# THE NORWEGIAN PUBLIC INQUIRY COMMISSIONS DATASET

# CODEBOOK

The EUREX Project

University of Oslo & Leiden University

Version 1, 2019

Scholars who wish to use this dataset in their research are kindly requested to cite the following:

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# INTRODUCTION

This codebook describes the Norwegian public inquiry commissions (Norges Offentlige Utredninger – *NOU*) database of the EUREX project at ARENA Center for European Studies, University of Oslo. The project was financed by the Norwegian Research Council from 2016-2020 and coordinated by professor Cathrine Holst (University of Oslo) and Johan Christensen (Leiden University). For more information about the project, please consult our project website at https://www.sv.uio.no/arena/english/research/projects/eurex/

This version of the dataset comprises all Norwegian public inquiry commissions, Norges Offentlige Utredninger (NOUs), submitted between 1972 and 2018. The database contains variables such as the organizational/institutional affiliation of the commissions' members and secretaries, the disciplinary background of academic members, appointing ministry and policy area, appointment/delivery date of report, type of commission (permanent, single-person-commission, law-drafting commission, etc) and more.

We constructed the database manually by reading and coding NOU reports, which are available online from the following websites:

- Reports delivered 1972-1993: The Norwegian National Library www.nb.no
- Reports delivered 1994-2016: Norwegian Government's web pages https://www.regjeringen.no/no/dokument/nou-ar/id1767/

In cases where information was missing from the reports, we retrieved data from archives such as the Norwegian Centre for Research Data (NSD), retriever.no (Norwegian news paper database) and LinkedIn. In order to add additional information on academic disciplines we consulted CRISTIN (Current Research Information System in Norway – www.cristin.no) and other relevant websites.

After manually reading and registering reports, members and secretaries, subsequent coding and classification were carried out in statistical programs. Several coders were involved when constructing the datasets, and we would like to thank Ragnhild Grønning, Jorunn Skodje and Ida Wernø for their help.

The datasets come in two different formats:

i) **The commission/report dataset**: A file where the reports/commissions are the units of analysis (N = 1563). In this dataset, the member, secretariat and chairman variables have been aggregated to the level of commissions.

ii) **The member/secretary dataset**: A dataset where members and secretaries are the units of analysis (N = 17429).

This codebook lists the contents and variables of the datasets, in addition to definitions and specifications important for the coding of the data. For more information about the NOU system, descriptive figures etc., the reader is encouraged to have a look at one of the following articles (in Norwegian and English):

Hesstvedt, Stine (2018). 'Ekspertifisering' av offentlige utvalg? En studie av akademikeres deltakelse i NOU-utvalg fra 1972 og til i dag. *Norsk sosiologisk tidsskrift*, *2*(5), s 381- 400. doi: 10.18261/issn.2535-2512-2018-05-03

Christensen, Johan & Hesstvedt, Stine (2018). Expertisation or greater representation? Evidence from Norwegian advisory commissions. *European Politics and Society*. doi:10.1080/23745118.2018.1515861

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# REPORT/COMMISSION DATASET

## 1. Overview and definitions

As seen in the variable list below, the dataset contains five types of variables:

i. *Commission variables*: Variables related to the report/commission, such as appointment date, title, appointing ministry, weblink to online PDF/HTML version, etc.
ii. *Member variables*: Characteristics of the commission/report's members (such as affiliation/background), aggregated to the level of the commission
iii. *Secretary variables*: Characteristics of the commission/report's secretaries (such as affiliation/background), aggregated to the level of the commission
iv. *Chairman variables*: Characteristics of the commission/report's chairman (such as affiliation/background), aggregated to the level of the commission
v. *Academic member variables:* Characteristics of the commission/report's academic members (e.g. academic discipline), aggregated to the level of the commission

In this version of the dataset, *reports* ("utredning") are the units of analysis. To be included in our population, a commission/report had to fulfil all of the following requirements:

i. The commission was appointed by the government or a ministry and attached a NOU series report number,
ii. It included at least one member,
iii. It was submitted between 1972 and 2018, and
iv. The report contained policy analysis and/or recommendations or a law proposal

Most reports in our data (>70%) was submitted by an ad-hoc commission that produced only one report. Approximately one third of the reports were produced by either a permanent commission (defined as a commission submitting more than 10 reports over a time period of more than 15 years; e.g. the Banking Law Commission and the Norwegian Technical Calculation Committee for Wage Settlements) or a commission that produced multiple reports to fulfil their mandate (e.g. one report designated to policy analysis and a separate report for policy recommendations). In the following, we will use the terms 'report' and 'commission' interchangeably when descriibing the variables in the dataset. Although the units of analysis are NOU reports, the dataset can easily be converted into a commission dataset, by making use of variables identifying permanent and multiple-report commissions (*com_multiplereport, com_multiple_name, com_standing).*

**We define members** of commissions as persons that were initially appointed to the commission, and/or members who were appointed later *and* did not replace an existing member. If e.g. a member from the Norwegian employers' organization Næringslivets Hovedorganisasjon (NHO) quit the commissions halfway through and was replaced by another employee from NHO, we only registered the NHO representative appointed initially. We exclude the following from our definition of members:

i. Members who were appointed to *replace* an existing member, as well as
ii. Deputy members (*varamedlemmer*)
iii. Observers (*observatører*)
iv. Members of working groups (*arbeidsutvalg*) who were not part of the commission per se.

