

# PUTTING RESEARCH INTEGRITY ON THE MAP

## Understanding Dynamics of Responsibility Across European Research Integrity Policies

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WCRI  
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# THE CONTEXT

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Part of a larger project – **ETHOS** (Exploring Research Integrity Practices in the Houses of Science)

- How is responsibility framed and placed – both in the literature and in **policies**? How does the translation of problems/solution location affect academic practices?

# THE CONTEXT

## WHAT IS RESPONSIBILITY IN RESEARCH INTEGRITY?

Responsibility for ethical research and research integrity lies with everyone who is active in research, but especially with institutions and leaders in research performing organisations.

(Forsberg et al. 2018)



- Shift from individual to institutional responsibility solidified in 2017 with ALLEA European Code of Conduct
- Focus on environmental factors in recent revisions



# RESEARCH QUESTIONS

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- How is responsibility for RI balanced between individual researchers, institutions, and systemic factors?
- Is there alignment between the European, national, and institutional policies?
- **What does the European landscape for RI look like at the institutional level and are European universities adopting similar RI policies?**

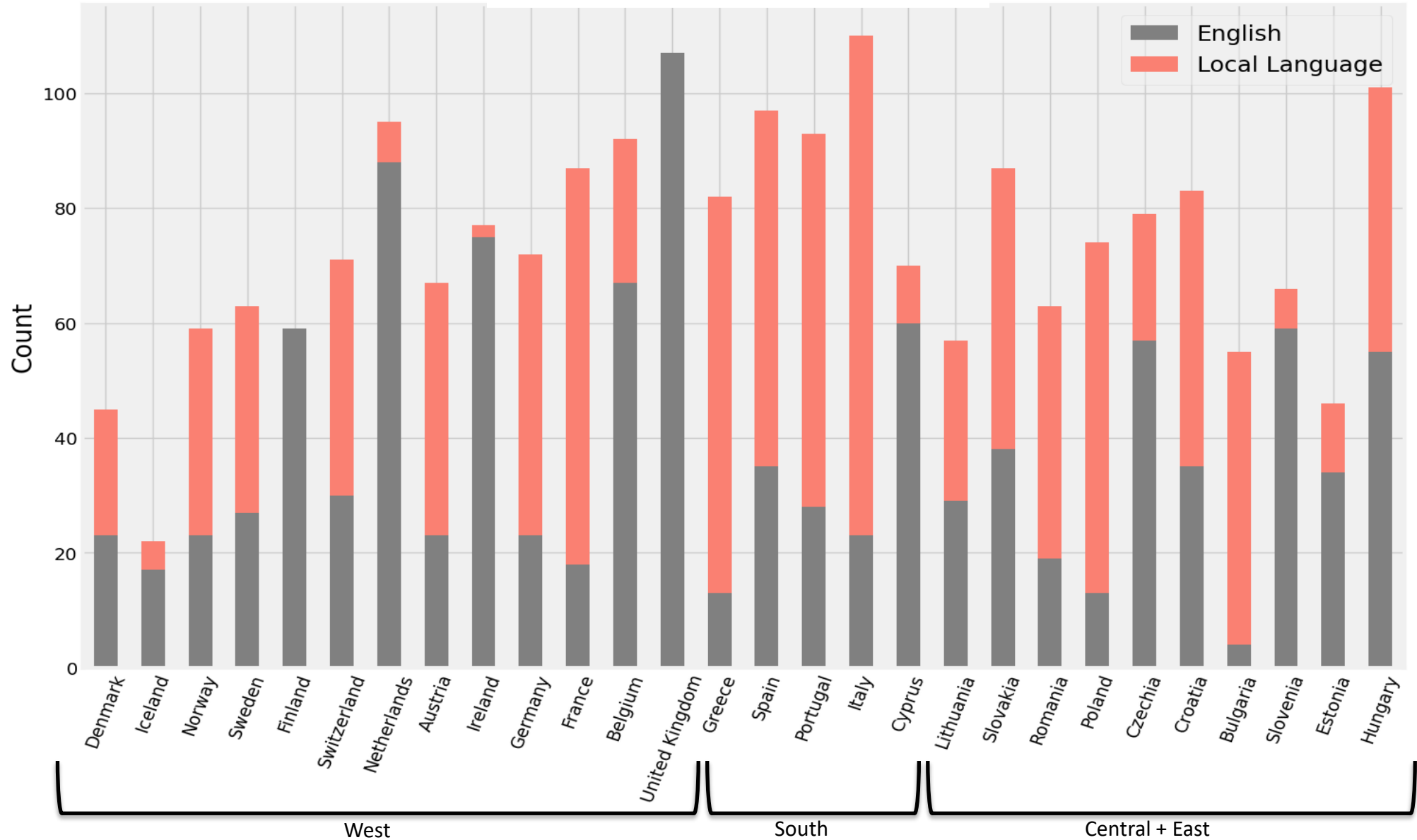


# DATA

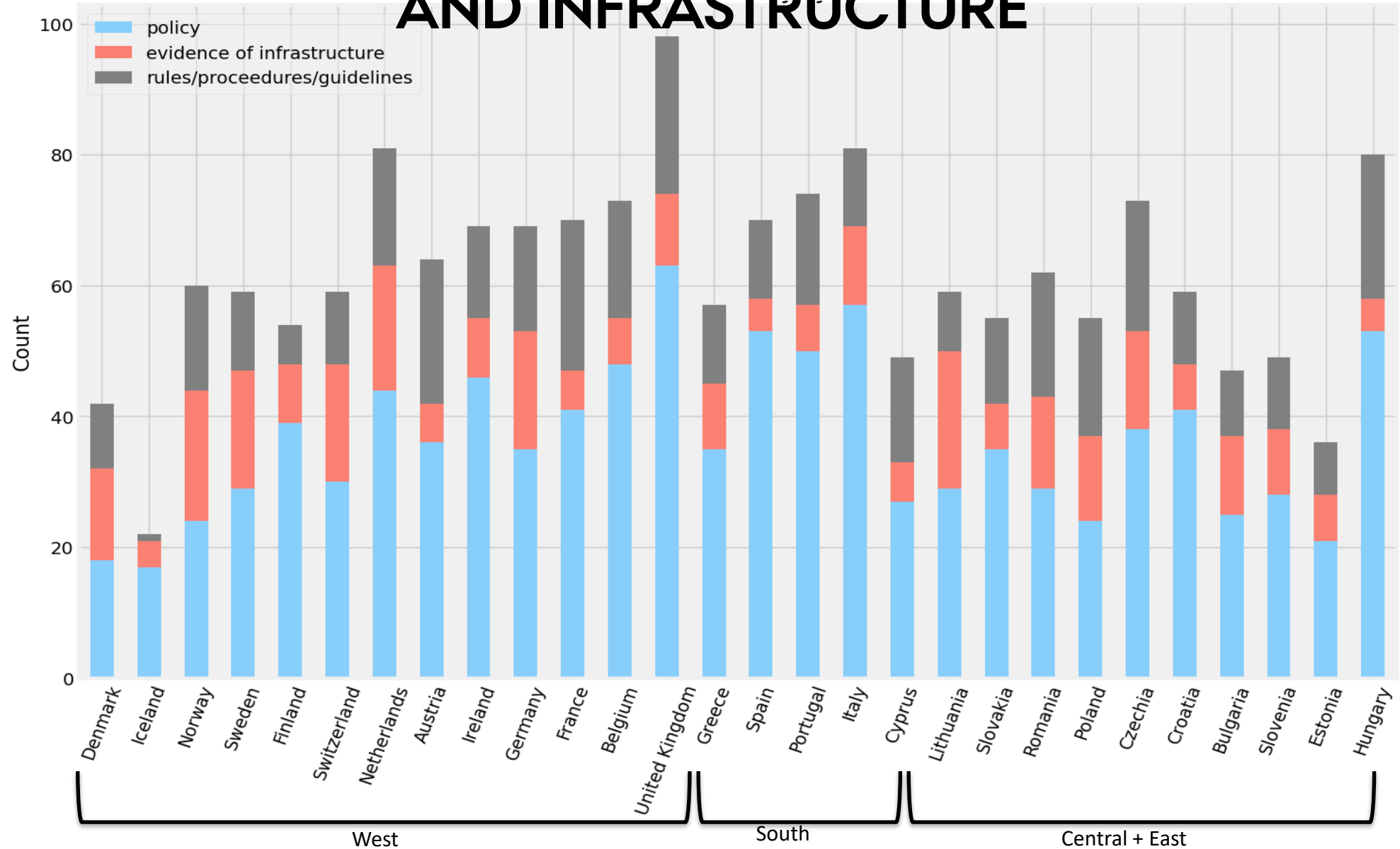
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- Collected data from 46 countries and 380 universities
- Targeted the ten largest universities per European country
- Searched university websites for relevant documents in English
- Used terms like 'Research Integrity,' 'Research Ethics,' and 'Data Management Policy'
- Translated search terms into local languages when necessary
- Coded: **policy/evidence of infrastructure/rules or procedures**
- Coded: **RI/ethics/misconduct/open science/data/quality**

