Visegrad Fund

PARLIAMENTARY TRANSPARENCY IN THE VISEGRAD AND THE WESTERN BALKAN COUNTRIES

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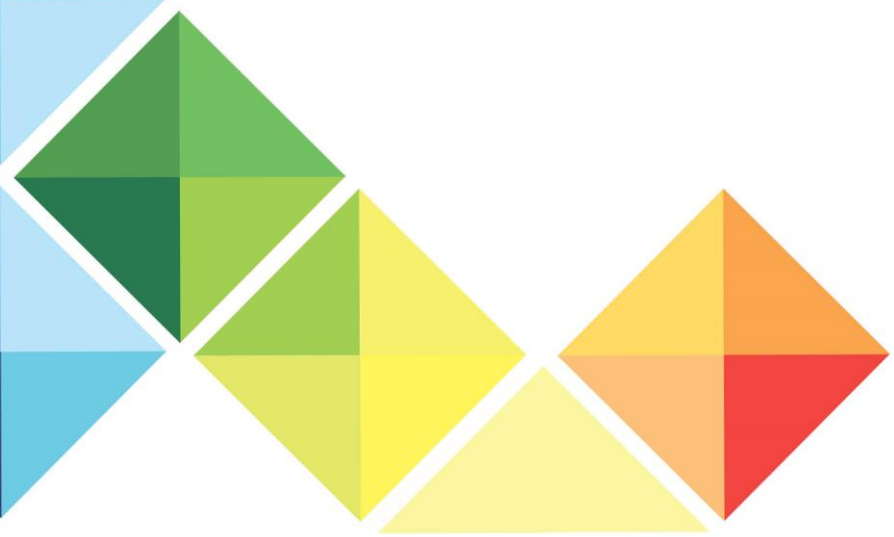
SURVEY, EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS





EXCECUTIVE SUMMARY

ENGLISH | ALBANIAN | BOSNIAN | CZECH | HUNGARIAN | POLISH | SERBIAN | SLOVAK

ENGLISH

Availability of information on activities of national parliament is a necessary condition for strong and stable democracy. Parliaments and parliamentary chambers vary significantly in an extent to which they publish various data about their activities and in ways how they provide them to the public. The ways of publishing parliamentary data are very important because they determine how easy it is to search, understand, obtain and re-use this data.

This publication surveys and evaluates availability and openness of a large number of key parliamentary data types in 12 parliamentary chambers in the Visegrad and Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Czech Republic, Hungary, Kosovo, Montenegro, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia). Its aim is to help increase availability, quality and re-usability of parliamentary information by comparing the surveyed parliamentary chambers, identifying strengths and weaknesses and recommending specific strategies to mitigate them.

KEY FINDINGS

- The parliamentary chambers in the Visegrad countries generally exhibit a higher level of parliamentary data availability and openness that parliamentary chambers in the Western Balkans countries. There are, however, positive examples of parliamentary transparency in the Western Balkans, as well as significant shortcomings in the Visegrad countries.
- The most open parliamentary chambers are the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic, the Polish Sejm and the Polish

Senate. The least open chambers are the parliament of Kosovo and the House of People of Bosnia and Hercegovina.

- Data related to plenary sessions is more available and open than data related to committee sessions in every parliamentary chamber surveyed.
- Many documents are published in PDF and textual formats that obstruct machine readability and thus re-usability of the data.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- In many parliamentary chambers, information on members of parliaments' (MPs) professional background, formal education and other positions that they hold in the public sector is incomplete and incomparable. This would be effectively and easily mitigated if the MPs were asked to fill in a standardized questionnaire.
- Many parliamentary chambers publish MPs' declaration of assets. However, they are published as PDF files and sometimes even as scans of hand written documents. The quality of asset declarations would increase if the declarations were released in machine readable formats (e.g. as tabular data).
- Word-by-word transcripts of parliamentary sessions are often published in PDF files that do not identify individual speakers in a standardized was. It is highly recommended to publish transcripts as HTML, XML or JSON files since it would significantly increase re-usability of the data.
- In many parliamentary chambers, committee sessions are only reported about in a form of short written summaries. It is recommended to produce and publish either audio or video recordings or word-by-word transcripts of committee sessions.

- Many parliaments publish results of only selected votes taken during plenary sessions (e.g. only of final votes on legislation). It is advised that results of all votes are published by default (i.e. unless secret voting is explicitly required).
- Results of votes taken during committee sessions are not recorded by names of individual MPs in any of the surveyed countries. It is recommended to record and publish results of at least the most important votes taken during committee sessions (e.g. final votes on legislation).
- Most parliaments in the region produce audio or video recordings of plenary sessions. It is recommended to provide these recordings for download and to include timestamps that mark individual speakers.
- Most legal documents published on the official parliamentary websites (e.g. text of bill proposals, amendments, committee resolutions, approved legislation) are published as PDF and DOC files. It is recommended to publish legal documents (proposals, amendments, law) in structured formats (HTML, XLM etc.) that improve their machine readability.
- It is strongly recommended to provide raw parliamentary data in machine readable formats that enables remote access and bulk download either via an API or bulk downloads.

POSITIVE EXAMPLES

- In the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, the official parliamentary websites publish identity and contact information of MPs' personal staff.
- In Slovakia, salaries of MPs' personal staff are disclosed.

- The parliaments of the Czech Republic, Montenegro, Poland, Hungary, and Slovakia publish MPs' declarations of assets.
- The Polish Sejm is the only parliamentary chamber in the region that publishes information about MPs' travel expenses. Although this information is incomplete it is definitely a step in the right direction.
- The Polish Senate is the only parliamentary chamber in the region that publishes regular reports about interactions of MPs' and lobbyists including their names and professional affiliations
- In the parliaments of Albania and Hungary and in the Polish Sejm, word-by-word transcripts of committee sessions are produced and published on the official parliamentary website.
- The parliaments of the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary and Slovakia publish results of every vote taken during plenary sessions by names of individual MPs by default.
- In Bosnia and Hercegovina, audio recordings of plenary session are published in files that are also available for download.
- In Poland, video recordings of plenary session include timestamps that identify individual speakers.
- The official parliamentary website of the Czech Chamber of Deputies contains a graphical overview of each bill's flow in the legislative process.
- The Czech Chamber of Deputies provides regularly updated raw dumps of the parliamentary database.

ALBANIAN

Gatishmëria e informacionit mbi aktivitetet e parlamenteve kombëtare është një kusht i domosdoshëm për një demokraci të fortë dhe të qëndrueshme. Parlamentet dhe dhomat parlamentare të vendeve të ndryshme ndryshojnë në mënyrë të qenësishme prej njëri-tjetrit si përsa i përket publikimit të të dhënave mbi aktivitetin e vet ashtu edhe përsa i përket mënyrës se si këto të dhëna i ofrohen publikut. Nga ana tjetër, mënyra me të cilën këto të dhëna bëhen publike është shumë e rëndësishme pasi përcakton lehtësinë me të cilën ato mund të gjenden, kuptohen apo ripërdoren.

Ky raport bën publike rezultatet e një studimi me anë të të cilit janë vlerësuar gatishmëria dhe transparenca e një numri të konsiderueshëm të dhënash kyçe parlamentare në 12 dhoma parlamentare në vendet e Vishegradit dhe Ballkanit Perëndimor (Shqipëri, Bosnje-Hercegovinë, Republika Çeke, Hungari, Kosovë, Mali i Zi, Poloni, Serbi dhe Sllovaki). Qëllimi i projektit në kuadër të cilit studimi u realizua është të rritë gatishmërinë, cilësinë dhe ripërdorimin e informacionit nga parlamentet duke krahasuar dhomat parlamentare nën hulumtim, identifikuar pikat e forta dhe të dobëta dhe rekomanduar strategji specifike për të zbutur problemet e vërejtura.

GJETJET KYÇ

- Dhomat parlamentare në vendet e Vishegradit përgjithësisht kanë një nivel më të lartë të gatishmërisë së të dhënave parlamentare dhe transparencës sesa dhomat parlamentare të vendeve të Ballkanit Perëndimor. Megjithatë, shembuj pozitivë të transparencës parlamentare mund të gjenden në Ballkanin Perëndimor, si dhe problematika në vendet e Vishegradit.

- Dhomat parlamentare me nivelin më të lartë të transparencës janë Dhoma e Deputetëve e Republikës Çeke, Sejm-i polak dhe Senati polak. Dhomat me nivelin më të ulët të transparencës janë Parlamenti i Kosovës dhe Dhoma e Populllit e Bosnje-Hercegovinës.
- Të dhënat mbi seancat plenare janë më të gatshme dhe më transparente sesa të dhënat mbi mbledhjet e komisioneve parlamentare në çdo dhomë parlamentare nën hulumtim.
- Shumë dokumente gjenden të publikuara në formatin PDF apo të tjera formate teksti të cilat pengojnë lexueshmërinë nga makinat dhe, si rrjedhim, ripërdorimin e të dhënave.

REKOMANDIME

- Në shumë prej dhomave parlamentare informacioni mbi anëtarët e parlamentit, si profesionin e mëparshëm, edukimin formal apo të tjera pozicione që ata mbajnë në sektorin publik është i paplotë dhe i pakrahasueshëm. Kjo mund të përmirësohej ndjeshëm nëse anëtarëve të parlamentit do tu kërkohej të mbushin një pyetësor të standardizuar.
- Shumë dhoma parlamentare publikojnë deklaratat e pasurive të anëtarëve të parlamentit. Megjithatë, ky informacion publikohet në formën e dokumenteve në formatin PDF bile në disa raste janë dokumente të shkruara me dorë dhe të skanuara. Cilësia e deklaratave të pasurive do të përmirësohej ndjeshëm nëse këto të fundit do të publikoheshin në format të tillë që të mundësonte leximin e tyre prej kompjuterave (p.sh. në formë tabelore).
- Transkriptet fjalë për fjalë të sesioneve parlamentare shpesh publikohen si dokumente në format PDF dhe mungon identifikimi i folësve individualë në format të standardizuar. Do të ishte e

rekomandueshme që transkriptet të publikohen në formatet HTML, XML apo JSON çka do të përmirësonte ndjeshëm ripërdorimin e të dhënave.

- Në shumë dhoma parlamentare mbledhjet e komisioneve parlamentare raportohen vetëm në formën e përmbledhjeve të shkurtra. Rekomandohet që të prodhohen dhe publikohen regjistrime audio ose video ose transkprite fjalë për fjalë të mbledhjeve të komisioneve.
- Shumë dhoma parlamentare publikojnë rezultatet e votimit vetëm për disa prej votimeve të mbajtura gjatë sesioneve plenare (p.sh. vetëm rezultate mbi ligjet e aprovuara). Këshillohet që të bëhen publike rezultatet e të gjitha votimeve të mbajtura (përveç rasteve në të cilat votimi i fshehtë kërkohet specifikisht).
- Rezultatet e votimeve në mbledhjet e komisioneve parlamentare nuk regjistrohen në emër të deputetëve në asnjë prej vendeve nën hulumtim. Rekomandohet që të bëhen publike së paku votimet më të rëndësishme të mbajtura gjatë komisioneve parlamentare (p.sh. votimet finale mbi ligjet).
- Shumë prej parlamenteve të rajonit prodhojnë regjistrime audio apo video të sesioneve plenare. Rekomandohet që këto regjistrime të jenë të mundura të shkarkohen dhe të vendosen shenja të cilat të bëjnë të mundur identifikimin e fillimit të fjalimit të folësve individualë.
- Shumë dokumente ligjore të publikuar në faqet zyrtare të parlamenteve (p.sh. tekstet e propozimeve legjislative, amendamenteve, rezolutave të komisioneve, ligjeve të aprovuara) publikohen në formatin PDF ose DOC. Rekomandohet që dokumentet ligjore (propozimet, amdendimet, ligjet) të publikohen në format të strukturuar (HTML, XLM etj.) çka do të përmirësonte mundësinë për tu lexuar nga kompjuterat.

- Rekomandohet fort që të dhënat parlamentare bruto të bëhen të aksesueshme në formate që të mundësojnë lexueshmërinë nga kompjuterat në mënyrë që të mundësohet aksesismi i tyre në distancë apo shkarkimi në grupe të mëdha.

SHEMBUJ POZITIVË:

- Në Republikën Çeke, Poloni dhe Sllovaki faqet zyrtare të parlamenteve publikojnë identitetin dhe informacionin e kontaktit për stafin personal të anëtarëve të parlamentit.
- Në Sllovaki janë publike rrogat e stafit personal të anëtarëve të parlamentit.
- Parlamentet e Republikës Çeke, Malit të Zi, Polonisë, Hungarisë dhe Sllovakisë publikojnë deklaratat e pasurive të anëtarëve të parlamentit.
- Sejm-i Polak është e vetmja dhomë parlamentare në rajon që publikon të dhëna mbi shpenzimet e udhëtimit të anëtarëve të parlamentit.
- Senati i Polonisë është e vetmja dhomë parlamentare në rajon që publikon raporte të rregullta mbi ndërveprimin e anëtarëve të Senatit me lobistët, përfshi emrin dhe afilimin personal të këtyre lobistëve.
- Në Kuvendin e Shqipërisë, Parlamentin e Hungarisë dhe Sejm-in e Polonisë mund të gjenden transkriptet fjalë për fjalë të mbledhjeve të komisioneve parlamentare në faqet zyrtare.
- Parlamenti i Republikës Çeke, Polonisë, Hungari dhe Sllovakisë publikojnë rezultatet e çdo votimi të ndërmarrë gjatë sesioneve plenare sipas emrave të deputetëve individualë.
- Në Bosnje-Hercegovinë, regjistrimet audio të sesioneve plenare publikohen në format që është i mundur të shkarkohet.

- Në Poloni regjistrimet video të sesioneve plenare kanë shënjues kohorë që mundësojnë identifikimin e folësve individualë.
- Faqja zyrtare e Dhomës së Deputetëve të Çekisë përmban një pamje grafike të rrugës që ka ndjekur secili ligj përgjatë procesit legjislativ.
- Dhoma e Deputetëve të Çekisë ofron mundësinë për të shkarkuar të dhënat nga baza e të dhënave në grupe të mëdha duke i përditësuar ato rregullisht.

BOSNIAN

Dostupnost informacija o aktivnostima državnih parlamenata je važan uslov za jaku i stabilnu demokratiju. Parlamenti i domovi parlamenata u različitoj mjeri objavljuju različite podatke o svojim aktivnostima, a razlikuju se i po načinu na koji ove podatke prezentuju javnosti. Načini objavljivanja parlamentarnih podataka su jako važni, budući da određuju koliko je jednostavno pretraživanje, razumijevanje, dobijanje i korištenje ovih podataka.

U ovoj publikaciji se postmatra i evaluira dostupnost i otvorenost velikog broja ključnih parlamentarnih tipova podataka u 12 domova parlamenata u zemljama Višegrada i Zapadnog Balkana (Albanija, Bosna i Hercegovina, Češka Republika, Mađarska, Kosovo, Crna Goda, Poljska, Srbija, Slovačka). Cilj ove publikacije je da pomogne u povećanju dostupnosti, kvaliteta i ponovne upotrebljivosti parlamentarnih informacija upoređujući posmatrane domove parlamenata, identifikujući dobre i lose strane, te preporučujući specifične strategije koje će pomoći u prevazilaženju prepreka.

KLJUČNA SAZNANJA:

- Domovi parlamenata u zemljama Višegrada generalno pokazuju viši nivo dostupnosti parlamentarnih podataka I otvorenosti od zemalja Zapadnog Balkana. Međutim, postoje i pozitivni primjeri transparentnosti parlamenata među zemljama Zapadnog Balkana, kao i značajne mane među zemljama Višegrada.
- Najotvoreniji domovi parlamenata su Zastupnički dom Parlamenta Češke Republike, Zastupnički dom Parlamenta Poljske i Senat Poljske. Najmanje otvoreni domovi parlamenata su

Parlament Kosova i Dom naroda Parlamenta Bosne i Hercegovine.

- Podaci vezani za sjednice parlamenata su dostupniji i otvoreniji od podataka koji su vezani za sjednice komisija u svim posmatranim domovima.
- Mnogi dokumenti se objavljuju u PDF i tekstualnim formatima koji smanjuju mašinsku čitljivost dokumenata, te konsekventno ponovnu upotrebljivost

PREPORUKE:

- U mnogim domovima, informacije o zastupnicima/delegatima kao što su njihova profesionalna pozadina, formalno obrazovanje ili druge pozicije koje obnašaju u javnom sektoru su nekompletne i neuporedive. Ova situacija bi se lako mogla izbjeći i unaprijediti okoliko bi zastupnici/delegate ispunili standardizovani upitnik.
- Mnogi domovi objavljuju imovinske kartone zastupnika/delagata. Međutim, imovinski kartoni se objavljuju kao PDF dokumenti, a ponekada čak i kao skenovi ručno pisanih dokumenata. Kvalitet imovinskih kartona bi se značajno povećao ukoliko bi se kartoni objavljivali u formatima pogodnim za mašinsko čitanje (npr. tabelarni prikaz podataka).
- Stenogrami sjednca se često objavljuju u PDF dokumentima u kojima se ne naznačavaju govornici u standardizovanom obliku. Preporučuje se da se stenogrami objavljuju u HTML, XML ili JSON format, budući da bi takvo objavljivanje značajno povećalo mogućnost ponovnog korištenja podataka.
- U mnogim domovima se o sjednicama komisija izvještava u obliku kratih pisanih sažetaka istih. Preporučuje se da se informacije sa sjednica komisija objavljuju u vidu audio/video snimaka ili stanograma.

- U mnogim domovima se objavljuju samo određeni rezultati glasanja (npr. samo finalni rezultati glasanja o zakonima). Preporučuje se da se rezultati svih glasanja objavljuju po automatizmu (npr. osim ako je tajno glasanje eksplicitno traženo).
- Reziltati glasanja na sjednicama komisija po imenima članova nisu dostupni ni u jednoj od posmatranih zemalja. Preporučuje se da se bilježe i objavljuju rezultati barem najvažnijih glasanja na sjednicama komisija (npr. finalnog glasanja na zakone).
- Većina parlamenata u region imaju audio i video zapise sjednica. Preporučuje se da se omogući preuzimanje ovih zapisa, te da se uključe vremenske oznake govora pojedinačnih govornika.
- Većina zakonskih dokumenata (npr. tekstovi prijedloga zakona, amandmani, odluke komisija, usvojeni zakoni), se objavljuje u formi PDF i DOC dokumenata. Preporučuje se da se zakonski dokumenti (nacrti, prijedlozi, amandmani, zakoni) objavljuju u strukturiranim formatima (XTML XML itd.) kako bi se poboljšala mašinska čitljivost dokumenata.
- Snažno se preporučuje da parlamenti omoguće daljinski pristup 'sirovim podacima' u mašinsko čitljivim formatima i da se omogući 'bulk download' tih podataka.

POZITIVNI PRIMJERI:

- U Češkoj Republici, Poljskoj i Slovačkoj zvanični sajtovi parlamenata objavljuju kontakt informacije i identitet ličnog osoblja zastupnika/delegata.
- U Slovačkoj su dostupne informacije o primanjima ličnog osoblja zastupnika/delegata.
- Parlamenti Češke Republike, Crne Gore, Poljske, Mađarske i Slovačke objavljuju imovinske kartone zastupnika/delegata.

- Zastupnički dom Parlamenta Poljske je jedini dom parlamenta koji objavljuje informacije o putnim troškovima zastupnika.
- Senat Poljske je jedini dom parlamenta u region koji redovno objavljuje izbještaje o interakciji članova ovog doma sa lobistima, uključujući njihova imena i lične veze.
- U parlamentima u Albaniji i Mađarskoj, te u Zastupničkom domu Parlamenta Poljske, stenogrami sjednica se objavljuju na zvaničnim sajtovima parlamenata.
- Parlamenti Češke Republike, Poljske, Madžarske i Slovačke objavljuju rezultate svakog glasanja tokom sjednice, po imenima zastupnika/delegate.
- U Bosni i Hercegovini, audio snimci sjednica se objavljuju na sajtovima parlamenata i dostupni su za download
- U Poljskoj, video snimci sjednica imaju vremenske oznake koje označavaju govore različitih zastupnika.
- Zvanični sajt Zastupničkog doma Parlamenta Češke Republike ima grafički prikaz puta svakog zakona u procedure.
- Zastupnički dom Parlamenta Češke Republike redovno objavljuje ‘sirove baze parlamentarnih podataka’.

CZECH

Dostupnost informací týkající se aktivit národních parlamentů je nezbytná podmínka pro silnou a stabilní demokracii. Parlamenty a parlamentní komory se výrazně liší v míře, v jaké publikují různá data týkající se jejich aktivity a ve způsobu, jakým je poskytují veřejnosti. Způsoby, jakým jsou data týkající se činnosti parlamentů publikována, jsou velmi podstatné, protože předurčují, jak jednoduché je vyhledávat, pochopit, získat a znovu využít zmíněná data.

Tato publikace zkoumá a hodnotí dostupnost a otevřenost velkého počtu parlamentních dat v 12 parlamentních komorách v zemích Visegrádu a Západního Balkánu (Albánie, Bosna a Hercegovina, Česká republika, Maďarsko, Kosovo, Černá Hora, Polsko, Srbsko, Slovensko). Jejím cílem je pomoci zvýšit dostupnost, kvalitu a znovu-využitelnost parlamentních informací tím, že porovnává zkoumané parlamentní komory, identifikuje silné a slabé stránky a doporučuje specifické strategie k jejich překonání.

KLÍČOVÁ ZJIŠTĚNÍ:

- Parlamentní komory Visegrádských zemí obecně vykazují vyšší úroveň dostupnosti parlamentních dat a otevřenosti než parlamentní komory zemí Západního Balkánu. I tak v Západním Balkánu nalezneme pozitivní příklady parlamentní transparentnosti a stejně tak signifikantní nedostatky ve Visegradských zemích.
- Nejvíce otevřené komory jsou Poslanecká sněmovna Parlamentu České republiky, polský Sejm a polský Senát. Nejméně otevřené komory jsou parlament Kosova a Sněmovna lidu Bosny a Hercegoviny.

- Data vztahující se k plenárním zasedáním jsou více dostupná než data vztahující se k zasedáním komisí a to ve všech zkoumaných parlamentech.
- Mnoho dokumentů bylo publikovaných jako PDF a v textových formátech, které překáží strojové čitelnosti a tím také znovu-využitelnosti dat.

DOPORUČENÍ:

- V mnoha parlamentních komorách jsou informace týkající se členů komory, jejich profesionálního pozadí, vzdělání a dalších pozic, které zastávají ve veřejném sektoru, nekompletní a neporovnatelné. Toto je možné lehce odstranit, pakliže by členové komor vyplňovali standardizovaný dotazník.
- Mnoho parlamentních komor publikuje majetková přiznání členů komory. Nicméně ta jsou publikována jako PDF soubory a někdy dokonce jako scany ručně psaných dokumentů. Kvalita majetkových přiznání by se zvýšila, pokud by byla přiznání publikovaná ve strojově čitelné podobě (např. jako tabulková data).
- Stenozáznamy parlamentních zasedání jsou často publikována v PDF souborech, které neidentifikují jednotlivé řečníky ve standardizované podobě. Je vysoce doporučováno publikovat transkripty jako HTML, XML nebo JSON soubory, protože by to výrazně zvýšilo znovu-využitelnost dat.
- V mnoha parlamentních komorách je o zasedání komisí reportováno pouze ve formě krátkého psaného shrnutí. Je doporučováno produkovat a publikovat buď zvukový nebo video záznam nebo doslovný přepis zasedání komisí.

- Mnoho parlamentů publikuje výsledky pouze vybraných hlasování probíhajících během plenárního zasedání (např. pouze finální hlasování týkající se legislativy). Je doporučováno, aby byla standardně publikována všechna hlasování (mimo těch hlasování, u kterých je explicitně vyžadováno tajné hlasování).
- Výsledky hlasování zasedání komisí nejsou zaznamenány po jménech jednotlivých poslanců v žádné ze zkoumaných zemích. Je doporučeno zaznamenávat a publikovat výsledky minimálně těch nejvíce významných hlasování komisí (např. finální hlasování o legislativě).
- Většina parlamentů regionu produkuje audio a video záznamy plenárního zasedání. Je doporučeno poskytovat tyto záznamy pro stáhnutí a opatřit je časovou značkou, která označí jednotlivé řečníky.
- Většina dokumentů právní povahy, které jsou publikovány na oficiálních parlamentních webových stránkách (např. texty návrhů zákonů, dodatky, rozhodnutí komisí, schválená legislativa), jsou publikovány ve formě PDF nebo DOC souborů. Doporučuje se publikovat tyto dokumentu (návrhy, dodatky, zákony) ve strukturovaném formátu (HTML, XML atd.), což zvýší strojovou čitelnost dat.
- Je silně doporučeno poskytnout surová parlamentní data ve strojově čitelném formátu, který umožňuje vzdálených přístup a stahování dat ve velkém objemu buď skrze API, nebo velkoobjemovému stahování.

POZITIVNÍ PŘÍKLADY:

- V České republice, Polsku a Slovensku publikují oficiální parlamentní webové stránky identitu a kontaktní informace asistentů poslanců.
- Ve Slovensku je přiložen i plat poslanců a asistentů.
- Parlamenty České republiky, Černé Hory, Polska, Maďarska a Slovenska publikují majetková přiznání poslanců.
- Polský Sejm je jediná parlamentní komora v regionu, která publikuje informace o cestovních výdajích poslanců. Ačkoli je tato informace neúplná, je to určitě krok správným směrem.
- Polský Senát je jediná parlamentní komora v regionu, která publikuje pravidelné reporty týkající se interakce poslanců a lobbistů, včetně jejich jmen a profesních vztahů.
- V parlamentech Albánie, Maďarska a Polského Sejmu jsou publikovány doslovné přepisy zasedání komisí, které jsou dostupné na oficiálních parlamentních webových stránkách.
- Parlamenty České republiky, Polska, Maďarska a Slovenska vždy publikují výsledky každého hlasování plenárního zasedání po jménech jednotlivých poslanců.
- V Bosně a Hercegovině jsou publikovány audio záznamy plenárních zasedáních v souborech dostupných ke stažení.
- V Polsku mají videozáznamy plenárního zasedání časovou značku, která identifikuje jednotlivé mluvčí.
- Oficiální parlamentní webové stránky české Poslanecké sněmovny obsahují grafické znázornění legislativního procesu každého jednotlivého návrhu.
- Česká Poslanecká sněmovna poskytuje pravidelně aktualizované *raw dumps* parlamentní databáze.

HUNGARIAN

Egy erős és stabil demokráciának elengedhetetlen kelléke, hogy a nemzeti parlament működésével kapcsolatos információk minden állampolgár számára hozzáférhetőek legyenek. Nagyon változó, hogy az egyes parlamentek és parlamenti kamarák milyen adatokat tesznek közzé, és azok milyen formában érhetőek el a nyilvánosság számára. A parlamenti adatok nyilvánosságra hozatalának módja fontos kérdés, mivel ez határozza meg, hogy a felhasználók számára mennyire egyszerű az adatok letöltése, értelmezése, valamint az adatok közötti keresés és az adatok újrahasznosítása.

Ez a kutatás a visegrádi és nyugat-balkáni országok (Albánia, Bosznia-Hercegovina, Csehország, Koszovó, Lengyelország, Magyarország, Montenegró, Szerbia, Szlovákia) 12 parlamenti kamaráját vizsgálja általunk különösen fontosnak tartott adatok elérhetősége és hozzáférhetősége szempontjából. A munka célja, hogy a parlamenti kamarák összehasonlításával, a jó- és rosszgyakorlatok azonosításával, továbbá stratégiai javaslatokkal hozzájáruljon a parlamenti adatok könnyebb elérhetőségéhez, jobb minőségéhez és az egyszerűbb újrahasznosíthatósághoz.

FŐ MEGÁLLAPÍTÁSOK:

- Általánosan elmondható, hogy a visegrádi országok parlamenti kamarái nagyobb mennyiségű adatot tesznek elérhetővé, mint a nyugat-balkániak, azonban a Nyugat-Balkánon is találunk jó példákat a parlamenti átláthatóságra csakúgy, mint súlyos hiányosságokat a visegrádi országok esetében.

- A legnyíltabban működő parlamenti kamara a cseh Képviselőház (alsóház), valamint a lengyel alsó- és felsőház, a Szejm és a Szenátus. A legkevésbé nyílt parlamenti kamarák a koszovói parlament és a bosznia-hercegovinai Nemzetek Háza.
- Az összes vizsgált parlament esetében igaz, hogy a plenáris ülésekkel kapcsolatos adatok könnyebben elérhetőek és nyíltabbak, mint a bizottsági ülésekre vonatkozóak.
- Sok dokumentumot PDF és egyéb olyan szöveges formátumban tesznek közzé, amelyek a gépi olvashatóságot, így pedig az újrahasznosíthatóságot is megnehezítik.

JAVASLATOK:

- Számos parlamenti kamara esetében a képviselők szakmai életrajza, iskolai végzettsége, illetve a közszférában betöltött más pozícióik hiányosan szerepelnek és nem összehasonlíthatóak. Erre hatékonyan és egyszerű megoldás volna, ha minden képviselőnek ugyanazt a standardizált kérdőívet kellene kitöltenie.
- Jellemzően közlik a parlamenti honlapok a képviselők vagyonnyilatkozatát is, azonban ezt rendszerint PDF formátumú fájlokban hozzák nyilvánosságra, sőt, néhány esetben kézzel írott dokumentumok szkennelt verzióját teszik elérhetővé. A vagyonnyilatkozati közzététel minősége javulna, ha gépi olvashatóságot lehetővé tevő (pl. táblázatos) formátumban közölnék őket.
- A parlamenti ülések szó szerinti jegyzőkönyveit is gyakran PDF formátumban hozzák nyilvánosságra, ahol az egyes felszólalókat nem jelölik standardizált módon. Erősen ajánlott a HTML, XML

vagy JSON formátumok használata az adatok publikálásánál, mivel ez jelentősen megnövelné az adatok újrahasználhatóságát.

- Sok parlamenti kamara esetében a bizottsági ülésekről csak rövid írásos összefoglaló készül. Ajánlott lenne az ülésekről videó- vagy hangfelvételeket, illetve szó szerinti jegyzőkönyvet közölni.
- A vizsgált parlamentek közül sok helyütt csak bizonyos plenáris szavazások (pl. csak egy javaslat végszavazásának) eredményeit teszik közzé. Javasolt, hogy minden szavazás eredménye automatikusan kerüljön fel a honlapra (itt a titkos szavazások képezhetnek egyedül kivételt).
- A bizottsági szavazások eredményeit egy vizsgált országban sem rögzítik név szerint, képviselőnként. Javasoljuk, hogy legalább a legfontosabb bizottsági szavazások (pl. végszavazások) esetében rögzítsék és hozzák nyilvánosságra az eredményeket.
- A régió legtöbb parlamentjében készül videó- vagy hangfelvétel a plenáris ülésekről. Javasolt, hogy ezek a felvételek letölthetőek legyenek és időbélyegekkel jelöljék az egyes felszólalókat.
- A hivatalos parlamenti honlapokon közölt törvénykezési dokumentumok (pl. törvényjavaslatok szövege, módosító indítványok, bizottsági határozatok, elfogadott törvények) többségét PDF vagy DOC formátumban teszik közzé. Javasoljuk, hogy a törvénykezési dokumentumok (törvény- és módosító javaslatok, törvényszövegek) strukturált formátumban (HTML, XML) kerüljenek fel a honlapra, javítva gépi olvashatóságukat.
- Erősen ajánlott, hogy a nyers parlamenti adatok elérhetőek legyenek géppel olvasható formátumban, ami lehetővé teszi az interneten keresztüli hozzáférést, és nagy mennyiségű adat letöltését egyben vagy API-n keresztül.

POZITÍV PÉLDÁK:

- Csehországban, Lengyelországban és Szlovákiában a hivatalos parlamenti honlapon megtalálható a képviselők munkatársainak neve és elérhetősége is.
- Szlovákiában közzéteszik a képviselők fizetését és hogy kikből áll személyes stábjuk.
- A cseh, a montenegrói, a lengyel, magyarország és a szlovák parlament közzéteszi a képviselők vagyonnyilatkozatát.
- A lengyel szejm az egyetlen parlamenti kamara a régióban, amely közöl adatokat a képviselők utazási költségeiről.
- A lengyel szenátus az egyetlen parlamenti kamara a régióban, amely rendszeres jelentéseket közöl a képviselők és lobbisták találkozóiról, beleértve utóbbiak nevét és azt, hogy kit képviselnek.
- Az albán és a magyar parlamentben, valamint a lengyel szejmben a bizottsági ülésekről szó szerinti jegyzőkönyv készül, amelyek elérhetőek a parlament hivatalos honlapján.
- A cseh, a lengyel, a magyar és a szlovák parlament automatikusan nyilvánosságra hozza a plenáris ülés minden szavazásának eredményét a képviselők nevével együtt.
- Bosznia-Hercegovinában a plenáris ülésekről készült hangfelvételek letölthetőek a honlapról.
- Lengyelországban a plenáris ülésekről készült videó-felvételeken külön időbélyegekkel jelölik az egyes felszólalások kezdetét.
- A cseh képviselőház hivatalos parlamenti honlapján grafikus ábrán tekinthető meg, hogy az egyes törvényjavaslatok a törvénykezési folyamat mely szakaszában vannak.
- A cseh képviselőház rendszeresen frissíti és közzéteszi a parlamenti adatok nyers adatbázisát.

POLISH

Dostępność informacji o działalności parlamentu narodowego jest warunkiem koniecznym dla silnej i stabilnej demokracji. Zakres publikowania danych o sposobie działalności różnych izb parlamentarnych i sposób ich udostępnienia znacznie się różnią w różnych państwach. Sposoby publikowania danych parlamentarnych są niezwykle istotne, ponieważ określają, jak łatwo jest je odszukać, zrozumieć, pozyskać oraz przetworzyć.

Niniejsza publikacja analizuje i podsumowuje dostępność i otwartość wielu typów danych parlamentarnych w 12 izbach parlamentarnych Grupy Wyszehradzkiej i krajów Bałkanów Zachodnich (Albania, Bośnia i Hercegowina, Czechy, Węgry, Kosowo, Czarnogóra, Polska, Serbia, Słowacja). Jej celem jest pomoc w zwiększeniu dostępności, jakości i możliwości przetwarzania informacji parlamentarnych poprzez porównanie analizowanych izb parlamentarnych, identyfikację mocnych i słabych stron oraz rekomendowanie konkretnych strategii ich łagodzenia.

NAJWAŻNIEJSZE USTALENIA:

- Izby parlamentarne w krajach Grupy Wyszehradzkiej generalnie wykazują wyższy poziom dostępności danych i otwartości izb parlamentarnych niż kraje Bałkanów Zachodnich. Istnieją jednak pozytywne przykłady przejrzystości parlamentarnej w krajach Bałkanów Zachodnich, a także znaczące braki w krajach Grupy Wyszehradzkiej.
- Najbardziej otwarte izby parlamentarne to Izba Poselska Republiki Czeskiej oraz Sejm i Senat RP. Najmniej otwarte są parlamenty Kosowa i Bośni i Hercegowiny.

- Dane związane z sesjami plenarnymi są bardziej dostępne niż dane związane z posiedzeniami komisji parlamentarnych w każdym sprawdzanym parlamencie.
- Wiele dokumentów jest publikowanych w formacie PDF i jako pliki tekstowe, które utrudniają odczytywanie ich przez urządzenia i ponowne ich użycie.

REKOMENDACJE:

- W wielu izbach parlamentarnych informacje o doświadczeniu zawodowym, wykształceniu i innych stanowiskach w sektorze publicznym zajmowanych przez ich członków są niekompletne i niemożliwe do porównania. Ten problem mógłby zostać rozwiązany, gdyby członkowie parlamentów zostali poproszeni o wypełnienie standaryzowanego kwestionariusza.
- Wiele izb parlamentarnych publikuje oświadczenia majątkowe swoich członków. Są one jednak publikowane jako pliki PDF i czasami nawet skany ręcznie pisanych dokumentów. Jakość oświadczeń majątkowych wzrośnie, jeśli deklaracje zostaną wydane w formacie do odczytu maszynowego (np. w formie danych tabelarycznych).
- Transkrypcje z sesji parlamentarnych są często publikowane w plikach PDF, gdzie nie istnieje standaryzowany podział na pojedynczych mówców. Proponujemy publikować transkrypcje w formatach HTML, XML lub JSON. Pozwoli to na zwiększenie możliwości przetwarzania tego rodzaju danych.
- W wielu parlamentach treści posiedzeń komisji są jedynie streszczane w krótkich raportach. Proponujemy publikować nagrania audio oraz wideo albo transkrypcje posiedzeń komisji.