**Secretaries** are defined as persons who were initially appointed to the secretariat, as well as persons who were appointed later *and* did not replace an existing secretary. In cases where a commission member also served as a secretary, we counted the person both as a secretariat member and a commission member. Secretaries working full-time as well as part-time on the secretariat were coded as a member of the secretariat. Also, in cases where the report noted that e.g. a ministry had the responsibility of providing a secretariat, we coded the name of the ministry. Excluded from our definition of a secretary:

i. Secretariat members who were appointed to replace an existing member
ii. Persons or organizations that supported (*bisto*) the secretariat, but was not appointed as a formal secretary

Further, we **define a chairman** as the chairman responsible for the submission of the commission's report to the government (i.e. chairman at the time of submission). This means that if a chairman was replaced during the commissions' working period, we coded the replacer as the chairman.

Lastly, we define a member, secretary or chairman's **affiliation (academic, interest group members, etc.)** as his or her affiliation at the time of appointment. We base our coding primarily on the information listed in the NOU reports. We treat the categories as mutually exclusive and a member is only listed with a single affiliation. If the report listed multiple affiliations of a member/secretary, the affiliation that was listed *first* is coded. For more details on the coding of affiliation, please see next section from page 20 and onwards about the member/secretary dataset.

## 2. Variable list

### 2.1. Commission variables

2.1.1 *NOU_ID* Unique commission ID

Unique numerical identifier for each NOU commission. Can be used to merge the report dataset and the member/secretary dataset.

2.1.2 *com_reportnumber* NOU series number (as listed in the report)

Report number as it appears in the Norwegian governments' NOU report series register. E.g. NOU 2018: 1.

2.1.3 *com_title* Title of report

Original title of the report. String variable.

2.1.4 *com_subtitle* Subtitle

If applicable: subtitle of report. String variable.

2.1.5 *com_comment* Comment

Comments noted by coders during the coding process. String variable.

2.1.6 *com_web* Weblink to report

Weblink to the online html and/or pdf version of the report. String variable.

2.1.8 *com_ministry* Ministry of appointment/submission

Name of ministry in charge of appointing and organizing the commission. Categorical variable listed with the Norwegian names of ministries. For translation, please see below.

1 = Ministry of Labour and Administration *(Arbeids- og administrasjonsdepartementet)*

2 = Ministry of Labour *(Arbeidsdepartementet)*

3 = Ministry of Administration *(Administrasjonsdepartementet)*

4 = Ministry of Labour and Inclusion *(Arbeids- og inkluderingsdepartementet)*

5 = Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs *(Arbeids- og sosialdepartementet)*

7 = Ministry of Children and Families *(Barne- og familiedepartementet)*

8 = Ministry of Children, Equality and Inclusion *(Barne-, likestillings- og inkluderingsdepartementet)*

9 = Ministry of Consumer rights and Administration *(Forbruker- og administrasjonsdepartementet)*

11 = Ministry of Defense *(Forsvarsdepartementet)*

13 = Ministry of Finance *(Finansdepartementet)*

14 = Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs *(Fiskeri- og kystdepartementet)*

15 = Ministry of Commerce and Maritime Affairs *(Handels- og skipsfartsdepartementet)*

16 = Ministry of Health and Care Services *(Helse- og omsorgsdepartementet)*

17 = Ministry of Industry *(Industridepartementet)*

18 = Ministry of Justice / Ministry of Justice and Police Affairs *(Justisdepartmentet, Justis- og politidepartementet, Justis- og beredskapsdepartementet)*

19 = Ministry of Local and Labour Affairs *(Kommunal- og arbeidsdepartementet)*

20 = Ministry of Education *(Kunnskapsdepartementet)*

21 = Ministry of Climate and Environment *(Klima- og miljødepartementet)*

22 = Ministry of Local Affairs *(Kommunaldepartementet)*

24 = Ministry of Church Affairs, Education and Research *(Kirke-, utdannings- og forskningsdepartementet)*

25 = Ministry of Culture *(Kulturdepartementet)*

27 = Ministry of Culture and Science *(Kultur- og vitenskapsdepartementet)*

28 = Ministry of Agriculture *(Landbruksdepartementet)*

29 = Ministry of Wage and Price Control *(Lønns- og prisdepartementet)*

32 = Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy *(Nærings- og energidepartementet)*

33 = Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries *(Nærings- og fiskeridepartementet)*

34 = Ministry of Trade, Industry and Commerce *(Nærings- og handelsdepartementet)*