# TOTAL MATERIAL AVAILABLE BY LANGUAGE

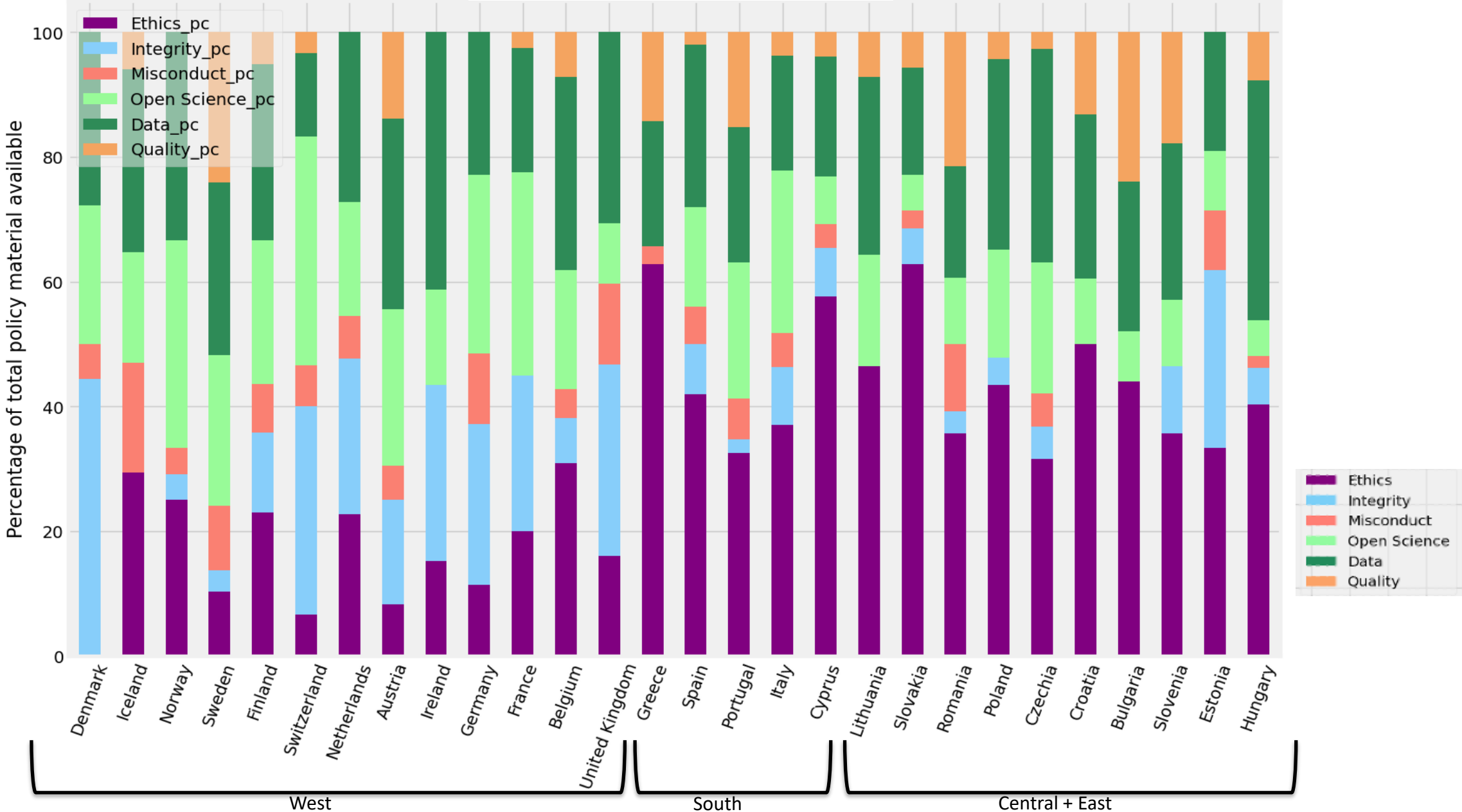


# TOTAL MATERIAL CODED