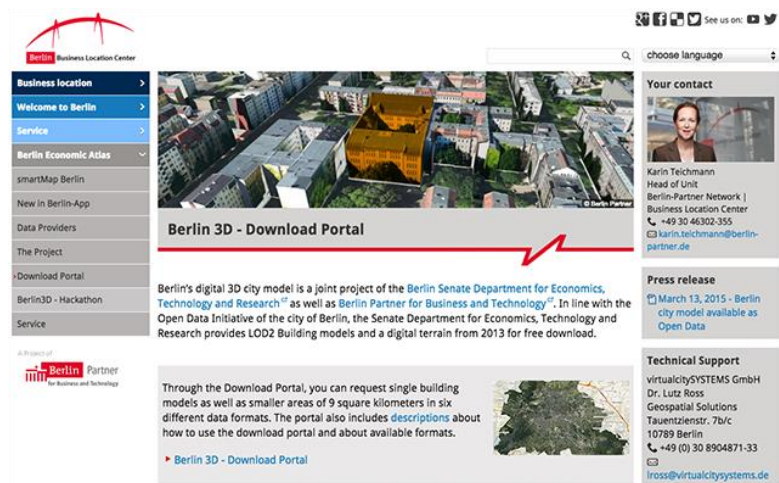
- 61 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/norway-approves-public-register-boost-company-transparency>
- 62 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/sncf-launches-api-access-all-train-data>
- 63 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/irish-govt-launches-public-consultation-its-open-data-strategy-and-data-portal>
- 64 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/defra-release-open-satellite-imagery-could-transform-food-and-farming>
- 65 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/hundreds-datasets-released-after-dutch-government-wide-inventory>
- 66 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/belgian-federal-open-data-strategy-approved>
- 67 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/dutch-public-broadcaster-npo-launches-app-competition>
- 68 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/france-opens-public-consultation-digital-republic-bill>
- 69 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/letaxi-platform-launched-open-data-foster-innovation-french-taxi-services>
- 70 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/france-releases-20-years-crime-statistics-open-data>
- 71 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/statistics-belgium-launches-open-data-portal>
- 72 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/netherlands-increases-number-open-datasets-and-lays-out-national-open-data-agenda-2016>

2.4 Other EU regional, local PSI & Open Data activities

The year started with **La Palma Island Council** in Spain launching its Open Data [portal](#)⁷³, and the **Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions** released a new version of its [solution for publishing](#)⁷⁴ Linked municipal key figures. In March the Italian **municipality of Lecce** launched an [Open Data contest](#)⁷⁵ for visualisations and apps reusing datasets from the local data portal, while the **Piemonte region** opened up its [Topographic database](#)⁷⁶.

Northern Ireland unveiled an [Open Data Strategy](#)⁷⁷ for the 2015-18 years with the aim to foster an open by culture among all the public.

In March the **City of Berlin** made available to the public as Open Data a new [3D city model](#)⁷⁸ of the German capital, while North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany's biggest Federal state, launched a [portal for Open Data](#)⁷⁹ and participation.



Berlin 3D – Download Portal

(Source: www.businesslocationcenter.de/en/downloadportal- © Business Location Center)