35 = Ministry of Oil and Energy *(Olje- og energidepartementet)*

37 = Ministry of Transport *(Samferdselsdepartementet)*

38 = Ministry of Social Affairs and Health *(Sosial- og helsedepartementet)*

39 = Ministry of Social Affairs *(Sosialdepartementet)*

40 = Ministry of International Affairs *(Utenriksdepartementet)*

42 = Appointed by the Norwegian Government *(Regjeringen)*

43 = Appointed by the Prime Minister's Office *(Statsministerens kontor)*

44 = Appointed by the Norwegian Parliament *(Stortinget)*

46 = Appointed by other public bodies, unspecified

47, 48, 49, 50, 52 = Appointed by multiple ministries

99 = Unknown/missing ministry

2.1.9 *com_yearsubmiss* Year of submission

Numerical, four digits.

2.1.10 *com_yearappoint* Year of appointment

For standing commissions (e.g. *Banklovutvalget, Teknisk Beregningsutvalg*, etc), the year of initial appointment was coded. Numerical, four digits.

2.1.11 *com_decadesubmiss* Decade of submission

Recoded version of com_yearsubmiss. 1 = Commissions that submitted a report between 1972-1979, 2 = 1980-1989, 3=1990-1999, 4=2000-2009, 5=2010-2018.

2.1.12 *com_decadeappoint* Decade of appointment

Recoded version of com_yearappoint. 1 = Commissions appointed before 1980 (1946-1979), 2 = 1980-1989, 3=1990-1999, 4=2000-2009, 5=2010-2018.

2.1.13 *com_dateappoint* Date of appointment

Variable in date format. If the commission only specified the month of its appointment (e.g. "The commission was appointed in June 1980"), we coded the first day of the month (e.g. 01.06.1980).

2.1.14 *com_datesubmission* Date of submission

Variable in date format. If the commission only specified the month of its submission (e.g. "The report was submitted in June 1980"), we coded the first day of the month (e.g. 01.06.1980).

2.1.15 *com_alternativename* Commission's self-ascribed name

Only applicable to commissions that assigned a name to itself, such as The Green Tax Commission (*Grønn skattekommisjon*), The Equal Pay Commission (*Likelønnsutvalget*), etc.

2.1.16 *com_type* Type of commission

Type of commission as described in the terms of reference/mandate. E.g. expert commission, commission, law-drafting commission. In Norwegian: *utvalg , lovutvalg, ekspertutvalg, granskningsutvalg*, etc.

2.1.17 *com_lovutvalg* Law-drafting commission

Variable identifying juridical/law-drafting commissions. Categorical. 0 = policy inquiry commissions, 0.5 = policy inquiry commissions with law proposals, 1 = law drafting commissions.

2.1.18 *com_singlepersoncom* Single-person commission

Dummy variable. 1 = single-person commission (*enmannsutredning*)

2.1.19 *com_daysactive* Workdays, in days

Number of days that the commission was active. Counts the number of days from the date of appointment to the date of submission. Numerical.

2.1.20 *com_monthsactive* Workdays, in months

Number of months that the commission was active. Recoded variable based on com_daysactive. Numerical.

2.1.21 *com_yearsactive* Workdays, in years

Number of years that the commission was active. Recoded variable based on com_daysactive. Numerical.

2.1.22 *com_appointby* Appointed by …

Denotes whether commission was appointed by government, ministries or others. Categorical variable. 1 = Appointed by the government (appointed by Cabinet in official cabinet meetings. In Norwegian: *Oppnevnt ved kongelig resolusjon i Kongen i Statsråd*). 2 = Ministries. 3 = Other public bodies (such as agencies, the parliament, etc). 999 = Missing.

2.1.23 *com_multiplereports* Multiple-reports commissions, dummy

Dummy variable. 0 = Commissions that produced one report only, 1 = Commissions that produced multiple reports, 999 = Unknown.

2.1.24 *com_multiple_name* Name of multiple-report commissions

If the commission produced multiple reports, its name is listed in this string variable (and/or the name and number of other reports it produced).

2.1.25 *com_standing* Standing/permanent commission, dummy

Variable identifying permanent/standing commissions. Permanent commissions are defined as commissions that submitted more than 10 reports over a time period of more than 15 years. This includes the following five commissions: The commitee for Local Public Administration *(Hovedkomiteen for lokalforvaltningen)*, The Criminal Code Commission *(Straffelovkommisjonen)*, The Maritime Law Commission *(Sjølovkomiteen)*, The Banking Law Commission *(Banklovkommisjonen)* and The Norwegian Technical Calculation Committee for Wage Settlements *(Teknisk Beregningsutvalg)*. See dummy variables for each of these commissions below.

2.1.26 *HKLF* *Hovedkomiteen for lokalforvaltningen*, dummy

Dummy variable identifying reports by the The Commitee for Local Public Administration.