INTO CATEGORIES: POLICY, RULES, AND INFRASTRUCTURE





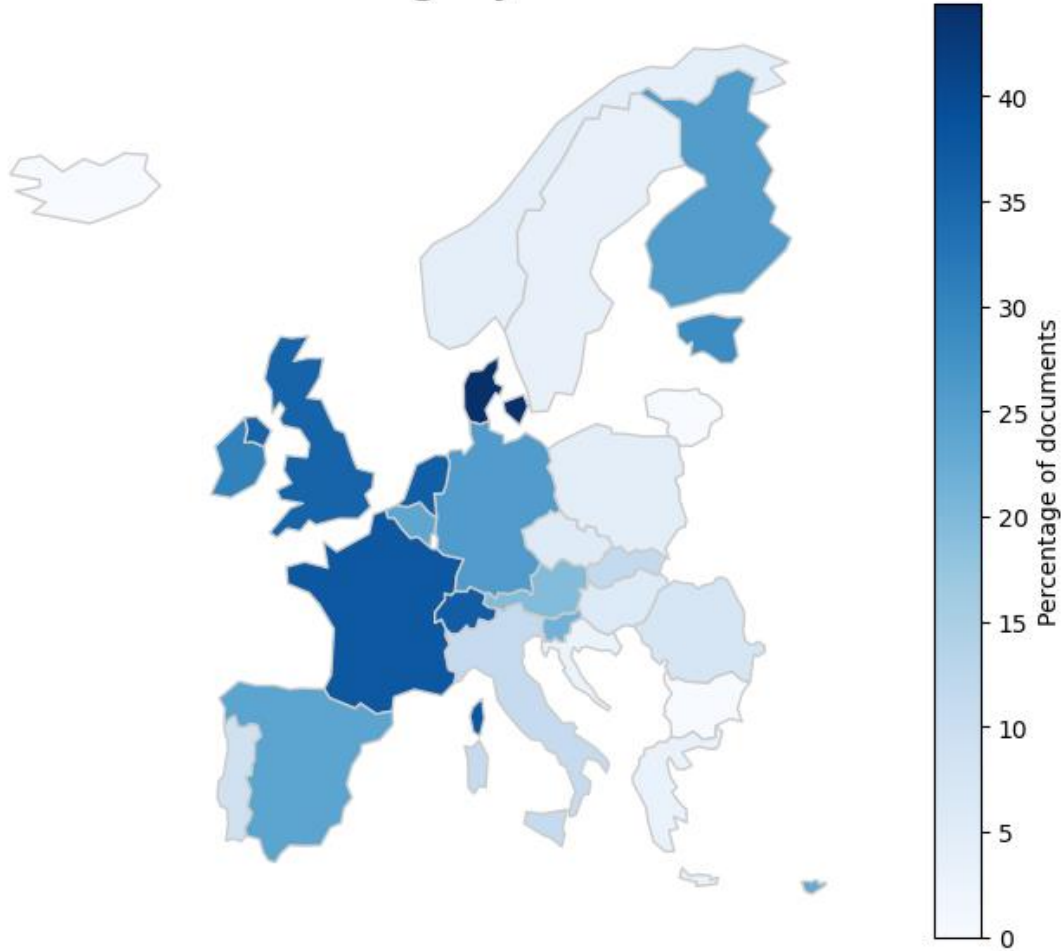