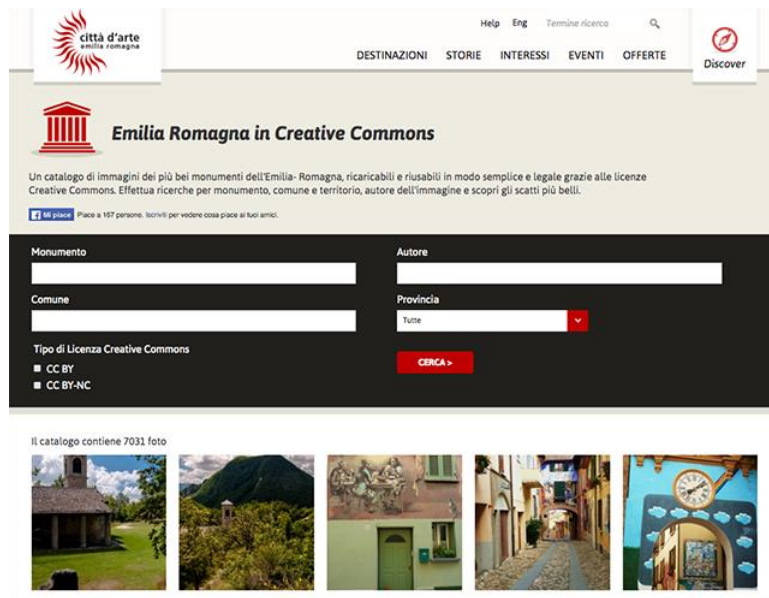
At the end of March **Reading Borough Council** in the United Kingdom opened-up [real time transport data](#)⁸⁰, while the **City of York Council** launched its [Open Data platform](#)⁸¹. The Dutch **City of Almere** started an [Open Data pilot](#)⁸² by making nine selected datasets available.

The German **City of Cologne** made its [software solution](#)⁸³ for publishing open data available to the public, and the French region of **Grand Poitiers** opened its first [public datasets](#)⁸⁴.

In April the **Catalan regional government** approved [a project to open up](#)⁸⁵ as much information as possible from the regional public health system. In May the German city of **Mönchengladbach** launched its [Open Data Portal](#)⁸⁶.

In June the Spanish **Regional Government of La Rioja** launched its first [Open Data contest](#)⁸⁷. On the next month the **Scottish Parliament** launched a new [Open Data portal](#)⁸⁸, and the **City of Bolzano** (South Tyrol, Italy) tested a [bus passenger information](#)⁸⁹ system based on Open Data.

In September: the **Helsinki Smart City** [App competition](#)⁹⁰ was launched; the **Emilia-Romagna region** in Italy launched Open Data [Monuments catalogue](#)⁹¹ with over 7000 images.



Emilia Romagna in Creative Commons portal

(Source: www.cittadarte.emilia-romagna.it/catalogo-foto-CC - © Udp Città d'arte dell'Emilia Romagna – CC-BY)

On the next month the French **City of Rennes** hosted its annual [Open Data Week](#)⁹²; and the **Regional Government of the Basque Country** in Spain launched an [Open Data competition](#)⁹³.

In November: transport companies operating in **Île-de-France** (STIF) launched [Open Data portal](#)⁹⁴; the German city of **Mülheim an der Ruhr** launched its [Open Data portal](#)⁹⁵; and the

Northern Ireland [Open Data porta](#)⁹⁶ was officially launched.

⁷³ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/la-palma-island-council-launches-its-open-data-portal-0>

⁷⁴ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/skls-%C3%B6ppna-data-publish-swedish-local-data>

⁷⁵ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/lecce-launches-open-data-contest>

⁷⁶ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/piemonte-region-opens-topographic-database>

⁷⁷ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/northern-ireland-unveils-its-open-data-strategy>

⁷⁸ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/new-berlin-3d-city-model-available-open-data>

⁷⁹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/north-rhine-westphalia-launches-portal-open-data-and-participation>

⁸⁰ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/reading-borough-council-opens-real-time-transport-data>

⁸¹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/city-york-launches-open-data-platform>

⁸² <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/city-almere-starts-open-data-pilot>

⁸³ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/cologne-publishes-its-open-data-software>

⁸⁴ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/grand-poitiers-releases-its-first-public-open-datasets>

⁸⁵ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/catalan-regional-government-open-health-data>

⁸⁶ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/german-city-m%C3%B6nchengladbach-launches-its-open-data-portal>

⁸⁷ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/spanish-regional-government-la-rioja-launches-its-first-open-data-contest>

⁸⁸ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/scottish-parliament-launches-new-open-data-portal>

⁸⁹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/bolzano-tests-their-bus-passenger-information-system-based-open-data>

⁹⁰ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/helsinki-smart-city-app-competition>

⁹¹ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/open-data-monuments-launched-over-7000-images-emilia-romagna-region>

⁹² <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/open-data-week-seeking-european-open-data-scale>

⁹³ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/regional-government-basque-country-launches-open-data-competition>

⁹⁴ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/transport-companies-operating-%C3%AElle-de-france-stif-launch-open-data-portal>

⁹⁵ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/german-city-m%C3%BClheim-der-ruhr-launches-open-data-portal>

⁹⁶ <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/northern-ireland-open-data-portal-officially-launched>

3 Open Data highlights

3.1 The view of ePSI Platform correspondents

Here we compile the views of some members of our correspondents' team that had the time to collaborate for this section. They are experts who make PSI re-use move forward in Europe.