2.1.27 *SLK* *Straffelovskommisjonen*, dummy

Dummy variable identifying reports by the The Criminal Code Commission

2.1.28 *SJLK* *Sjølovkomiteen*

Dummy variable identifying reports by The Maritime Law Commission

2.1.29 *BLK* *Banklovkommisjonen*

Dummy variable identifying reports by The Banking Law Commission

2.1.30 *TBU* *Teknisk beregningsutvalg*

Dummy variable identifying reports by The Norwegian Technical Calculation Committee for Wage Settlements

2.1.31 *CAP_main* Policy area, CAP main categories

The policy area or topic of the report, coded according to the Comparative Agendas Project (CAP) coding scheme. The American/standard version of the CAP codebook was employed with some minor adjustments. See separate codebook in Excel-format for full details. In the dataset, the codes mean:

1 = Macroeconomics
2 = Civil rights (incl. gender equality, minority rights, human rights and democracy)
3 = Health
4 = Agriculture (incl. e.g. farming, fisheries, forestry)
5 = Labour issues (incl. worker safety, employee benefits and training, pensions)
6 = Education (elementary school, higher education, vocational education, research/academia)
7 = Environment (incl. climate change, recycling, waste disposal, air pollution, species protection)
8 = Energy and natural resoruces (incl. oil and gas, minerals, hydraulic power)
9 = Immigration, integration, citizenship
10 = Transportation (highways, railroads, maritime transportation, etc.)
12 = Law and crime (incl. issues related to crime prevention, court administration, criminal and civil code, prisons, punishment, family issues, police)
13 = Social welfare (e.g. social benefits, child and elderly care, low-income assistance. Please note that questions regarding pension is coded in category 5 – labour)
14 = Housing (housing policy, rural development plans - "*distriktspolitikk"*, municipal and regional borders/plans, etc.)
15 = Domestic commerce (regulation of banking and financial institutions, corporate

management and regulation, consumer rights, insurance regulation, etc)

16 = Defense

17 = Technology and media/press (incl. public press policy and subsidies, public broadcaster, telecommunication)

18 = Foreign trade (export, import, tariffs, exchange rates, competitiveness, etc)

19 = International affairs (foreign policy, international organizations, foreign aid, etc)

20 = Government operations (bureucracy, modernization and reform of the public sector, scandals – *granskning,* agency/ministry relations, municipal/regional organization and public administration, census and statistics, etc.)

21 = Public lands (public lands and national parks, indigenous affairs, etc.)

23 = Cultural affairs

24 = Church and religious affairs

2.1.32 *CAP_spec* Policy area, CAP specified categories

Detailed, four-digit CAP-codes. See separate Excel-file for complete codebook.

## 2.2. Member variables

Please see page 20 and onwards for detailed definitions and specifications about coding of affiliation/background.

2.2.1 *num_members* Total number of members

Total number of members on commission. Two digits.

2.2.2 *num_aca* Number of academic members on commission

Total number of academic members on the commission. An academic is defined as a person employed in an academic position at an independent research institution.

2.2.3 *num_civil* Number of civil servants (ministry staff)

Total number of ministry civil servants on the commission.

2.2.4 *num_pubempl* Number of public employees

Total number of (other) public employees on the commission. A public employee is here defined as a person employed in the public sector (excluding ministry staff).

2.2.5 *num_ig* Number of interest group representatives

Total number of interest group representatives on the commission. An interest group representative is here defined as a person appointed to the commission on the basis of his or her employment in an interest or stakeholder group.

2.2.6 *num_priv* Number of private sector employees

Total number of private sector representatives on the commission. A private sector representative is here defined as a person appointed to the commission on the basis of his or her employment in the private sector.

2.2.7 *num_judge* Number of judges

Total number of judges on the commission.

2.2.8 *num_lawcons* Number of lawyers/consultants

Total number of consultants and private practice lawyers.

2.2.9 *num_polit* Number of politicians

Total number of (local, regional and national) politicians and/or persons employed by a political party (political advisors, communication officers, etc).

2.2.10 *num_resag* Number of research agency employees

Total number of research agency staff on the commission.

2.2.11 *num_others* Number of other members

Total number of members with other affiliations than those listed above.

2.2.12 *num_miss* Number of members with missing affiliation

Total number of members with missing affiliation.

2.2.13 *num_ag* Number of agency staff (*direktorater*) representatives

Total number of agency staff on the commission.

2.2.14 *perc_aca* Percentage of commission members: Academics

Percentage of commission members with academic affiliation. Calculated on the basis of num_aca and num_members.

2.2.15 *perc_civil* Percentage: Civil servants (ministry staff)

Percentage of commission members employed in ministries. Calculated on the basis of num_civil and num_members.

2.2.16 *perc_pubempl* Percentage: Public employees

Percentage of public employees on commission. Calculated on the basis of num_pubempl and num_members.

2.2.17 *perc_ig* Percentage: Interest group representatives

Percentage of commission members from interest groups. Calculated on the basis of num_ig and num_members.