- Wiele parlamentów publikuje jedynie wyniki wybranych głosowań, które miały miejsce podczas sesji plenarnych (np. tylko końcowe głosowanie nad projektem legislacyjnym). Radzimy, aby domyślnie publikować wszystkie wyniki głosowań (poza np. głosowaniami tajnymi).
- Wyniki głosowań, które odbywają się podczas posiedzeń komisji nie są skategoryzowane według głosów konkretnych posłów w żadnym badanym kraju. Rekomendujemy, aby rejestrować i publikować wyniki przynajmniej najważniejszych głosowań, które odbywają się podczas posiedzeń komisji.
- Większość parlamentów w regionie rejestruje nagrania audio i video sesji plenarnych. Rekomendujemy, aby udostępnić je do pobrania oraz wprowadzić znaczniki, które pozwalają na identyfikację mówców.
- Większość aktów prawnych publikowanych na stronach internetowych parlamentów (np. teksty projektów ustaw, poprawki, uchwały komisji, zaakceptowane akty legislacyjne) są publikowana w plikach PDF i DOC. Rekomendujemy, aby publikować akty prawne w formatach HTML, XML itd., aby zwiększyć możliwość ich maszynowego odczytu.
- Rekomendujemy udostępnianie surowych danych parlamentarnych w formatach możliwych do maszynowego odczytu i dostępnych zdalnie oraz umożliwienie ich masowego pobierania, np. przez API.

POZYTYWNE PRZYKŁADY:

- W Czechach, Polsce i Słowacji oficjalne strony parlamentarne zawierają informacje o tożsamości oraz kontakcie do asystentów członków parlamentu.

- Na Słowacji pensje asystentów członków parlamentu są ujawniane.
- Parlamenty Czech, Czarnogóry, Polski, Węgierski i Słowacji publikują oświadczenia majątkowe swoich członków.
- Polski Sejm jest jedyną izbą parlamentarną w regionie, która publikuje informacje o wydatkach posłów na podróże służbowe.
- Polski Senat jest jedyną izbą parlamentarną w regionie, która regularnie publikuje raporty o interakcjach senatorów i lobbystów, uwzględniając w nich nazwiska i miejsce zatrudnienia.
- W parlamentach Albanii, Węgier oraz polskim Sejmie, transkrypcje posiedzeń komisji są publikowane na oficjalnej stronie internetowej.
- Parlamenty Czech, Polski, Węgierski i Słowacji publikują wyniki wszystkich głosowań, które miały miejsce podczas sesji plenarnych oraz dane o głosach oddanych indywidualnie przez każdego członka parlamentu.
- W Bośni i Hercegowinie nagrania audio sesji plenarnych są publikowane w plikach, które można pobrać.
- W Polsce nagrania wideo sesji plenarnych zawierają znaczniki, które pozwalają na identyfikację poszczególnych mówców.
- Oficjalna strona internetowa czeskiej Izby Deputowanych zawiera graficzny przegląd przepływu każdego aktu prawnego w procesie legislacyjnym.
- Czeska Izba Deputowanych zapewnia regularnie aktualizowane surowe zrzuty parlamentarnych baz danych.

SERBIAN

Pristup informacijama o radu i aktivnostima parlamenta je preduslov za snažnu i stabilnu demokratiju. Parlamenti i parliamentarni domovi se dosta razlikuju u odnosu na opseg objavljivanja različitih podataka o svojim aktivnostima, kao i načinima na koje ih čine dostupnim javnosti. Načini objavljivanja parlamentarnih podataka jako su značajni jer određuju koliko je jednostavno objavljene podatke pretraživati, razumeti, preuzeti i koristiti.

Ova publikacija predstavlja rezultate istraživanja i procene dostupnosti i otvorenosti velikog broja najznačajnijih parlamentarnih podataka u 12 parlamentarnih domova u zemljama Višegradske grupe i Zapadnog Balkana (Albanija, Bosna i Hercegovina, Češka, Mađarska, Kosovo, Crna Gora, Poljska, Srbija i Slovačka). Cilj istraživanja je da unapredi dostupnost, kvalitet i mogućnosti korišćenja parlamentarnih informacija kroz uporedni prikaz parliamentarnih domova, identifikaciju njihovih snaga i slabosti, kao i preporuke za primenu specifičnih strategija radi otklanjanja tih slabosti.

GLAVNI NALAZI:

- Parlamentarni domovi u zemljama Višegradske grupe pokazuju veći stepen dostupnosti i otvorenosti parlamentarnih podataka nego parlamentarni domovi u zemljama Zapadnog Balkana. Postoje, međutim, pozitivni primeri transparentnosti parlamenata u zemljama Zapadnog Balkana, kao i značajni nedostaci u zemljama Višegradske grupe.
- Najotvoreniji parlamentarni domovi su Dom poslanika u Češkoj, i Donji dom i Senat u Poljskoj. Najmanje otvoreni su Dom kosovskog parlamenta i Dom naroda u Bosni i Hercegovini.

- Podaci o plenarnim sednicama su dostupniji i otvoreniji u poređenju sa podacima o sednicama odbora, i to u svim parlamentarnim domovima koji su bili predmet istraživanja.
- Veliki broj dokumenata je objavljeno u zatvorenim PDF i tekstualnim formatima, što onemogućava mašinsku čitljivost i korišćenje objavljenih podataka.

PREPORUKE:

- U mnogim parlamentarnim domovima, biografski podaci o profesionalnom iskustvu i formalnom obrazovanju narodnih poslanika, kao i njihovim drugim pozicijama u javnom sektoru, su nepotpuni i nije ih moguće uporediti. To bi se moglo jednostavno i efikasno prevazići ukoliko bi narodni poslanici popunili standardizovani upitnik.
- Mnogi domovi parlamenata objavljuju imovinske kartice narodnih poslanika. Međutim, one se uglavnom objavljuju kao PDF dokumenti, a nekada i kao skenirani i pisani dokumenti. Upotrebljivost imovinskih kartica bi porasla ukoliko bi se one objavljivale u mašinski čitljivim formatima (npr. tabelarni prikazi podataka).
- Traskripti sa parlamentarnih sednica često se objavljuju u formi nestandardizovanih PDF dokumenata, bez imenovanja govornika. Preporuka je da se transkripti objavljuju kao HTML, XML ili JSON dokumenti, čime bi se značajno povećala mogućnost korišćenja objavljenih informacija.
- U mnogim parlamentarnim domovima, izveštaji sa sednica odbora su dostupni u formi kratkog pisanog sažetka. Preporuka je da se izveštaji sa sednica odbora objavljuju u vidu audio ili video zapisa, ili kompletnih transkripata sa sednica.

- Mnogi parlamenti objavljuju samo deo rezultata glasanja sa plenarnih sednica (npr. samo konačne rezultate glasanja za zakone). Preporuka je da se objavljuju svi rezultati glasanja, bez izuzetka (osim ukoliko se tajnost glasanja eksplicitno ne zahteva).
- Rezultati glasanja na sednicama odbora ne sadrže imena narodnih poslanika koji su glasali ni u jednoj zemlji koja je učestvovala u istraživanju. Preporučuje se da se bar najvažniji rezultati glasanja sa sednica odbora beleže i objavljuju (npr. konačni rezultati glasanja za usvajanje zakona).
- Većina parlamenata u regionu poseduje audio i video zapise plenarnih sednica. Preporuka je da se omogući preuzimanje audio i video zapisa, uz oznake vremena govora za svakog govornika pojedinačno.
- Većina pravnih dokumenata na zvaničnim internet prezentacijama parlamenata (kao što su zakoni u proceduri, amandmani, odluke odbora, usvojeni zakoni) objavljuje se u PDF i DOC formatima. Preporuka je da se ovi dokumenti (predlozi zakona, amandmani, zakoni) objavljuju u struktuiranim formatima (HTML, XLM itd.), čime bi se unapredila mašinska čitljivost dokumenata.
- Preporučuje se da se parlamentarni podaci objavljuju kao sirovi podaci u mašinski čitljivim formatima, čime bi se omogućio daljinski pristup i preuzimanje velikog broja podataka, bilo putem aplikacionog programskog interfejsa (API) ili direktnim preuzimanjem.

POZITIVNI PRIMERI:

- Parlamenti u Češkoj, Poljskoj i Slovačkoj objavljuju lične i kontakt podatke zaposlenih u kancelarijama/klubovima narodnih poslanika na svojim zvaničnim internet prezentacijama.
- U Slovačkoj se objavljuju informacije o platama zaposlenih u kancelarijama/klubovima narodnih poslanika.
- Parlamenti u Češkoj, Crnoj Gori, Poljskoj, Mađarski i Slovačkoj objavljuju imovinske kartice narodnih poslanika.
- Donji dom parlamenta u Poljskoj je jedini parlamentarni dom u regionu koji objavljuje informacije o putnim troškovima narodnih poslanika.
- Poljski Senat je jedini parlamentarni dom u regionu koji redovno objavljuje izveštaje o lobiranju između narodnih poslanika i lobista, uključujući njihova imena i poslovne veze.
- Parlamenti Albanije, Mađarske i Donji dom parlamenta u Poljskoj objavljuju detaljne transkripte sa sednica odbora na zvaničnoj internet prezentaciji parlamenta.
- Parlamenti u Češkoj, Poljskoj, Mađarskoj i Slovačkoj objavljuju sve rezultate glasanja na plenarnim sednicama, bez izuzetka, navodeći imena narodnih poslanika.
- U Bosni i Hercegovini, audio zapisi sa plenarnih sednica objavljuju se u formatima koji omogućavaju njihovo preuzimanje.
- U Poljskoj, video zapisi plenarnih sednica uključuju i oznake vremena govora za svakog govornika pojedinačno.
- Zvanična internet prezentacija češkog Doma poslanika sadrži grafičke prikaze puta zakona za sve zakone u proceduri.
- Češki Dom poslanika redovno objavljuje ažurirane i sirove podatke iz svoje baze.

SLOVAK

Nutnou podmienkou silnej a stabilnej demokracie je dostupnosť informácií o činnosti národného parlamentu. Rozsah, v akom parlament zverejňuje údaje o svojej činnosti i spôsob, akým ich poskytuje verejnosti sa u jednotlivých parlamentov a ich komôr značne líši. Spôsob zverejňovania parlamentných dát je veľmi dôležitý, pretože určuje, ako ľahko sa potom dajú prehľadávať, pochopiť, získať alebo opätovne použiť.

Táto publikácia skúma a vyhodnocuje dostupnosť a otvorenosť veľkého množstva kľúčových druhov parlamentných dát v 12 komorách parlamentov Vyšehradských krajín a krajín západného Balkánu (Albánsko, Bosna a Hercegovina, Česká republika, Maďarsko, Kosovo, Čierna hora, Poľsko, Srbsko, Slovensko). Jej cieľom je pomôcť zvýšiť dostupnosť, kvalitu a znovupoužiteľnosť parlamentných informácií porovnaním týchto parlamentných komôr, rozpoznaním ich silných a slabých stránok a odporučením konkrétnych postupov ako ich zlepšiť.

KĽÚČOVÉ ZISTENIA:

- Komory parlamentov vo Vyšehradských krajinách vykazujú vo všeobecnosti vyššiu mieru dostupnosti a otvorenosti parlamentných dát než komory parlamentov v krajinách západného Balkánu. I v západobalkánskych krajinách však existujú pozitívne príklady parlamentnej transparentnosti a aj vo Vyšehradských krajinách značné nedostatky.
- Najotvorenejšími komorami parlamentu sú Poslanecká snemovňa Českej republiky, poľský Sejm a poľský Senát. Najmenej

otvorené sú kosovský parlament a Snemovňa národov v Bosne a Hercegovine.

- Vo všetkých skúmaných parlamentoch sú údaje súvisiace so schôdzami parlamentu dostupnejšie a otvorenejšie než údaje súvisiace so schôdzami výborov.
- Veľa dokumentov sa zverejňuje vo formáte PDF a v textových formátoch, ktoré bránia strojovému spracovaniu a preto aj znovupoužiteľnosti dát.

ODPORÚČANIA:

- Informácie ako životopis, vzdelanie či ďalšie funkcie vo verejnom sektore sú v mnohých parlamentoch neúplné a neporovnateľné. Ľahko by sa to dalo zlepšiť tým, že poslanci by vypĺňali štandardizovaný dotazník.
- Veľa parlamentov zverejňuje majetkové priznania poslancov. Zverejňujú sa však ako PDF súbory, niekedy dokonca ako skeny ručne vypísaných dokumentov. Kvalitu majetkových priznaní by zvýšilo ich zverejňovanie v strojovo čitateľnom formáte (napr. v tabuľke).
- Doslovné prepisy schôdzí parlamentu sa často zverejňujú v PDF súboroch, v ktorých nie sú jednotným spôsobom vyznačení jednotliví rečníci. Veľmi sa odporúča zverejňovať prepisy v HTML, XML alebo JSON formátoch, značne sa tým zvýši znovupoužiteľnosť dát.
- O schôdzach výborov sa v mnohých parlamentoch informuje len v podobe krátkej zápisnice. Odporúča sa pripravovať a zverejňovať zvukové záznamy, videozáznamy alebo doslovné prepisy zo schôdzí výborov.

- Veľa parlamentov zverejňuje výsledky len vybraných hlasovaní zo schôdzí parlamentu (napr. len konečné hlasovania o návrhoch zákonov). Odporúča sa zverejňovať výsledky v zásade všetkých hlasovaní (t.j. len okrem tých, kde sa priamo vyžaduje tajné hlasovanie).
- V žiadnej zo skúmaných krajín sa nezaznamenávajú výsledky hlasovaní vo výboroch menovite. Odporúča sa zaznamenávať a zverejňovať hlasy jednotlivých členov výboru aspoň pri najdôležitejších hlasovaniach (napr. konečné hlasovania o návrhoch zákonov).
- Väčšina parlamentov nahráva zo schôdzí parlamentu audio alebo videozáznamy. Odporúča sa umožniť stiahnutie týchto nahrávok a vyznačiť v nich časy vystúpení jednotlivých rečníkov.
- Väčšina legislatívnych dokumentov (napr. znenia návrhov zákonov, pozmeňovacie návrhy, uznesenia výborov, schválené zákony) sa na oficiálnych weboch parlamentov zverejňuje ako PDF alebo DOC súbory. Odporúča sa zverejňovať legislatívne dokumenty (návrhy, pozmeňovacie návrhy, zákony) v štruktúrovaných formátoch (HTML, XML, atď.), ktoré sú vhodnejšie pre ďalšie strojové spracovanie.
- Silno sa odporúča poskytovať surové parlamentné dáta v strojovo čitateľnom formáte a umožniť ich hromadné sťahovanie buď prostredníctvom API alebo ako dátové súbory.

POZITÍVNE PRÍKLADY:

- V Českej republike, Poľsku a na Slovensku sú na oficiálnom webe parlamentu zverejnené mená a kontaktné informácie o asistentoch poslancov.
- Na Slovensku sú uvedené aj odmeny asistentov poslancov.
- Parlamenty v Českej republike, Čiernej hore, Poľsku, Maďarsku a na Slovensku zverejňujú majetkové priznania poslancov.
- Poľský Sejm je jedinou komorou parlamentu, ktorá zverejňuje cestovné náklady poslancov. Hoci sú tieto informácie neúplné, je to rozhodne krok správnym smerom.
- Poľský Senát je jedinou komorou parlamentu, ktorá zverejňuje pravidelné správy o stretnutiach senátorov s lobistami vrátane mena a firemnej príslušnosti lobistu.
- V parlamentoch Albánska, Maďarska a v poľskom Sejme sa zaznamenávajú doslovné prepisy schôdzí výborov a zverejňujú sa na oficiálnom webe parlamentu.
- Parlamenty v Českej republike, Poľsku , Maďarsku a na Slovensku zverejňujú menovité výsledky v zásade všetkých hlasovaní zo schôdzí parlamentu.
- V Bosne a Hercegovine sa audiozáznamy zo schôdzí parlamentu dajú aj stiahnuť.
- V Poľsku obsahujú videozáznamy zo schôdzí parlamentu aj časové značky označujúce vystúpenia jednotlivých rečníkov.
- Oficiálny web českej Poslaneckej snemovne obsahuje pre každý návrh zákona grafický prehľad o priebehu jeho legislatívneho procesu.
- Česká Poslanecká snemovňa poskytuje pravidelne aktualizované dumpy surových dát z databázy parlamentu.

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INTRODUCTION

Parliaments are among the most powerful institutions in both democratic and non-democratic countries. Information about members of parliaments (MPs), their activity, the legislative process and its outputs therefore count as one most important pieces of information produced by the public sector. It is crucial for transparent, just and effective governance that parliamentary information is published timely, completely, impartially and that it is free to obtain and re-use.

Moreover, technologies of the 21st century enable parliamentary information to be published online which greatly increases its accessibility and usefulness. It is an internationally recognized best practice that the public sector discloses information in form so called open data[1], meaning that there are no disproportionate legal or technical obstacles to obtaining and re-using it.

A necessary condition of functioning democracy is availability of information about activities of various representative bodies, most notably national parliaments. Voters need an abundance of high quality information to make responsible decisions and to control whether elected representatives perform their duties. Parliaments, as well as local representative bodies and other similar institutions vary considerably in a degree to which the produce and publish various data. In this respect, there are several key criteria of good practice:

- Whether parliamentary data is copyrighted and whether citizens can freely re-used such data
- Whether the parliament publishes data proactively and free of charge
- Whether parliamentary data is published online (e.g. on the official parliamentary website)

[1] See internationally recognized definition of open data: http://opendefinition.org/

- Whether parliamentary data is available in machine readable formats
- Whether the parliament enables advanced use of data, e.g. whether it provides API (application programming interface)
- Whether parliamentary data is published timely, i.e. well in advanced before relevant events (e.g. before a session) or soon after data is produced (e.g. after a session)
- Whether parliamentary data is published permanently or whether only information on the current parliamentary term is available
- Whether the official parliamentary website is easily searchable and whether advanced parametric search queries are possible
- Whether the way parliamentary data is published discriminate against certain groups of citizens, e.g. language minorities.

It is obvious that the issue of availability and quality of parliamentary data is closely connected to issues of human rights, democratic principles of governance, general accessibility of information, transparency of public finances etc.

National parliaments and other representative bodies vary significantly in an extent to which they publish various data about their activities and in ways how they provide them to the public. These ways of publishing data are very important because it determines how easy it is to search, understand, obtain and re-use this data and it in turn determines how the data impacts political engagement of citizens and political accountability of the MPs.

When advocating for increased openness, one of the most effective tools is a comparative study of several cases. Therefore, it is useful to have a comparative study of parliamentary data openness across several representative bodies when advocating for a better standard of data openness

in one parliament. Moreover, comparative studies generate knowledge about best practices and proven solutions to specific problems.

For these reasons, it is necessary to start a global monitoring of parliamentary data openness across the world Such global comparative research would be similar to monitoring of democracy and civil rights conducted annually by the Freedom House[2], to monitoring of corruption by Transparency International[3] or to monitoring of budgetary transparency by International Budgetary Partnership[4].

There have been several attempts to capture parliamentary data openness in various regions. Most notable examples include a comparative study covering several Latin American congresses by the Latin American Network for Legislative Transparency[5], a study by a Serbian parliamentary monitoring organization CRTA covering Turkey and several Balkans countries[6] or a study covering Eastern European parliaments coordinated by an American organization National Democratic Institute[7]. Last but not least, KohoVoit.eu, a Czech and Slovak parliamentary monitoring organization surveyed parliamentary openness of 14 Czech Regional Assemblies[8] and published a comprehensive global survey monitoring availability and openness of plenary voting results in over 270 parliamentary chambers[9].

There has been, however, no truly global effort to systematically compare openness of parliamentary chambers on more than one type of data. For these reasons we decided to further the progress in this area by performing an

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[2] http://www.freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/freedom-world-2013
[3] http://www.transparency.org/cpi2013/
[4] http://internationalbudget.org/what-we-do/open-budget-survey/
[5] http://ciudadanointeligente.github.io/indice/
[6] http://is.gd/SuE7OX
[7] http://is.gd/5PTRUO
[8] http://is.gd/5wXppl
[9] http://is.gd/rZt54Y

evaluation of parliamentary data availability and openness in 11 parliamentary chambers in the Visegrad and Western Balkan countries. This publication presents results of this evaluation. It is meant primarily as an advocacy tool that can be used to increase standards of parliamentary data openness

The publication covers the following countries and chambers of their national parliaments:

- Albania – Parliament (Kuvendi), the unicameral national parliament[10]
- Bosnia and Hercegovina – House of Representatives (Представнички дом / Predstavnički dom), the lower house of the Parliamentary Assembly (Парламентарна скупштина / Parlamentarna skupština)[11]; House of Peoples (Дом народа / Dom naroda), the upper house
- Czech Republic – Chamber of Deputies (Poslanecká sněmovna)[12], the lower house of the Parliament (Parlament); Senate (Senát)[13], the upper house
- Hungary – National Assembly (Országgyűlés), the unicameral national parliament[14]
- Kosovo – Assembly (Kuvendi, Скупштина / Skupština),the unicameral national parliament[15]
- Montenegro – Parliament (Скупштина / Skupština), the unicameral national parliament[16]

[10] http://www.parlament.al/
[11] https://www.parlament.ba/
[12] http://www.psp.cz/
[13] http://senat.cz/
[14] http://www.parlament.hu/
[15] http://www.assembly-kosova.org/
[16] http://www.skupstina.me/

- Poland – Sejm[17], the lower house of the National Assembly (Parlament); Senate (Senat)[18], the upper house
- Serbia – National Assembly (Народна скупштина / Narodna skupština)[19], the unicameral national parliament
- Slovakia – National Council (Národná rada)[20], the unicameral national parliament

Each of these parliamentary chambers is reviewed using a comprehensive survey to determine accessibility and openness of 52 key types of parliamentary data on the official parliamentary website. The chambers are then compared using a rigorous and impartial methodology in order to identify specific strengths and weaknesses, as well as specific technical solutions how to mitigate deficiencies in one country that already exist in another country.

The publication is split into several sections. In the first section, a brief overview of the parliamentary data availability and openness among the compare countries is given and specific strengths and weaknesses of individual parliamentary chambers are outlined. The second section describes in detail the survey used to assess parliamentary data availability and openness and methodology used to compare the parliamentary chambers.

The third and fourth sections contain the results of the survey. The third section is divided into sub-sections according to various types of parliamentary data grouped into three categories – data on MPs, data on plenary sessions and data on committee sessions. A scorecard of each type of data containing results of the survey is presented and commented on. This allows a reader to compare openness of various parliamentary chambers on a single type of data. The fourth and final section is divided into sub-sections according to

[17] http://sejm.gov.pl/
[18] http://www.senat.gov.pl/
[19] http://www.parlament.rs/
[20] http://www.nrsr.sk/

parliamentary chambers. A scorecard of each chamber containing results of the survey is presented and commented on. This allows a reader to compare openness of various types of data in a single parliamentary chamber.

This project is a collaborative effort of the following organizations:

- CRTA[21] (Serbia)
- Fundacja ePaństwo[22] (Poland)
- K-Monitor[23] (Hungary)
- KohoVolit.eu[24] (Czech Republic and Slovakia)
- KRIIK[25] (Albania)
- Zašto ne[26] (Bosnia and Hercegovina)

It has been financially supported by the International Visegrad Fund. The project endorses international efforts to increase accessibility, openness and usefulness of parliamentary data, especially Poplus, a global federation of collaborative civil coders[27]. The evaluation is based on the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness[28]; an international covenant drafted by the international community of parliamentary monitoring organizations, most importantly by the National Democratic Institute[29], the Sunlight Foundation[30] an association of Latin American parliamentary monitoring organizations Latin American Network for Legislative Transparency[31]. Since its launch in 2012, the Declaration has been endorsed by over 140 parliamentary monitoring

[21] http://crta.rs/
[22] http://epf.org.pl/
[23] http://k-monitor.hu/
[24] http://kohovolit.eu/
[25] http://www.kriik-alb.org/
[26] http://zastone.ba/
[27] http://poplus.org/
[28] http://www.openingparliament.org/
[29] http://ndi.org/
[30] http://sunlightfoundation.com/
[31] http://www.transparencialegislativa.org/

organizations in some 70 countries and by a number of national parliaments and other representative bodies. The Declaration contains 44 articles defining specific conditions that a national parliament or other representative body should meet in order to be considered open.

OVERVIEW

PARLIAMENTARY DATA AVAILABILITY AND OPENNESS



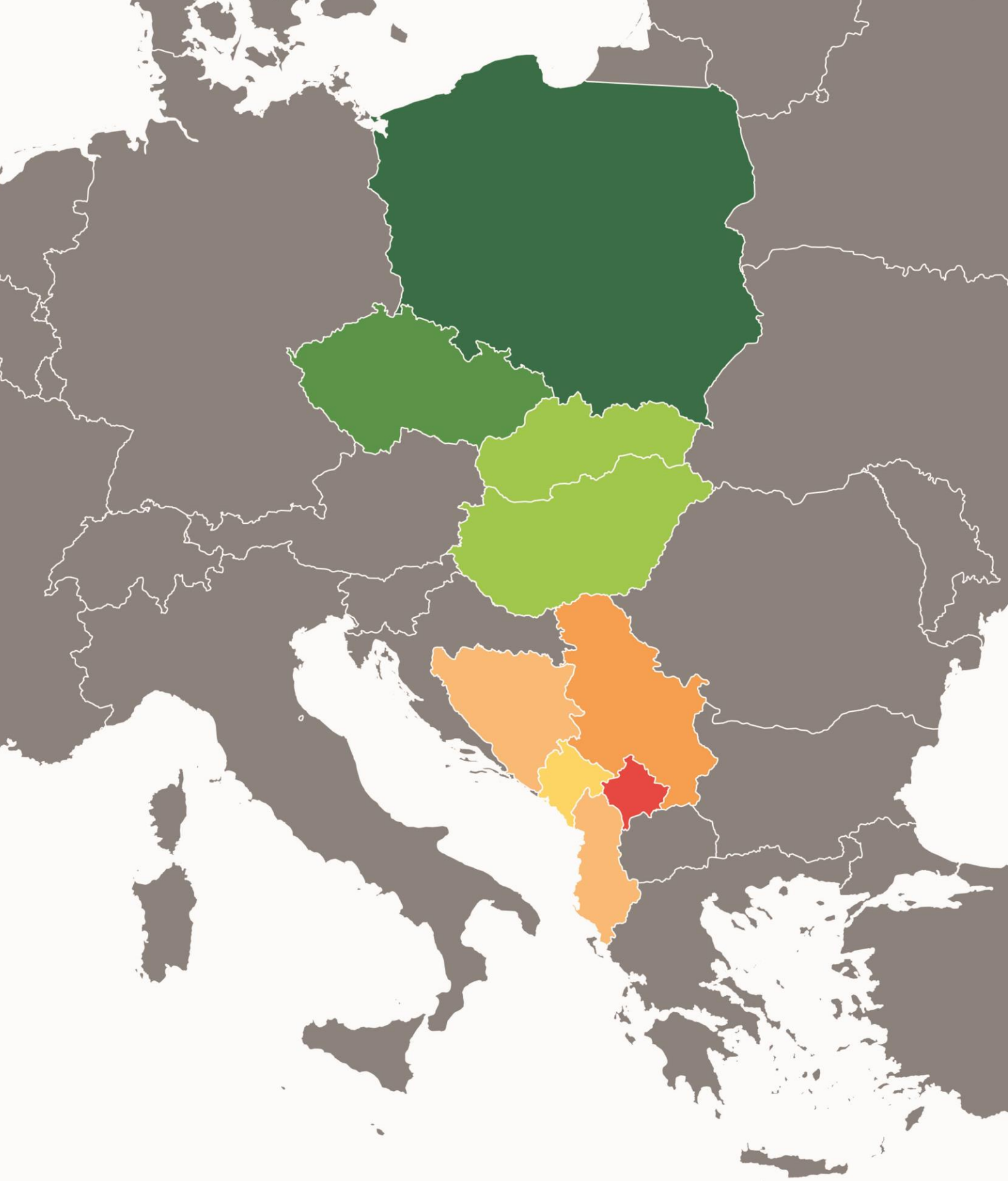


Diagram 1: Map of parliamentary data availability and openness in the region

The main finding of the publication is that the parliamentary chambers in the Visegrad countries generally exhibit a higher level of parliamentary data availability and openness that parliamentary chambers in the Western Balkans countries. There are, however, positive examples of parliamentary transparency in the Western Balkans, as well as significant shortcomings in the Visegrad countries.

According to a quantitative indicator constructed to evaluate data availability and openness describe in the following section of this publication, the most open parliamentary chambers are the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic, the Polish Sejm and the Polish Senate. The least open chambers are the parliament of Kosovo and the House of People of Bosnia and Hercegovina.

The following table shows values of the quantitative indicator (“Average indicator”) and sub-indicators that focus on four categories of parliamentary data – data on MPs, plenary sessions, committee sessions and the legislative process.

Diagram 2: Parliamentary data availability and openness – quantitative indicators

Parliamentary chamber	Sub-indicators				Average indicator
	MPs	Plenary sessions	Committees sessions	Legislative process	
Albania	42%	55%	20%	56%	43%
BiH - Lower	50%	65%	20%	64%	50%
BiH - Upper	50%	60%	25%	20%	39%
Czech Rep. - Lower	50%	85%	43%	64%	60%
Czech Rep. - Upper	42%	80%	30%	60%	53%
Hungary	50%	80%	30%	48%	52%
Kosovo	42%	55%	30%	16%	36%
Montenegro	75%	60%	20%	32%	47%
Poland - Lower	67%	80%	40%	48%	59%
Poland - Upper	75%	80%	50%	32%	59%
Serbia	25%	70%	50%	24%	42%
Slovakia	42%	80%	23%	60%	51%

As far as providing data on MPs are concerned, every official parliamentary website in the surveyed region contains webpages with profiles of individual MPs, as it is common world-wide. The extent, completeness and the level of detail of information published about MPs on these profiles varies, however, significantly among the survey parliaments.

Some parliamentary chambers publish MPs' CVs or some information in a CV-like structure (e.g. information on professional background or formal education). This information is, however, often self-reported and in many cases missing entirely. **The quality of data on MPs professional background, formal education and other positions that they hold in the public sector would increase if the MPs were asked to fill in a standardized questionnaire.**

All surveyed parliamentary chambers provide means for citizens to contact their MPs, usually via email or postal addresses, except of the parliament of Kosovo. It only publishes postal addresses of MPs that are often incomplete (e.g. missing street name and house number). Several parliamentary websites (e.g. Czech, Polish or Slovak) provide identity of personal staff members and their contact details. The Slovak parliament also discloses staffers' salaries.

In a number of countries (the Czech Republic, Montenegro, Poland and Slovakia), the official parliamentary websites contain MPs' declaration of assets that allow citizens in a varying degree of detail and completeness asses MPs' incomes and expenses. The Polish Sejm is the only parliamentary chamber in the region that also discloses information about MPs' travel expenses, be it incomplete. It should be noted, however, that the asset declarations are usually published as scans of documents, sometimes hand-written, and are not therefore machine readable. **The quality of asset declarations would be increased if the declarations were released in machine readable formats (e.g. as tabular data).**

A notable example of parliamentary transparency is the **Polish Senate** that **is the only parliamentary chamber among the surveyed countries that publishes a report on interactions of MPs with lobbyists**, including their names and professional affiliations. It is always questionable, however, whether such reports (as well as the above mentioned declaration of assets) are complete and accurate.

Data related to plenary sessions is more available and open than data related to committee sessions in every parliamentary chamber surveyed. Every chamber currently publishes word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions. In many cases, however, these transcripts are published in native PDF files where individual speakers are clearly identified in a way that would simplify machine readability. This is the case in Albania, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia.

In other chambers, e.g. in the Czech Chamber of Deputies, transcripts are published in HTML format and MPs are identified by linking to their profile webpages. **It is highly recommended to publish transcripts in HTML format since it significantly increases re-usability of the data.**

Only few parliamentary chambers in the surveyed region publish word-by-word transcripts of committee sessions. These positive examples of parliamentary transparency include the parliaments Albania and Hungary and the Polish Sejm. In the remaining chambers, only short summaries of sessions are produced, except of the parliament of Montenegro where no reports of committee sessions are published.

The written summaries obviously suffer from a significant loss of information since they do not capture precisely of what is spoken during committee sessions. The level of detail and precision, moreover, varies significantly

among parliamentary chambers, among committees within individual chambers and sometimes even among session of the same committee.

Audio or video recordings of committee sessions are also far from common. Positive examples of parliamentary chambers that do produce such recordings include the Polish Senate, the Czech Chamber of Deputies, and the parliament of Serbia. In the two latter cases, however, only some sessions are recorded. In most cases, therefore, neither audio or video recordings nor transcripts of sessions are available. **It is thus recommended to produce and publish either recordings or word-by-word transcripts of committee sessions**

Results of votes taken during plenary sessions are published by names of individual MPs in every surveyed parliamentary chamber. However, the results are published as PDF or text files in Albania, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia which again limits their re-usability. It is recommended to publish results of each vote on a separate webpage as it is done in the Czech Republic, Poland or Slovakia. This assures that votes are easy to search and share.

Every parliamentary chamber in the region is equipped with electronic voting machines. However, only some votes are recorded in most of them. Since it is ultimately up to the public and not up to the parliament to decide which votes are of interest or importance, **it is advised that results of all votes are published by default (i.e. unless secret voting is explicitly specified)**.

Results of votes taken during committee sessions are not published (and often not even recorded) in any of the surveyed parliamentary chambers. This is most likely due to the fact that premises where committees hold their sessions are usually not equipped with voting machines and mobile machines are not available.

Since committees often do not have that many members, results of votes can be relatively easily recorded even by hand. Given the fact that committee decision-making is in many situations a key step in the legislative process, **it is recommended to record and publish results of at least the most important votes taken during committee sessions** (e.g. final votes on legislation).

All the surveyed parliamentary chambers produce either audio or video recordings of plenary sessions except of the parliament of Kosovo. In some cases, video streams can only be viewed live. **It is recommended the recordings to be available for download** (as they are e.g. in the Czech Republic or Bosnia and Hercegovina) **and to include timestamps that mark individual speakers** (as they do in e.g. Poland).

Most surveyed parliamentary chambers publish full texts of proposed bills, as well as approved legislation. In many cases, texts of amendments or committee resolutions are not published. In almost all cases, these documents are published in PDF or DOC formats. This limits re-usability of data because these texts are usually not very well standardized. **It is recommended to publish legal documents (proposals, amendments, law) in structured formats (HTML, XLM etc.) that improve machine readability.**

Many official parliamentary websites in the region group documents related to one bill proposal together on one webpage. This practice is recommended since it simplifies orientation in the legislative process. **A notable positive example is the website of the Czech Chamber of Deputies that contains graphical overview of each bill's flow in the legislative process.**

The Hungarian parliamentary is the only chamber in the region, that currently provides an API that would enable remote access to the parliamentary database for software developers (for MP's data and voting).