Michal Kuban

(ePSI Platform [correspondent for the Czech Republic](#)⁹⁷)

To sum up, 2015 was a very successful year for PSI and Open Data activities in the **Czech Republic**. The National Open Data Catalogue was launched, as also was the [Open Data portal](#)⁹⁸ of the City of **Prague**. The set of [standards and guidelines for publication and cataloguing](#)⁹⁹ open data were prepared, and the Ministry of Interior [started training](#)¹⁰⁰ civil servants.

27 applications were submitted to the Czech Open Data Challenge. The overall [winner of the competition](#)¹⁰¹ was the “Supervisor” app, built by the Ministry of Finance using its own open data. More Czech institutions opened up their data, like the Parliament of the Czech Republic that [opened up](#)¹⁰² their sessions and agenda, or the Social Security Administration that provided [Open Data on pensions](#)¹⁰³ & social benefits.

The biggest hackathon to date in the Czech Republic, [Praguehacks, brought 13 applications](#)¹⁰⁴ that raised awareness about open data and PSI among developers, entrepreneurs, and hackers.



Prague Hacks portal (Source: www.praguehacks.cz - © Fond Otakara Motejla – reSITE – Startup Yard)

The next challenge is implementing Open Data into Czech legislation, prioritizing the basic datasets that should be mandatorily published. And to establish a frequent dialogue between data publishers (institutions) and re-users may be as crucial as the entire open data legislation.

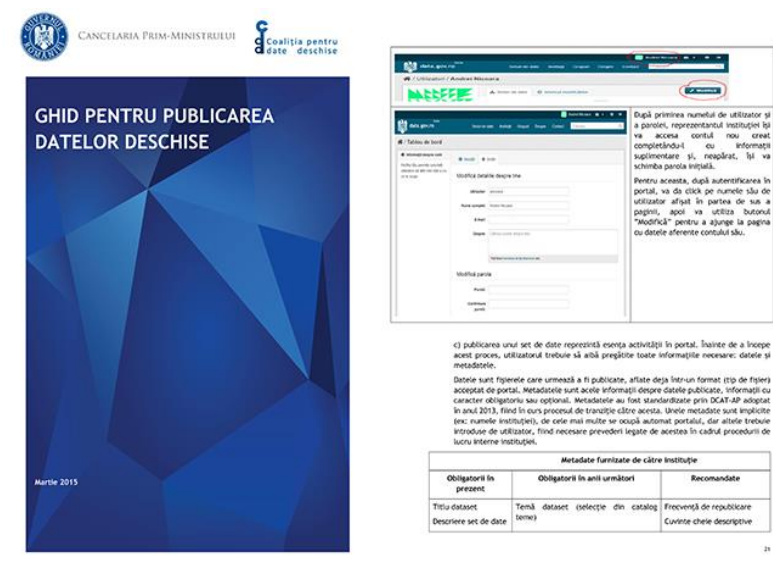
Valentina Pavel

(ePSI Platform [correspondent for Romania](#)¹⁰⁵)

The year 2015 was the second of Club OGP (launched the previous year) monthly meetings and activities focusing on open data.

In **Romania** we had hackathons like the [Open Data Day](#)¹⁰⁶, the [Timișoara Open Culture Hackathon](#)¹⁰⁷, [geodata events](#)¹⁰⁸, and other open access and open data workshops. And from August 2015 Romania became a member of the OGP Executive Board.