# POLICY DOCUMENTS BY MAIN THEME



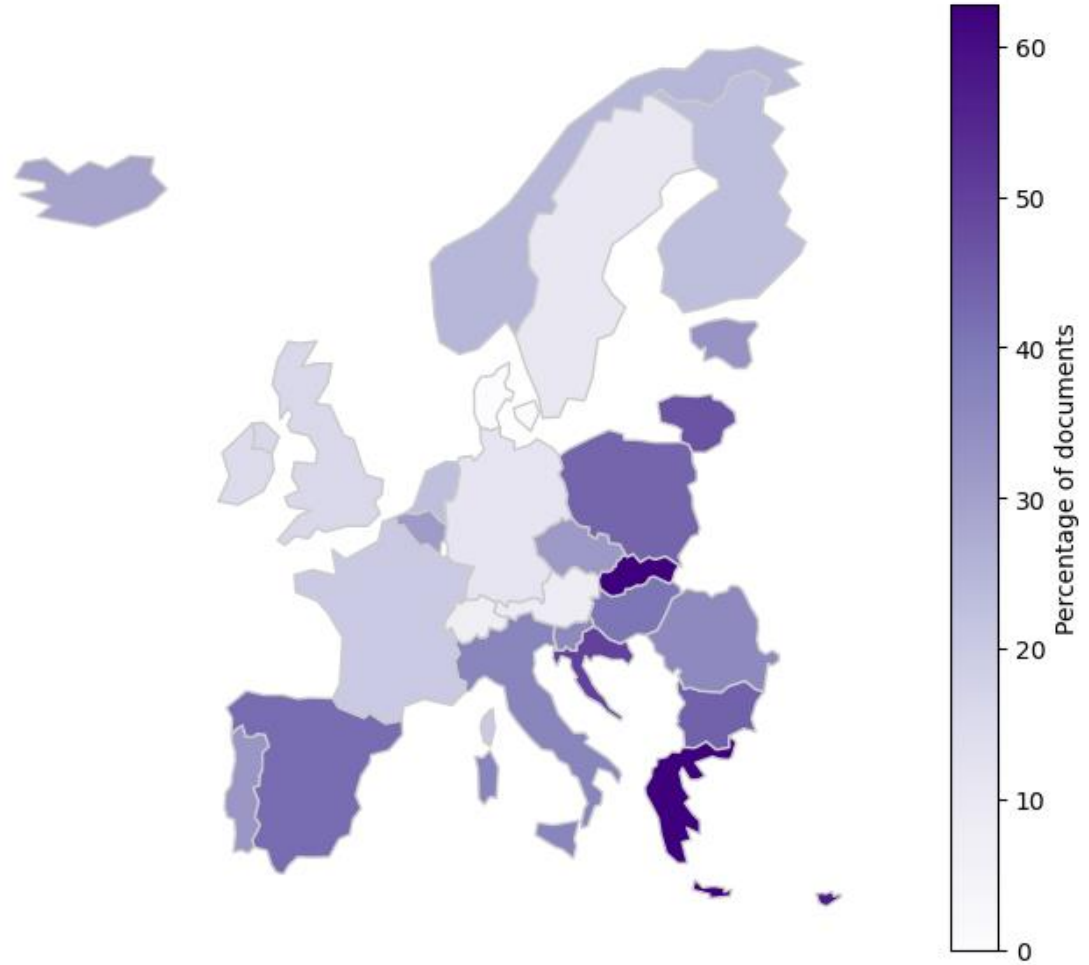


# POLICY DOCUMENTS ON RI VS