The Czech Chamber of Deputies, however, at least provides regularly updated dumps of raw data, including information on MPs, their memberships in various intra- and extra-parliamentary institutions, voting results and information on bills and their flow in the legislative process. **Providing raw parliamentary data in machine readable formats that enables bulk download is strongly recommended.**

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH SURVEY

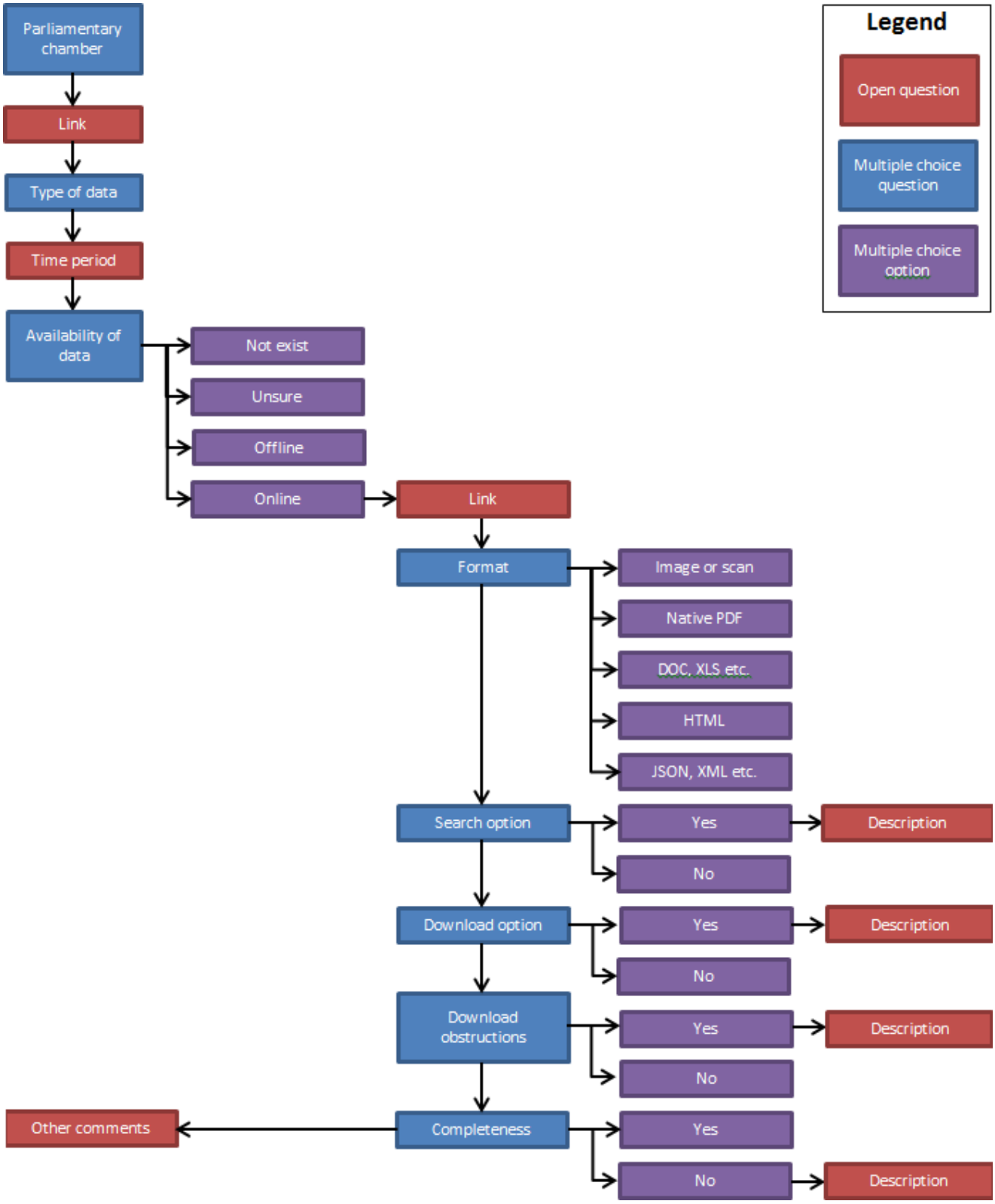


This publication presents an overview of parliamentary data availability and openness in 11 parliamentary chambers of Visegrad and Western Balkan countries. The overview was derived from results of an online research survey. A survey questionnaire was filled out by experts on parliamentary data in the surveyed countries. This chapter provides a detailed description of the survey questionnaire structure, individual questions and possible answers. The survey is accessible online[32].

The following diagram shows a structure of the survey questionnaire. Each coloured box represents one survey question or, in case of multiple choice questions, one possible answer to a question that a researcher can choose from. Colour represents a type of question or answer. Arrows represent how a research navigates throughout the survey.

[32] http://test.kohovolit.sk/g/visegrad-survey-2013/

Diagram 3: Structure of the research survey questionnaire



First, the researcher is asked to select one of the 11 parliamentary chambers to indicate which one his or her answers apply to and a link to the official website of the parliamentary chamber for quick and easy reference. Then, he or she selects one of the 52 types of parliamentary data covered by the survey or one miscellaneous category ("Other, not listed here (specify in the comments below)"). The types of data covered are as follows:

DATA ON MPS:

- Information on MPs' gender
- Information on MPs' nationality/ethnicity/religion
- Information on MPs' academic titles
- Information on MPs' date of birth
- Information on MPs' date of death
- Information on MPs' electoral results
- Information on MPs' professional background
- Information on MPs' formal education
- Information on MPs' political affiliation
- Information on MPs' parliamentary party group membership
- Information on MPs' parliamentary committee membership
- Information on MPs' other electoral mandates (e.g. mayor etc.)
- Information on MPs' positions and/or membership in other public institutions
- Information on MPs' contact information
- Information on MPs' personal staff identity
- Information on MPs' personal staff contact information
- Information on MPs' personal staff expenses
- Information on MPs' expenses concerning office operation
- Information on MPs' personal website
- Information on MPs' presence in social networks

- MPs' official declarations of assets
- Information on MPs' parliamentary income
- Information on MPs' non-parliamentary income from public sources
- Information on MPs' non-parliamentary income from non-public sources
- Information on MPs' official travel expenses
- Information on MPs' official travels (e.g. date, destination, etc.)
- Information on MPs' official interactions with lobbyists
- Information on MPs' seating order
- Proposed legislation listed by individual MPs
- Amendments to proposed legislation listed by individual MPs
- Formal interpellations to government listed by individual MPs
- Plenary session speeches listed by individual MPs
- Committee session speeches listed by individual MPs

DATA ON PLENARY SESSIONS:

- Invitations to plenary sessions
- Agenda of plenary sessions
- Vote results in plenary sessions listed by individual MPs
- Transcript of plenary sessions
- Audio recording of plenary sessions
- Video recording of plenary sessions
- Written summaries of plenary sessions

DATA ON COMMITTEE SESSIONS:

- Invitations to committee sessions
- Agenda of committee sessions
- Vote results in committee sessions listed by individual MPs
- Transcript of committee sessions
- Audio recording of committee sessions
- Video recording of committee sessions
- Written summaries of committee sessions

DATA ON THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS:

- Full texts of legislative proposals
- Full texts of amendments to legislative proposals
- Overview of legislative proposals' flow in the legislative process
- Full texts of approved legislation
- Full texts of committee resolutions

Then, the researcher defines a time period when answers of all the subsequent questions regarding the type of data he or she has selected remain constant. For example, let say that from 1990 to 1993, a parliamentary chamber did not publish transcripts of committee sessions, from 1993 to 2010, they published them as a text file and since 2010, they have also provided a bulk-download option to this data. In this case, the researcher would define three distinct periods when answers of the questions regarding the transcripts of committee sessions would be internally constant: 1990 – 1993, 1993 – 2010 and 2010 – 2014. For sake of simplicity, the questionnaire only operates on the level of one year. A change occurring in February is treated the same way as a change occurring in November of the same year. Also, time periods shorter than one year are omitted.

Subsequently, the researcher fills out the rest of the questions for the specified type of data in the specified period of time. This is then repeated as many times as necessary to provide complete account of all types of data in a time period from a chamber-specific starting point up to 2014. These starting points vary across parliamentary chambers:

- Parliament (Kuvendi) of Albania – Parliamentary elections in 1990
- House of Representatives (Представнички дом / Predstavnički dom) of Bosnia and Hercegovina – Parliamentary elections in 1990
- House of Peoples (Дом народа / Dom naroda) of Bosnia and Hercegovina – Parliamentary elections in 1990
- Chamber of Deputies (Poslanecká sněmovna) of Czech Republic – Foundation of the Czech Republic in 1993
- Senate (Senát) of Czech Republic – Foundation of the chamber in 1996
- National Assembly (Országgyűlés) of Hungary – Parliamentary elections in 1990
- Assembly (Kuvendi, Скупштина / Skupština) of Kosovo – Foundation of Kosovo in 2008
- Parliament (Скупштина / Skupština) of Montenegro – Foundation of Kosovo in 2006
- Sejm of Poland – Parliamentary elections in 1991
- Senate (Senat) of Poland – Parliamentary elections in 1991
- National Assembly (Народна скупштина / Narodna skupština) of Serbia – Parliamentary elections in 1990
- National Council (Národná rada) of Slovakia – Foundation of Slovakia in 1993

In case of parliamentary chambers that existed before 1990, the survey does not cover this previous period. Due to non-democratic regimes and the resulting weaker political position of parliaments in the countries, parliamentary data did not have such an importance for citizens. Besides, modern information technologies only started to impact parliaments not long before 1990. In some cases, older parliamentary data is available online. For example, a joint project the Czech and Slovak parliaments has digitalized available transcripts of plenary speeches, text of bill proposals and voting records from several federal- and state-level representative bodies in the area of former Czechoslovakia since 1848[33].

For each type of data and time period, the researcher first specifies availability of the data. Possible answers are:

- Data does not exists
- I am not sure if data exists
- Data exists but it is not accessible on the official parliamentary website
- Data is accessible on the official parliamentary website

Only the last answer leads to additional question since the survey is only concerned with data on the parliamentary websites and not for example with data in parliamentary libraries. The second question about a data type asks about formats ("Choose all of the following sentences that apply to this type of parliamentary data"). Possible answers are:

- Accessible online in a file that does not allow copying (e.g. an image or a PDF file)

[33] http://www.nrsr.sk/dl/

- Accessible online in a “native” PDF file (meaning it is possible to copy data from the PDF using “copy” and “paste” functions
- Accessible online in a text or table file (e.g. Microsoft Word, Excel)
- Accessible online as a webpage (i.e. in HTML format)
- Accessible online in a data format (e.g. JSON, XML)

This question is crucial since data formats determine the extent of accessibility and reusability of the data. When constructing the possible answers, we follow a methodology applied by the Open Knowledge Foundation; a British organization specialized in researching open data. It constructs so called Open Data Index that quantifies the level of openness of several key types of data produced by the public sector in a number of countries[34].

The first two answers concern machine readability – that is whether a piece of data can be understood as such by a machine and therefore whether it can be automatically processed and analysed. Images and scanned documents are generally much easier to machine read than “native” PDF files that have machine readability built in. The second answer concerns whether the files containing the data in question can actually be opened and edited. Such data is obviously much more easily to re-use. The third answer concerns whether the data is contain in separate files that must be opened in order to be accessed or whether the data is actually present on a website as a raw text. Again, the latter case makes the data much easier to access and process, especially in large quantities. The last answer concerns advanced data formats that are enriched by metadata.

One type of data can be published in several different formats at the same time. In such cases, researchers were asked to indicate all the data formats and to provide further explanation if necessary. Since the above described

[34] http://index.okfn.org

answers are hierarchical and ordered from the least open to the most open, only the most open option is used when evaluating data openness of a parliamentary chamber. The above described options are most likely strictly mutually exclusive and completely exhaustive. No additional category of formats has been detected by researchers except for various formats of audio and video recordings published by parliaments. In these cases, the formats are classified as “Other format” in the following text.

Then, the researcher is asked to answer several questions about the type of data. First, there is a question asking whether the type of data is searchable using the built-in search engine of the parliamentary chamber. If yes a description of the search option is required. Second, there is a question asking whether a bulk-option download option is provided by the parliament. This could refer to raw database dumps, manually aggregated files or an API. If yes a description of such an option is required. Third, there is a question asking whether the researcher is aware of any mechanism that prevents the parliamentary data from being automatically downloaded using web scrapers. This could refer to for example the use of captcha, a limited number of sessions per one IP address etc. If yes a description of such a mechanism is required.

Fourth, the researcher is asked whether the data appears to be complete. This question is rather problematic since it more than other question relies of subjective evaluation and the extent of knowledge on part of the researcher. Also, researcher’s answer is in principle very difficult to verify. If the data appears to be incomplete (for example only some voting results are published) a further description is required. Additionally, the researcher can leave miscellaneous comments regarding the parliamentary chamber.

In some cases, additional context or instructions are added to a question. Here is a complete list of such appendices:

- Overview of legislative proposals' flow in the legislative process – This includes information on how a legislative proposal moves in the legislative process aggregated in one place. It may include e.g. information on how is its sponsor, when it was debated, how it was decided on.
- Full texts of committee resolutions – A committee resolution is a formal document that states what the committee decided on during a session. It is usually an output of a committee session. It is not identical to a transcript of a committee session.
- Invitations to plenary sessions and Invitations to committee sessions –An invitation specifies, most importantly, when and where a session takes place (and possibly other information). Note that this is different from agenda (program) of a session that specifies content of the session (e.g. what legislative proposals will be discussed).
- Agenda of plenary sessions and Agenda of committee sessions – Agenda (program) specifies, most importantly content of a session (e.g. which legislative proposals will be discussed). Note that this is different from invitation to a session that specifies, most importantly, when and where a session takes place.
- Information on MPs' electoral results – This means that the official parliamentary website (and not e.g. a website of the electoral committee of the country) includes information on performance in elections of each individual MP. This may include e.g. which elections he or she took part in, identification of his or her constituency, percentage of votes obtained. If there is such information available, please describe it in the comment section of this form (below).
- Information on MPs' professional background – This may include e.g. list of previous occupations, references, CVs, list of companies

owned by an MP. If there is such information available, please describe it in the comment section of this form (below).

- Information on MPs' formal education – This may include names of schools, academic degrees obtained. If there is such information available, please describe it in the comment section of this form (below).
- Information on MPs' political affiliation – This may include party membership or other form of affiliation. Note that this is not the same as membership in parliamentary party groups which is covered by a different question in this form. If there is information on political affiliation of MPs available, please describe it in the comment section of this form (below).
- Information on MPs' parliamentary committee membership – This includes memberships in committees organized by the parliament and not other non-parliamentary institutions that are also called "committees". If there is such information available, please describe it in the comment section of this form (below).
- Information on MPs' other electoral mandates (e.g. mayor etc.) – This includes information on other positions that are obtained by elections, e.g. in local administration. If there is such information available, please describe it in the comment section of this form (below).
- Information on MPs' contact information and Information on MPs' personal staff contact information – This may include e.g. email address, address of an office, phone number. If there is such information available, please describe it in the comment section of this form (below).
- Information on MPs' personal staff identity – This includes, primarily, names of the staff. It may also include e.g. position of the staff. If there is such information available, please describe it in the comment section of this form (below).

- Information on MPs' presence in social networks – This may include e.g. link to Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn. If there is such information available, please describe it in the comment section of this form (below).
- Information on MPs' seating order – This identifies where an MP sits in the chamber.
- Proposed legislation listed by individual MPs – This is a list of legislation proposed by an MP. It may or may not be linked to other information on the website (e.g. text of the proposed legislation).
- Amendments to proposed legislation listed by individual MPs – This is a list of legislative amendments proposed by an MP. It may or may not be linked to other information on the website (e.g. text of the amendments).
- Transcripts of plenary sessions and transcripts of committee sessions – This is a word-by-word transcription of a session.
- Written summaries of plenary sessions and written summaries of committee sessions – This is a condensed version of a transcript of a session. It informs e.g. who spoke during the session but does not include word-by-word transcription.

Answers provided by the researchers were written into a CSV file that is accessible online[35]. The two subsequent sections of this publication contain the results of the survey. The following section is divided into sub-sections according to parliamentary chambers. A scorecard of each chamber containing results of the survey is presented and commented on. This allows a reader to compare openness of various types of data in a single parliamentary chamber. The final section is divided into sub-section according to various types of parliamentary data grouped into three categories – data on

[35] http://is.gd/TaVWyh

members of parliaments, data on plenary sessions and data on committee sessions. A scorecard of each type of data containing results of the survey is presented and commented on. This allows a reader to compare openness of various parliamentary chambers on a single type of data.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPARATIVE INDICATOR

In order to compare the level of availability and openness of data across the parliamentary chambers surveyed, the questionnaire results must be converted into a quantitative indicator. There are, of course, many ways how to do that and thus there are many different values that various versions of such an indicator can take. How countries score in relation to each other may therefore vary but there is a general level of robustness nevertheless – a parliamentary chamber that produces most of the data surveyed will generally score better than a parliamentary chamber that produces almost no data at all regardless how a quantitative indicator measuring this is constructed.

Still, it is important to explain in detail how the quantitative indicator used in this publication is constructed and why it is constructed this way. This is the aim of this section of the publication. The main decision-marking principle employed when constructing the indicator is usefulness of the parliamentary data for citizens. We therefore survey not only whether a type of data is published on the official parliamentary website but also in what format.

It is possible to reflect how many years of data are published (e.g. whether a parliamentary chamber publishes certain type of data since, say, 1990 or since 2013) and whether the data appears to be complete. A quantitative indicator could also account for timeliness, i.e. when the data is published (whether it is

published well in advanced before a session in case of data related to future sessions, such as invitations or agenda of sessions; whether it is published soon after a session in case of data related to past session, such as transcripts or voting results).

We, however, do not take these criteria into account for sake of simplicity. In some cases, judging how the criteria are met would be technically difficult (e.g. in case of completeness of data) and in other cases, it would be highly subjective. We also avoid estimating quality of data – i.e. whether summaries of session produced by one parliamentary chamber better reflect what was said and decided than summaries produced by some other chamber. There are multiple external factors that limit comparability of parliamentary chambers.

The qualitative indicator is broken down into four sub-indicators, one for each category of parliamentary data – sub-indicator evaluating data on MPs, plenary sessions, committee sessions and the legislative process. The first sub-indicator (data on MPs) is constructed based on the following typed of data:

- Professional background
- Formal education
- Political affiliation
- Committee membership
- Other electoral mandates
- Positions in other public institutions
- Contact information
- Personal staff identity
- Parliamentary income
- Non-parliamentary income from public sources
- Non-parliamentary income from private sources
- Official travel expenses

- Official interactions with lobbyists

Unlike the other sub-indicators, this one does not take the format in which the data is published into account because there is very little variety among the surveyed parliamentary chambers as well as among the surveyed data types – in all the surveyed chambers, every MP has a profile webpage either listing the data in question (therefore in HTML format) or links to relevant documents that are in all cases PDF (scans or native).

The survey questionnaire used to collect information on data availability contains questions about 27 types of data regarding MPs. However, only the above mentioned data types are included in the construction of the sub-indicator because they are the most crucial. All of the data types are treated equally (i.e. they are not weighted when calculating the value of the sub-indicator) since weighting them would be highly subjective.

The sub-indicator is calculated a very straightforward way: Each parliamentary chamber is awarded one point for each point for each type of data available on the official parliamentary website. The sum of points is then divided by the maximum amount of points achievable (13 points). The product is a value between 0 % and 100 %.

The three remaining sub-indicators are based on the following data types:

- PLENARY SESSIONS
  - Invitations
  - Agenda
  - Transcripts
  - Summaries
  - Voting results
  - Audio recordings

    - Video recordings
- COMMITTEE SESSIONS
    - Invitations
    - Agenda
    - Transcripts
    - Summaries
    - Voting results
    - Audio recordings
    - Video recordings
- LEGISLATIVE PROCESS
    - Bill proposals
    - Legislative amendments
    - Approved legislation
    - Overviews of the legislative process
    - Committee resolutions

All three sub-indicators are calculated the same way as the sub-indicator on MPs but take the format in which the data is published into account. Each parliamentary chamber is awarded zero points for a data type that is not published on the official parliamentary website and a certain number of points for each type of data the is published – 1 point for data that are currently published as scanned PDFs, 2 points for data published as native PDFs, 3 points for data in DOC, XLS and similar formats and 4 points for data in HTML formats.

The Czech parliament is awarded 5 points in some cases because it provides bulk downloads of some data types in CSV format. The sum of the points is again divided by the maximum amount of points possible – five points multiplied by the number of data types in each sub-category of data (plenary sessions, committee sessions and the legislative process).

In some cases, certain data types effectively replace other data types and are therefore merged into one meta-type of data. Specifically, invitations and agenda of plenary or committee sessions are considered only one type of data because in many parliamentary chambers, invitations are not published as separate documents but as a part of session agenda.

Audio and video recordings are also merged into one meta-type. It is sufficient if a parliamentary chamber publishes either type of recordings in order to be awarded points. All recordings are awarded four points regardless of the format in which they are published.

Transcripts and summaries from plenary or committee sessions are also merged into one meta-type since parliamentary chambers that produce one type of data usually do not produce the other one. Transcripts are, however, clearly superior to summaries because they reflect discussions during a session with maximum precision (assuming they are complete and precise) while summaries always loose some information. Therefore, in cases when only summaries are published, the amount of points awarded is divided by two to reflect this.

In cases when two data types merged into one meta-type are published in different formats, the superior format (i.e. the one with the higher number of points to be awarded) is used in calculation.

PROFILES OF PARLIAMENTARY DATA TYPES

The following section of this publication contains an overview of parliamentary data availability and openness that is broken down by individual types of parliamentary data. Each section briefly introduces a given type of data and discusses its importance for parliamentary transparency and political accountability. It then describes whether and how the given type of data is published by the surveyed parliamentary chambers. Accompanying diagrams show formats of published data that can be retrieved from the official parliamentary websites.

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

This section of the publication overviews availability of parliamentary data on MPs. Unlike the sections on plenary and committee sessions and the legislative process data it does not discuss specific data formats in which the information is released because there is very little variety among the surveyed parliamentary chambers as well as among the surveyed data types.

In all the surveyed chambers, every MP has a profile webpage either listing the data in question (therefore in HTML format) or links to relevant documents that are in all cases PDF (scans or native). For the same reason, the publication does not discuss whether the data is available for former MPs as well – it only checks whether information on current MPs exists.

The survey questionnaire used to collect information on data availability contains questions about 27 types of data regarding MPs. However, only the most crucial data types are discussed here and included in the quantitative comparison on the surveyed parliamentary chambers. In some cases, surveyed data types are trivial (e.g. information about MPs gender or date of birth).

In cases when the questionnaire goes into unnecessary detail (e.g. asking about identity, contact information and personal expenses of staff members) several questions were aggregated into one category. A table on the following page lists 13 meta-types of parliamentary data. It marks whether the data is published on the official parliamentary website for the current MPs or not.

Type of data	Country / Parliamentary chamber											
	Alb	BiH		Czech Rep.		Hun	Kos	Mon	Poland		Serb	Slov
		Low	Upp	Low	Upp				Low	Upp		
Professional background	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO
Formal education	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Political affiliation	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Committee membership	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Other electoral mandates	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Positions in other public institutions	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Contact information	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Personal staff identity	NA	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES
Parliamentary income	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Non-parliamentary income from public sources	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Non-parliamentary income from private sources	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Official travel expenses	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
Official interactions with lobbyists	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO

Notes: “Low.” – Lower chamber, “Upp.” – Upper chamber, “NA” – Not applicable[36]

Information on professional background and formal education of MPs significantly varies across the parliamentary chambers in a way it is published. It is not published at all in the Czech Republic, Serbia and Slovakia.

In Albania, profiles of MPs on the official parliamentary website contain an overview of former professional positions (both in the private and the public sectors) and education, including names of educational institutions, received titles and academic positions.[37]

On the official parliamentary website of the parliament of Bosnia and Hercegovina, there is a short paragraph per each MP listing a last educational institution and usually one former professional position and/or positions in the public sector (e.g. In the government). The level of detail varies significantly among various MPs, however. In many cases, this information is missing completely.

[36] MPs in Albania do not have staff at the moment (as of 2014).
[37] For sake of brevity, links to examples of such profiles are listed here:
Albania – http://is.gd/UOrax2
Bosnia and Hercegovina, the House of Representatives – http://is.gd/Gs602t
Bosnia and Hercegovina, the House of People – http://is.gd/S6dfGD
Czech Republic, the Chamber of Deputies – http://is.gd/BaXZ9T
Czech Republic, the Senate – http://is.gd/1NOGAe
Hungary – http://is.gd/IeqOXJ
Kosovo – http://is.gd/To3124
Montenegro – http://is.gd/niYgyl
Poland, the Sejm – http://is.gd/LCmkac
Poland, the Senate – http://is.gd/dyPVBs
Serbia – http://is.gd/aEKMoY
Slovakia – http://is.gd/yxMuey

The official parliamentary website of the Hungarian parliament contains CVs of MPs that describes their education, professional background and other public sector positions.

The parliaments of Kosovo and Poland provide an overview of former professional positions and former education, including names of educational institutions, received titles and academic positions. A level of detail varies significantly among individual MPs.

In Montenegro, profiles of MPs usually contain some information on professional background, formal education and other positions in the public sector, the level of detail and the way how this information is structured varies significantly among MPs. In many cases, almost no information is available at all.

In contrast, the data that is published in every parliamentary chamber surveyed is the data on political affiliation of MPs (be it a political party membership or a membership in parliamentary party groups; which is often identical) and their membership in committees. Every official parliamentary website in the region also contains at least some contact information of MPs.

Email addresses are available in Albania, Bosnia and Hercegovina, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Montenegro, Poland, Serbia and Slovakia. In Albania, the Czech Republic, Kosovo and Poland, postal address is published as well, although in Kosovo, the postal address is often incomplete (missing e.g. street and house number). In Montenegro, postal addresses and/or phone numbers are sometimes included.

Identity of personal staff members of MPs is available in the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia. In case of the Czech parliament and the Polish Sejm, contact information (email and postal addresses) of the staff is published on

the official parliamentary website. The Polish Sejm does not publish contact information of staff members. The Slovak National Council additionally discloses their salaries.

Data on income of MPs (parliamentary and non-parliamentary) is available in some of the surveyed parliamentary chambers. In all of these cases, the official parliamentary website either contains or links to the official declaration of assets. The level of detail these declarations contain is outlined in the table above.

It should be noted that there are many issues with the declarations. For example, in the Czech Republic, some of the declarations are hand-written and therefore difficult to read. There is only one parliamentary chamber in the region that publishes information on MPs' travel expenses – the Polish Sejm. This information is, however, incomplete. It publishes lists of trips and associated costs. The Polish Senate is the only chamber that publishes a report describing interactions of MPs with lobbyists including their names and professional affiliations.

PLENARY SESSIONS

The order of business in most parliaments in broken down into sessions of the plenary when all the MPs meet to discuss and decide on legislation and into sessions of committees of various committees and other types of intra-parliamentary institutions. The following section only concerns parliamentary data related to plenary sessions. All the parliamentary chambers surveyed in this publication hold regular plenary sessions in a similar fashion and these are clearly distinct from committee sessions.

INVITATIONS TO SESSIONS

Invitations to sessions are an important type of parliamentary data since they inform the public about a scheduled event where legislation and other issues will be debated. Therefore, the public can attend or follow the session and its results. Invitations typically include date, time and place (address) of the session and often also an overview of scheduled agenda of the session. In many cases, there is no separate document that could be regarded as invitation. Instead, above mentioned information is included in session's agenda that is released prior to the session taking place.

Invitations to plenary sessions are not published online by the Parliament of Albania, the House of Representatives of Bosnia and Hercegovina and the Polish Sejm. The parliaments of Hungary, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia and the Polish Senate do not publish invitations to plenary sessions as separate documents but information about date, time and place can be found in agenda of the sessions.

The House of Peoples of Bosnia and Hercegovina has been publishing invitation to plenary sessions on separate webpages, one for each session, since 2010. The invitation includes date and time, place of a session and its agenda. It can be also downloaded as a native PDF file or emailed directly from the webpage.[38]

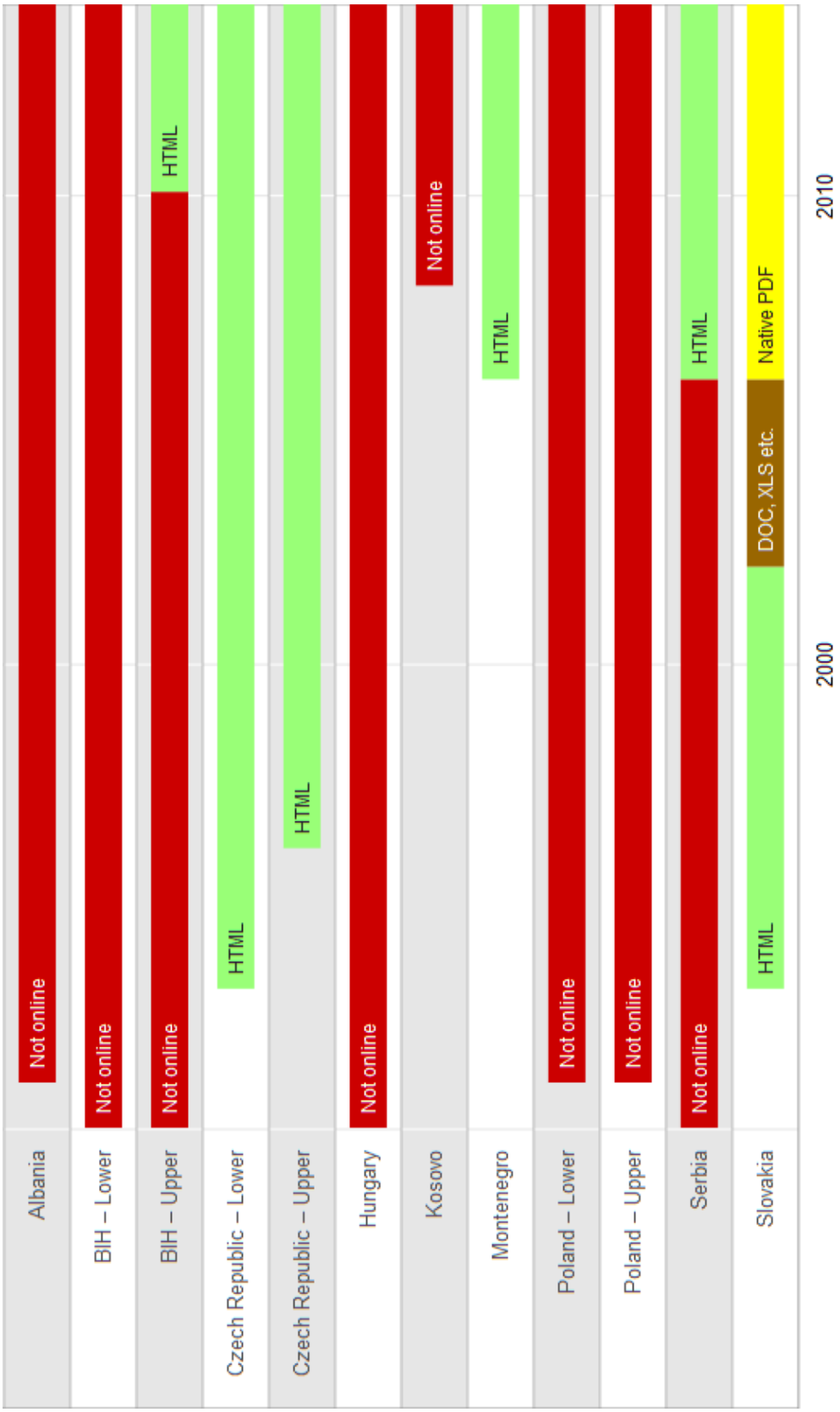
The Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Parliament has also been publishing invitations to plenary sessions since 1993 both as separate HTML files, as well as part of an online calendar on the official parliamentary website.[39] In the Czech Senate, invitations and agenda of plenary sessions has been published since 1996. The files are available in HTML format.[40]

The parliament of Montenegro has been publishing invitations to plenary sessions since 2006. They are published on webpages summarizing one plenary session that also includes agenda of individual session and related documents. The invitation includes date, time and place of a session.[41]

In the Slovak National Council, the invitations have been published since 1993. For the period of 1993-1998 the invitations are available in the parliamentary digital archive in HTML format. For the period of 2002 to 2006, the original DOC files are available. Since 2006, the invitations have been mostly released as native PDF files.[42]

[38] http://is.gd/gJpS4l
[39] http://is.gd/D0dDUw
[40] http://is.gd/yDEdzB
[41] http://is.gd/Adx9zi
[42] http://is.gd/Ylscfc

Diagram 4: Availability and openness of plenary session invitations



AGENDA OF SESSIONS

Agenda of parliamentary sessions is a key type of data since it informs the public about the content of a session and issue that are scheduled to be debated. This may include legislation or other parliamentary activities (public hearings, elections, investigations etc.). Agenda should be released prior to the given session actually taking place but it is also important to have access to agenda of past sessions to be able to track when important decisions were made.

The Albanian parliament has been publishing agenda of plenary sessions since 2013. Some of the files are in native PDF format and others are in DOC format. The agenda contains titles of bill proposals and committees responsible.[43]

In Bosnia and Hercegovina, the House of Representatives has been publishing agenda of plenary sessions since 2006. It contains description of issues to discuss. The agenda is published on a webpage but can also be downloaded as a PDF file or emailed directly from the webpage.[44] The House of Peoples has been publishing agenda of plenary session since 1990. Before 2006, it was published in native PDF files. Since 2006, each session has a separate webpage with complete agenda.[45]

In the Czech Republic, agenda of plenary sessions of the Chamber of Deputies has been available on the official website since 1993. Each session has its own separate webpage with links to relevant bill proposals and other types of information.[46] The Senate has been publishing invitations and agenda of plenary sessions since 1996. The files are available in HTML format.[47]

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[43] http://is.gd/eXSIVJ
[44] http://is.gd/aN2UIX
[45] http://is.gd/IY8TvA
[46] http://is.gd/5Row6Z
[47] http://is.gd/yDEdzB

The parliament of Hungary has been publishing agenda of plenary session since 1998. Each session has a separate webpage with its agenda. The webpage links to texts of bill proposals and transcripts of speeches.[48] The parliament of Kosovo has been publishing agenda of plenary session since 2006. It includes date and time, place and description of issues to discuss. Each session has its agenda published on a separate webpage.[49]

The parliament of Montenegro has been publishing agenda of plenary sessions since 2006. Each plenary session has a separate webpage. Individual issues on agenda link to overviews of legislative process of respected bill proposals.[50]

In Poland, the Sejm has been publishing agenda of plenary sessions since 2005 in HTML format. Agenda of each session is published on a separate webpage. It includes links to related documents, most importantly to overviews of legislative process of discussed bill proposals.[51] The Senate has been publishing agenda of plenary sessions since 1997 in HTML format. Agenda of each session is published on a separate webpage. It includes links to related documents, most importantly to overviews of legislative process of discussed bill proposals.[52]

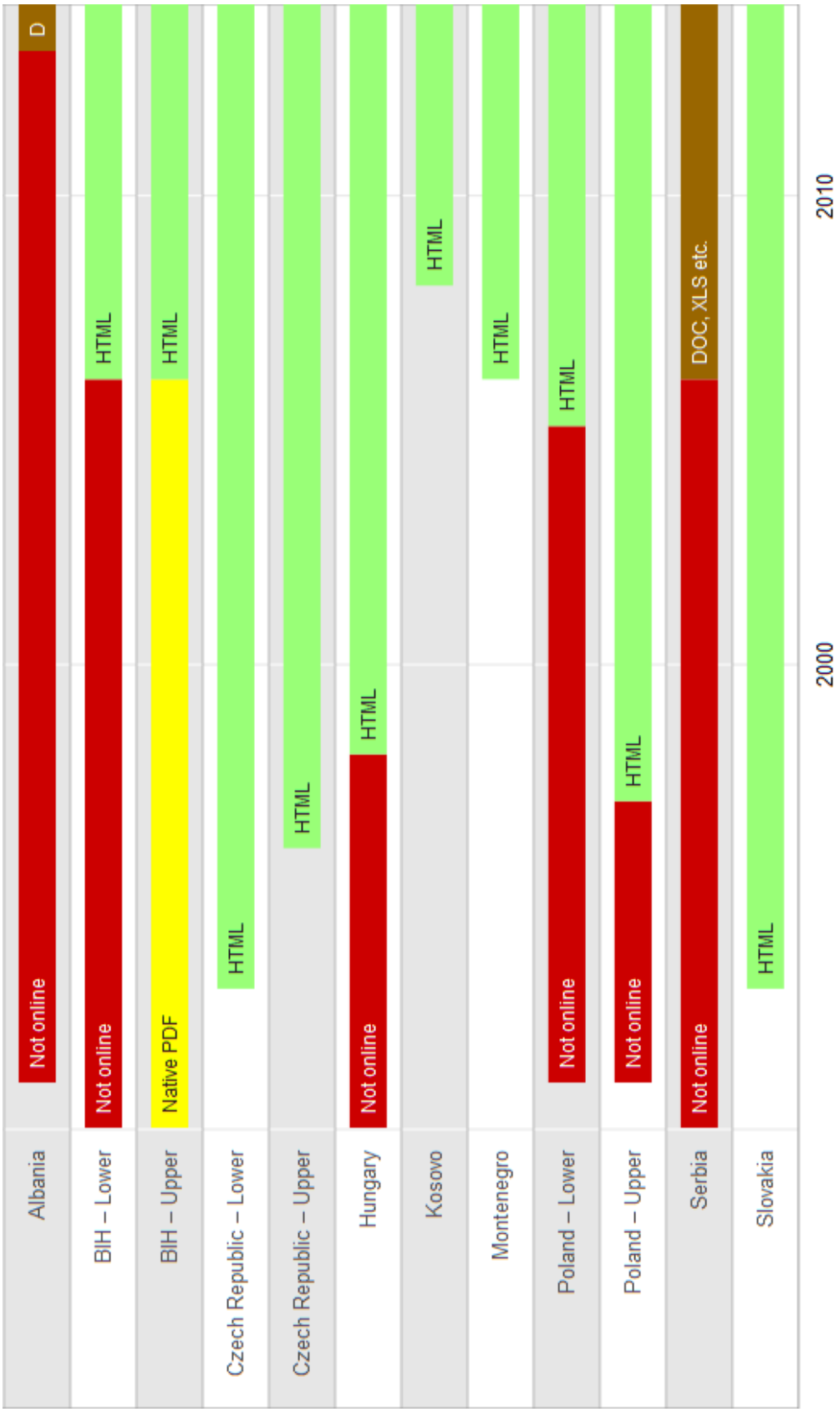
In Serbia, agenda of plenary sessions has been published by the parliament since 2006 in DOC files.[53] The official parliamentary website of the Slovak National Council contains detailed agenda of every plenary session since 1993

[48] http://is.gd/ln2MaJ
[49] http://is.gd/QUnBcO
[50] http://is.gd/Adx9zi
[51] http://is.gd/GnN9MQ
[52] http://is.gd/5JCkaY
[53] http://is.gd/OUZUnY

in HTML format. Each plenary session has its agenda listed on a separate webpage. The agenda links to texts of relevant bill proposals.[54]

[54] http://is.gd/IhWCKB

Diagram 5: Availability and openness of plenary session agenda



TRANSCRIPTS OF SESSIONS

Transcripts are word-by-word written recordings of what was said during a parliamentary session. As such, they provide the best account of such an event. They are superior to even audio and video recordings since written text can be easily searched and analysed. Word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions are not published the Polish Senate.