2.2.18 *perc_priv* Percentage: Private sector

Percentage of commission members employed in the private sector. Calculated on the basis of num_priv and num_members.

2.2.19 *perc_judge* Percentage: Judges

Percentage of judges on commission. Calculated on the basis of num_judge and num_members.

2.2.20 *perc_lawcons* Percentage: Lawyers or consultants

Percentage of judges and lawyers on commission. Calculated on the basis of num_lawcons and num_members.

2.2.21 *perc_polit* Percentage: Politicians

Percentage of politicians on commission. Calculated on the basis of num_polit and num_members.

2.2.22 *perc_resag* Percentage: Research agency staff

Percentage of research agency staff on commissions. Calculated on the basis of num_resag and num_members.

2.2.23 *perc_others* Percentage: Other members

Percentage of other members on commission. Calculated on the basis of num_others and num_members.

2.2.24 *perc_miss* Percentage: Missing affiliation

Percentage of members with missing affiliation. Calculated on the basis of num_miss and num_members.

2.2.25 *perc_ag* Percentage: Agency staff

Percentage of agency staff on commissions. Calculated on the basis of num_ag and num_members.

## 2.3. Secretariat variables

Please see page 20 and onwards for more detailed definitions and specifications about coding of affiliation/background.

2.3.1 *num_sec* Total number of secretaries
Total number of secretaries in the secretariat. Two digits.

2.3.2 *no_sec* No secretariat

Dummy variable identifying commissions that did not have a secretariat.

2.3.3 *num_aca_sec* Secretariat: Number of academic members

2.3.4 *num_civil_sec* Secretariat: Number of civil servants (ministry staff)

2.3.5 *num_pubempl_sec* Secretariat: Number of public employees

2.3.6 *num_ig_sec* Secretariat: Number of interest group representatives

2.3.7 *num_priv_sec* Secretariat: Number of private sector employees

2.3.8 *num_judge_sec* Secretariat: Number of judges

2.3.9 *num_lawcons_sec* Secretariat: Number of lawyers/consultants

2.3.10 *num_polit_sec* Secretariat: Number of politicians

2.3.11 *num_resag_sec* Secretariat: Number of research agency employees

2.3.12 *num_others_sec* Secretariat: Number of other members

2.3.13 *num_miss_sec* Secretariat: Number of members with missing affiliation

2.3.14 *perc_aca_sec* Secretariat: Percentage of academics

2.3.15 *perc_civil_sec* Secretariat: Percentage of civil servants (ministry staff)

2.3.16 *perc_pubempl_sec* Secretariat: Percentage of public employees

2.3.17 *perc_ig_sec* Secretariat: Percentage of interest groups

2.3.18 *perc_priv_sec* Secretariat: Percentage of private sector representatives

2.3.19 *perc_judge_sec* Secretariat: Percentage of judges

2.3.20 *perc_lawcons_sec* Secretariat: Percentage of lawyers/consultants

2.3.21 *perc_polit_sec* Secretariat: Percentage of politicians

2.3.22 *perc_resag_sec* Secretariat: Percentage of research agency staff

2.3.23 *perc_others_sec* Secretariat: Percentage of secretaries with other affiliation

2.3.24 *perc_miss_sec* Secretariat: Percentage of secretaries with missing affiliation

## 2.4. Chairman variables

Please see page 20 and onwards for more detailed definitions and specifications about coding of affiliation/background.

2.4.1 *no_leader* Commissions without a chairman

Dummy variable identifying commissions without a chairman.

2.4.2 *aca_l* Chairman: Academic, dummy

2.4.3 *civil_l* Chairman: Civil servant (ministry) , dummy

2.4.4 *pubempl_l* Chairman: Public employee, dummy

2.4.5 *ig_l* Chairman: Interest group representative, dummy

2.4.6 *priv_l* Chairman: Private sector representative, dummy

2.4.7 *judge_l* Chairman: Judge, dummy

2.4.8 *lawcons_l* Chairman: Lawyer or consultant, dummy

2.4.9 *polit_l* Chairman: Politician, dummy

2.4.10 *resag_l* Chairman: Research agency, dummy

2.4.11 *others_l* Chairman: Other affiliation, dummy

2.4.12 *miss_l* Chairman: Unknown affiliation, dummy

## 2.5. Academic members: Discipline

Please see page 20 and onwards for more detailed definitions of academic members and disciplines.

2.5.1 *num_socsci* Academic members: Number of social scientists

Total number of academic members on commission with a social science background/affiliation (e.g. Professors in Political Science).

2.5.2 *num_econ* Academic members: Number of economists

Total number of academic members on commission with an economics background/affiliation (e.g. Professors in Economics).

2.5.3 *num_law* Academic members: Number of legal scholars
Total number of legal scholars on commissions (e.g. Professors of Law).