ETHICS

Integrity

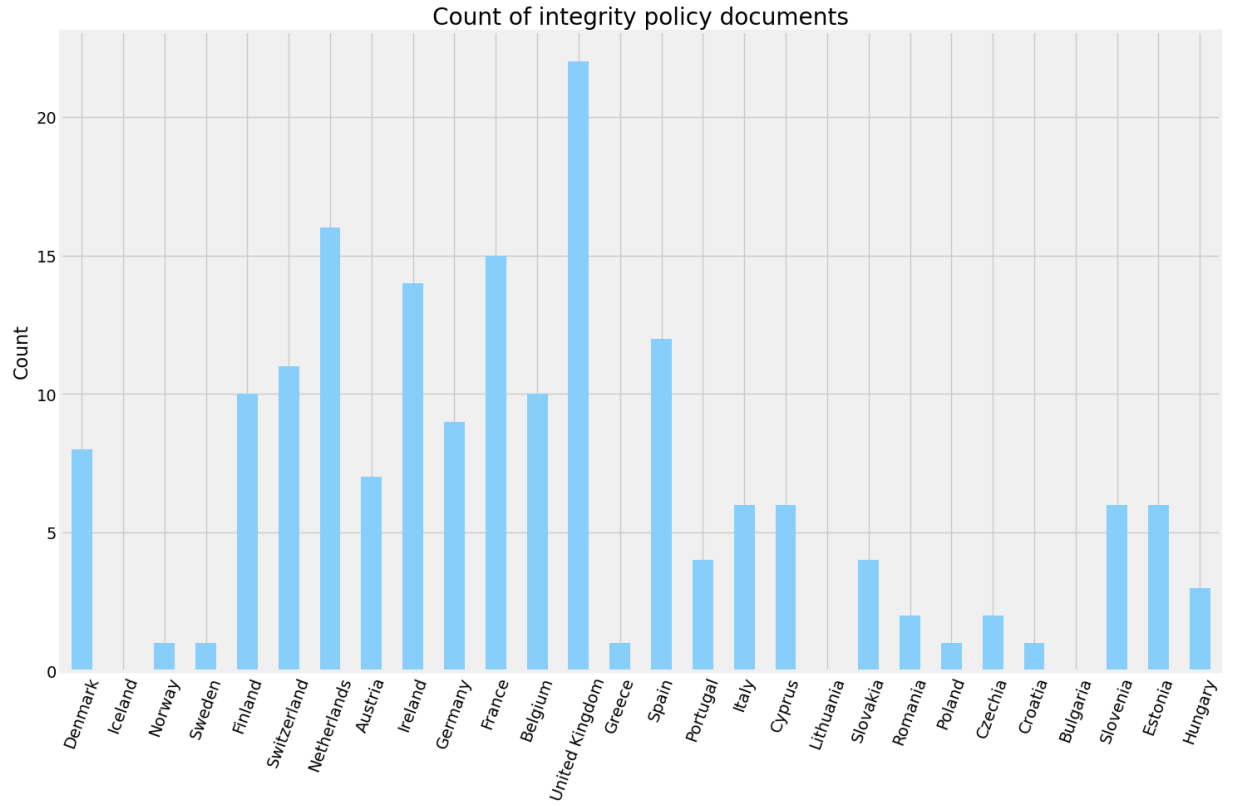
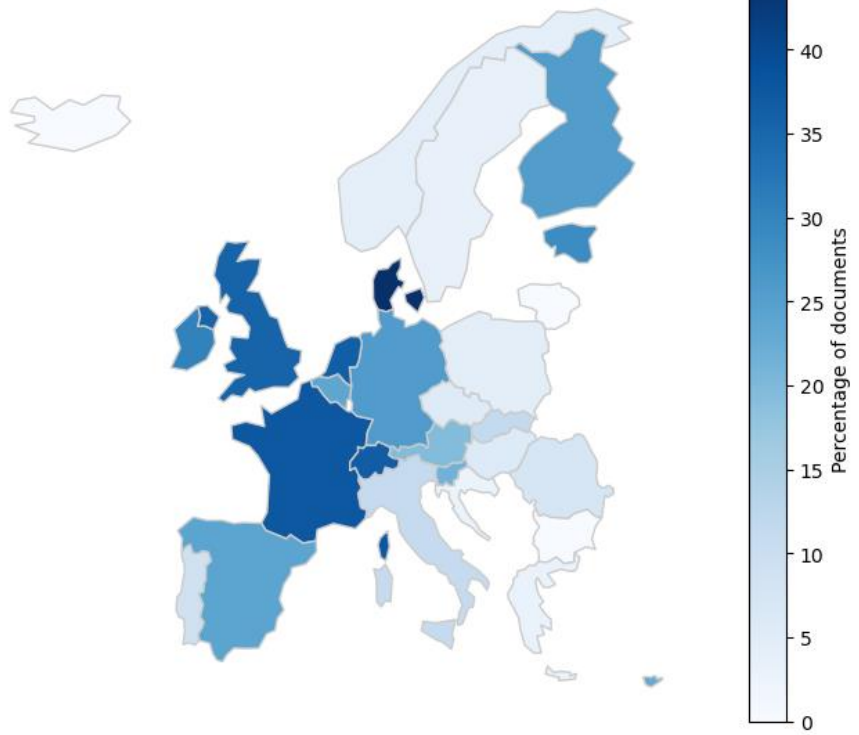