The parliament of Albania has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 2009. Some of the files are in DOC format (especially the newer ones) while the others are published as native PDFs. The files contain agenda of a session and a list of speakers.[55]

In Bosnia and Hercegovina, both the House of Representatives, as well as the House of Peoples have been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 1998. Older files are native PDFs while new ones are DOC files. The files are grouped by parliamentary terms.[56]

In the Czech Republic, the Chamber of Deputies has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 1993 in HTML files,[57] while word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions of the Senate have been available since 1996 in HTML format.[58]

The parliament of Hungary has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 1990.The speeches are published on separate webpages.[59] The parliament of Kosovo has been publishing publishes word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 2006.The speeches are

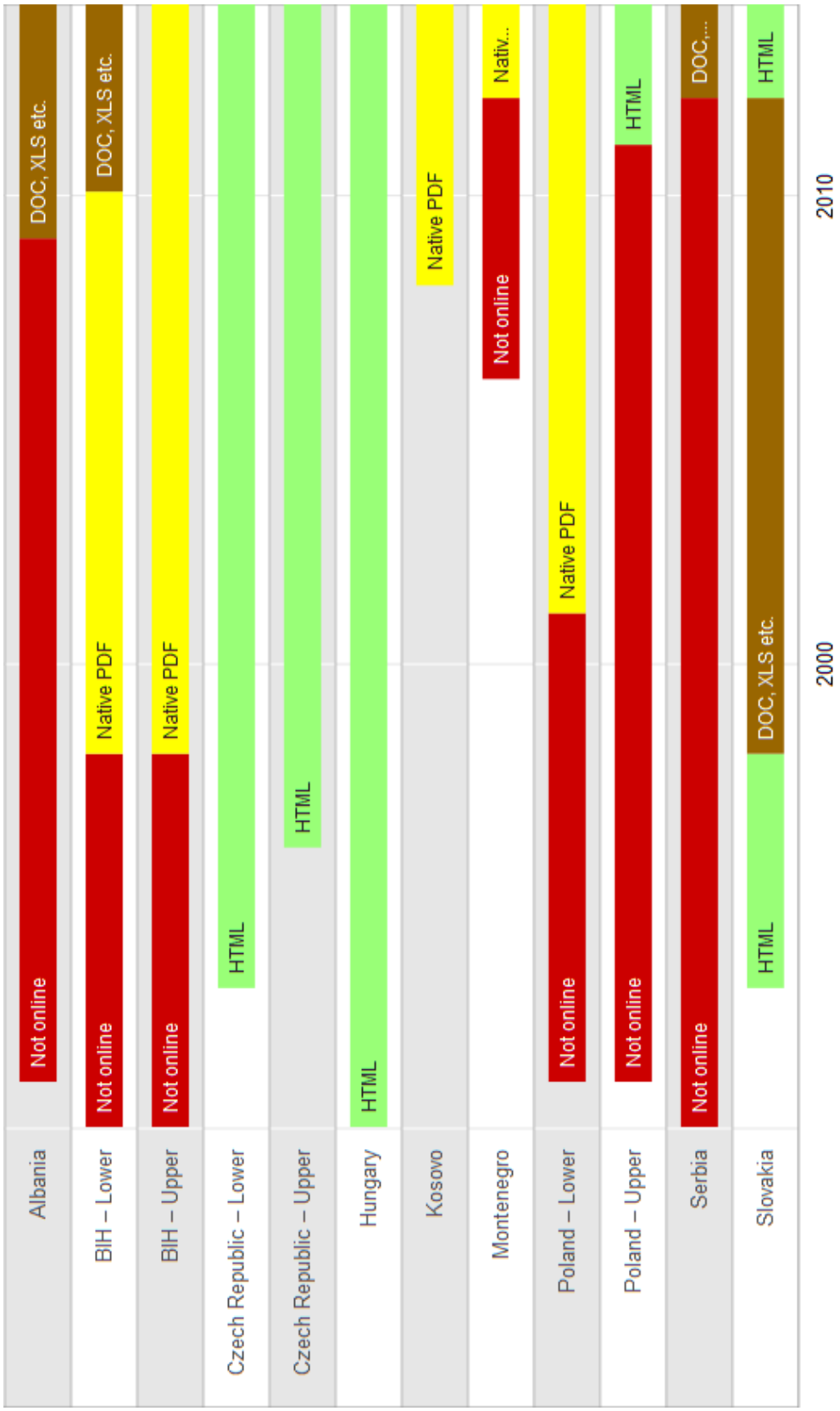
[55] http://is.gd/ch4x1g
[56] http://is.gd/kBWFjk
[57] http://is.gd/MZ9VWl
[58] http://is.gd/4ZTwSR
[59] http://is.gd/cBhiSN

published in native PDFs.[60] In Montenegro, the parliament has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 2012 in native PDF files.[61]

In Poland, the Sejm has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 2001. The transcripts are published as native PDF files.[62] In Slovakia, the National Council has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 1993. For the period of 1993-1998 they are available in the parliamentary digital archive in HTML format. For the period of 2002 to 2012, the original DOC files are available. Since 2012, the transcripts have been published as HTML files again.[63]

[60] http://is.gd/XafHT7
[61] http://is.gd/9NKP0P
[62] http://is.gd/O7Q3iJ
[63] http://is.gd/d2fU5o

Diagram 6: Availability and openness of plenary session transcripts



SUMMARIES OF SESSIONS

In parliaments where word-by-word transcripts of sessions are not produced, content of these sessions is usually at least recorded in the form of a short summary (also called hansards in some parliaments). These summaries typically recapitulate discussions during a session but they do not contain direct speech of individual speakers. Therefore, they are susceptive to distortions and overgeneralization.

Moreover, the level of detail of such summaries varies significantly across various parliamentary chambers and sometimes even within the same chamber, both in time and among various types of sessions. For these reasons, summaries are always inferior to word-by-word transcripts. Short summaries of plenary sessions are not produced in Albania, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.

In Bosnia and Hercegovina, both the House of Representatives, as well as the House of Peoples have been publishing brief summaries of plenary sessions as native PDF files since 1996,[64] apart from full word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions.

The parliament of Kosovo has been publishing publishes short summaries of plenary sessions since 2006 in native PDF and HTML files. The summaries tend to be around one page long.[65] The parliament of Montenegro has also been producing short summaries of plenary sessions since 2006 in native PDF files. The summaries are usually 10-20 pages long and contain brief overviews of debates around individual issues on agenda, including overviews of MPs' speeches.[66]

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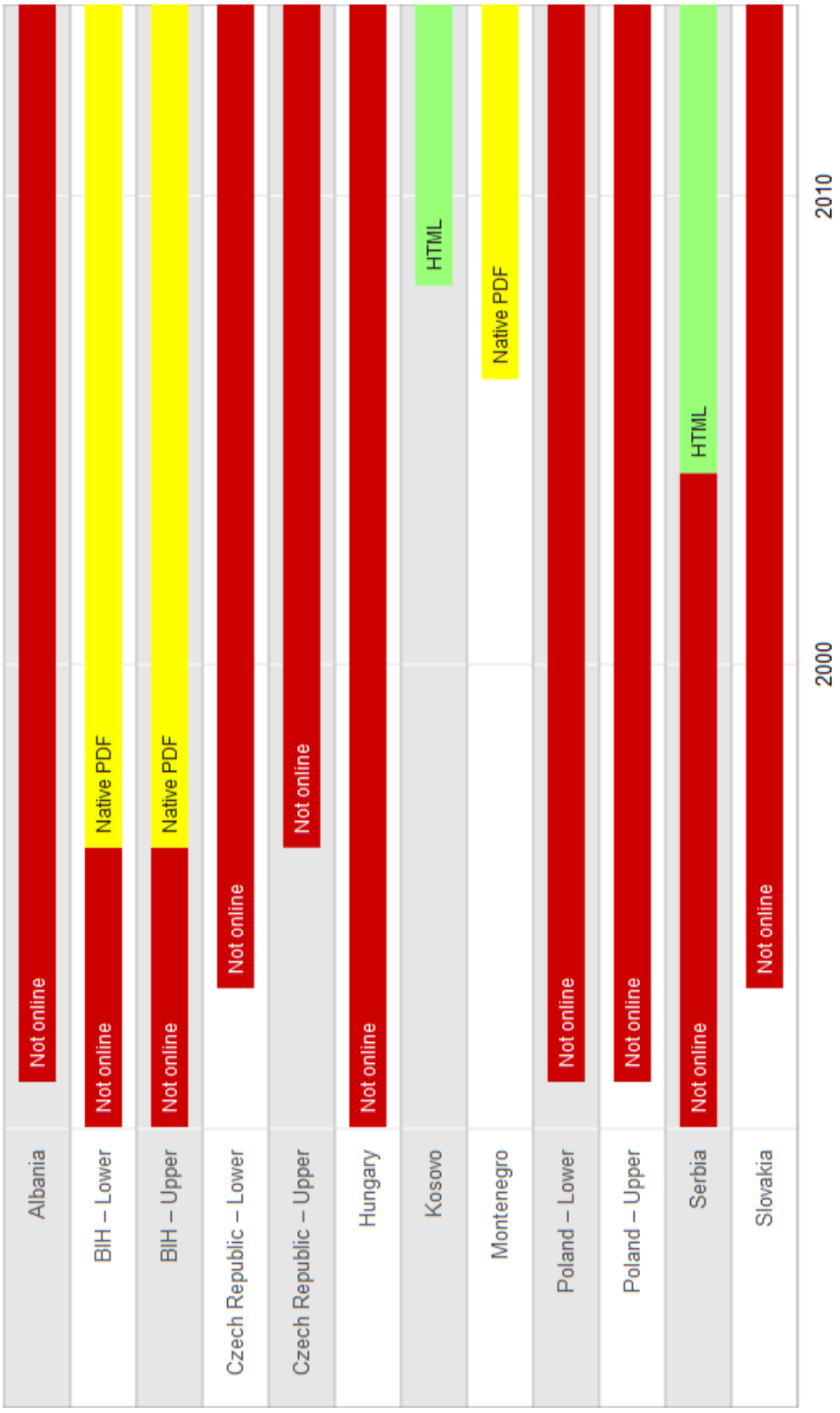
[64] http://is.gd/kBWFjk
[65] http://is.gd/hFfRuL
[66] http://is.gd/GEF5ei

The parliament of Serbia has been producing short summaries of plenary sessions since 2004. A summary of one plenary session is published on one webpage.[67]

[67] http://is.gd/2oAOZv

Diagram 7: Availability and openness of plenary session summaries



VOTING RESULTS FROM SESSIONS

Results of votes taken in the parliament by MPs are arguably the most important type of data that parliaments produce. Without this information citizens can hardly hold MPs accountable and evaluate their performance in office. In many cases, voting results are not reported by individual MPs, meaning it is not possible to clearly identify how every MPs voted every time. For example, only aggregate numbers of MPs that voted for, against or abstained is reported. This information is almost as good as no information at all since it practically anonymizes legislative decision-making.

The Albanian parliament has been publishing results of votes taken during the plenary sessions since 2006. The voting results are listed according to bill proposals. The PDF files contain scans of printed documents listing voting options of all MPs.[68]

In Bosnia and Hercegovina, both the House of Representatives, as well as the House of Peoples have been publishing results of votes taken during plenary sessions and broken down to votes of individual MPs since 2011 as native PDF files. The files are published on webpages of plenary sessions where results of all votes taken during one session can be viewed.[69]

Voting results from the Czech Chamber of Deputies have been available since 1994. Each vote taken during the plenary sessions is published on a separate webpage containing voting options of individual MPs.[70] The Czech Senate has been publishing results of votes taken during plenary sessions since 1998.

[68] http://is.gd/vDJNsk
[69] http://is.gd/PPugMG
[70] http://is.gd/5v4prA

Each vote has its own separate webpage where votes of individual MPs are displayed.[71]

The parliament of Hungary has been publishing results of votes taken during plenary sessions and broken down to votes of individual MPs since 1990. Each vote has a separate webpage. It includes voting options of all MPs and aggregate numbers for political parties.[72] In Kosovo, the parliament has been publishing results of votes taken during plenary sessions and broken down to votes of individual MPs since 2010. The voting results are published in TXT files. It includes voting options of all MPs and aggregate numbers.[73]

The parliament of Montenegro has been publishing results of votes taken during plenary sessions and broken down to votes of individual MPs since 2009. The voting results are published in native PDF files that can be found on webpages of individual sessions. Each file contains results of all votes taken during one session.[74]

In Poland, Results of votes taken during plenary sessions in the Polish Sejm has been published broken down to voting options of individual MPs since 1997. Results are published in HTML format; each vote has its own webpage.[75] Results of votes taken during plenary sessions in the Polish Senate has been published broken down to voting options of individual MPs since 1991. Results are also published in HTML format and each vote also has own of webpage.[76]

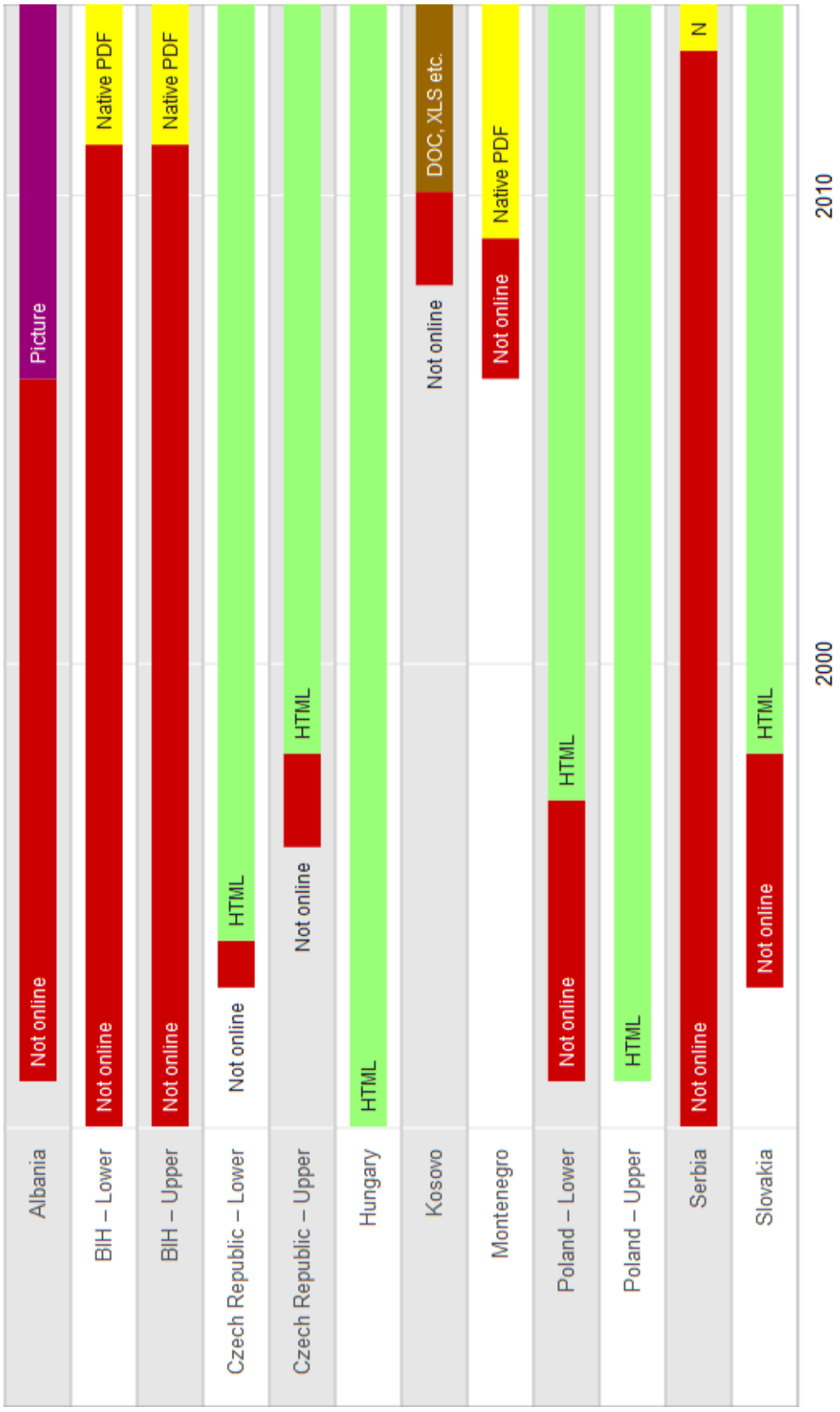
In case of the parliament of Serbia, results of votes taken during plenary sessions have been published broken down to voting options of individual MPs

[71] http://is.gd/BmAxQG
[72] http://is.gd/RhuyA3
[73] http://is.gd/cQ5jii
[74] http://is.gd/J7zfaj
[75] http://is.gd/wtKYn7
[76] http://is.gd/29Zvks

since 2012. Results are published as native PDF files.[77] Results of votes taken during plenary sessions in the Slovak National Council have been available since 1998. Each vote event has its own website where votes of individual MPs are published.[78]

[77] http://is.gd/RVXChh
[78] http://is.gd/GHwnml

Diagram 8: Availability and openness of plenary session voting results



AUDIO RECORDINGS OF SESSIONS

Even when word-by-word transcripts of sessions are published, and especially if they are not, audio or video recordings of sessions are still a welcomed type of information since they allow citizens to check whether the parliament reports about the sessions objectively. Moreover, audio and video content is much more attractive than text for media, thus increasing re-usability of parliamentary information. Audio recordings of plenary sessions are not produced in Albania, Hungary, Kosovo, Montenegro, Poland, Serbia and Slovakia.

In Bosnia and Hercegovina, both the House of Representatives, as well as the House of Peoples have been publishing audio recordings of plenary sessions since 2006. The files can be downloaded in MP3 format. The files do not contain timestamps indicating discussion about individual issues or speeches of individual MPs.[79]

In the Czech Republic, the Chamber of Deputies has been publishing audio recordings of plenary sessions since 2002. The files are downloadable in MP3 format from webpages that contain transcripts of plenary sessions. Each file contains a segment of sessions but the files are not edited to only contain one speech of one MP.[80]

Since 2010, the Czech Senate has also been publishing audio recordings of plenary sessions. The files are downloadable in MP3 format from webpages that contain transcripts of plenary sessions. Each file contains a segment of sessions but the files are not edited to only contain one speech of one MP.[81]

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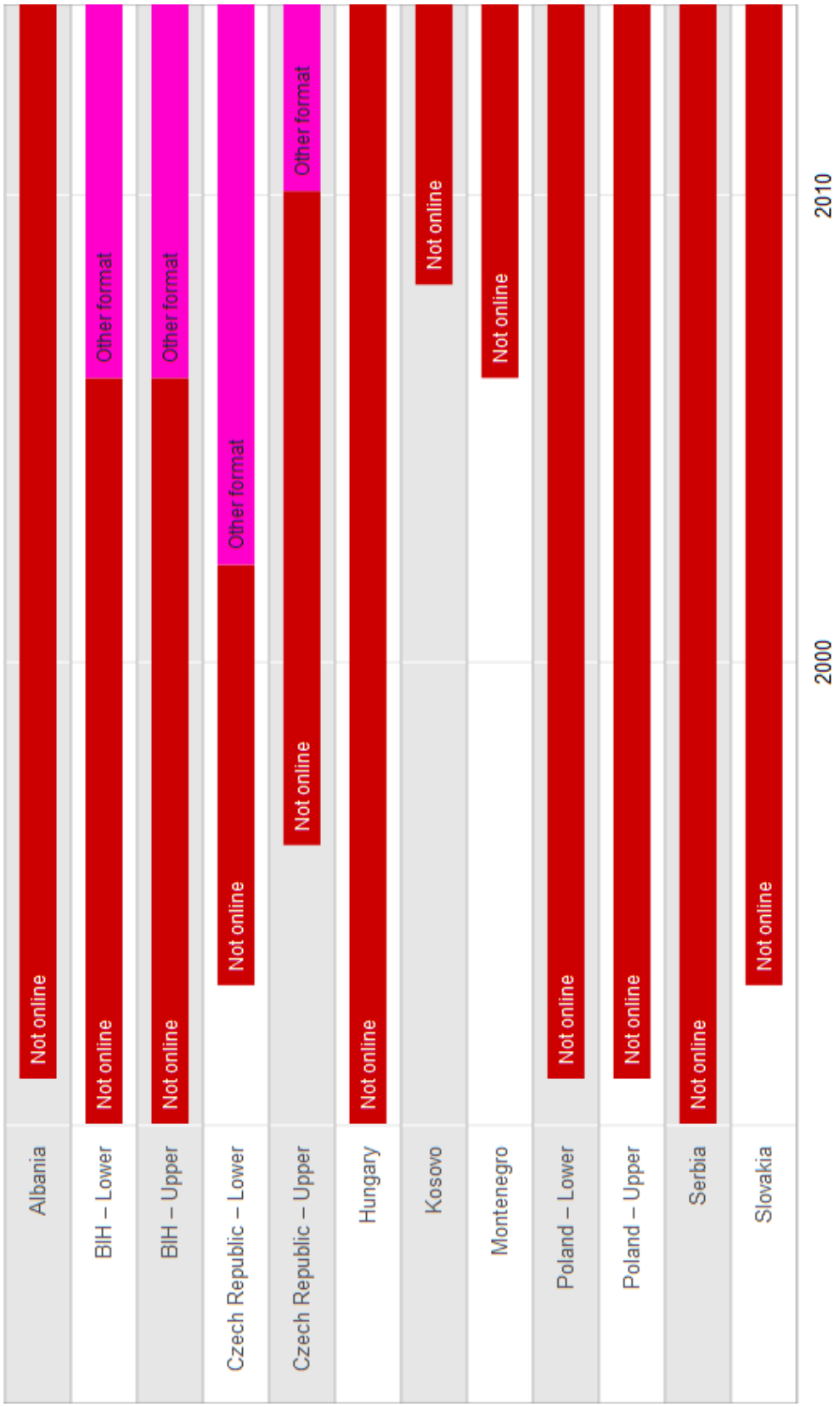
[79] http://is.gd/P9ZbLj
[80] http://is.gd/AGOhV5
[81] http://is.gd/HSvRFN

Diagram 9: Availability and openness of plenary session audio recordings



VIDEO RECORDINGS OF SESSIONS

Video recordings of plenary sessions are not produced by the parliament of Bosnia and Hercegovina, Kosovo and the Czech Senate.

In Albania, The official parliamentary website includes a section containing video recordings of plenary sessions. Sessions can be viewed online but the video files are not available for download. The recordings include timestamps marking discussed bill proposals and individual speakers.[82]

The Czech Chamber of Deputies provides a video stream of plenary sessions on its website. The sessions can, however, only be watched live and it is not possible to play or download older files. The parliament of Hungary has been publishing video recordings of plenary sessions since 2002. The recordings do not contain timestamps indicating discussion about individual issues or speeches of individual MPs.[83]

The parliament of Montenegro has been providing online video streaming of plenary sessions since 2012. The stream can be watched on the official parliamentary website when a session is in progress. Video recordings are, however, not published on the website afterwards.[84]

In Poland, the official parliamentary website of the Sejm has been providing video recordings of plenary sessions since 2011. The recordings can be viewed on the official website but the files cannot be downloaded. The recordings include timestamps of individual speakers.[85] The Senate has been producing video recordings of plenary sessions since 2011. The recordings can be viewed

[82] http://is.gd/779Axo
[83] http://is.gd/I0ZJOR
[84] http://is.gd/8f3mbz
[85] http://is.gd/XIj6aM

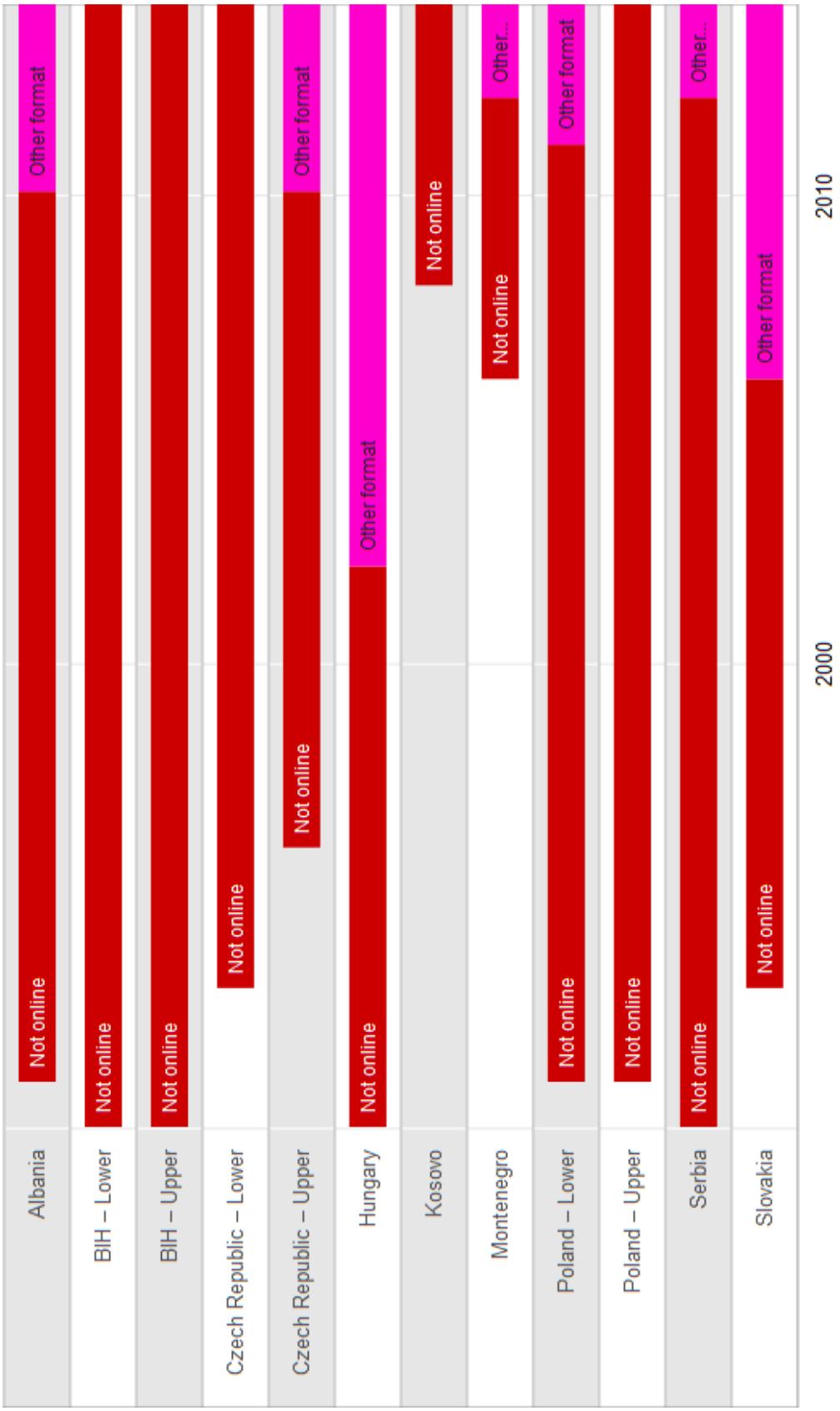
but not downloaded and do not contain timestamps of individual MPs' speeches.[86]

The Slovak National Council has been producing video recordings of plenary sessions since 2006. The video files can be viewed on the official parliamentary website but cannot be downloaded. The files are edited to include a speech of one MP at a time and are searchable by sessions and by speakers.[87]

Another parliament that produces video recordings is the Serbian Parliament. Video recordings have been produced since 2014. The files can be watched online and even downloaded.

[86] http://is.gd/BFKrYU
[87] http://is.gd/zwc44b

Diagram 10: Availability and openness of plenary session video recordings



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

The following section concerns parliamentary data produced during committee sessions. In many parliaments, there are various types of intra-parliamentary institutions called committees, commissions and such. Their existence is defined by some legally binding documents or it can be a matter of tradition and new institutions can be created ad hoc. These institutions also vary in amount and extent of their power and influence within the parliamentary framework.

This publication only surveys major standing committees. If there is a hierarchy on intra-parliamentary institutions in a parliament, it only surveys the top level of the hierarchy. In order to avoid confusion, the committees in question are listed below (as of 2014). Availability and openness of parliamentary data produced by these institutions can vary among individual committees. Some committees may, for example, publish voting results while others may not.

The survey presented here corresponds to common situation typical for a majority of committees in a given parliament most often. Notable deviations from this norm (both positive and negative) are then discussed in detail.

ALBANIA

- Committee on Legal Affairs, Public Administration and Human Rights
- Committee for European Integration
- Foreign Policy Committee
- Economy and Finance Committee
- National Security Committee
- Committee for Industry, Trade and Environment
- Committee on Labour, Social Affairs and Health
- Education and Means Committee on Public Information

BOSNIA AND HERCEGOVINA

House of Representatives

- Constitutional Committee of the House
- Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Committee of Foreign Trade and Customs
- Committee for Finance
- Budgetary Committee of the House
- Committee for Transport and Communications
- Committee for Gender Equality
- Committee for Election of the Council of Ministers

House of Peoples

- Constitutional Committee of the House of Peoples
- Committee for Foreign and Trade Policy, Customs, Transportation and Communications

- Committee for Finance and Budget Committee of the House of Peoples

CZECH REPUBLIC

Chamber of Deputies

- Committee on Economic Affairs
- Committee on Budgetary Control
- Mandate and Immunity Committee
- Steering Committee
- Committee on Petitions
- Committee on the Budget
- Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs
- Electoral Committee
- Committee on Security
- Committee on European Affairs
- Committee on Defence
- Committee on Social Policy
- Committee on Science, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport
- Committee on Public Administration and Regional Development
- Committee on Health Care
- Committee on Environment
- Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Committee on Agriculture

Senate

- Committee on Agenda and Procedure
- Committee on Mandate and Parliamentary Privilege
- Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs
- Committee on National Economy, Agriculture and Transport
- Committee on Public Administration, Regional Development and the Environment
- Committee on Education, Science, Culture, Human Rights and Petitions
- Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security
- Committee on EU Affairs
- Committee on Health and Social Policy

HUNGARY

- Committee on European Affairs
- Committee on Sustainable Development
- Committee on Economics
- Committee on Defence and Law Enforcement
- Committee on Justice
- Committee on the Budget
- Committee on Culture
- Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Committee on Immunity
- Committee on Agriculture
- Committee on National Security
- Committee on National Cohesion
- Committee on Social Welfare
- Committee on Business Development

KOSOVO

- Budget Committee
- Committee for Finance and Economy
- Committee for Education, Science and Technology
- Committee for Health
- Committee for Labour and Social Welfare
- Committee for Public Services
- Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Committee on Judicial, Legislative and Constitutional Framework Matters
- Committee on Missing Persons
- Committee on Media
- Committee on the Rights and Interests of Communities
- Committee for Trade and Industry
- Committee for Culture, Youth and Sports
- Committee for Environment and Spatial Planning
- Committee for Transport and Communications
- Committee for Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development
- Committee on Emergency Preparedness
- Committee on Public Petitions and Claims
- Committee on Gender Equality

MONTENEGRO

- Constitutional Committee
- Legislative Committee
- Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration
- Security and Defence Committee

- Committee on International Relations and Emigrants
- Committee on European Integration
- Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget
- Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms
- Gender Equality Committee
- Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports
- Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning
- Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare
- Anti-corruption Committee
- Committee for Monitoring and Control of privatization Process
- Administrative Committee

POLAND

Sejm

- Committee on Administration and Digitization
- Committee on State Control
- Committee for Special Services
- Committee on European Union Affairs
- Committee for Education, Science and Youth
- Ethics Committee
- Committee on Public Accounts
- Economy Committee
- Committee on Infrastructure
- Committee on Innovation and New Technology
- Committee on Physical Culture, Sport and Tourism
- Committee on Culture and Media
- Committee on Liaisons with Poles Abroad
- Committee on National and Ethnic Minorities

- National Defence Committee
- Committee on the Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry
- Constitutional Accountability Committee
- Seigneurial Policy Committee
- Committee on Social and Family Policy
- Rules and Deputies' Affairs Committee
- Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development
- Committee on Local Self-Government and Regional Policy
- Committee of the Treasury
- Committee on Home Affairs
- Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Committee on Justice and Human Rights
- Legislation Committee
- Health Committee

Senate

- Committee on Budget and Public Finance
- Committee on National Economy
- Committee on Culture and Media
- Committee on Science, Education and Sports
- National Defence Committee
- Commission on Human Rights, Rule of Law and Petitions
- Committee on Rules, Ethics and Senatorial Affairs
- Committee on Family, Social Policy and the senior
- Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development
- Committee on Local Government and Public Administration
- Emigration Affairs and Contacts with Poles Abroad Committee
- Committee on European Union Affairs
- Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Commission for the Environment

- The Legislative Committee
- Health Committee

SERBIA

- Committee for Administrative and Budgetary and Mandate-Immunity Issues
- Committee on Diaspora and Serbs in the Region
- Committee for European Integration
- Committee on Finance, Government Budget and Spending of Public Funds Control
- Committee for Control of Security Services
- Committee for Kosovo and Metohija
- Committee on Culture and Information
- Committee for Human and Minority Rights and Equality
- Committee on Education, Science, Technological Development and Information Society
- Committee for the Defence and Home Affairs
- Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
- Committee on the Rights of the Child
- Committee on the Judiciary, Public Administration and Local Self-Government
- Committee for the Economy, Regional Development, Trade, Tourism and Energy
- Committee for Physical Planning, Traffic, Infrastructure and Telecommunications
- Committee on Labour, Social Affairs, Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction
- Committee on Foreign Affairs

- Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation
- Committee for Environmental Protection
- Committee on Health and Family

SLOVAKIA

- Mandate and Immunity Committee
- Committee on Incompatibility of Functions
- Committee on European Affairs
- Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee
- Committee on Finance and Budget
- Committee on Economic Affairs
- Committee on Agriculture and Environment
- Committee on Public Administration and Regional Development
- Committee on Social Affairs
- Committee on Health Care
- Committee on Defence and Security
- Foreign Affairs Committee
- Committee on Education, Science, Youth and Sports
- Committee on Culture and Media
- Committee on Human Rights and Minorities
- Special Control Committee for the Control of Activities of the National Security Authority
- Special Control Committee for the Control of Activities of the Slovak Intelligence Service
- Special Control Committee for the Control of the Activities of the Military Intelligence Service
- Committee for the Review of Decisions of the National Security Authority

INVITATIONS TO SESSIONS

Invitations to sessions are an important type of parliamentary data since they inform the public about a scheduled event where legislation and other issues will be debated. Therefore, the public can attend or follow the session and its results. Invitations typically include date, time and place (address) of the session and often also an overview of scheduled agenda of the session. In many cases, there is no separate document that could be regarded as invitation. Instead, above mentioned information is included in session's agenda that is released prior to the session taking place.

In Albania, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Hungary and Kosovo, the parliament does not publish invitations to committee sessions as separate documents but information about date, time and place can be found in agenda of the sessions. The same applies to the Polish Senate.