But the highlight of 2015 was that the Romanian Ministry for Information Society (MSI) published a [new law proposal](#)¹⁰⁹ implementing the 2013 PSI directive, which in the end became the new law nr. 299/2015 modifying law nr. 109/2007 (that was published in the Official Journal of 3 December 2015). Also [a guide](#)¹¹⁰ on how to publish Open Data, created as part of the country’s OGP National Plan for 2014-2016, was under public consultation.



Cover and sample page of the Romanian guide on how to publish Open Data

(Source: ogp.gov.ro/planul-national/date-deschise © Cancelaria Prim-Ministrului – Government of Romania)

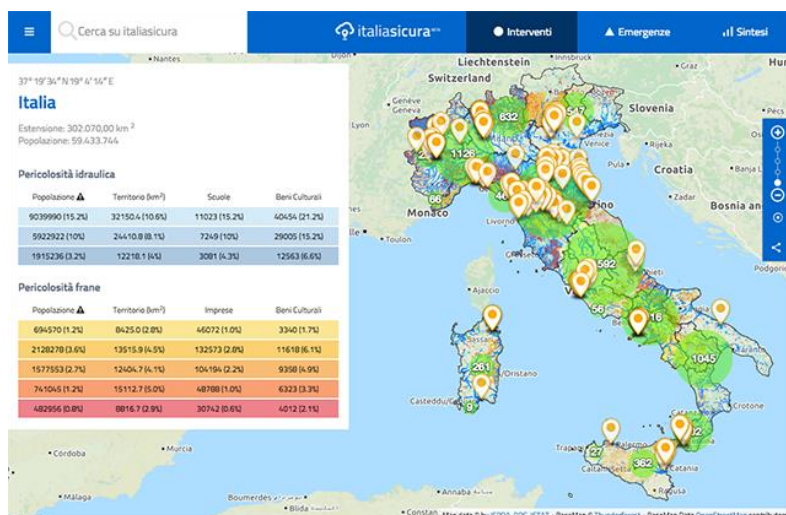
The process of transposing the revised PSI Directed into the Romanian legislation was completed, but to be honest we must say that part of the [civil society severely criticized](#)¹¹¹ the lack of transparency of the decision making process. They considered the law a “missed opportunity”, because it failed both to address the problems of the previous law on re-use of public sector information (law nr. 109/2007) and to transform such measures into a fully applicable law with beneficial results for all the parties involved.

Matteo Brunati

(ePSI Platform [correspondent for Italy](#)¹¹²)

One of the most interesting initiatives related to PSI reuse in **Italy** was the one called [Open Big Data](#)¹¹³, a collaborative effort between private and public sector that made possible the release as Open Data of some Big Data collected by telecommunications companies. It's a step to stimulate the collective conversation about the data society with something really new.

The other one initiative is derived from a better comprehension that releasing data is something not so directly useful for the majority of the citizens, especially speaking about a country like Italy. [ItaliaSicura](#)¹¹⁴ showed us public investments on construction sites with hydrogeological instability across Italy, using a map and a dashboard, and making available the raw data as Open Data. It was an important step to include more people inside the conversation about data.



#italiasicura portal (Source: mappa.italiasicura.gov.it - © ISPRA - Agenzia per l'Italia Digitale – CC-BY)

By mid-year the [Open Data portal](#)¹¹⁵ of the Italian public administration was revamped, and some months later it was possible to [query the catalogue](#)¹¹⁶ by using an API. The Ministry of Economic Development [released datasets](#)¹¹⁷ related to petrol station fuel prices, and the State Property Office launched a new [website to share open data](#)¹¹⁸ related to Italian state-owned property. But It's also important to mention the launch of many [bottom-up initiatives from Southern Italy](#)¹¹⁹, a signal of constructive pressure on the local government, where the government is not so efficient, especially speaking about Open Data.

Last but not least, it was launched [Open Data 200](#)¹²⁰, the first systematic investigation into the social and economic value of Open Data across Italy.