2.5.4 *num_human* Academic members: Number of scholars from the humanities
Total number of academic members on commission from the humanities (e.g. Professors of Literature).

2.5.5 *num_natural* Academic members: Number of natural scientists
Total number of academic members on commissions from the natural sciences (e.g. Professors of Physics).

2.5.6 *num_engtech* Academic members: Number of engineers/technology scholars
Total number of academic members with engineering/technology background/affiliation (e.g. Professors of Engineering)

2.5.7 *num_medhealth* Academic members: Scholars within medicine and health
Total number of academic members with medicine and health background/affiliation (e.g. Professors of Medicine)

2.5.8 *num_arts* Academic members: Number of art scholars
Total number of academic members with an arts background/affiliation (e.g. Professors of Law)

2.5.9 *num_ped* Academic members: Number of educational scientists
Total number of academic members from educational sciences (e.g. Professors in Educational sciences)

2.5.10 *num_other*_aca Academic members: Other scientific background
Total number of academic members from other disciplines than the above-mentioned.

2.5.11 *num_miss_aca* Academic members: Unknown/missing scientific background
Total number of members on commissions with unknown or missing scientific background.

2.5.12 *num_socsci_sec* Secreteriat: Number of academics from Social Sciences

2.5.13 *num_econ_sec* Secreteriat: Number of academics from Economics

2.5.14 *num_law_sec* Secreteriat: Number of legal scholars

2.5.15 *num_human_sec* Secreteriat: Number of academics from Humanities

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2.5.16 | *num_natural_sec* | Secreteriat: Number of academics from Natural Sciences |
| 2.5.17 | *num_engtech_sec* | Secreteriat: Number of academics from Engineering/Technology |
| 2.5.18 | *num_medhealth_sec* | Secreteriat: Number of academics of Medicine and Health sciences |
| 2.5.19 | *num_arts_sec* | Secreteriat: Number of academics of Arts |
| 2.5.20 | *num_ped_sec* | Secreteriat: Number of academis of Educational Sciences |
| 2.5.21 | *num_other_aca_sec* | Secreteriat: Number of academics from other scientific disciplines |
| 2.5.22 | *num_miss_aca_sec* | Secretariat: Number of academics with missing affiliation |
| 2.5.23 | *socsci_l* | Chairman: Academic, Social Sciences (0,1) |
| 2.5.24 | *econ_l* | Chairman: Academic, Economics (0,1) |
| 2.5.25 | *law_l* | Chairman: Legal scholar (0,1) |
| 2.5.26 | *human_l* | Chairman: Academic, Humanities (0,1) |
| 2.5.27 | *natural_l* | Chairman: Academic, Natural Sciences (0,1) |
| 2.5.28 | *engtech_l* | Chairman: Academic, Engineering and Technology (0,1) |
| 2.5.29 | *med_l* | Chairman: Academic, Medicine and Health (0,1) |
| 2.5.30 | *arts_l* | Chairman: Academic, Arts (0,1) |
| 2.5.31 | *ped_l* | Chairman: Academic, Educational Sciences (0,1) |
| 2.5.32 | *otheraca_l* | Chairman: Academic, other discipline (0,1) |
| 2.5.33 | *missaca_l* | Chairman: Academic, unknown affiliation (0,1) |

# MEMBER AND SECRETARIAT DATASET

## 3. Overview and definitions

This dataset contains detailed information about the members and secretaries of the NOU commissions. The dataset consists of two types of variables:

i. **Macro level (commission) variables**: Variables relating to characteristics of the commission, such as the name of the report, the policy area, appointing ministry, etc (as described above).
ii. **Micro level (member/secretary) variables**: Variables relating to members and secretaries, such as name, professional title, affiliation/employer and (if applicable) academic discipline.

The units of analysis in this dataset are *commission members and secretaries,* and not unique individuals or persons. This means that members appointed to multiple commissions over time are registered several times in the dataset. If the units of analysis of interest to users of this dataset are *unique individuals or persons*, an individual ID can be obtained upon request to the author of this codebook. Individuals can also be identified by structuring the dataset on the *name_original* variable.

In the dataset, the user will find variables relating to the members and secretaries' background, such as a categorical variable (10 categories) tapping the composition of NOU commissions. Composition of commissions is coded by classifying members and secretaries according to their affiliation/organization/employer, primarily as it is described in the reports. If the report lacked this information, we proceeded with retrieving information from other sources: newspaper articles (www.retriever.no), personal home pages, CVs found online, etc.

We define affiliation as the member's affiliation at the time of appointment. If he or she is listed as "*former* [MP/civil servant/etc]", he or she is coded as "other member" (see categories below). We treat the categories as mutually exclusive and a member is hence only listed with a single affiliation. In cases where the member/secretary was listed with multiple affiliations in the report (e.g. institutional affiliation and a trade union), the affiliation that is listed *first* is coded.