The Czech Chamber of Deputies has been publishing invitations to committee sessions since 1993. Older invitations (before 1998) can be found in the parliamentary archive in HTML format. After 1998, invitations ahas been published in DOC files.[88] The Senate has been publishing invitations and agenda of committee sessions since 1996. The files are available in HTML format.[89]

The parliament of Montenegro has been publishing invitations to committee sessions since 2012. The invitations are published as a part of an instance of Google calendar. Information on each session includes date and time, place and link to agenda. The calendar enables users to copy an event to his or her instance of Google calendar directly on the official parliamentary website.[90]

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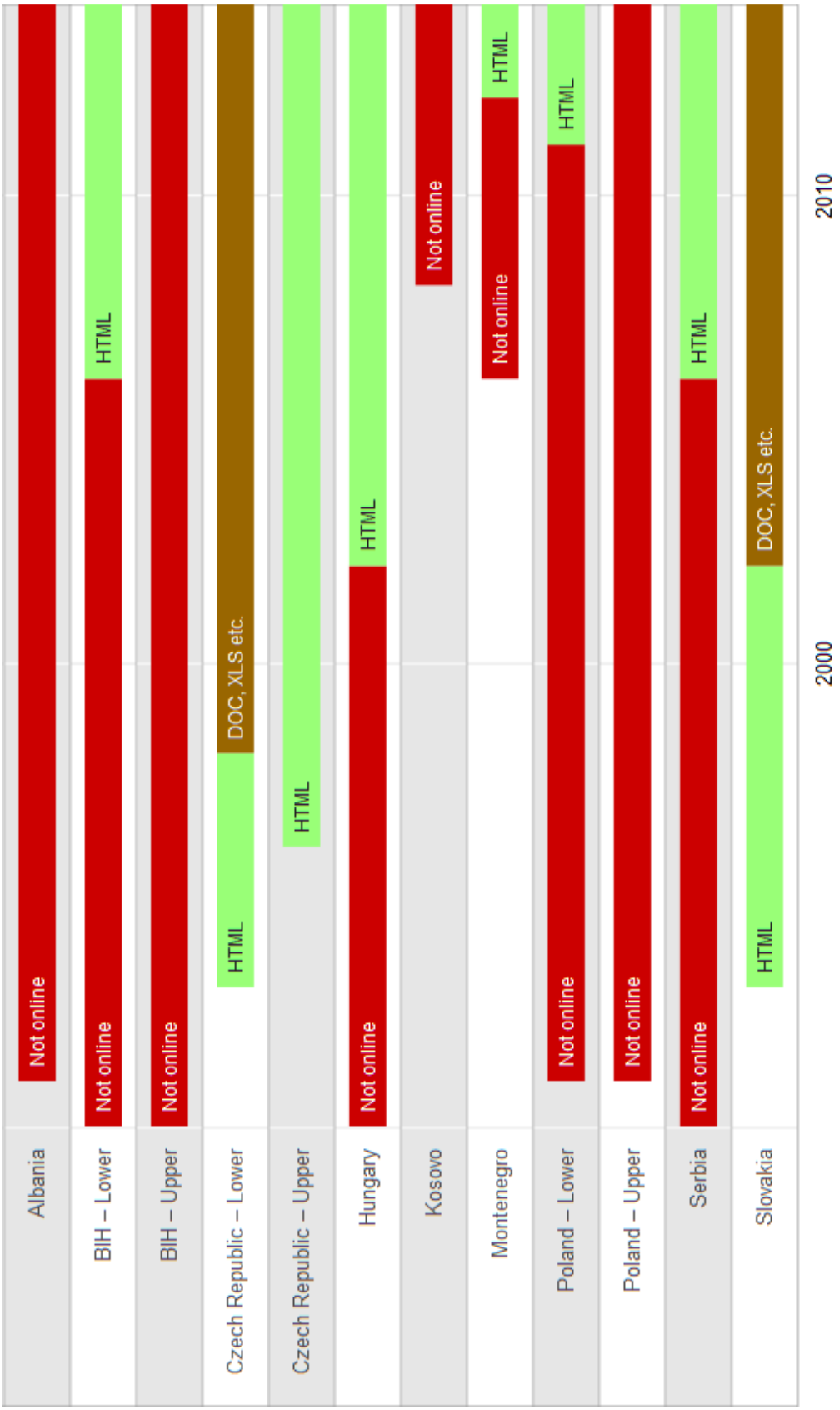
[88] http://is.gd/SDsFj1
[89] http://is.gd/0RGON9
[90] http://is.gd/HEPIPJ

The Polish Senate has been publishing invitations and agenda of plenary sessions since 2011 on a special webpage. All scheduled sessions are listed there, including date, time, place description of agenda and links to further details.[91]

The parliament of Serbia has been publishing invitations to committee sessions as a part of its online calendar system since 2006. The invitations include date, time and place of sessions and link to agenda.[92] The Slovak National Council has been publishing invitations to committee sessions since 1993. For the period of 1993-2002 the invitations are available in the parliamentary digital archive in HTML format. Since 2002, the invitations have been mostly released in HTML format.[93]

[91] http://is.gd/hYo1KE
[92] http://is.gd/OUZUnY
[93] http://is.gd/4tTjlM

Diagram 11: Availability and openness of committee session invitations



AGENDA OF SESSIONS

Agenda of parliamentary sessions is a key type of data since it informs the public about the content of a session and issue that are scheduled to be debated. This may include legislation or other parliamentary activities (public hearings, elections, investigations etc.). Agenda should be released prior to the given session actually taking place but it is also important to have access to agenda of past sessions to be able to track when important decisions were made.

The parliament of Albania has been publishing agenda of committee sessions online since 2013. The agenda is published in Native PDF files. It contains date and time of a session and short description of issues to be discussed.[94]

In Bosnia and Hercegovina, both the House of Representatives, as well as the House of Peoples have been publishing agenda of committee sessions since 2006. It contains description of issues to discuss. The agenda is published on a webpage but can also be downloaded as a PDF file or emailed directly from the webpage.[95]

The official parliamentary website of the Czech Chamber of Deputies contains detailed agenda of committee sessions that has been available since 1993. Pre-1998 agenda is stored in the parliamentary archive in HTML files while post-1998 agenda has been published in DOC files.[96] The Czech Senate has been publishing invitations and agenda of committee sessions since 1996. The files are available in HTML format.[97]

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[94] http://is.gd/TEQMti
[95] http://is.gd/HEycAG
[96] http://is.gd/SDsFj1
[97] http://is.gd/0RGON9

The parliament of Hungary has been publishing agenda of committee session since 2005. It includes date and time, place and description of issues to discuss. Each session has its agenda on a separate webpage.[98] The parliament of Kosovo has been publishing agenda of committee session since 2013. It includes date and time, place and description of issues to discuss. Several committee sessions are grouped together on the parliamentary website.[99]

The parliament of Montenegro has been publishing agenda of committee session since 2006. Each session has its own separate webpage. It includes date, time and place of a session, overview of agenda and later summaries from sessions and link to relevant documents.[100]

In Poland, the Sejm has been publishing invitations and agenda of plenary sessions since 2011 on a special webpage. All scheduled sessions are listed there, including date, time, place description of agenda and links to further details.[101] The Senate has been publishing invitations and agenda of plenary sessions since 2001 on a special webpage.[102]

In Serbia, agenda of committee sessions has been published by the parliament since 2006 in DOC files.[103] The official parliamentary website of the Slovak National Council contains detailed agenda of every committee session since 1993. Agenda published before 2002 is available in HTML files in the parliamentary digital library. Newer files are published in DOC files.[104]

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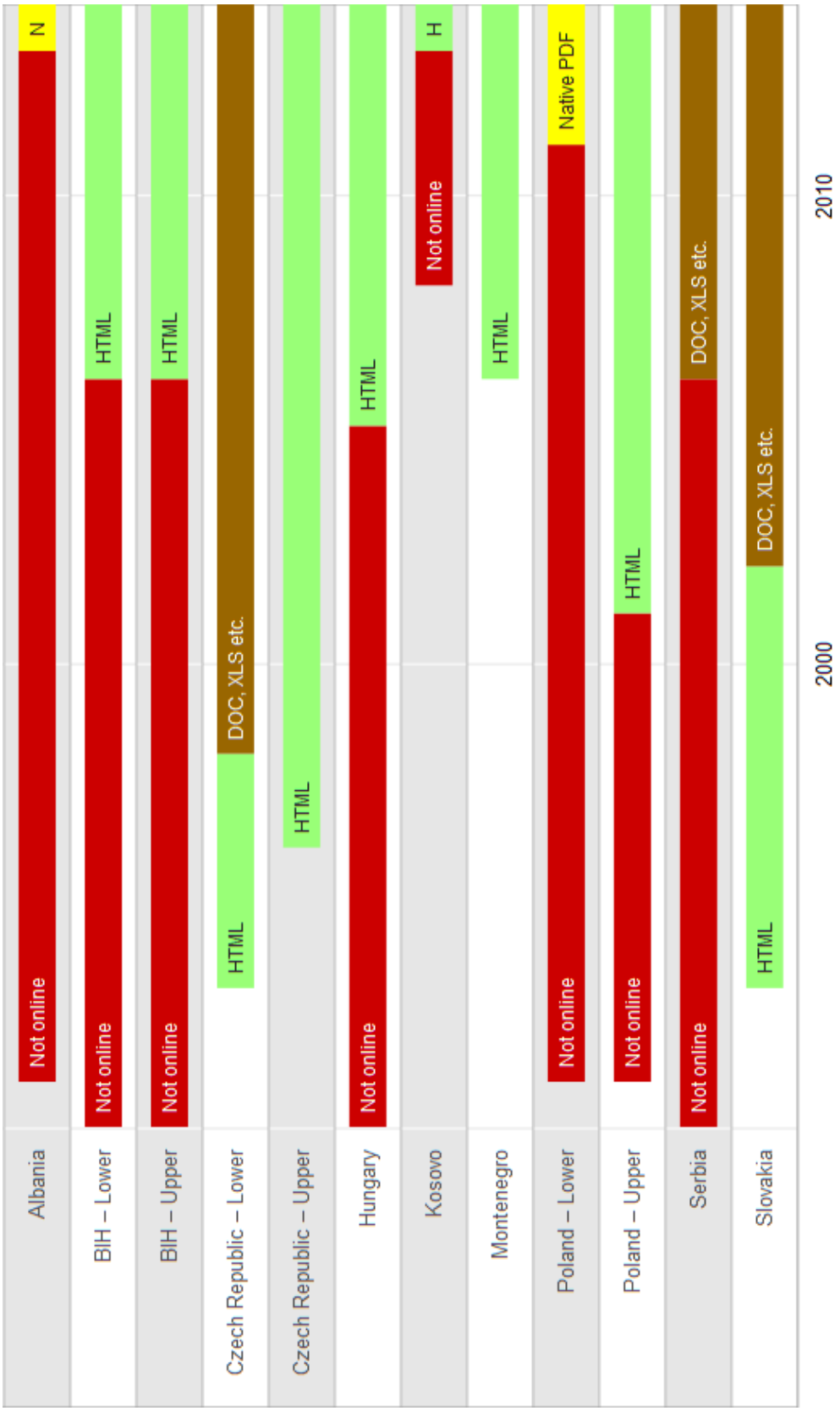
98 http://is.gd/7I9io7
99 http://is.gd/fPthkC
100 http://is.gd/R6bYKB
101 http://is.gd/hYo1KE
102 http://is.gd/OBrjXx
103 http://is.gd/OUZUnY
104 http://is.gd/Tbzktx

Diagram 12: Availability and openness of committee session agenda



TRANSCRIPTS OF SESSIONS

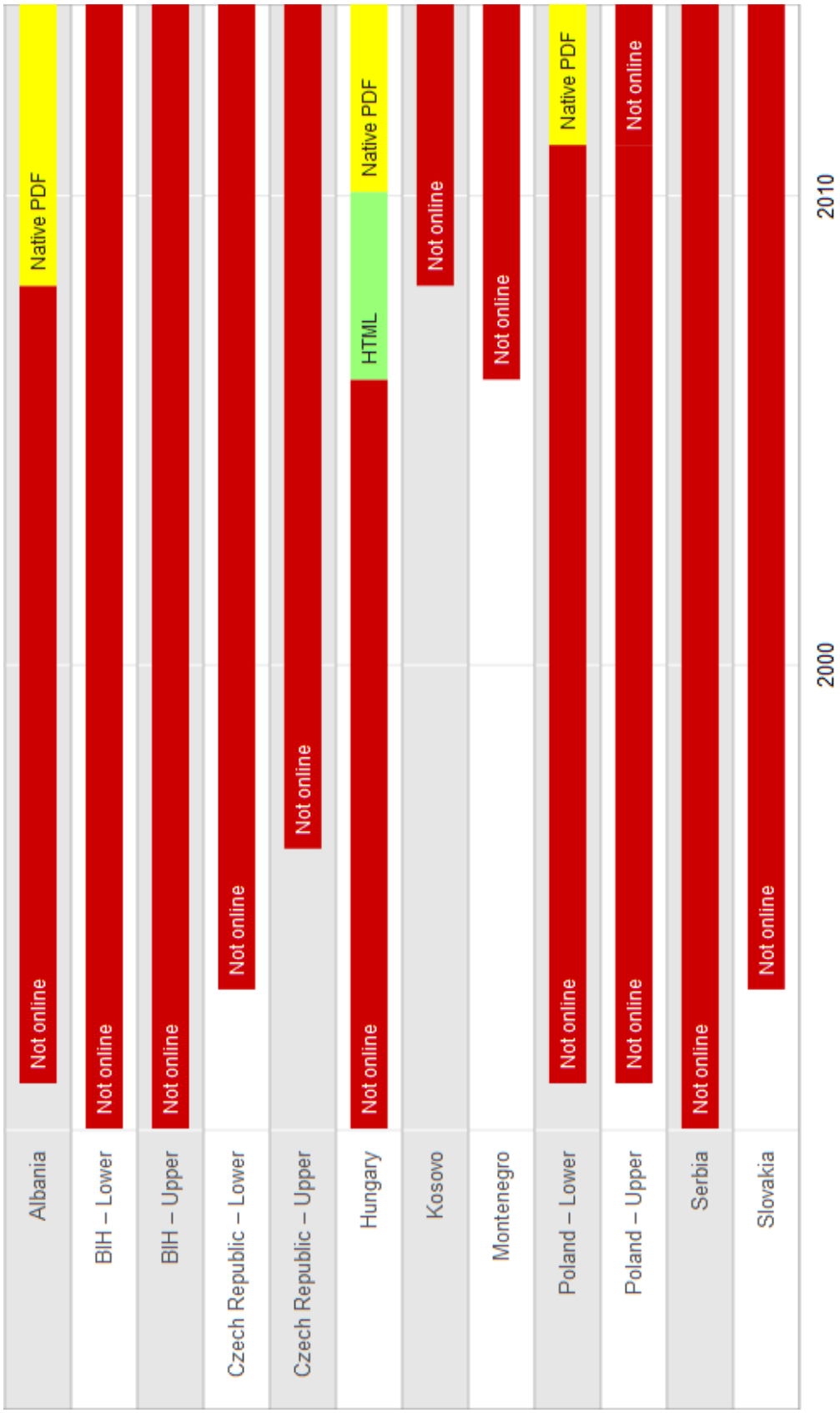
Transcripts are word-by-word written recordings of what was said during a parliamentary session. As such, they provide the best account of such an event. They are superior to event audio and video recordings since written text can be easily searched and analysed.

Word-by-word transcripts of committee sessions are relatively rare. Most parliaments in the region, namely the parliament of Bosnia and Hercegovina, the Czech Republic, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovakia, do not produce it.

In Albania, the transcripts have been available since 2013 in native PDF format. The transcripts contain information about the session and a list of all speakers.[105] In Hungary, the transcripts have been available since 2006 in native PDF and HTML formats. The transcripts also contain information about the session and a list of all speakers.[106] The transcripts from the Polish parliament (both chambers) have been produced since 2011 and are published as native PDF files.[107]

[105] http://is.gd/1k9aNd
[106] http://is.gd/JJck6P
[107] http://is.gd/dTC5rl

Diagram 13: Availability and openness of committee session transcripts



SUMMARIES OF SESSIONS

In parliaments where word-by-word transcripts of sessions are not produced, content of these sessions is usually at least recorded in the form of a short summary (also called hansards in some parliaments). These summaries typically recapitulate discussions during a session but they do not contain direct speech of individual speakers. Therefore, they are susceptive to distortions and overgeneralization.

Moreover, the level of detail of such summaries varies significantly across various parliamentary chambers and sometimes even within the same chamber, both in time and among various types of sessions. For these reasons, summaries are always inferior to word-by-word transcripts.

In Albania, the parliament has been providing written summaries of committee sessions since 2010 in HTML format.[108] In Bosnia and Hercegovina, both the House of Representatives, as well as the House of Peoples have been publishing written summaries of committee sessions since 2006 as native PDF files. These summaries are not word-by-word transcripts of sessions but contain a basic breakdown of the discussion on individual issues, usually about one paragraph to one page long. The summaries also contain lists of MPs present and agenda of sessions.[109]

Short summaries of committee sessions of the Czech Chamber of Deputies have been available since 1993. In the period of 1993-1998, the summaries were published in HTML format. Since 1998, the summaries have been published in DOC files.[110] The Czech Senate has been publishing short written

[108] http://is.gd/GM0EwD
[109] http://is.gd/232Zjk
[110] http://is.gd/oMF01s

summaries of committee sessions since 1996. The summaries are published in HTML format. [111]

The parliament of Kosovo has been publishing short summaries of committee session since 2006. Each committee session has a separate website. The summaries include a list of MPs and a short breakdown of the discussion, usually one paragraph to one page long.[112]

In Montenegro, summaries from committee sessions are mostly unavailable on the official parliamentary websites. Rarely, some summaries of a session can be found in native PDF files but only agenda of sessions is available in most cases.[113]

In Poland, both parliamentary chambers (the Sejm and the Senate) have also been publishing brief summaries of committee sessions since 2011 apart from word-by-word transcripts. Each session has its own separate webpage. The summaries are usually only about one page long.[114]

The parliament of Serbia has been publishing short summaries of committee session since 2004. Each committee session has a separate website. The summaries are usually only about one paragraph long.[115] Committees of the Slovak National Council have been releasing short summaries of their session since 1993. Summaries published before 2002 are available in the parliamentary digital library. Summaries produced after 2002 has been published in DOC files.[116]

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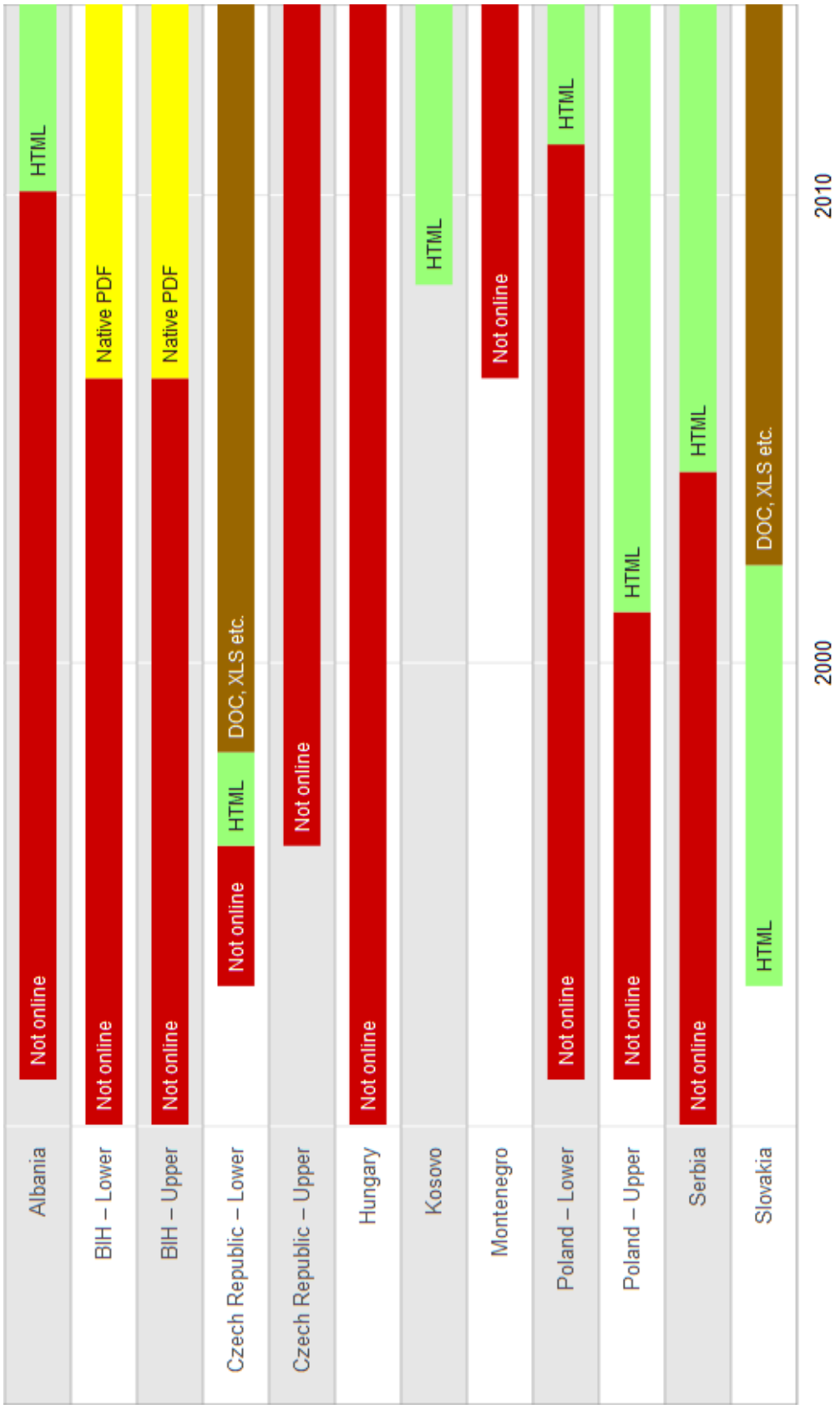
[111] http://is.gd/o47JWr
[112] http://is.gd/hmxf4E
[113] http://is.gd/J9y2GO
[114] http://is.gd/qXVjJM
[115] http://is.gd/6rCDlk
[116] http://is.gd/Tbzktx

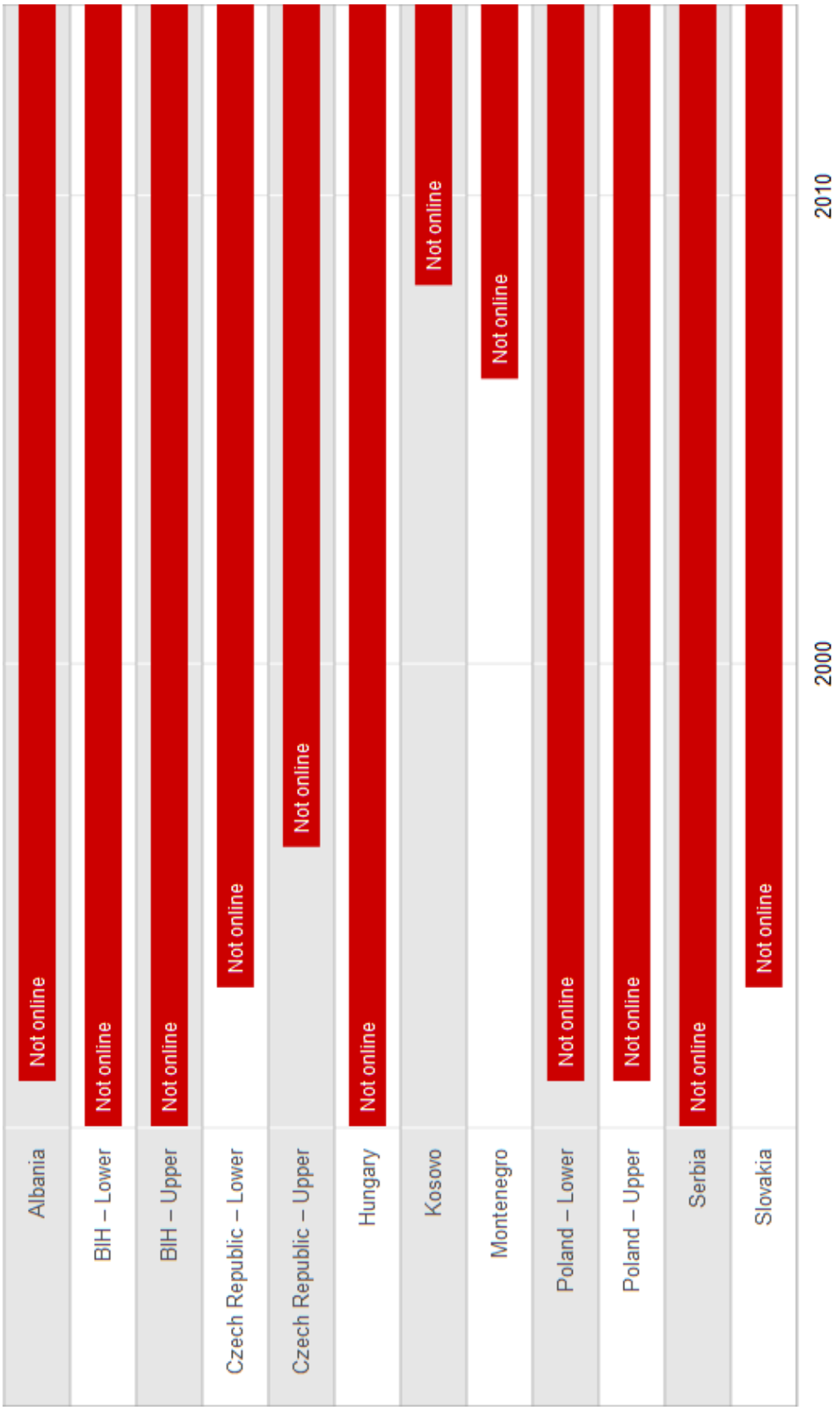
Diagram 14: Availability and openness of committee session summaries



VOTING RESULTS FROM SESSIONS

Results of votes taken during committee sessions are arguably the least open type of data across all the surveyed parliamentary chambers. In many cases, transcripts, reports or summaries of committee sessions contain aggregate numbers of MPs that voted in favour, against or abstained. Voting results reported this way, however, do not allow citizens to recognize how individual MPs voted (unless all present members voted the same way and it is known which MPs were absent). Voting results broken down by names of committee members is not published in any of the surveyed parliamentary chambers.

Diagram 15: Availability and openness of committee session voting results



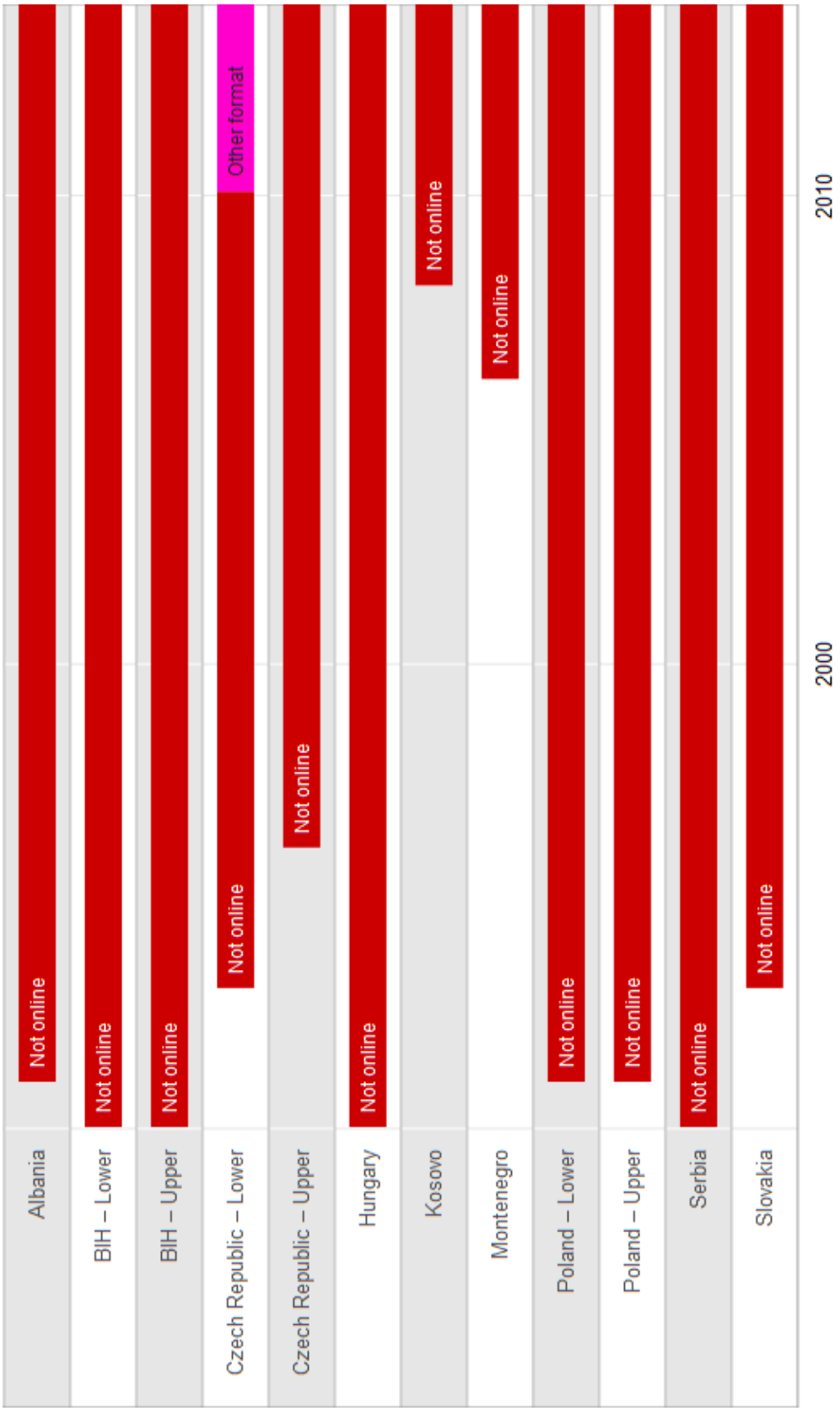
AUDIO RECORDINGS OF SESSIONS

Even when word-by-word transcripts of sessions are published, and especially if they are not, audio or video recordings of sessions are still a welcomed type of information since they allow citizens to check whether the parliament reports about the sessions objectively. Moreover, audio and video content is much more attractive than text for media, thus increasing re-usability of parliamentary information.

Audio recordings of committee sessions are relatively rare among the parliamentary chambers surveyed in this publication. The only chamber that produces such recordings is the Czech Chamber of Deputies. Most of the committees in the chamber have been publishing audio recordings of at least some of its sessions although recording sessions is still far from universal. The audio files have been published since 2010 in MP3 format and can be downloaded from the parliamentary website. The files do not contain timestamps of individual speakers of issues on agenda.[117]

[117] http://is.gd/oMF01s

Diagram 16: Availability and openness of committee session audio recordings

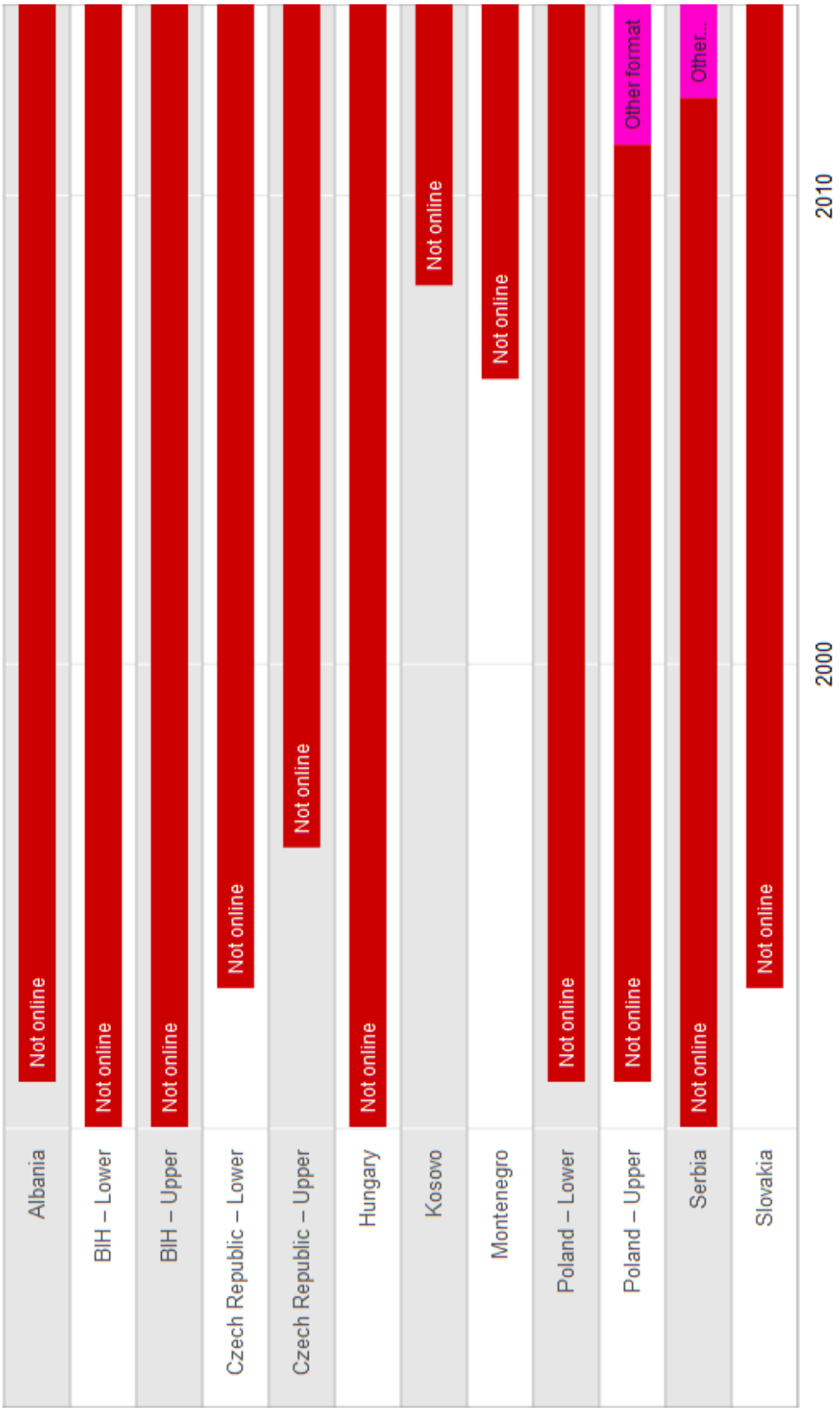


VIDEO RECORDINGS OF SESSIONS

Like audio recordings, video recordings of committee sessions are almost never produced in the surveyed parliamentary chambers. The Polish Senate is among few that publishes video recordings of committee sessions. It has been available on the official parliamentary website since 2011. The recordings can be viewed but not downloaded and do not contain timestamps of individual MPs' speeches.[118] Another parliament that produces video recordings is the Serbian parliament. The recordings have been produced since 2014. The files can be watched online and even downloaded.[119]

[118] http://is.gd/b8KSoP
[119] http://is.gd/JPBtQg

Diagram 17: Availability and openness of committee session video recordings



LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

BILL PROPOSALS

The term "bill proposal" refers to a text of legislation submitted to the parliament by entities with legislative initiative, usually by legislators. Obviously, it is crucial for the public to have access to proposed legislation even before it is debated and proved by the parliament since there is then room for advocacy activities. It is important to have access even to bill proposals that got rejected to assure maximum extent of political accountability.