Ethics



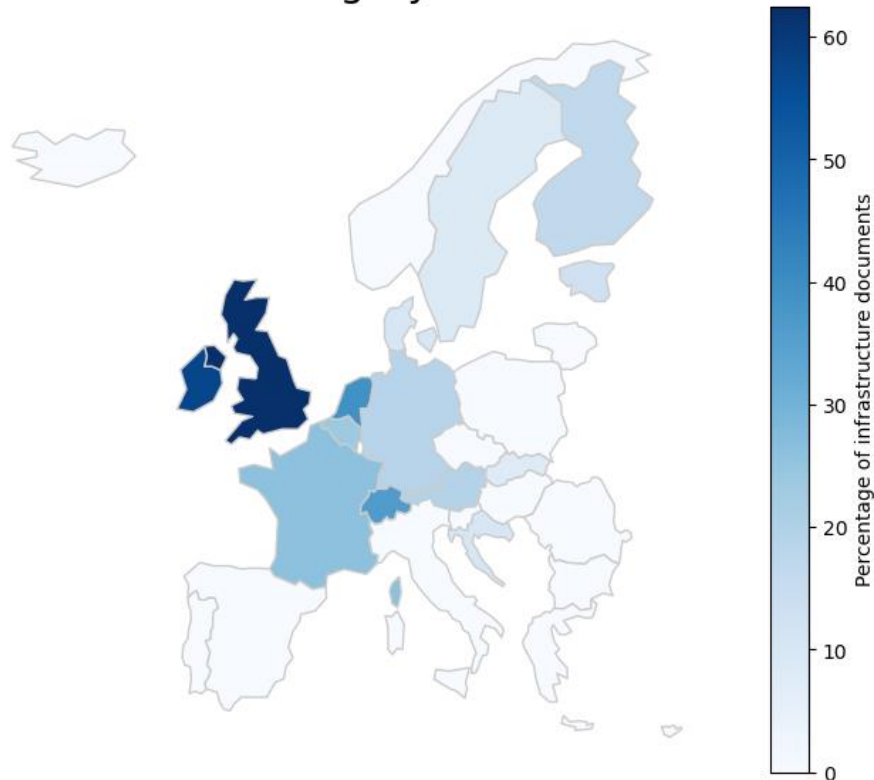
# POLICY DOCUMENTS ON RI

## Integrity

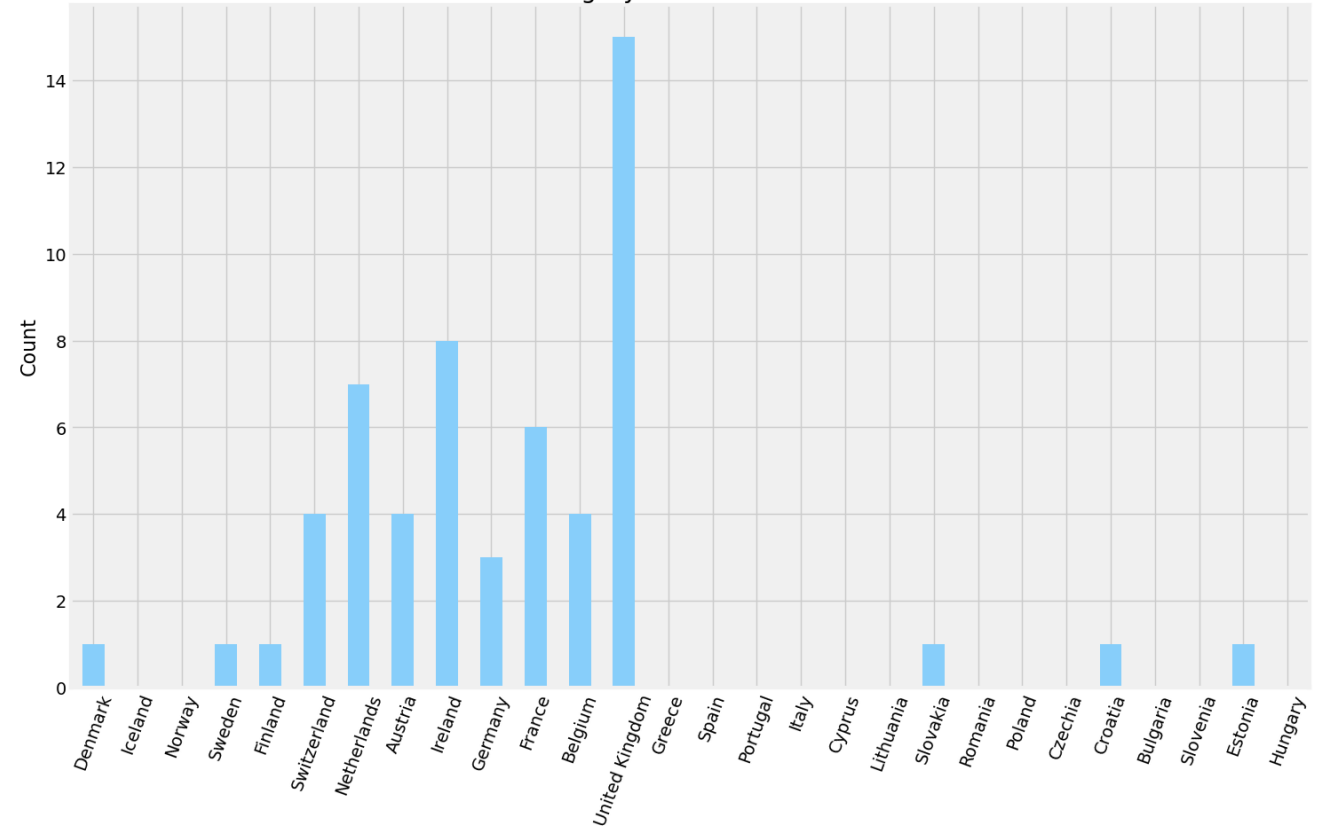


# EVIDENCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT RI

## Integrity



Count of integrity infrastructure documents



# NEXT STEPS FOR ANALYSIS

- The work is still ongoing, but **next steps include...**
  - **Working on normalizing and cleaning the data**
  - **Natural language processing document similarity measures...**
    - Account for language in policy pdfs in English
    - How Similar are the European CoC, the national codes, and the institutional policies?
    - Vertically: e.g., national compared to institutional
    - Horizontally e.g., between institutions

# AVENUES FOR INQUIRY?

- Is this space over saturated with policy?
  - If universities and research leaders are pressured to adopt comprehensive RI policies, could this lead to policy adoption without the necessary supporting infrastructure? i.e., “box-checking”
    - Should universities be adopting similar policies? Do all universities have similar issues?
- If European, national, and university RI and RI-adjacent policies emphasise different themes of importance, how do researchers make sense of this?



**THANK YOU!**

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