Members and secretariats were ascribed to one of the 10 following categories (variable in dataset: 4.2.10 *composition*)

1. Academics
2. Ministry officials
3. Public employees
4. Interest group/stakeholder representatives
5. Business representatives
6. Consultants
7. Judges and court administrators
8. Lawyers in private practice
9. Political representatives
10. Other members
11. Missing: members with unknown affiliation

**An academic is defined as** a person employed in an academic position at an independent research institution. By "a person in an academic position" we mean persons that hold a PhD and are currently employed in a research position, such as professors, associate professors, phd fellows, docents, assistant professors, *forsker 1, forsker 2*, etc. By "independent research institution" we mean non-partisan, non-governmental establishments that are founded for doing research (and not only teaching, vocational training, etc).

Included in this definition:

- Academics at universities and høgskoler. Examples: University of Oslo, University of Tromsø, NTNU, Oslo Metropolitan University, Høgskolen i Innlandet, NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Norwegian Business School (BI).
- Independent research institutes and research centres. Examples: Fafo, Institute for Social Research (ISF), Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), *Norsk institutt for naturforskning* (NINA), *Norsk institutt for vannforskning* (NIVA), etc.
- Retired researchers (emeritus).

Excluded from the academic definition:

- Administrative staff at academic institutions (secretaries, auditors).
- Rektorer, directors and other chairs of academic institutions that do not hold a PhD and have an academic track record

- Persons employed in "research agencies" – that is, organizations that are defined by law as agencies (in Norwegian: *direktorater*). This include for example Statistics Norway (*Statistisk Sentralbyrå),* Norwegian Institute of Public Health *(Folkehelseinstituttet),* Institute of Marine Research *(Havforskningsinstituttet).*
- Persons employed at non-academic teaching institutions, e.g. vocational schools and *folkehøyskoler.*

Academic discipline is coded based on

I. the academic's current position at the time of appointment (e.g. academic field of professorship).
II. If this information was missing, we coded the discipline in which he or she received a Ph.D.

**A ministry official** is defined as a person employed in a ministry. **A public employee** is other employees in the public sector (except ministry officials). Public employees are also coded according to a more detailed coding scheme, see variable 4.2.13 *public_specified.* **A person employed in a research agency** means a person employed in a governmental agency whose mandate is primarily research acitivity and knowledge-production. This includes e.g. Statistics Norway (*Norsk Statistisk Sentralbyrå)*, Norwegian Institue of Public Health (*Folkehelseinstituttet)*, and Insitute of Marine Reserarch (*Havforskningsinstituttet).*

**Interest group representatives** are persons representing an interest group or a non-governmental organization/stakeholder group.

Included in definition is:

- Persons representing organized interests, such as labour unions (LO, YS, Unio), employer's associations (NHO, Virke, Spekter), professional organizations (Legeforeningen) and organized citizen groups.

Excluded:

- Persons representing non-organized interests, e.g. general groups such as "patients", "teachers" or "pupils"

**Business representatives** are persons representing a private company/corporation/business.

Included in this definition:

- Persons listed in the reposrt as a representative of a firm/company (e.g. *aksjeselskap*)

Excluded:

- Persons employed in state enterprises (in which the government holds a majority of the shares, e.g. Telenor, Petoro, etc).
- Persons representing a vocational group, e.g. fishermen, craftsmen, etc.

**Consultants** are defined as persons representing a private consultancy firm, such e.g. Deloitte, KPMG, Rambøll.

**By judges and court administrators,** we mean persons listed as judges in the NOU report. This means judges (and *sorenskrivere*, *byfogder,* etc.) in Tingretten, Lagmannsretten, Høyesterett. Persons employed at the courts in as clerks (*utredere*) or in other administrative positions in the courts are also included in this category.

**Lawyers in private practice** are lawyers employed in private law firms and persons listed as "lawyer", "judicial expert", etc. Public prosecutors (*statsadvokater, regjeringsadvokater, politiadvokater,* etc) are hence excluded from this category.

**Political representatives** are defined as elected representatives, politicians and party professionals at the national, regional and local level.

Included in this definition:

- Elected representatives at the national (*Storting*), regional (*fylke*) and municipality (*kommune*) level, e.g. MPs (*stortingsrepresentanter),* local representatives and councillors (*kommunestyrerepresentanter),* mayors *(ordførere),* regional mayors (*fylkesordførere).*
- Former and retired politicians (when listed as former MP, etc)
- Party professionals and employees in party organizations, such as political advisors.

**Further, we have a category for "other types of members".** This catgeorgy includes members that have a known affiliation, but that could not be classified according to any of the above-mentioned categories. The variable *othermembers_specified* lists the 12 most common "other" types of members (such as senior citizens, priests, etc).

Lastly, we were unable to retrieve information about some of the members and secretaries. These are listed as **"Missing/unknown affiliation".**

# 4. Variable list

## 4.1. Macro level (commission) variables

Variables starting with *com_* in the dataset are identical to the variables in the report/commission dataset as described above. Please consult section 2.1 for further details about these variables.