The parliament of Albania has been publishing full texts of bill proposals since 2013. Some bill proposals are published in native PDF files and some in DOC files. The files are appended by additional documents, most notably by committee resolutions concerning the bill proposals.[120]

In Bosnia and Hercegovina, both the House of Representatives, as well as the House of Peoples have been publishing full texts of bill proposals, amendments, committee resolutions and approved legislation since 2010 in native PDF files or scans. Information on one bill proposal is grouped on one webpage.[121]

In the Czech Republic, the Chamber of Deputies has been publishing full texts of bill proposals, amendments, committee resolutions and proved legislation since 1993. Proposals, amendments and resolutions published before 1998 are available in the parliamentary digital archive in HTML format. Newer documents have been published as native PDF and DOC files.[122]

[120] http://is.gd/jlxfTG
[121] http://is.gd/V11cX1
[122] http://is.gd/lTq05j

The Czech Senate has been publishing full texts of bill proposals since 1996 in HTML files. Each proposal has its own separate webpage containing links to full texts of all relevant documents (most notably of amendments and resolutions), transcripts of plenary sessions and sometimes voting results. Most of the webpages also include a graphic representation of the legislative process.[123]

The parliament of Hungary has been publishing full texts of bill proposals and amendments since 2002, either as native PDFs or scanned documents.[124] The parliament of Kosovo has been publishing full texts of bill proposals and amendments since 2008 as native PDF files.[125]

The official parliamentary website of Montenegro includes overviews of legislative process of individual bill proposals in a form of webpages, one for each proposal. The website has been available since 2006. Each webpage includes a full text of the proposal, amendments, related committee resolutions and approved legislation. All these files are available in native PDF files or as PDF scans. Texts of proposals and amendments have only been published since 2012.[126]

In Poland, both the Sejm and the Senate have been publishing full texts of bill proposals since 1997. In the Sejm, they are published either as native PDFs or scans of printed documents,[127] while in the Senate; they are published mostly as native PDF files. Some of the newer proposals has also been published as DOC files.[128]

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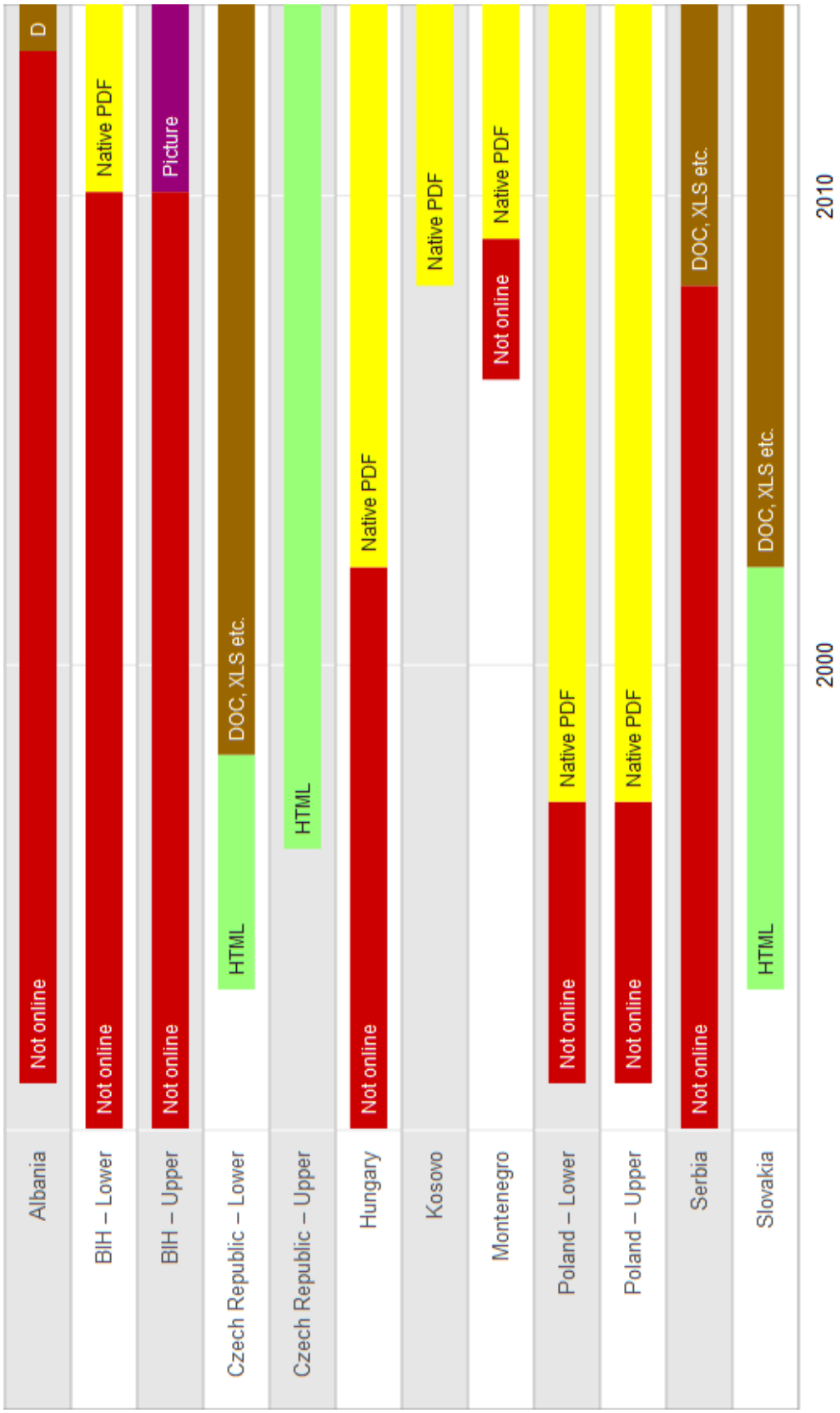
[123] http://is.gd/WJgDHs
[124] http://is.gd/m3aY8u
[125] http://is.gd/EBCn5R
[126] http://is.gd/Adx9zi
[127] http://is.gd/bkG5ud
[128] http://is.gd/402WGV

The parliament of Serbia has been publishing full texts of bill proposals since 2008 as native PDF and DOC files.[129] The Slovak National Council has been publishing full texts of bill proposals and committee resolutions since 1993. In both cases, files older than 2002 are available in HTML format while files newer than 2002 are available as DOC files.[130]

[129] http://is.gd/8t6kZh
[130] http://is.gd/qQ0ek9

Diagram 18: Availability and openness of bill proposals



LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS

Amendments are changes to texts of proposed bills that are submitted by legislators. It is important for the public to have access to amendments even before they are decided on by the parliament for the same reasons why it is important to access texts of bill proposals. Full texts of amendments to bill proposals are not published by the Czech and the Polish Senate, as well as by the parliament of Kosovo and Serbia.

The Albanian parliament has been publishing full texts amendments to bill proposals since 2013 as PDF files (native or scanned).[131] In Bosnia and Hercegovina, both the House of Representatives, as well as the House of Peoples have been publishing full texts of since 2010 in native PDF files or scans.[132]

The Czech Chamber of Deputies chamber has been publishing full texts of amendments since 1993. Proposals, amendments and resolutions published before 1998 are available in the parliamentary digital archive in HTML format. Newer documents have been published as native PDF and DOC files.[133]

The parliament of Hungary has been publishing full texts of bill amendments since 2002, either as native PDFs or scanned documents.[134] The Polish Sejm has been publishing full texts of amendments to bill proposals since 1998 in native PDF format.[135] In Slovakia, full texts of amendments have only been available since 2002 as native PDF files.[136]

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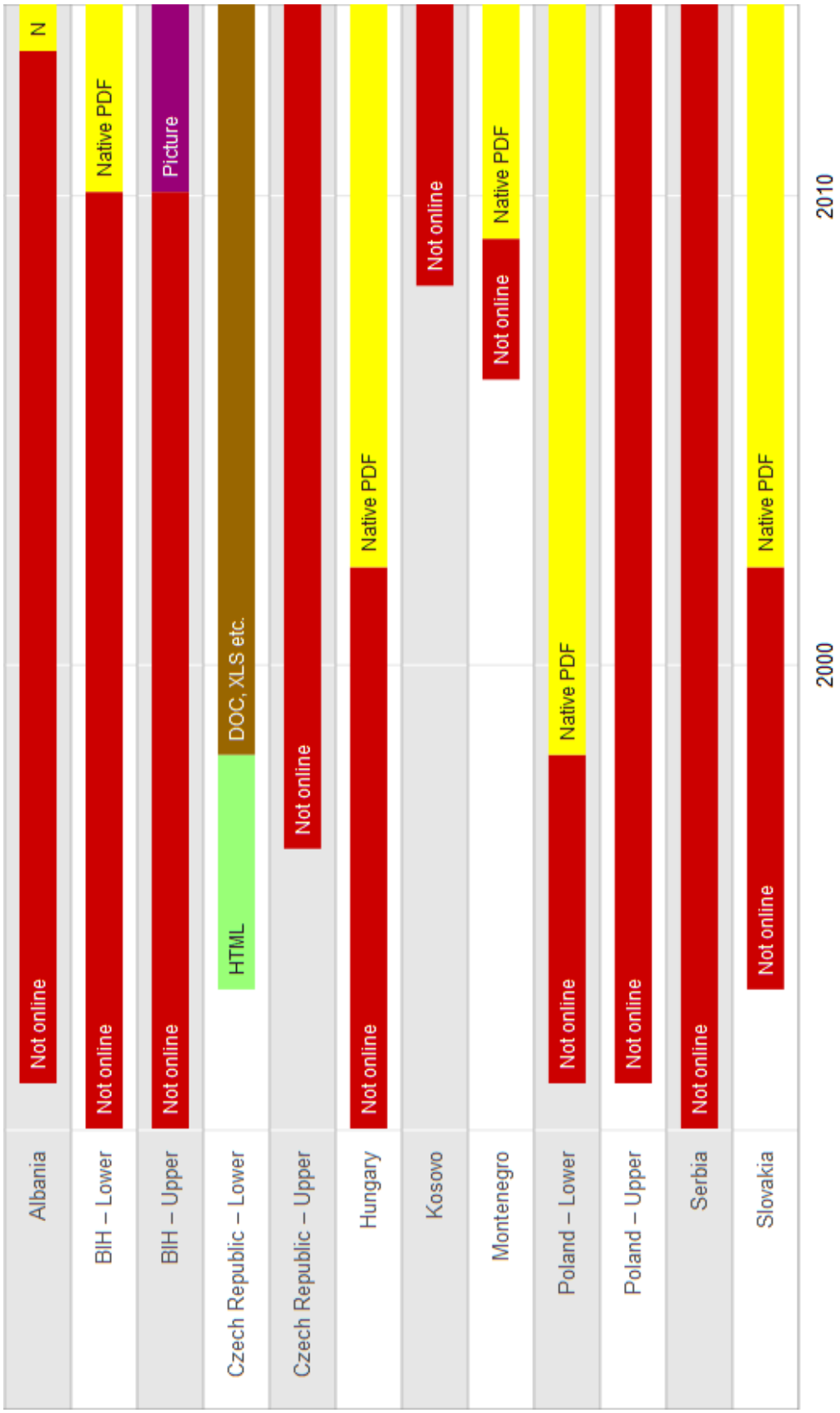
[131] http://is.gd/b6PHp2
[132] http://is.gd/oiVCFn
[133] http://is.gd/D39Mwq
[134] http://is.gd/dGw0C4
[135] http://is.gd/TT8W03
[136] http://is.gd/ZbdE37

The official parliamentary website of Montenegro includes overviews of legislative process of individual bill proposals in a form of webpages, one for each proposal. The website has been available since 2006. Each webpage includes a full text of the proposal, amendments, related committee resolutions and approved legislation. All these files are available in native PDF files or as PDF scans. Texts of amendments have only been published since 2012.[137]

[137] http://is.gd/Adx9zi

Diagram 19: Availability and openness of legislative amendments



APPROVED LEGISLATION

By the term “approved legislation” we mean the final version of a bill proposal that exits the parliament after being decided on. It is obvious that proposals that are rejected never reach this stage of the legislative process and therefore equivalent data does not exist in those cases.

In most countries, the text of approved legislation is identical with the text of law since extra-parliamentary entities (such as presidents) cannot propose changes to legislation and if they do the changes as subjected to parliamentary approval. It should be noted that this publication only surveys whether texts of approved legislation is published by the official parliamentary website. There could be other institutions that are in charge of publishing the law online.

The parliament of Albania has been publishing full texts of approved legislation since 2013 in DOC files. The approved bills are grouped together by plenary sessions when they were approved. Titles of approved laws are available in the official parliamentary website since 1997. The website links to the website of the Centre for Official Publications where full texts of approved legislation are available since 2000 in PDF format. [138]

In Bosnia and Hercegovina, both the House of Representatives, as well as the House of Peoples have been publishing full texts of approved legislation since 2010 in native PDF files or scans.[139] The Czech Chamber of Deputies has been publishing full texts of proved legislation since 1993. This technically also covers the Czech Senate.

[138] http://is.gd/aVTZh3
[139] http://is.gd/B2Refx

The parliament of Hungary has been publishing full texts of approved legislation since 1998. Each law is published on a separate webpage.[140] The parliament of Kosovo has been publishing full texts of approved legislation since 2008 in native PDF files.[141]

In Poland, full texts of approved legislation have been published on the official website of the parliamentary chambers since 1991. It is available in native PDF format.[142] In Serbia, full texts of approved legislation have been published on the official website of the parliament since 2001. It is available in native PDF and DOC formats.[143] In the Slovak National Council, full texts of approved legislation have been published since 2006, mostly in DOC files.[144]

[140] http://is.gd/nSIrQQ
[141] http://is.gd/MV3rO5
[142] http://is.gd/RPISit
[143] http://is.gd/Jzwevi
[144] http://is.gd/3YJjRG

Diagram 20: Availability and openness of approved legislation



OVERVIEWS OF THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

Since the legislative process is usually a complex set of events, it useful to list or event visualized its various stages on the official parliamentary website. This publication surveys whether such an overview is available on the official parliamentary website for every bill proposals. These overviews usually inform when various stages of the process were reached, what was the outcome and link to related documents. An overview of the legislative process is not available in Kosovo, Serbia and the Polish Senate.

In Albania, information on one bill proposal including the original text, related committee resolutions and amendments is grouped together on one webpage of the official parliamentary website. Overview of the legislative process of a bill can be deduced from these documents. [145]

The official parliamentary website of House of Representatives of Bosnia and Hercegovina groups full texts of bill proposals, amendments, and committee resolutions and approved legislation on one webpage. This effectively serves as an overview of the legislative process.[146]

Since 1998, the Czech Chamber of Deputies has been publishing legislative process of bill proposals. Each proposal has its own separate webpage containing links to full texts of all relevant documents (most notably of amendments and resolutions), transcripts of plenary sessions and sometimes voting results. Most of the webpages also include a graphic representation of the legislative process.[147] The official parliamentary website of the Senate also

[145] http://is.gd/nUHS0b
[146] http://is.gd/d6f3b1
[147] http://is.gd/H93ub8

contains overviews of legislative process of individual bill proposals that have been available since 1996.[148]

The parliament of Hungary has been publishing overviews of the legislative process of individual bills since 1990. Each bill proposal has a separate webpage. It links to texts of amendments, transcripts of sessions and voting results.[149]

The official parliamentary website of Montenegro includes overviews of legislative process of individual bill proposals in a form of webpages, one for each proposal. The website has been available since 2006. Each webpage includes a full text of the proposal, amendments, related committee resolutions and approved legislation. All these files are available in native PDF files or as PDF scans. Texts of proposals and amendments have only been published since 2012.[150]

In Poland, overview of bill proposals' legislative process has been published on the official parliamentary website of the Polish Sejm since 1991. Each proposal has its own webpage that contains links to PDFs of related documents.[151]

In case of the Slovak National Council, an overview of legislative process of bill proposals is available for bills proposed after 2006. Each proposal has its own webpage that links to transcripts of related sessions, committee resolutions, voting results etc.[152]

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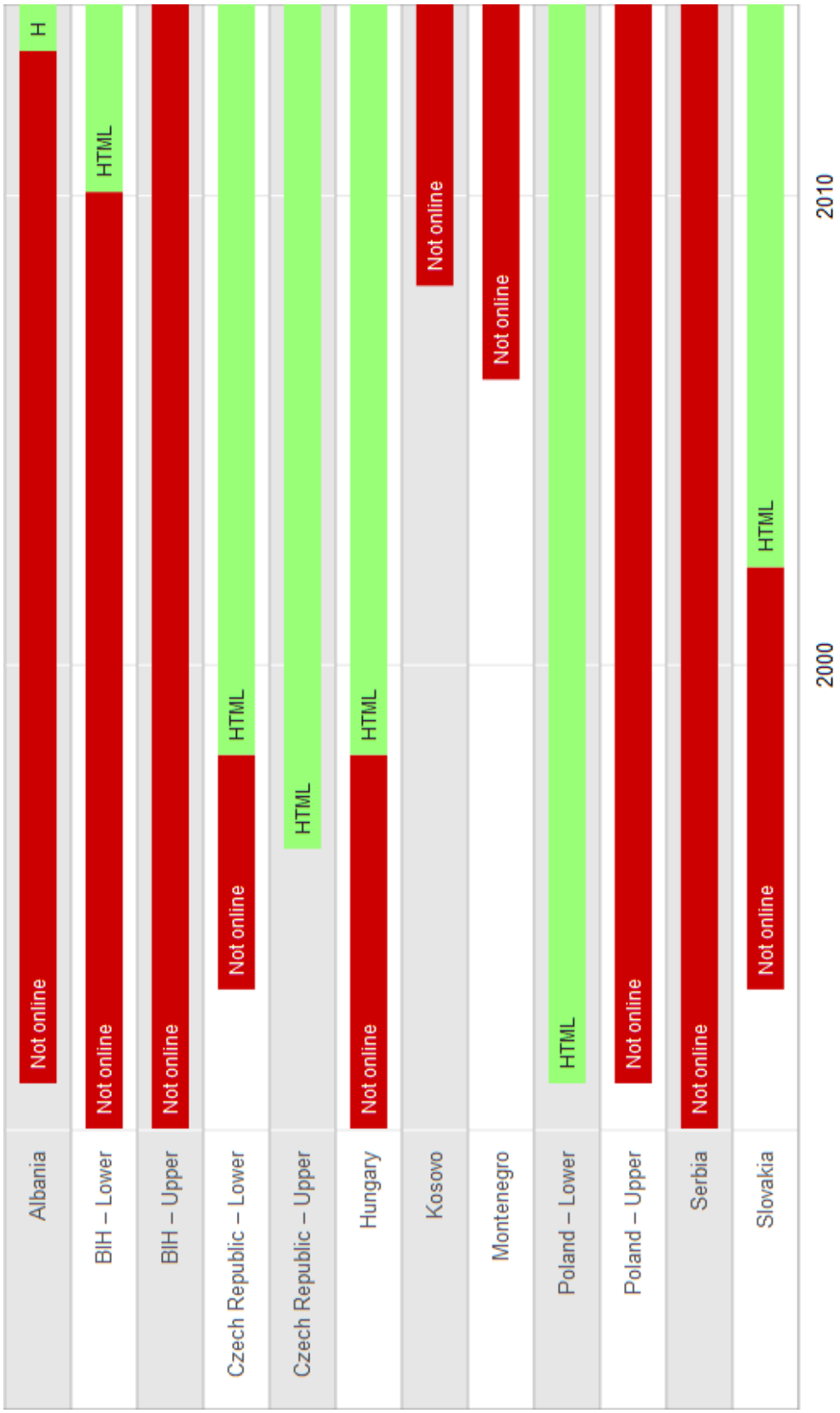
[148] http://is.gd/0JZBgW
[149] http://is.gd/fqjLLI
[150] http://is.gd/Adx9zi
[151] http://is.gd/4I592G
[152] http://is.gd/3FfHyK

Diagram 21: Availability and openness of overviews of the legislative process



COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

Committee resolutions are textual accounts of how committees decided on various issues discussed during their sessions. They are distinct from transcripts and summaries of sessions that inform about the content of the discussions. Committee resolutions are usually documents that contain recommendations or formal actions taken by the committee. In some cases, this information can be a part of summaries from sessions. Written resolutions of committee sessions are not published in the House of Peoples of Bosnia and Hercegovina and in the parliament of Hungary, Kosovo and Serbia

The parliament of Albania has been publishing full texts of committee resolutions since 2013 as native PDF files. The resolutions are published on webpages of related bill proposals.[153] The House of Representatives of Bosnia and Hercegovina has been publishing full texts committee resolutions since 2010 in native PDF files or scans.[154]

The Czech Chamber of Deputies has been publishing full texts of committee resolutions and proved legislation since 1993. Resolutions published before 1998 are available in the parliamentary digital archive in HTML format. Newer documents have been published as native PDF and DOC files.[155] The Senate has been publishing full texts of committee resolutions since 1996 in HTML files.[156]

The official parliamentary website of Montenegro includes overviews of legislative process of individual bill proposals in a form of webpages, one for each proposal. The website has been available since 2006. Each webpage

[153] http://is.gd/NeFCqe
[154] http://is.gd/6ICutb
[155] http://is.gd/71cNrH
[156] http://is.gd/7PtKXX

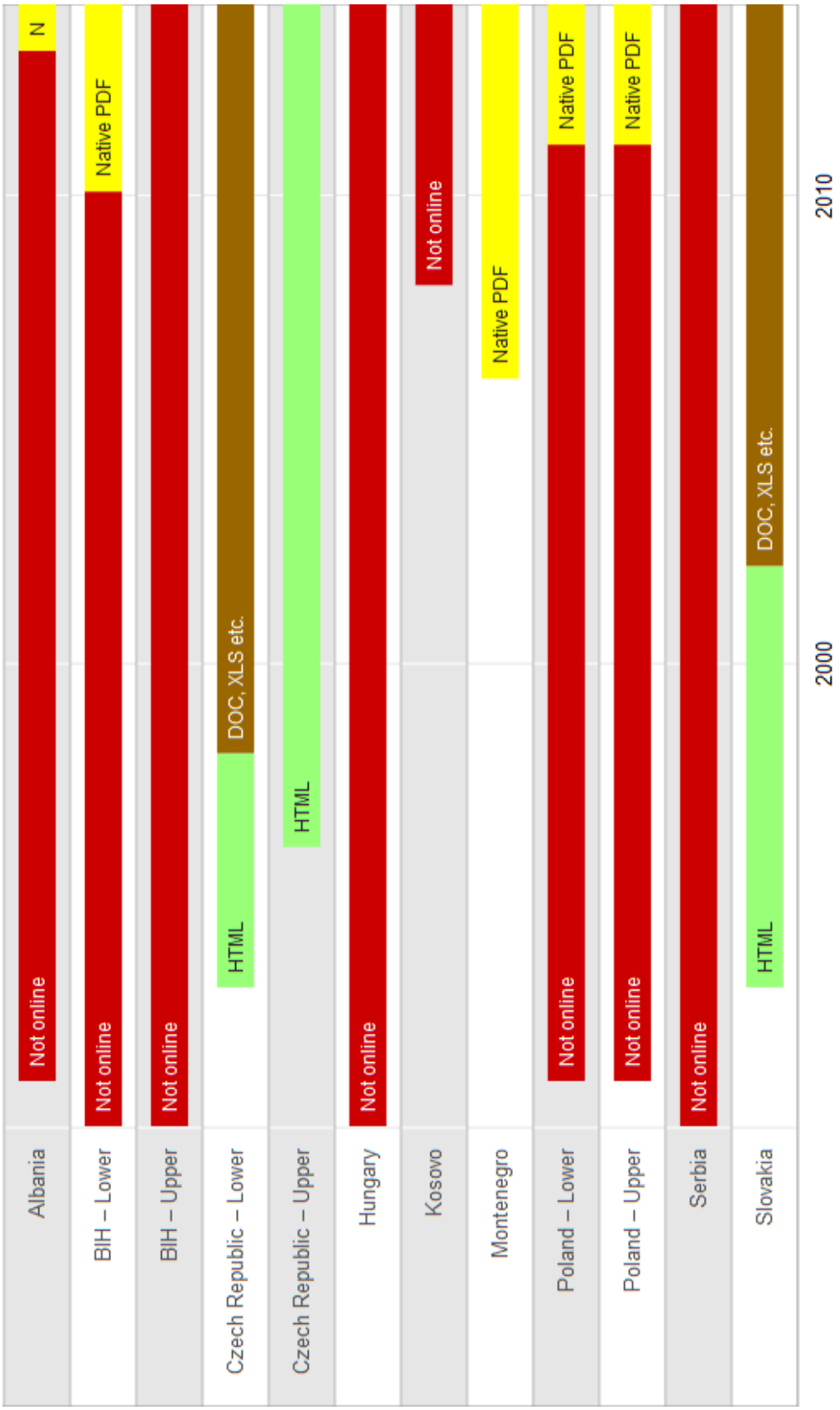
includes a full text of the proposal, amendments, related committee resolutions and approved legislation. All these files are available in native PDF files or as PDF scans.[157]

In Poland, full texts of committee resolutions from both the Sejm and the Senate have been published on the official website of the parliamentary chambers since 2011. They are available in native PDF format.[158]

The Slovak National Council has been publishing full texts of bill proposals and committee resolutions since 1993. In both cases, files older than 2002 are available in HTML format while files newer than 2002 are available as DOC files.[159]

[157] http://is.gd/Adx9zi
[158] http://is.gd/1ooJ0P
[159] http://is.gd/RSnS5o

Diagram 22: Availability and openness of committee resolutions



PROFILES OF PARLIAMENTARY CHAMBERS

The following section of this publication contains an overview of parliamentary data availability and openness that is broken down by individual parliamentary chambers. It follows the framework of the previous section – it first discusses information on MPs, then plenary and committee sessions and finally the legislative process. In each case, it describes whether and how the given type of data is published by the parliamentary chamber in question. Accompanying diagrams show formats of published data that can be retrieved from the official parliamentary websites.

ALBANIA

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official website of the Albanian parliament contains profiles of individual MPs with a number of information[160]. There is an overview of former professional positions (both in the private and the public sectors), as well as former education, including names of educational institutions, received titles and academic positions. It informs citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees. There is also an email address and a postal address of each MP. The official parliamentary website does not contain information about MPs income, travel expenses or official interactions with lobbyists.

[160] http://is.gd/UOrax2

PLENARY SESSIONS

The parliament of Albania is not publishing invitations to plenary sessions as separate documents but information on date, time and place of plenary sessions is included in agenda of sessions which has been published on the official parliamentary website since 2013. Some of the files are in native PDF format and others are in DOC format.[161]The agenda contains titles of bill proposals and committees responsible.

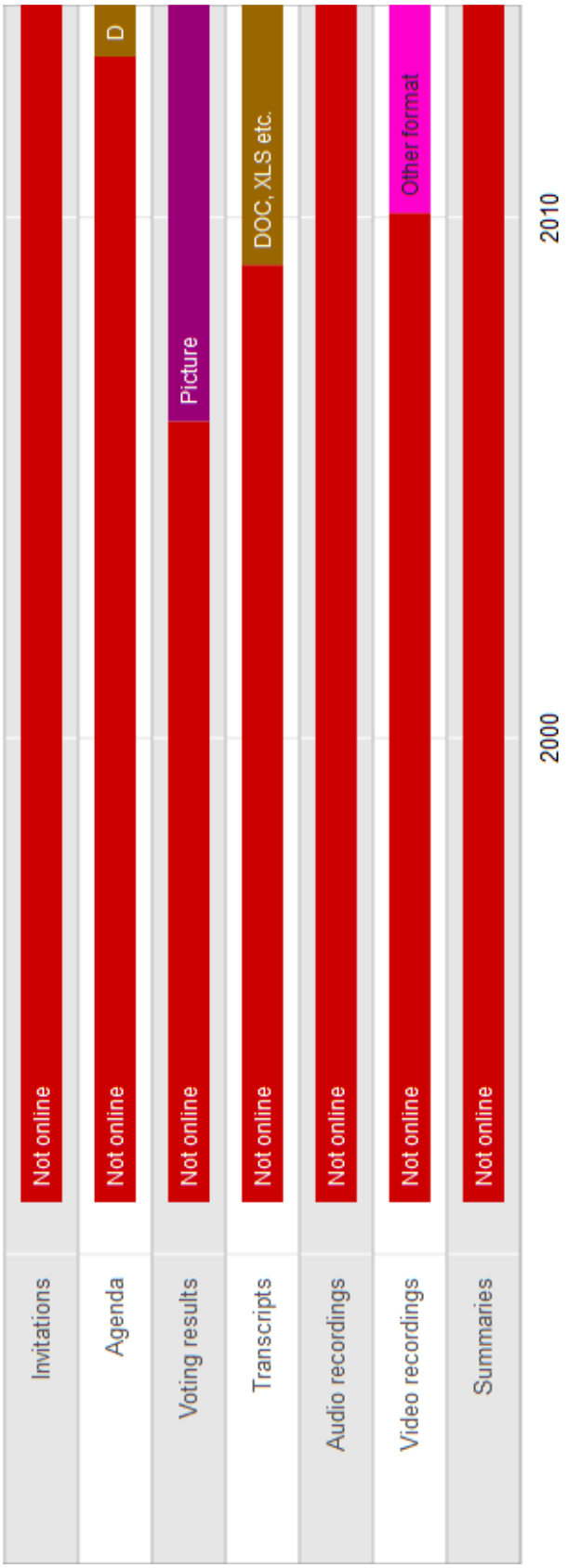
The parliament has also been publishing results of votes taken during the plenary sessions since 2006. The voting results are listed according to bill proposals. The PDF files contain scans of printed documents listing voting options of all MPs.[162]

The official parliamentary website includes a section containing video recordings of plenary sessions. [163] The video recordings have been produced since 2010. They can be viewed online but the video files are not available for download. The recordings include timestamps marking discussed bill proposals and individual speakers.

Apart from that, the parliament has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 2009. Some of the files are in DOC format (especially the newer ones) while the others are published as native PDFs. The files contain agenda of a session and a list of speakers.[164]

[161] http://is.gd/eXSlVJ
[162] http://is.gd/vDJNsk
[163] http://is.gd/779Axo
[164] http://is.gd/ch4x1g

Diagram 23: Availability and openness of committee session data in the Parliament of Albania



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

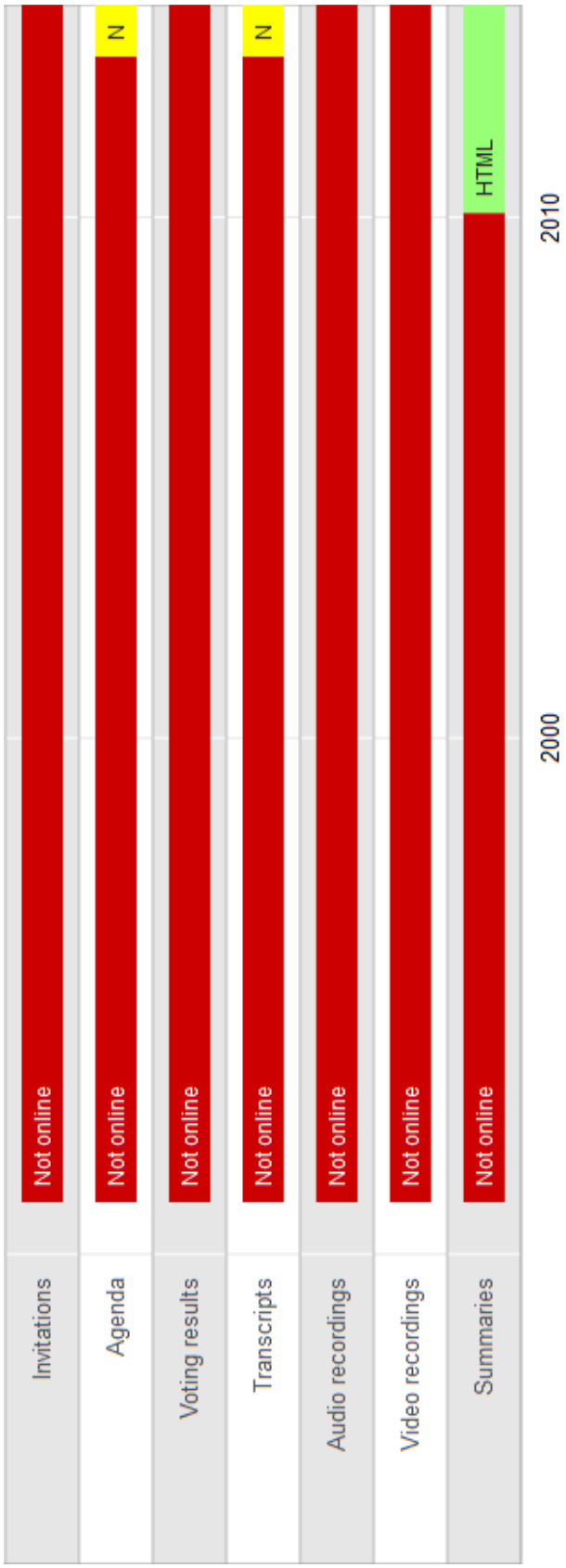
The parliament of Albania is not publishing invitations to committee sessions as separate documents but information on date, time and place of committee sessions is included in agenda of sessions which has been published on the official parliamentary website since 2013. It is published in native PDF files and it also includes a short description of issues to be discussed.[165]

The Albanian parliament is among the few parliaments globally that publishes word-by-word transcripts of committee sessions. The transcripts have been available since 2013 in native PDF format. They contain information about the session and a list of all speakers.[166] Apart from the transcripts, the parliament has been providing written summaries of committee sessions since 2010 in HTML format.[167]

The parliament of Albania is not publishing results of votes taken during committee sessions that would be broken down to voting options of individual MPs. It also does not publish audio or video recordings of committee sessions.

[165] http://is.gd/TEQMti
[166] http://is.gd/1k9aNd
[167] http://is.gd/GM0EwD

Diagram 24: Availability and openness of committee session data in the Parliament of Albania



LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The parliament of Albania has been publishing full texts of bill proposals since 2013. Some bill proposals are published in native PDF files and some in DOC files. The files are appended by additional documents, most notably by committee resolutions concerning the bill proposals.[168]

The parliament has also been publishing full texts amendments to bill proposals since 2013 as PDF files (native or scanned).[169] The official parliamentary website also contains full texts of approved legislation since 2013 in DOC files. The approved bills are grouped together by plenary sessions when they were approved. Moreover, titles of approved laws are available in the official parliamentary website since 1997. It links to the website of the Centre for Official Publications where full texts of approved legislation are available since 2000 in PDF format.[170]

On the official website of the Albanian parliament, information on one bill proposal including the original text, related committee resolutions and amendments is grouped together on one webpage. Overview of the legislative process of a bill proposal can be deduced from these documents.[171]

The parliament has also been publishing full texts of committee resolutions since 2013 as native PDF files. The resolutions are published on webpages of related bill proposals.[172]

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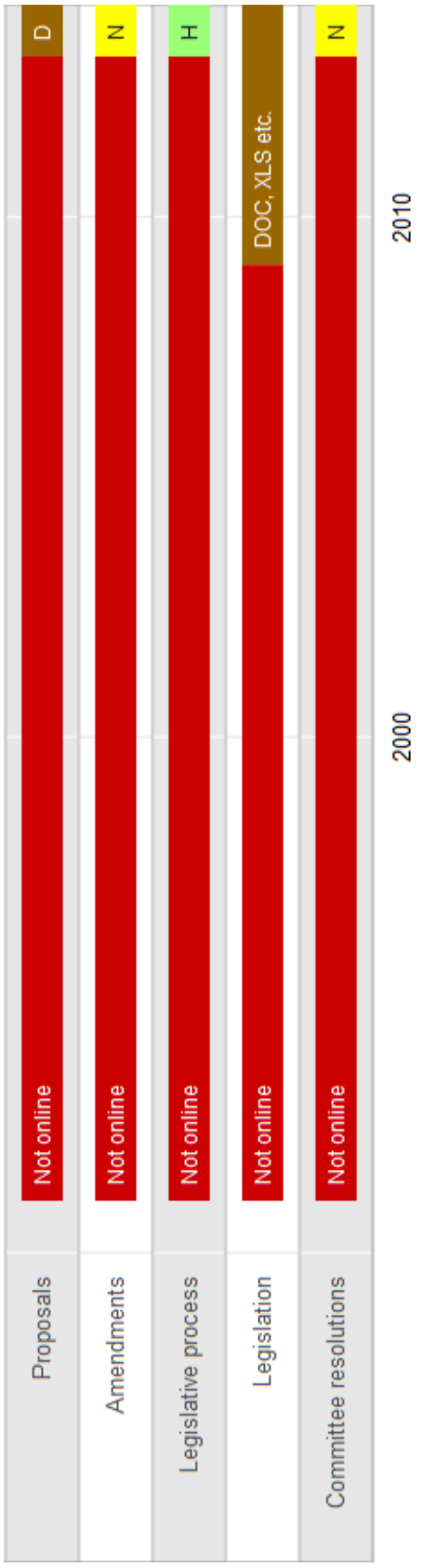
[168] http://is.gd/jlxfTG
[169] http://is.gd/b6PHp2
[170] http://is.gd/aVTZh3
[171] http://is.gd/nUHS0b
[172] http://is.gd/NeFCqe

Diagram 25: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the Parliament of Albania



BOSNIA AND HERCEGOVINA – HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official website of the parliament of Bosnia and Hercegovina contains profiles of individual MPs with a number of information[173]. There is a section called Work Experience" where MPs provide information on their profession background, former education and their other positions in the public sector (e.g. in the executive branch). The level of detail, however, varies significantly among MPs. The level of detail varies significantly among various MPs, however. In many cases, this information is missing completely.