-
- 97 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/users/michalkuban>
- 98 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/prague-launches-its-open-data-portal>
- 99 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/open-data-guidelines-czech-republic>
- 100 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/czech-ministry-interior-starts-training-civil-servants-open-data>
- 101 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/ministerial-open-data-application-wins-czech-open-data-challenge>
- 102 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/czech-parliament-opens-their-sessions-and-agenda>
- 103 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/czech-social-security-administration-provides-open-data-pensions-social-benefits>
- 104 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/praguehacks-proved-potential-open-data>
- 105 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/users/valentina-pavel>
- 106 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/open-data-day-2015-romania-conference-hackathon>
- 107 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/timi%C8%99oara-open-culture-hackathon>
- 108 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/geoidearo-project-hosts-final-geodata-workshop>
- 109 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/romania-public-consultation-psi-directive-implementation>
- 110 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/public-consultation-romanian-open-data-publishing-guide>
- 111 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/implementation-new-psi-directive-another-missed-opportunity-romania>
- 112 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/users/dagoneye>
- 113 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/data-first-big-data-challenge-now-available-open-data>
- 114 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/mappaitaliasicuragovit-now-online>
- 115 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/italian-national-open-data-portal-revamped>
- 116 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/api-access-now-available-italian-open-data-portal>
- 117 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/fuel-prices-italy-released-open-data>
- 118 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/open-data-about-italian-state-owned-property>
- 119 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/bottom-initiative-launches-unofficial-data-portal-sicily>
- 120 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/opendata200-new-study-map-re-use-open-data-italy>

4 ePSI Platform: year in review

In this chapter, you can find the most relevant actions performed by the ePSI Platform, shown chronologically during the year.

4.1 ePSI Platform in action!

January 2015

- The ePSI platform Scoreboard updated the all indicators of the countries visited during the [ePSI Platform Tour in 2014](#)¹²¹ providing a full and realistic picture of the status of the PSI re-use in the EU28.

February 2015

- The ePSI platform invited the PSI community to take part in an [online survey](#)¹²² to help us better provide the kind of content that is of most interest.

March 2015

- The ePSI Platform was present at the [workshop](#)¹²³ 'Open Data Priorities and Engagement - Identifying data sets for publication' organized by **Share-PSI 2.0** Thematic Network and hosted by Department of Computer Science of West University of Timișoara, Romania.
- The ePSI Expert Advisory Board [published](#)¹²⁴ a **special article on Open Data Indices** and the differences among them.

May 2015

- A new round of visits of the **ePSI Tour in 2015**, holding a [meeting with stakeholders in Riga](#) (Republic of Latvia).
- The ePSI Expert Advisory Board [published](#)¹²⁵ a **special article on Business Models for PSI re-use** and the barriers to them.
- ePSI Platform took part in the **Share PSI 2.0 workshop**¹²⁶ titled 'A self sustaining business model for open data' held in Krems (Austria).

June 2015

- The **ePSI Tour continued** with [an international conference in Sofia](#) (Bulgaria) with representatives of various national governments.
- The ePSI Platform [took part in the event](#)¹²⁷ “**Discovering Open Science- Open Opportunities**” held in Thessaloniki, Greece, with a speech about the different activities that were being developed within ePSI initiative, and also collaborating with other hands-on activities of the event.

July 2015

- The next stop of the **ePSI Tour in 2015** was [a workshop in Bucharest](#)¹²⁸ (Romania), involving public sector bodies, academia, industry and civil society.
- The [PSI Scoreboard](#)¹²⁹ was updated according to the deadline to transpose the PSI Directive in the Member States. Big changes in the ranking due to late transpositions.

September 2015

- The next stop of the **ePSI Tour 2015** was [Ljubljana](#)¹³⁰ (Slovenia), in a national conference with representatives of the national government.
- The ePSI Expert Advisory Board [published](#)¹³¹ a **special article on Vocabulary Application Profiles** and the revision of DCAT-AP specification.

October 2015

- The ePSI Platform took part in a roundtable with the **European Data Portal** to collect requirements and improve the usability of the portal, in Luxembourg.