## 4.2. Micro level (member, secretary and chairman) variables

4.2.1 *ID* ID variable

Unique member/secretary ID. Numerical, five digits.

4.2.2 *memb_dummy* Member, dummy

Dummy variable identifying members of commissions. 1 = Members.

4.2.3 *sec_dummy* Secretary, dummy

Dummy variable identifying secretaries in the dataset. 1 = Secretaries.

4.2.4 *leader_dummy* Chairman, dummy

Dummy variable identifying members that also served as as chairmen. Please note that some commissions did not have a designated chairman, and the number of chairmen (N = 1524) does not correspond to the number of total commissions/reports in the dataset (N = 1563).

4.2.5 *affiliation_original* Affiliation, original string variable

Affiliation of member/secretary, as it appears in the NOU report. String format.

4.2.6 *title_original* Professional title, original string variable

Professional title of member/secretary, as it appears in the NOU report. String format.

4.2.7 *name_original* Name of individual, original string variable

Name of member/secretary, as it appears in the NOU report. Please note that if the report noted the name of the organization rather than the name of the person (e.g. "Person employed in [organization]"), the name of the organization is listed. String format.

4.2.8 *discipline_original* Discipline of academics, original string variable

Applicable only to academic members and research agency staff. String format.

4.2.9 *role_categorical* Role in commission, categorical

The individual's role in the commission. Categorical variable, mutually exclusive categories.

0 = Members

1 = Secretaries

2 = Person appointed as chairman of the commission initially

3 = Person that were appointed as chairman to the commission at a later point in time

4.2.10 *composition* Affiliation, categorical

Members and secretaries classified according to their main institutional affiliation. Categorical variable based on information from *affiliation_original* and *title_original*. For definitions of the different categories, please see section 4.1.

1 = Academics

2 = Civil servants (in ministries)

3 = Other public employees

4 = Interest group representatives

5 = Industry and business representatives

6 = Judges and court administrators

7 = Lawyers in private practice

8 = Consultants (employed in consultancy firms)

9 = Politicians

10 = Other members, other affiliation than categories 1-9

99 = Missing/unknown background

4.2.11 *academic_field* Academic discipline, 27 categories

Academic members and secretaries classified according to their discipline. Categorical variable based on *discipline_original*. For definitions of disciplinary background, see section 4.1.

1 = Economics

2 = Business economics

3 = Political science

4 = Sociology

5 = Anthropology

6 = Human geography

7 = Pscyhology

8 = Criminology

9 = Law

10 = Education sciences

11 = Social science, unspecified

12 = History

13 = Literature, linguistics

14 = Communication and media science

15 = Philosophy

16 = Religion, history of religion

17 = Humanities, unspecified

18 = Physics, chemistry, biology

19 = Mathematics

20 = Natural sciences, unspecified

21 = Engineering

22 = Computer sciences, cybernetics

23 = Medicine

24 = Odontology, veterinary, nursing sciences

25 = Arts, unspecified

26 = Other disciplines/sciences

27 = Missing/unknown discipline

4.2.12 *academic_field_resag* Research agency staff: Academic discipline, 27 categories

Applicable to research agency staff. Please see 4.2.11 for variable values.

4.2.13 *public_specified* Public employees: Organization, 14 categories

Organizational affiliation/employment of persons employed in the public sector. Categorical variable, mutually exclusive categories. Based on *affiliation_original* and *title_original*.

1 = Ministry officials

2 = Agency officials *(direktorater, tilsyn)*

3 = Administrative appeal bodies (*nemder, ombud, etc)*

4 = Public councils, boards and permanent commissions

5 = Central bank officials *(Norges Bank)*

6 = Research agency officials *(SSB, Folkehelseinstituttet, etc)*

7 = County governors (*Fylkesmann*)

8 = Regional officials (employees in the public administration on the regional level – *fylkeskommunene*)

9 = Local officials (employees in municioal/local public administrations)

10 = Other employees in the public sector, such as teachers, doctors, policemen.

11 = Military personell

12 = Employees in state-owned enterprises (such as Statoil, Posten Norge, Telenor)

13 = The parliament's oversight bodies (*Riksrevisjonen, etc)*

14 = Public prosecutors (*Statsadvokater, Regjeringsadvokater, etc).*

4.2.14 *othermembers_specified* "Other" members, specified

Categorical variable specifying the background/affiliation of members with a background not covered by the above-mentioned categories.

1 = Unspecified

2 = Non-academic staff employed at academic institutions (administrative staff, etc.)

3 = Farmers/fishermen/forestry

4 = Artists, musicians

5 = Priests and staff employed by the church or other religious institutions

6 = Managers (*Disponenter)*

7 = Housewives

8 = Foreign experts, bureaucrats, etc; people employed in international organizations

9 = Directors/staff at museums and theaters

10 = Journalists, publishers, editors; people employed in the press and publishing houses

11 = Senior citizens

12 = Think tank staff