The official parliamentary website also informs citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees. Citizens can find an email address of MPs there. It does not contain, however, information on MPs' income, expenses or their interactions with lobbyists.

PLENARY SESSIONS

The Bosnian House of Representatives has been publishing agenda of plenary sessions since 2006. It contains, most importantly, a description of issues to be discussed. Agenda of one session published on one special webpage. It can also be downloaded as a PDF file or emailed directly from the webpage.[174]

[173] http://is.gd/Gs602t
[174] http://is.gd/aN2UIX

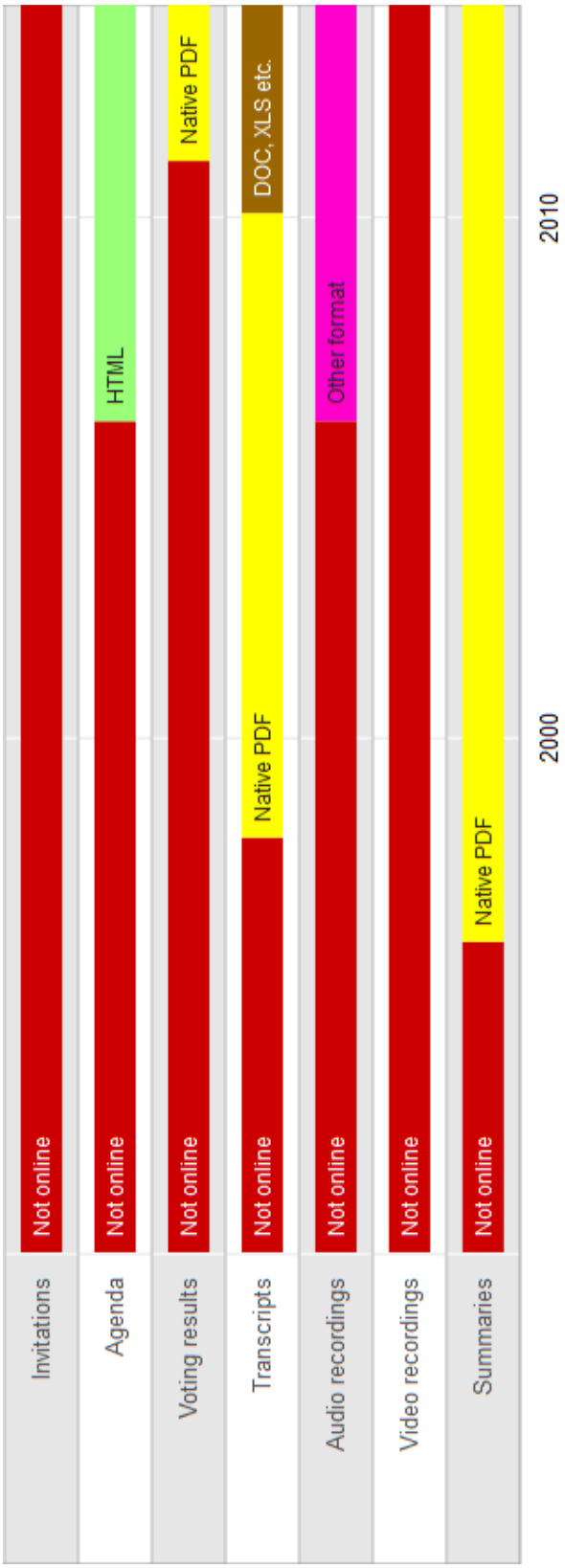
The parliamentary chamber has also been publishing results of votes taken during plenary sessions and broken down to votes of individual MPs since 2011 as native PDF files. The files are published on webpages of plenary sessions where results of all votes taken during one session can be viewed.[175]

As far as recordings of sessions are concerned, the parliamentary chamber has been publishing audio recordings of plenary sessions since 2006. The files can be downloaded in MP3 format. They do not contain timestamps indicating discussion about individual issues or speeches of individual MPs.[176]

The parliamentary chamber has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 1998. Older files are native PDFs while new ones are DOC files. The files are grouped by parliamentary terms.[177] Apart from word-by-word transcripts, the parliamentary chamber has also been publishing brief summaries of plenary sessions as native PDF files since 1996.[178]

[175] http://is.gd/PPugMG
[176] http://is.gd/P9ZbLj
[177] http://is.gd/kBWFjk
[178] http://is.gd/kBWFjk

Diagram 26: Availability and openness of plenary session data in the House of Representatives of Bosnia and Hercegovina



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

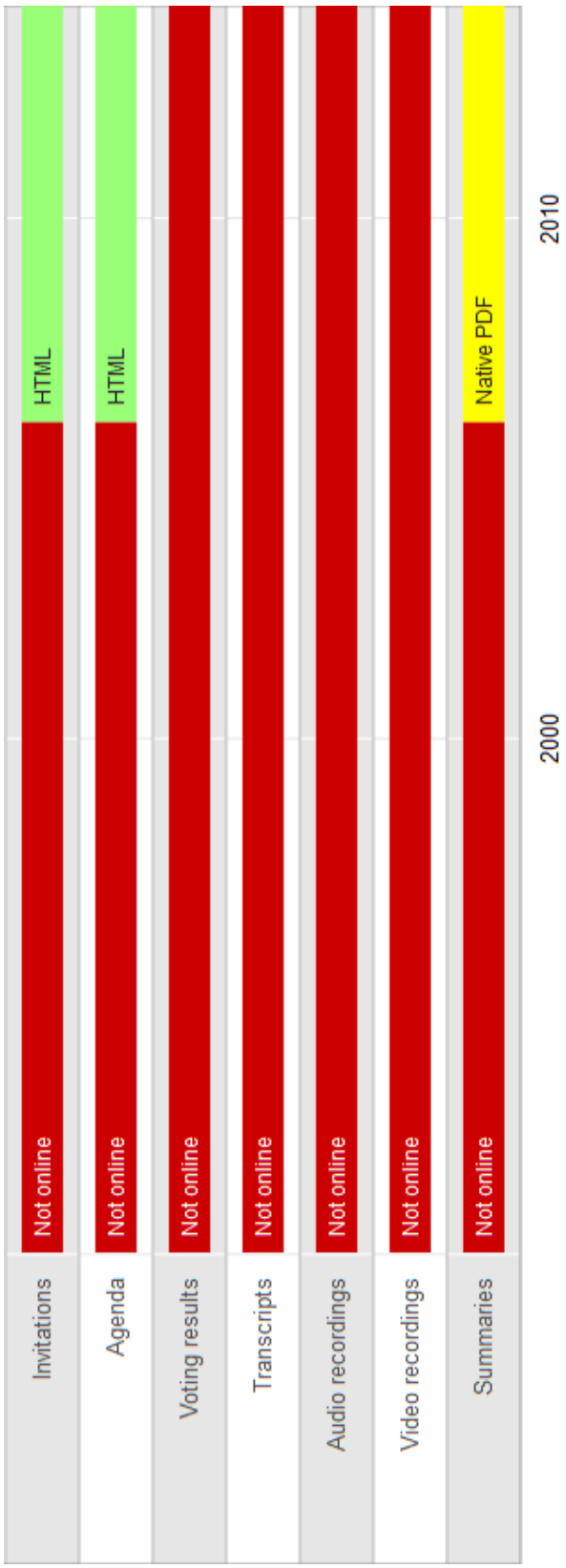
The Bosnian House of Representatives does not publish invitations to committee sessions as separate documents but information about date, time and place can be found in agenda of the sessions.[179] The agenda has been available online since 2006. Agenda of one session published on one special webpage. It can also be downloaded as a PDF file or emailed directly from the webpage.[180]

The parliamentary chamber has been publishing written summaries of committee sessions since 2006 as native PDF files. These summaries are not word-by-word transcripts of sessions but contain a basic breakdown of the discussion on individual issues, usually about one paragraph to one page long. The summaries also contain lists of MPs present and agenda of sessions.[181]

The official website of the parliamentary chamber does not contain audio or video recordings of committee sessions.

[179] http://is.gd/HEycAG
[180] http://is.gd/HEycAG
[181] http://is.gd/232Zjk

Diagram 27: Availability and openness of committee session data in the House of Representatives of Bosnia and Hercegovina

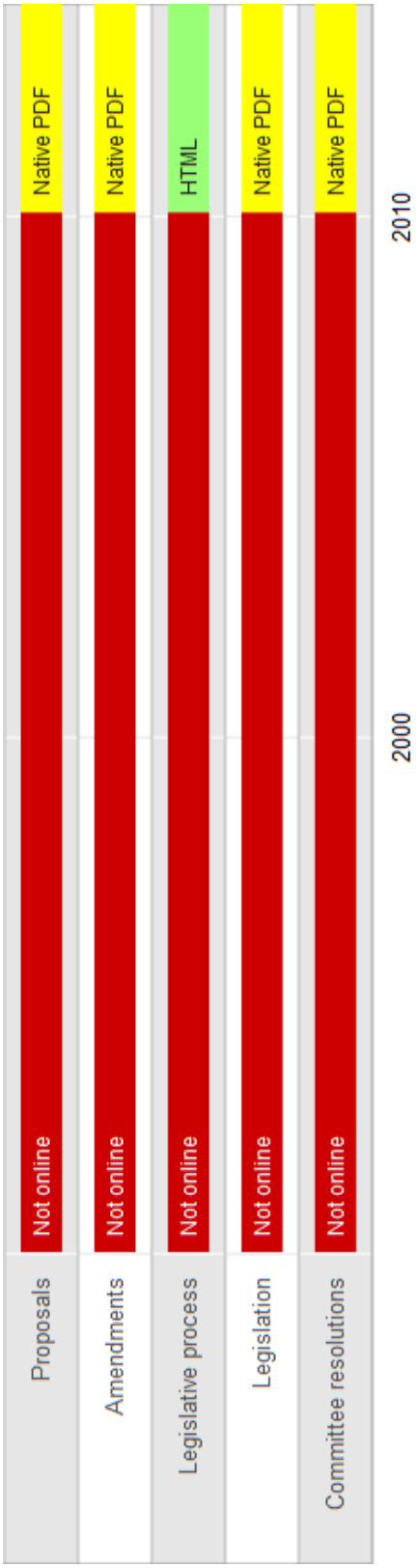


LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The parliament has been publishing full texts of bill proposals, amendments, committee resolutions and approved legislation since 2010 in native PDF files or scans. Information on one bill proposal is grouped on one webpage.[182]

[182] http://is.gd/V11cX1

Diagram 28: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the House of Representatives of Bosnia and Hercegovina



BOSNIA AND HERCEGOVINA – HOUSE OF PEOPLES

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official website of the parliament of Bosnia and Hercegovina contains profiles of individual MPs with a number of information[183]. There is a short paragraph listing a last educational institution and usually one former professional position and/or positions in the public sector (e.g. in the executive branch) of each MP. It informs citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees. Citizens can contact the MPs via their email addresses.

PLENARY SESSION

The parliamentary chamber has been publishing invitation to plenary sessions on separate webpages, one for each session, since 2010. The invitation includes date and time, place of a session and its agenda. It can be also downloaded as a native PDF file or emailed directly from the webpage.[184]

The official parliamentary website also includes agenda of plenary session that has been published since 1990. Before 2006, it was published in native PDF files. Since 2006, each session has a separate webpage with complete agenda.[185]

[183] http://is.gd/S6dfGD
[184] http://is.gd/gJpS4I
[185] http://is.gd/IY8TvA

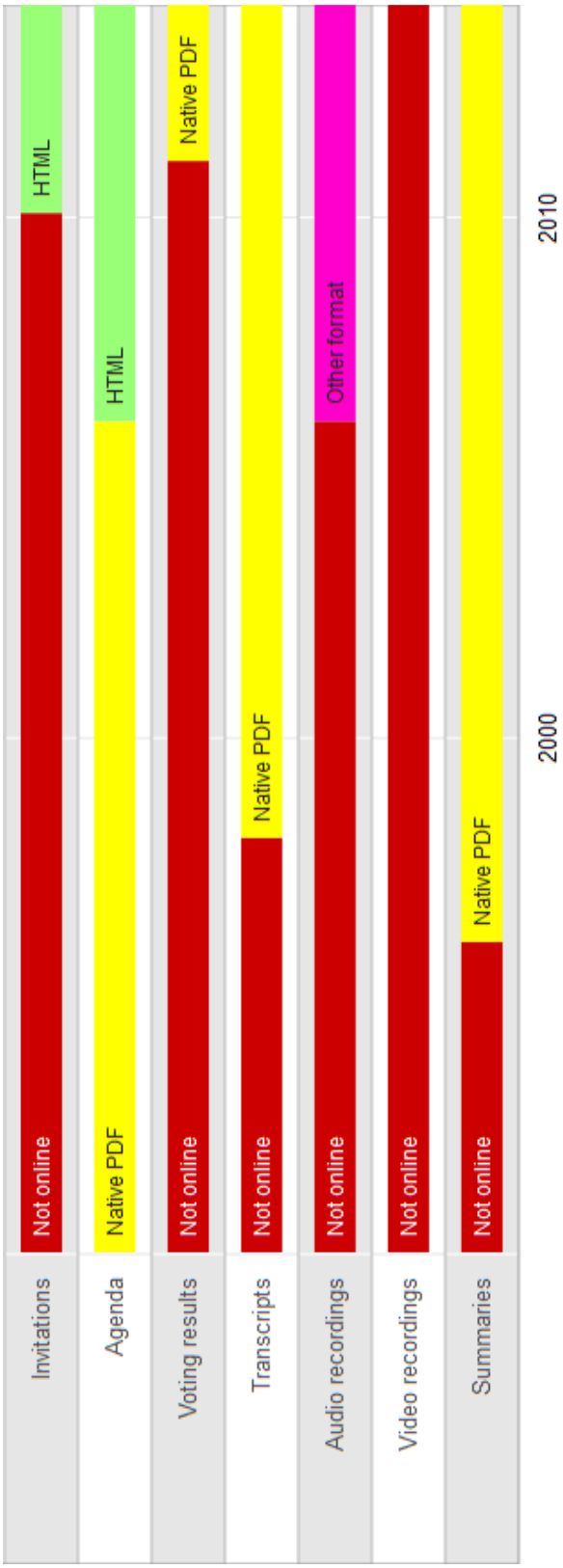
The chamber has been publishing results of votes taken during plenary sessions and broken down to votes of individual MPs since 2011 as native PDF files. The files are published on webpages of plenary sessions where results of all votes taken during one session can be viewed.[186]

The parliamentary chamber has been publishing audio recordings of plenary sessions since 2006. The files can be downloaded in MP3 format and do not contain timestamps indicating discussion about individual issues or speeches of individual MPs.[187]

The chamber has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 1998. Older files are native PDFs while new ones are DOC files. The files are grouped by parliamentary terms.[188] Apart from word-by-word transcripts, the parliamentary chamber has also been publishing brief summaries of plenary sessions as native PDF files since 1996.[189]

[186] http://is.gd/UTKcuR
[187] http://is.gd/snMiHt
[188] http://is.gd/H6SENS
[189] http://is.gd/kBWFjk

Diagram 29: Availability and openness of plenary session data in the House of Peoples of Bosnia and Hercegovina



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

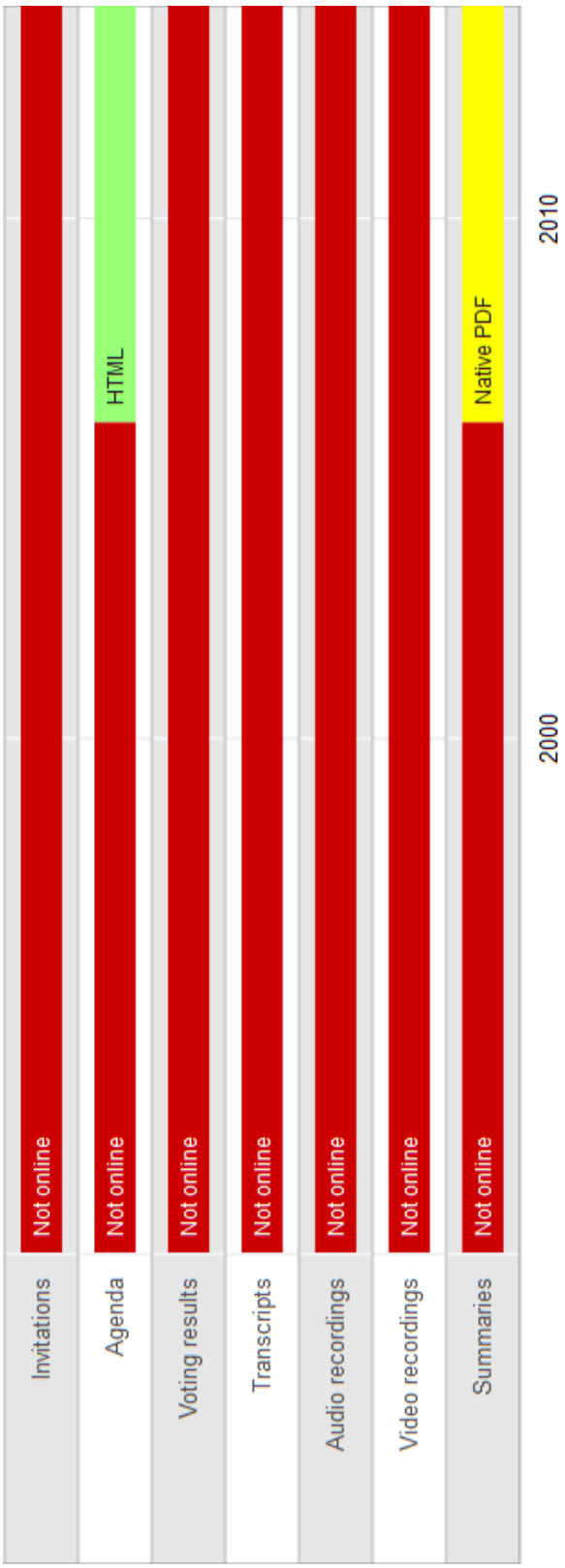
The parliamentary chamber does not publish invitations to committee sessions as separate documents but information about date, time and place can be found in agenda of the sessions which has been published since 2006. It contains a brief description of issues to discuss. The agenda is published on a webpage but can also be downloaded as a PDF file or emailed directly from the webpage.[190]

The parliament has been publishing written summaries of committee sessions since 2006 as native PDF files. These summaries are not word-by-word transcripts of sessions but contain a basic breakdown of the discussion on individual issues, usually about one paragraph to one page long. The summaries also contain lists of MPs present and agenda of sessions.[191]

The House of Representatives does not publish results of votes taken during the committee sessions that would allow citizens to discern how individual committee members votes. It also doesn't produce any audio or video recordings of committee sessions.

[190] http://is.gd/kz7qyg
[191] http://is.gd/kWOvZF

Diagram 30: Availability and openness of committee session data in the House of Peoples of Bosnia and Hercegovina

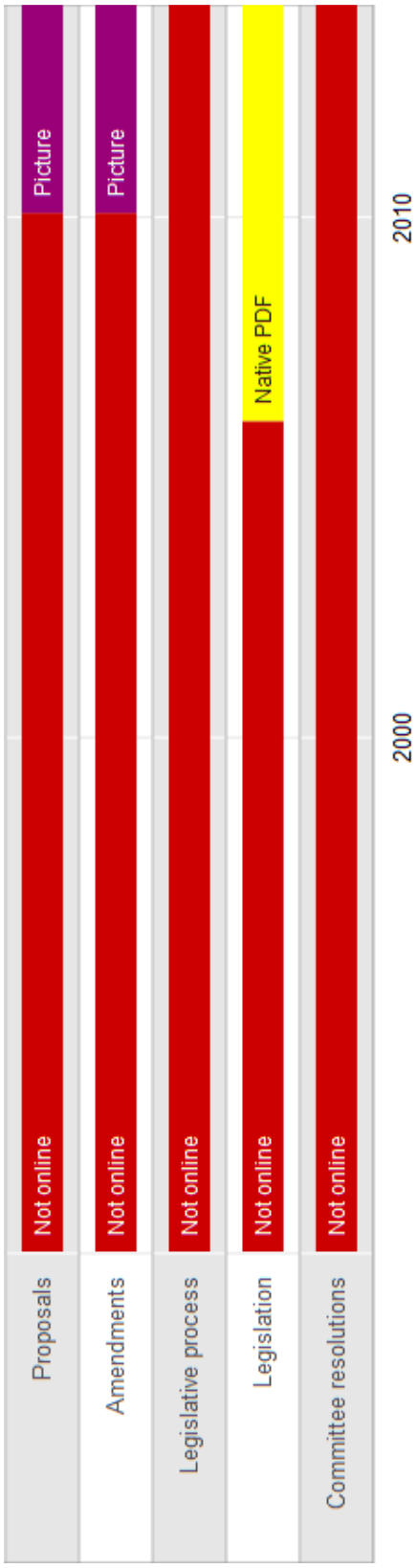


LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The parliament has been publishing full texts of bill proposals, amendments, and approved legislation since 2010 in native PDF files or scans. The full texts of legislation are also available for the period of 2006-2010. Information on one bill proposal is grouped on one webpage.[192] Committee resolutions are not published in the House of Representatives.

[192] http://is.gd/G7FJZW

Diagram 31: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the House of Peoples of Bosnia and Hercegovina



CZECH REPUBLIC – CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official website of the Chamber of Deputies contains profiles of individual MPs with a number of information[193]. There is no data on MPs' professional background or education. Only membership in supervisory boards of state-owned enterprises with board members elected by the Parliament is published on the profiles.

The profiles inform citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees, their email and postal addresses, identity and contact information of their personal staff and MPs' website and social media sites.

The official parliamentary website also contains declaration of assets of MPs. These declarations detail non-parliamentary sources of income. In some cases, the declarations are hand-written and therefore difficult to read. There is no information disclosed about MPs expenses or interactions with lobbyists.

[193] http://is.gd/BaXZ9T

PLENARY SESSIONS

The Chamber of Deputies has been publishing invitations to plenary sessions since 1993 both as separate HTML files, as well as part of an online calendar on the official parliamentary website.[194] Agenda of plenary sessions has also been available on the official website since 1993. Each session has its own separate webpage with links to relevant bill proposals and other types of information.[195]

Voting results from the Chamber of Deputies has been available since 1994. Each vote taken during the plenary sessions is published on a separate webpage containing voting options of individual MPs.[196]

The Chamber of Deputies has been publishing audio recordings of plenary sessions since 2002. The files are downloadable in MP3 format from webpages that contain transcripts of plenary sessions. Each file contains a segment of sessions but the files are not edited to only contain one speech of one MP.[197]

The parliamentary chamber provides a video stream of plenary sessions on its website. The sessions can, however, only be watched live and it is not possible to play or download older files. The Chamber of Deputies has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 1993 in HTML files.[198]

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[194] http://is.gd/D0dDUw
[195] http://is.gd/5Row6Z
[196] http://is.gd/5v4prA
[197] http://is.gd/AGOhV5
[198] http://is.gd/MZ9VWl

Diagram 32: Availability and openness of plenary session data in the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

The Chamber of Deputies has been publishing invitations to committee sessions since 1993. Older invitations (before 1998) can be found in the parliamentary archive in HTML format. After 1998, invitations have been published in DOC files.[199]

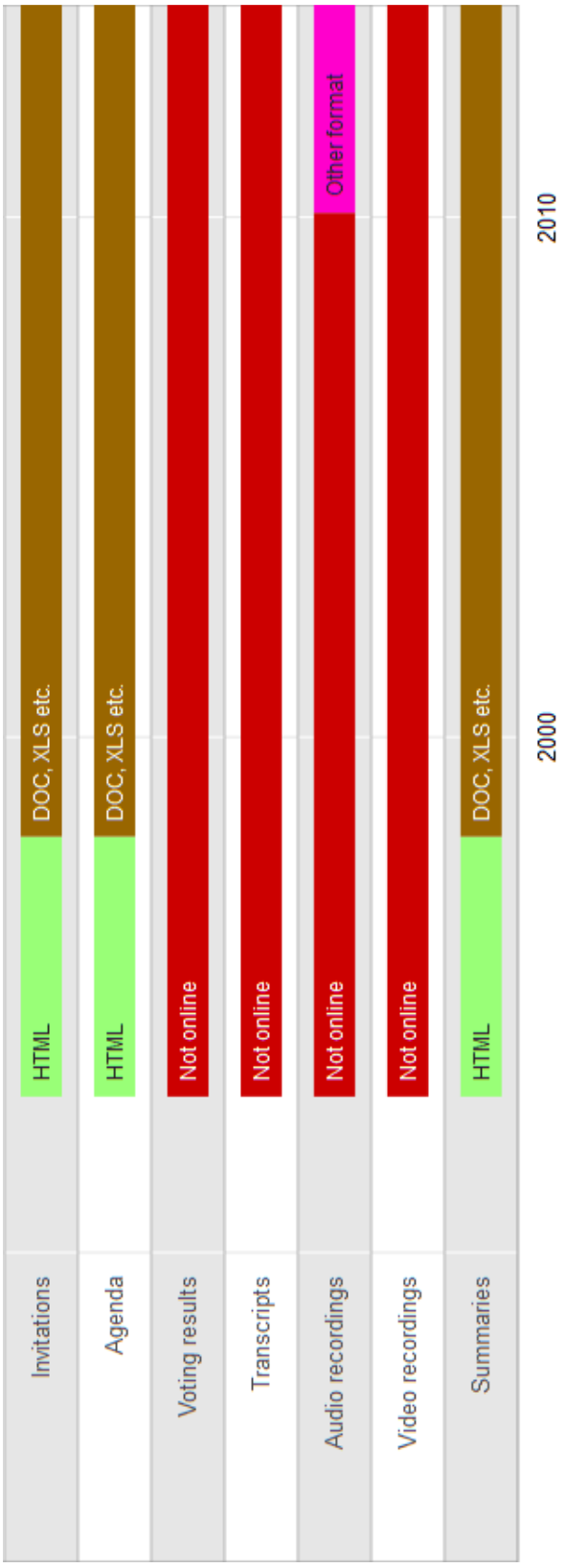
The official parliamentary website contains detailed agenda of committee sessions that has been available since 1993. Pre-1998 agenda is stored in the parliamentary archive in HTML files while post-1998 agenda has been published in DOC files.[200]

Most of the committees in the Chamber of Deputies have been publishing audio recordings of at least some of its sessions although recording sessions is still far from universal. The audio files have been published since 2010 in MP3 format and can be downloaded from the parliamentary website. The files do not contain timestamps of individual speakers of issues on agenda.[201]

Results of votes taken by committee members are almost never published by names of individual MPs. Only the Constitutional Committee publishes individual members' votes for a longer period of time.

[199] http://is.gd/SDsFj1
[200] http://is.gd/SDsFj1
[201] http://is.gd/oMF01s

Diagram 33: Availability and openness of committee session data in the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic



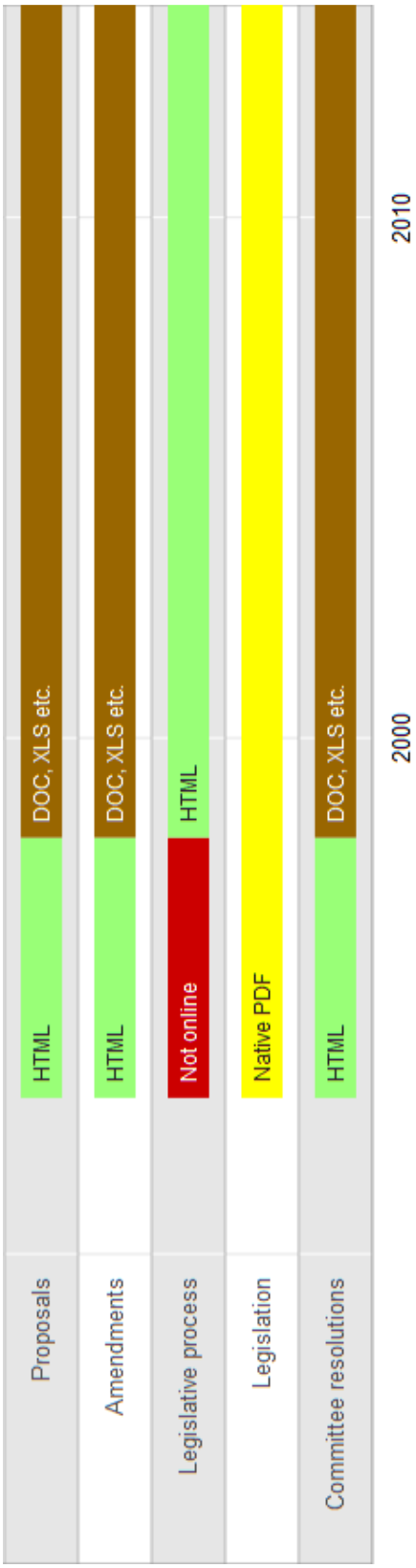
LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The chamber has been publishing full texts of bill proposals[202], amendments[203], committee resolutions[204] and proved legislation[205] since 1993. Proposals, amendments and resolutions published before 1998 are available in the parliamentary digital archive in HTML format. Newer documents have been published as native PDF and DOC files. Since 1998, the chamber has been publishing legislative process of bill proposals.

Each proposal has its own separate webpage containing links to full texts of all relevant documents (most notably of amendments and resolutions), transcripts of plenary sessions and sometimes voting results. Most of the webpages also include a graphic representation of the legislative process.[206]

[202] http://is.gd/lTq05j
[203] http://is.gd/D39Mwq
[204] http://is.gd/71cNrH
[205] http://is.gd/9xJC7T
[206] http://is.gd/H93ub8

Diagram 34: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic



CZECH REPUBLIC – SENATE

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official website of the Czech Senate contains profiles of individual MPs with a number of information[207]. There is no data on MPs' professional background or education. Only membership in supervisory boards of state-owned enterprises with board members elected by the Parliament is published on the profiles.

The profiles inform citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees, their email and postal addresses, identity and contact information of their personal staff and MPs' website and social media sites.

The official parliamentary website of the Chamber of Deputies contains declaration of assets of Czech Senators. These declarations detail non-parliamentary sources of income. In some cases, the declarations are hand-written and therefore difficult to read. There is no information disclosed about MPs expenses or interactions with lobbyists.

PLENARY SESSION

The parliamentary chamber has been publishing invitations and agenda of plenary sessions since 1996. The files are available in HTML format.[208]

[207] http://is.gd/1NOGAe
[208] http://is.gd/yDEdzB

The Senate has been publishing results of votes taken during plenary sessions since 1998. Each vote has its own separate webpage where votes of individual MPs are displayed.[209]

Since 2010, the Senate has been publishing audio recordings of plenary sessions. The files are downloadable in MP3 format from webpages that contain transcripts of plenary sessions. Each file contains a segment of sessions but the files are not edited to only contain one speech of one MP.[210]

Word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions have been available since 1996 in HTML format.[211]

[209] http://is.gd/BmAxQG
[210] http://is.gd/HSvRFN
[211] http://is.gd/4ZTwSR

Diagram 35: Availability and openness of plenary session data in the Senate of the Czech Republic



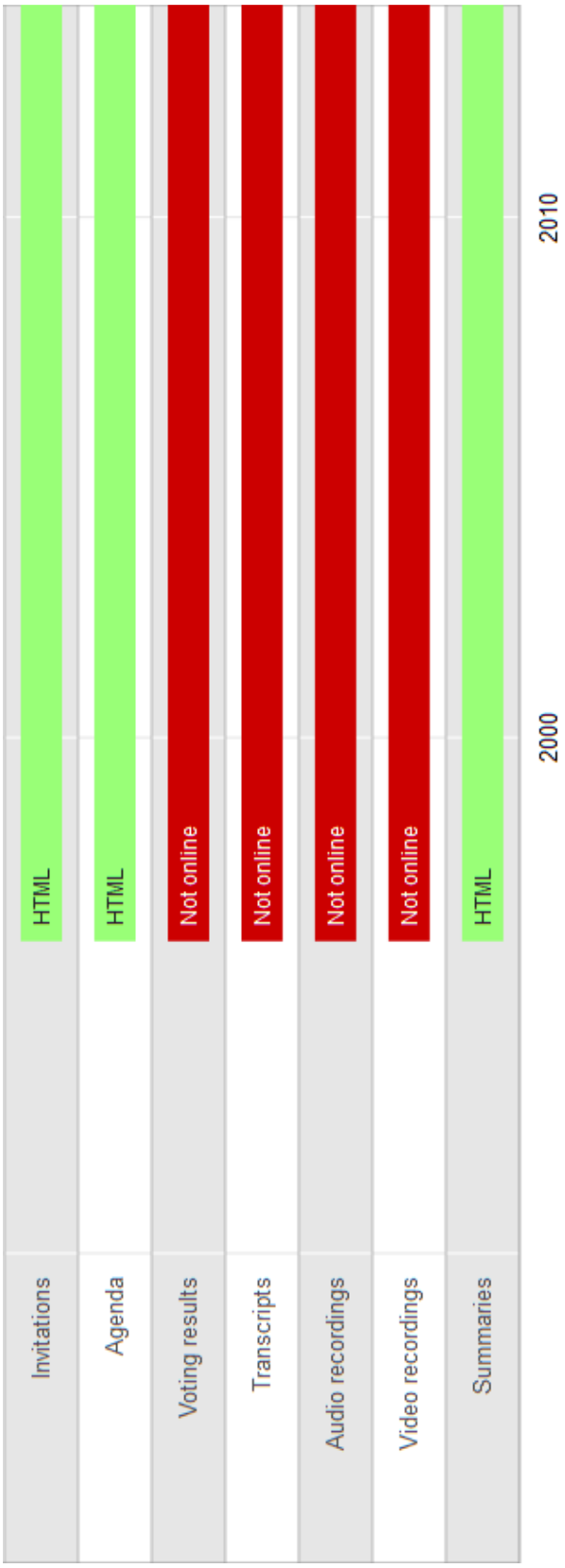
COMMITTEE SESSIONS

The parliament has been publishing invitations and agenda of committee sessions since 1996. The files are available in HTML format.[212] The chamber has been publishing short written summaries of committee sessions since 1996. The summaries are published in HTML format.[213]

Committees in the Senate do not publish any audio or video recordings of their sessions. Results of votes taken during committee sessions that would allow citizens to identify how individual committee members voted are also unavailable.

[212] http://is.gd/0RGON9
[213] http://is.gd/o47JWr

Diagram 36: Availability and openness of committee session data in the Senate of the Czech Republic



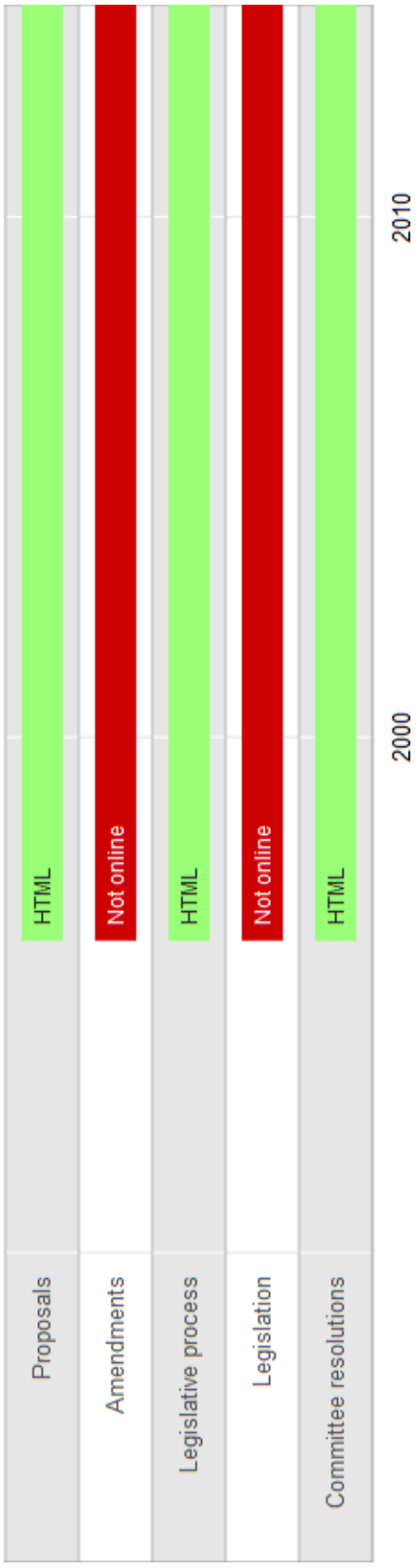
LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The official parliamentary website contains overviews of legislative process of individual bill proposals that have been available since 1996.[214] The chamber has been publishing full texts of bill proposals and committee resolutions since 1996 in HTML files.[215]

The Senate does not publish full texts of amendments to proposed legislation and full texts of approved legislation. In this case, it is not as serious transgression against parliamentary transparency as it would be in a unicameral parliament since the approved legislation is published by the Chamber of Deputies.