November 2015

- The ePSI Platform participated in the last **Share PSI 2.0 workshop**¹³² titled ‘Maximising interoperability — core vocabularies, location-aware data and more’, in Berlin (Germany).

December 2015

- The ePSI Platform held a [webinar on DCAT-AP](#)¹³³, presenting the common vocabularies to achieve interoperability among open data catalogues in Europe.

-
- 121 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/epsi-platform-announces-details-european-tour>
 - 122 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/take-part-epsi-platform-survey>
 - 123 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/one-week-go-until-3rd-share-psi-workshop>
 - 124 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/open-data-indices-good-and-evil>
 - 125 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/business-models-psi-re-use>
 - 126 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/share-psi-20-workshop-self-sustaining-business-model-open-data>
 - 127 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/epsi-platform-thessaloniki-event-%E2%80%9Cdiscovering-open-science-%E2%80%93-open-opportunities%E2%80%9D>
 - 128 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/epsi-platform-tour-2015>
 - 129 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/european-psi-scoreboard>
 - 130 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/epsi-platform-tour-continue-slovenia>
 - 131 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/vocabulary-application-profiles-bridging-islands-interoperability>
 - 132 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/share-psi-berlin-workshop-maximising-interoperability>
 - 133 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/epsi-platform-webinar-dcat-ap>

4.2 An assortment of PSI & Open Data related projects

Throughout the year, ePSI Platform has put relevant PSI re-use and Open Data projects under the spotlight. They are listed below in alphabetical order:

- [Amsterdecks](#)¹³⁴
- [Data Centar](#)¹³⁵
- [Democratic Dashboard](#)¹³⁶
- [Detail Data](#)¹³⁷
- [EveryPolitician](#)¹³⁸
- [INFORM](#)¹³⁹
- [OpenDataMonitor](#)¹⁴⁰
- [Open Meal API](#)¹⁴¹
- [OpenScienceLink](#)¹⁴²
- [OpenTraffic](#)¹⁴³
- [PublicaMundi](#)¹⁴⁴
- [Smart Data Web](#)¹⁴⁵

-
- 134 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/new-project-helps-improve-public-waters-amsterdam-0>
 - 135 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/data-centar-wants-narrow-gap-between-data-and-ideas-serbia>
 - 136 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/democratic-dashboard-tool-fans-uk-election-data-0>
 - 137 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/detail-data-project-help-charities-create-value-using-open-data>
 - 138 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/collecting-and-sharing-open-data-about-your-elected-representatives-0>
 - 139 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/how-public-data-can-help-predict-humanitarian-crises-inform-index-0>
 - 140 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/open-data-monitor-%E2%80%93-shining-light-open-datasets-europe-0>

-
- 141 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/school-food-menus-available-open-data-open-meal-api-0>
- 142 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/opensciencelink-project-pushes-towards-publishing-sharing-and-reviewing-research-results>
- 143 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/have-you-heard-about-opentraffic-platform>
- 144 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/discover-publicamundi-project-making-open-geospatial-data-easy-publish-view-reuse-0>
- 145 <http://www.epsiplatform.eu/content/smart-data-web-project-launched-data-value-chain-industrial-applications>

About the Author

Luis Meijueiro has worked in consultancy services for eGovernment projects related to the deployment of broadband infrastructure and web applications in public institutions and business associations. In recent years Mr. Meijueiro has participated in projects linked with re-use of Public Sector Information, making use of Semantic Web technologies. His works for regional projects include the re-use strategy for the Government of Spain, and in the international arena he has collaborated with the International Development Research Council (IDRC) in the development of a theoretical model for measuring the maturity of Open Data initiatives.

Copyright information

© 2016 European PSI Platform – This document and all material therein has been compiled with great care. However, the author, editor and/or publisher and/or any party within the European PSI Platform or its predecessor projects the ePSIplus Network project or ePSINet consortium cannot be held liable in any way for the consequences of using the content of this document and/or any material referenced therein. This report has been published under the auspices of the European Public Sector information Platform.



The report may be reproduced providing acknowledgement is made to the European Public Sector Information (ePSI) Platform.