[214] http://is.gd/0JZBgW
[215] http://is.gd/7PtKXX

Diagram 37: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the Senate of the Czech Republic



HUNGARY

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official parliamentary website of the Hungarian parliament contains profiles of individual MPs with a number of information[216]. Most importantly, there are CVs of MPs that describes their education, professional background and other public sector positions. The profiles inform citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees and provide their email address.

The website contains no information about MPs income, expenses, travel or interactions with lobbyists. It also does not provide names of MPs' personal staff.

PLENARY SESSIONS

The parliament of Hungary does not publish invitations to plenary sessions as separate documents but information about date, time and place of sessions can be found in agenda of the sessions. This agenda has been published online since 1998. Each session has a separate webpage with its own agenda. The webpage links to texts of bill proposals and transcripts of speeches.[217]

The parliament has been publishing results of votes taken during plenary sessions and broken down to votes of individual MPs since 1990. Each vote has

[216] http://is.gd/IeqOXJ
[217] http://is.gd/In2MaJ

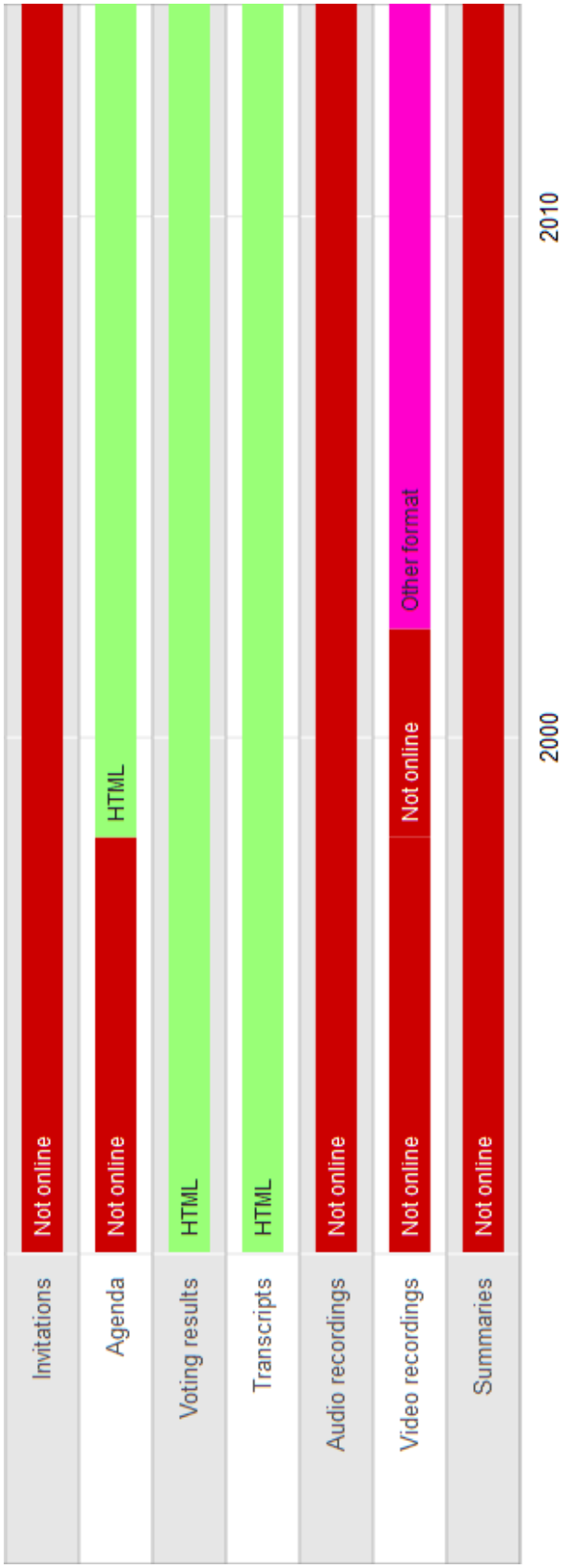
a separate webpage. It includes voting options of all MPs and aggregate numbers for political parties.[218]

The official parliamentary website includes video recordings of plenary sessions that have been produced since 2002. The recordings do not contain timestamps indicating discussion about individual issues or speeches of individual MPs.[219]

The parliament has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 1990.The speeches are published on separate webpages.[220]

[218] http://is.gd/RhuyA3
[219] http://is.gd/I0ZJOR
[220] http://is.gd/cBhiSN

Diagram 38: Availability and openness of plenary session data in the National Assembly of Hungary



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

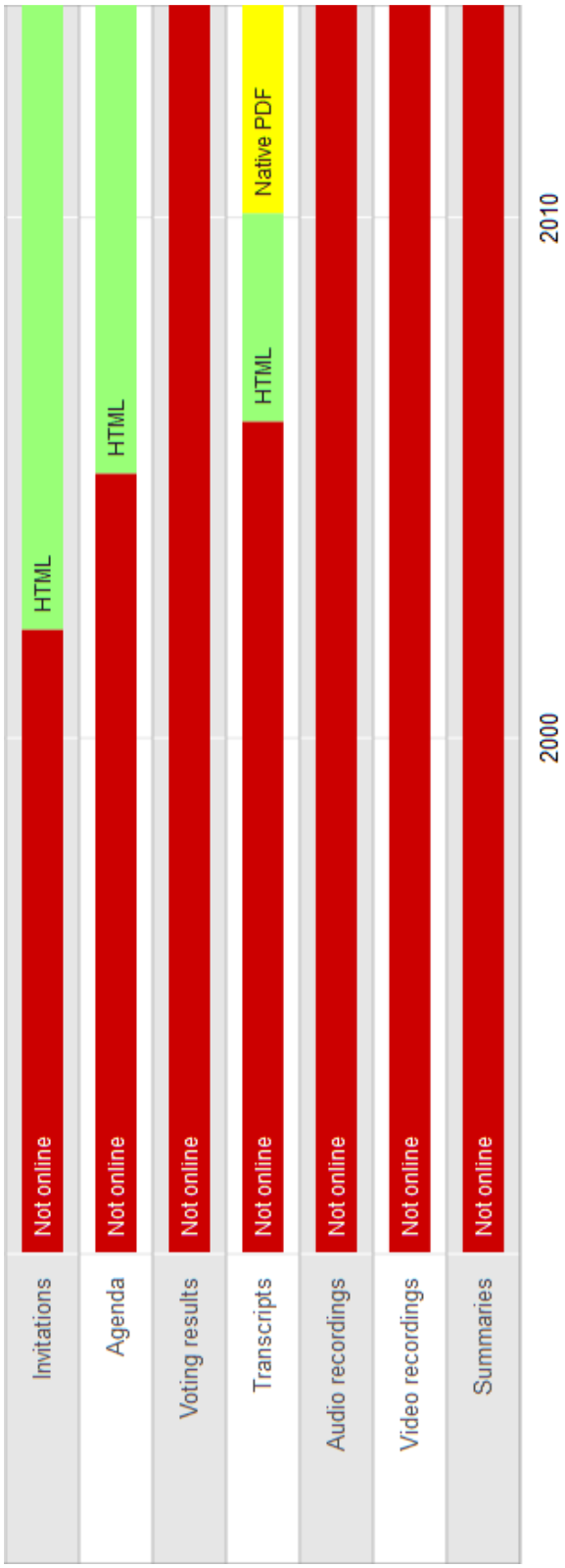
The parliament does not publish invitations to committee sessions as separate documents but information about date, time and place can be found in agenda of the sessions that has been published since 2006. Each session has its agenda on a separate webpage.[221]

The Hungarian parliament is among the few parliaments globally that publishes word-by-word transcripts of committee sessions. The transcripts have been available since 2006 in native PDF and HTML formats. The transcripts contain information about the session and a list of all speakers.[222]

The Hungarian parliament does not record results of votes taken during committee sessions in such way that would enable citizens to discern how individual committee members voted. The official parliamentary website also doesn't include any audio or video recordings of committee sessions.

[221] http://is.gd/7I9io7
[222] http://is.gd/JJck6P

Diagram 39: Availability and openness of committee session data in the National Assembly of Hungary



LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

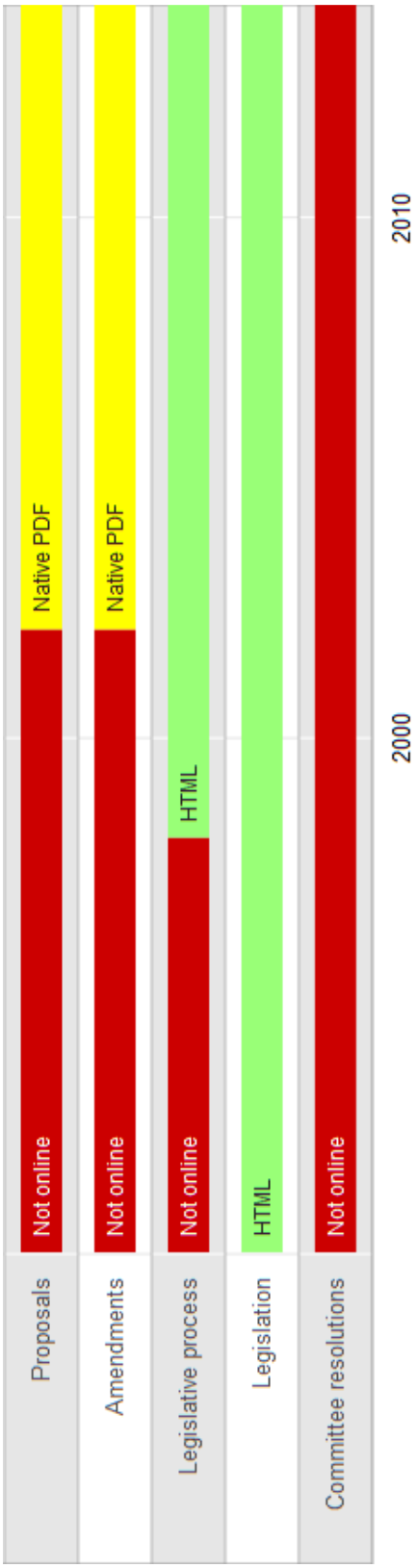
The parliament has been publishing full texts of bill proposals and amendments since 2002, either as native PDFs or scanned documents.[223] The official parliamentary website also includes full texts of bill proposals and amendments that have been published since 2002, either as native PDFs or scanned documents.[224]

The parliament has been publishing full texts of approved legislation since 1998. Each law is published on a separate webpage.[225] The website also contains overviews of the legislative process of individual bills available since 1990. Each bill proposal has a separate webpage. It links to texts of amendments, transcripts of sessions and voting results.[226]

The parliament doesn't publish texts of committee resolutions.

[223] http://is.gd/m3aY8u
[224] http://is.gd/dGw0C4
[225] http://is.gd/nSIrQQ
[226] http://is.gd/fqjLLI

Diagram 40: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the National Assembly of Hungary



KOSOVO

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official website of the Kosovo parliament contains profiles of individual MPs with a number of information[227]. There is an overview of former professional positions (both in the private and the public sectors) and former education, including names of educational institutions, received titles and academic positions.

The profiles inform citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees. It should be noted that the Kosovo parliament does not publish MPs' email addresses. The only contact information available are postal addresses that are often incomplete (e.g. missing street name and house number).

PLENARY SESSIONS

The parliament of Kosovo does not publish invitations to plenary sessions as separate documents but information about date, time and place can be found in agenda of the sessions that has been published since 2006. Each session has its agenda published on a separate webpage.[228]

The parliament has been publishing results of votes taken during plenary sessions and broken down to votes of individual MPs since 2010. The voting

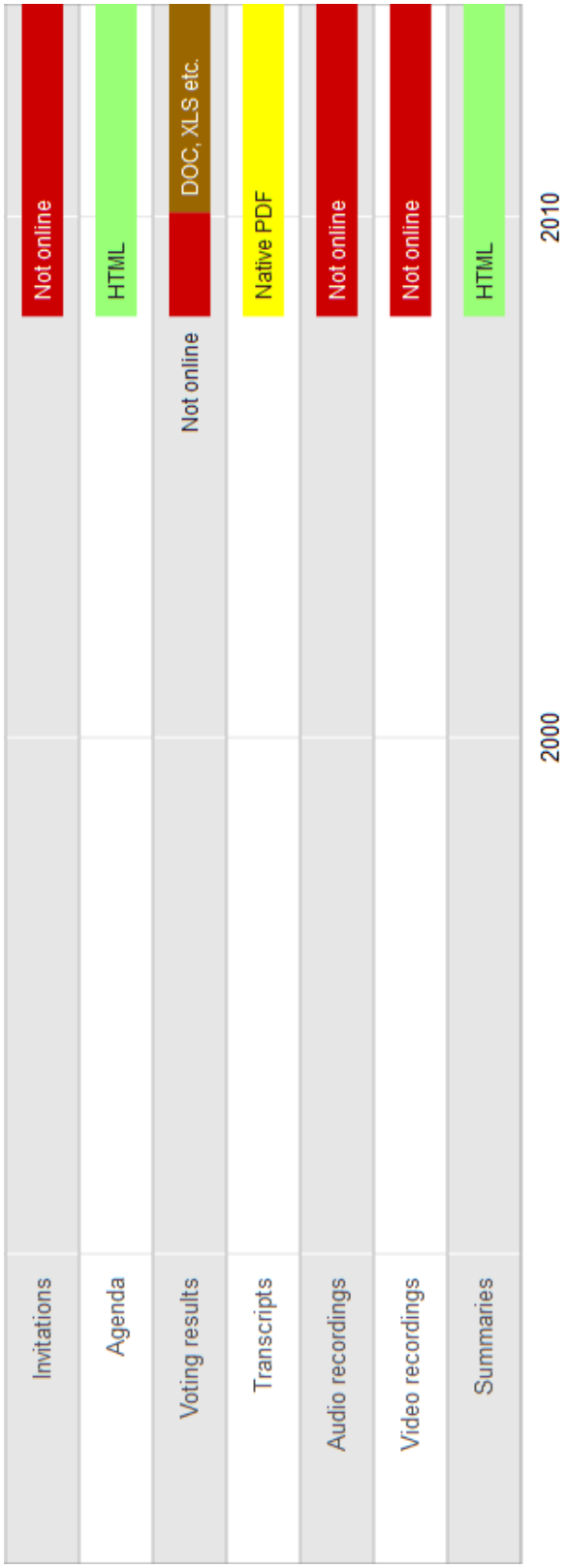
[227] http://is.gd/To3124
[228] http://is.gd/QUnBcO

results are published in TXT files. It includes voting options of all MPs and aggregate numbers.[229]

The parliamentary website contains word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions available since 2006.The speeches are published in native PDFs.[230] The parliament has been publishing short summaries of plenary sessions since 2006 in native PDF and HTML files. The summaries tend to be around one page long.[231] The parliament of Kosovo does not publish any audio or video recordings of plenary sessions.

[229] http://is.gd/cQ5jii
[230] http://is.gd/XafHT7
[231] http://is.gd/hFfRuL

Diagram 41: Availability and openness of plenary session data in the Assembly of Kosovo



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

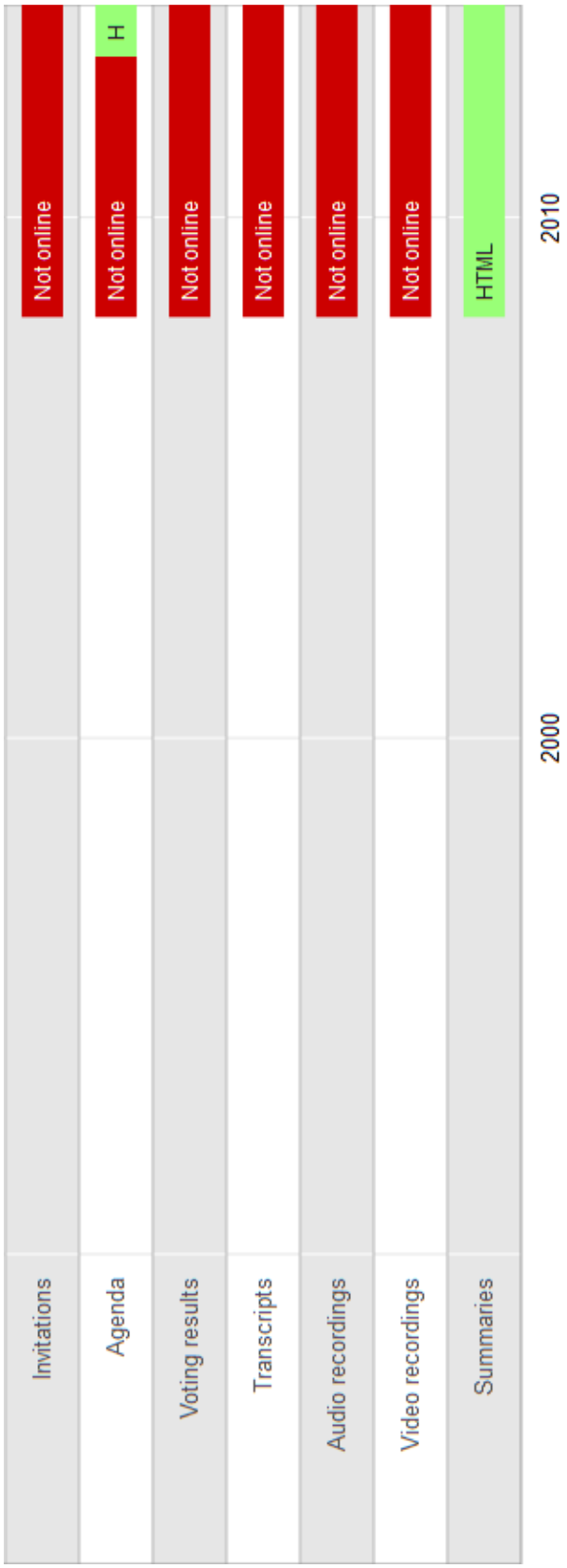
The parliament does not publish invitations to plenary sessions as separate documents but information about date, time and place can be found in agenda of the sessions that has been available since 2013. It includes date and time, place and description of issues to discuss. Several committee sessions are grouped together on the parliamentary website.[232]

The parliament has been publishing short summaries of committee session since 2006. Each committee session has a separate website. The summaries include a list of MPs and a short breakdown of the discussion, usually one paragraph to one page long.[233]

The Kosovo parliament does not record results of votes taken during committee sessions in such way that would enable citizens to discern how individual committee members voted. The official parliamentary website also doesn't include any audio or video recordings of committee sessions.

[232] http://is.gd/fPthkC
[233] http://is.gd/hmxf4E

Diagram 42: Availability and openness of committee session data in the Assembly of Kosovo

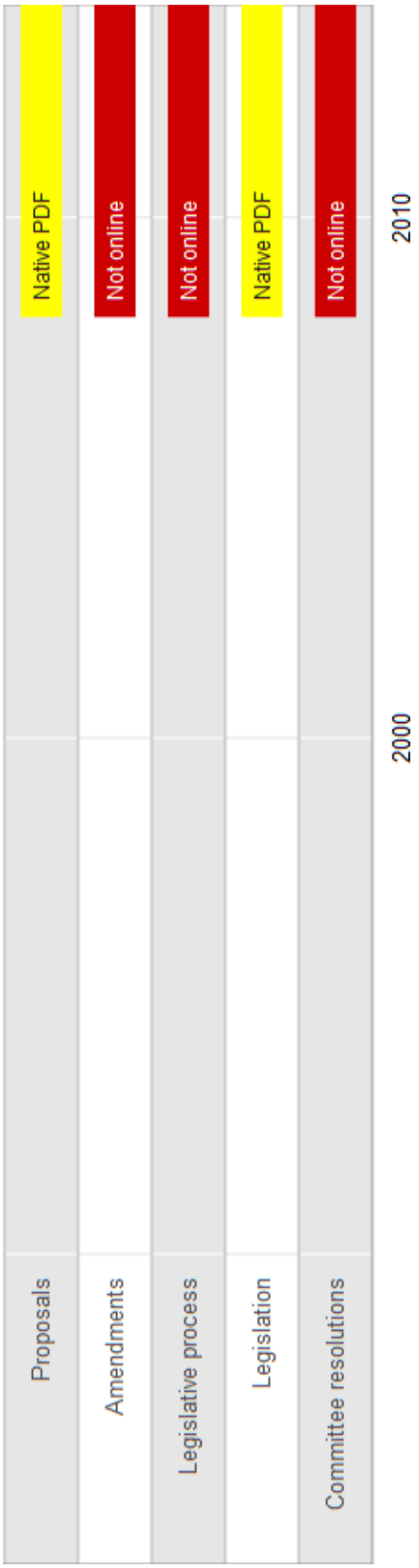


LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The parliament has been publishing full texts of bill proposals, amendments and approved legislation since 2008 as native PDF files.[234] It, however, fails to provide texts of committee resolutions.

[234] http://is.gd/EBCn5R

Diagram 43: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the Assembly of Kosovo



MONTENEGRO

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official website of the parliament of Montenegro contains profiles of individual MPs with a number of information[235]. Profiles of MPs usually contain some information on professional background, formal education and other positions in the public sector, the level of detail and the way how this information is structured varies significantly among MPs. In many cases, almost no information is available at all.

The profiles inform citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees. There are email addresses of MPs and in some cases also postal addresses and/or phone numbers. The official parliamentary website links to the declaration of assets where details on MPs' income can be found. There is no information published on MPs' travel expenses or interactions with lobbyists.

PLENARY SESSIONS

The parliament of Montenegro has been publishing invitations to plenary sessions since 2006. They are published on webpages summarizing one plenary session that also includes agenda of individual session and related documents. The invitations include date, time and place of a session.[236]

[235] http://is.gd/niYgyI
[236] http://is.gd/Adx9zi

The parliament has also been publishing agenda of plenary sessions since 2006. Each plenary session has a separate webpage. Individual issues on agenda link to overviews of legislative process of respected bill proposals.[237]

The official parliamentary website contains results of votes taken during plenary sessions and broken down to votes of individual MPs that have been recorded since 2009. The voting results are published in native PDF files that can be found on webpages of individual sessions. Each file contains results of all votes taken during one session.[238]

The parliament has been providing online video streaming of plenary sessions since 2012. The stream can be watched on the official parliamentary website when a session is in progress. Video recordings are, however, not published on the website afterwards.[239]

The parliament has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 2012 in native PDF files.[240] Apart from that, there have been short summaries of plenary sessions available since 2006 in native PDF files. The summaries are usually 10-20 pages long and contain brief overviews of debates around individual issues on agenda, including overviews of MPs' speeches.[241]

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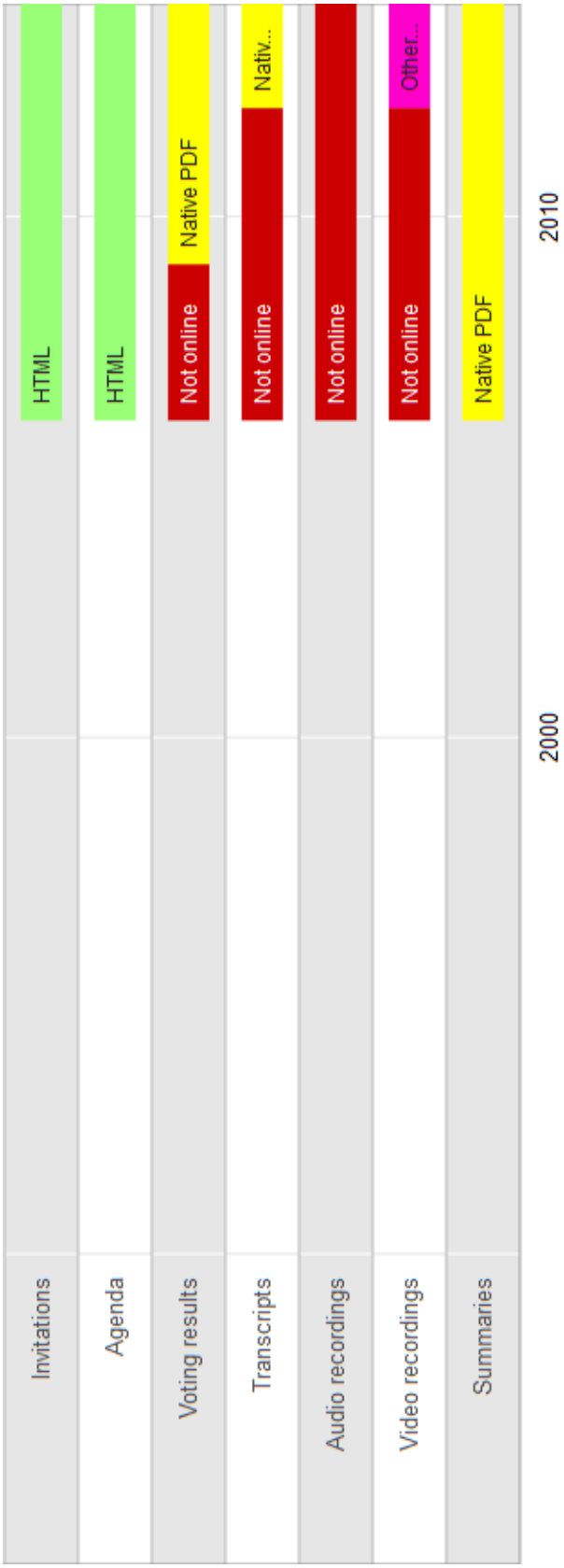
[237] http://is.gd/Adx9zi
[238] http://is.gd/J7zfaj
[239] http://is.gd/8f3mbz
[240] http://is.gd/9NKP0P
[241] http://is.gd/GEF5ei

Diagram 44: Availability and openness of plenary session data in the Parliament of Montenegro



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

The parliament of Montenegro has been publishing invitations to committee sessions since 2012. The invitations are published as a part of an instance of Google calendar. Information on each session includes date and time, place and link to agenda. The calendar enables users to copy an event to his or her instance of Google calendar directly on the official parliamentary website.[242]

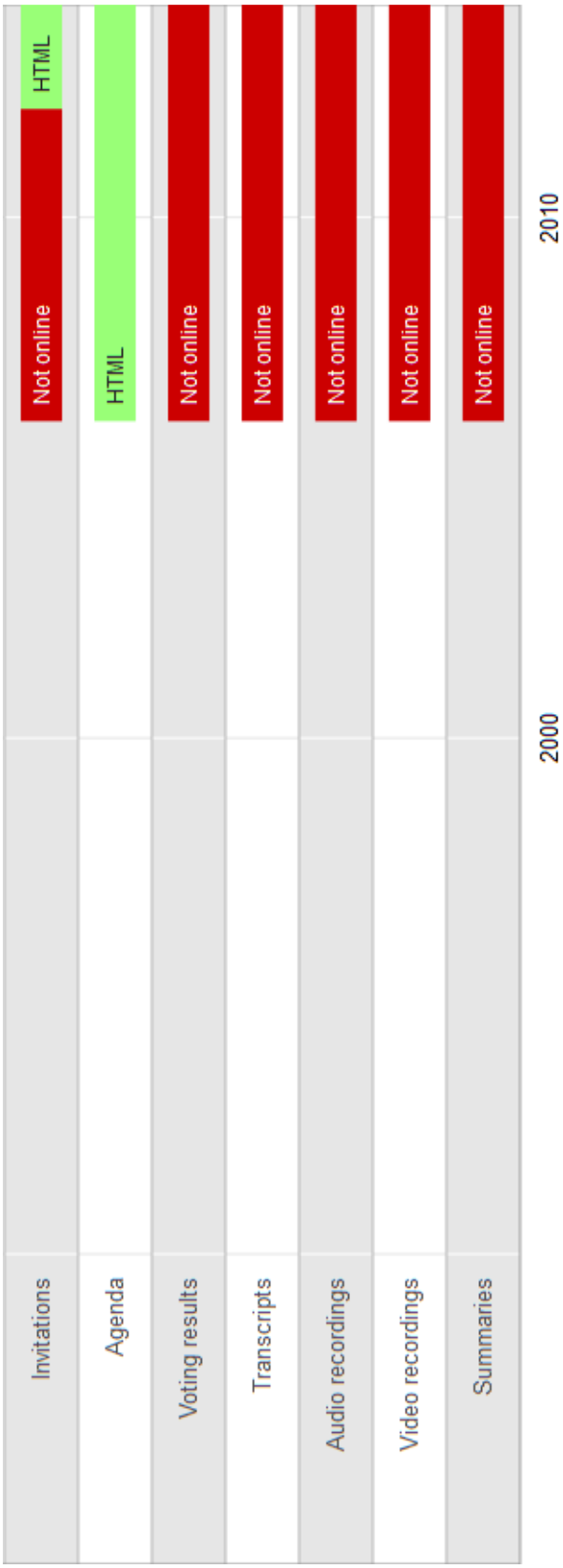
The parliament has been publishing agenda of committee session since 2006. Each session has its own separate webpage. It includes date, time and place of a session, overview of agenda and later summaries from sessions and link to relevant documents.[243]

Summaries from committee sessions are mostly unavailable on the official parliamentary websites. Rarely, some summaries of a session can be found in native PDF files but only agenda of sessions is available in most cases.[244]

The parliament does not record results of votes taken during committee sessions in such way that would enable citizens to discern how individual committee members voted. The official parliamentary website also doesn't include any audio or video recordings of committee sessions.

[242] http://is.gd/HEPIPJ
[243] http://is.gd/R6bYKB
[244] http://is.gd/J9y2GO

Diagram 45: Availability and openness of committee session data in the Parliament of Montenegro

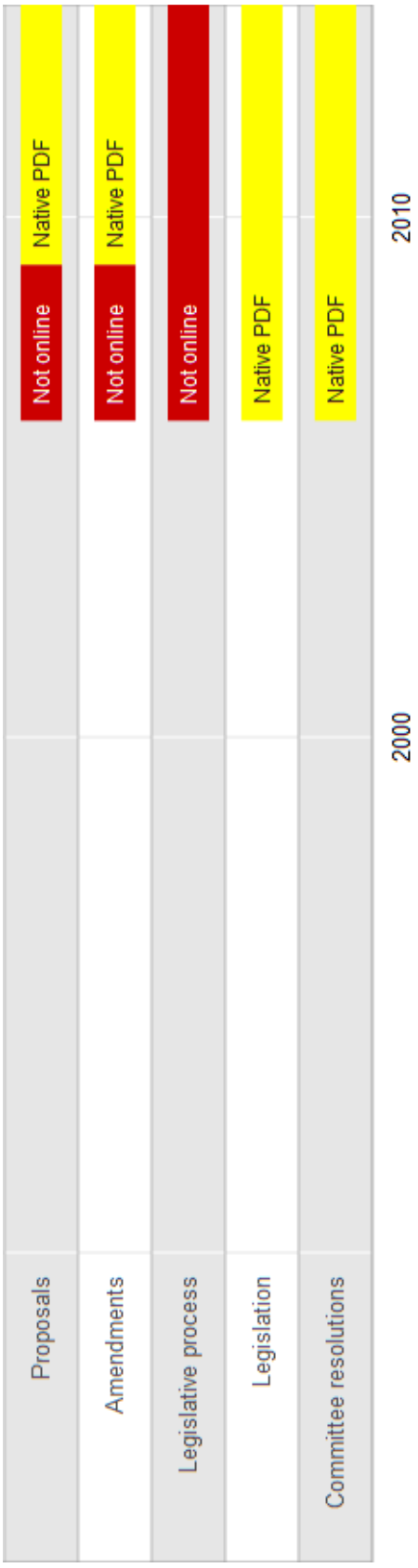


LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The official parliamentary website includes overviews of legislative process of individual bill proposals in a form of webpages, one for each proposal. The webpages have been available since 2006. Each webpage includes a full text of the proposal, amendments, related committee resolutions and approved legislation. All these files are available in native PDF files or as PDF scans. Texts of proposals and amendments have only been published since 2012.[245]

[245] http://is.gd/Adx9zi

Diagram 46: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the Parliament of Montenegro



POLAND – SEJM

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official website of the Polish Sejm contains profiles of individual MPs with a number of information[246]. There is a short paragraph describing educational institutions that an MP completed and year of graduation. The profiles inform citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees. They also contain their email and postal addresses.

The official parliamentary website includes MPs' declaration of assets. The Polish Sejm is also the only parliamentary chamber surveyed that contains information on MPs' travel expenses. There is no information published on MPs' interactions with lobbyists.

PLENARY SESSIONS

The parliamentary chamber has been publishing agenda of plenary sessions since 2005 in HTML format. Agenda of each session is published on a separate webpage. It includes links to related documents, most importantly to overviews of legislative process of discussed bill proposals.[247]

Results of votes taken during plenary sessions in the Polish Sejm have been published broken down to voting options of individual MPs since 1997. Results are published in HTML format; each vote has its own webpage.[248]

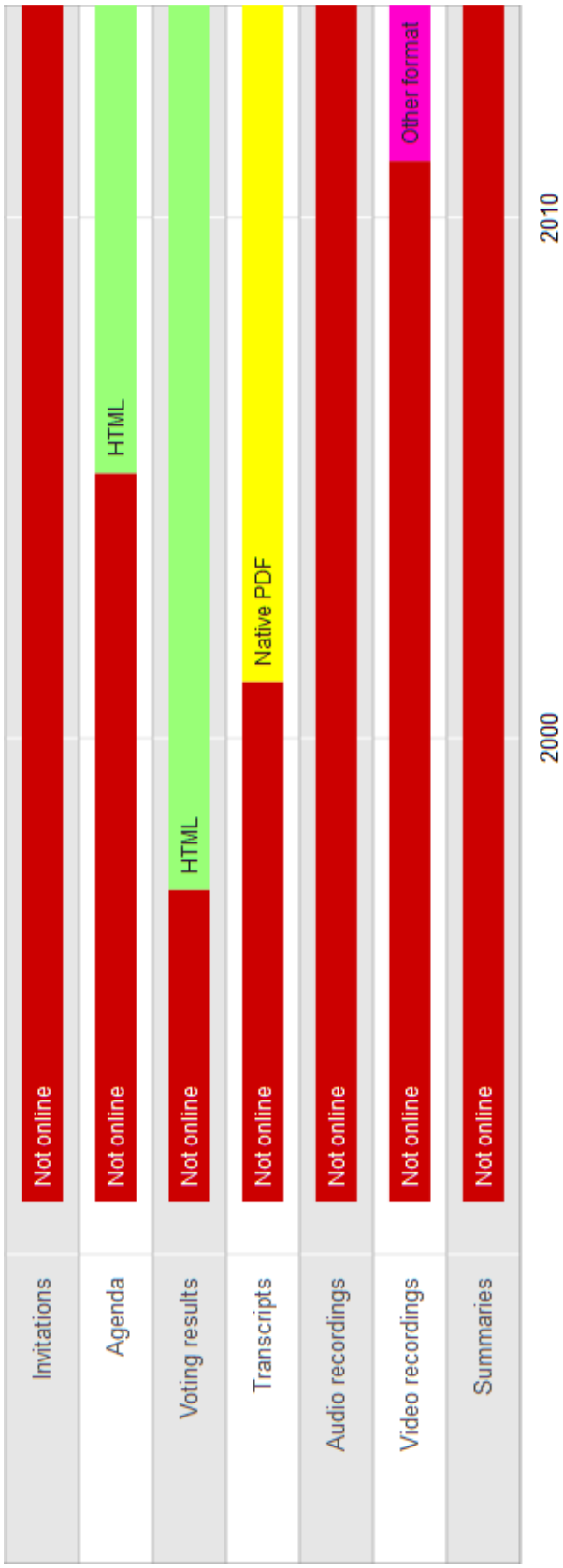
[246] http://is.gd/LCmkac
[247] http://is.gd/GnN9MQ
[248] http://is.gd/wtKYn7

The parliamentary website has been providing video recordings of plenary sessions since 2011. The recordings can be viewed on the official website but the files cannot be downloaded. The recordings include timestamps of individual speakers.[249]

The parliamentary chamber has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 2001. The transcripts are published as native PDF files.[250]

[249] http://is.gd/Xlj6aM
[250] http://is.gd/O7Q3iJ

Diagram 47: Availability and openness of plenary session data in the Sejm of Poland



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

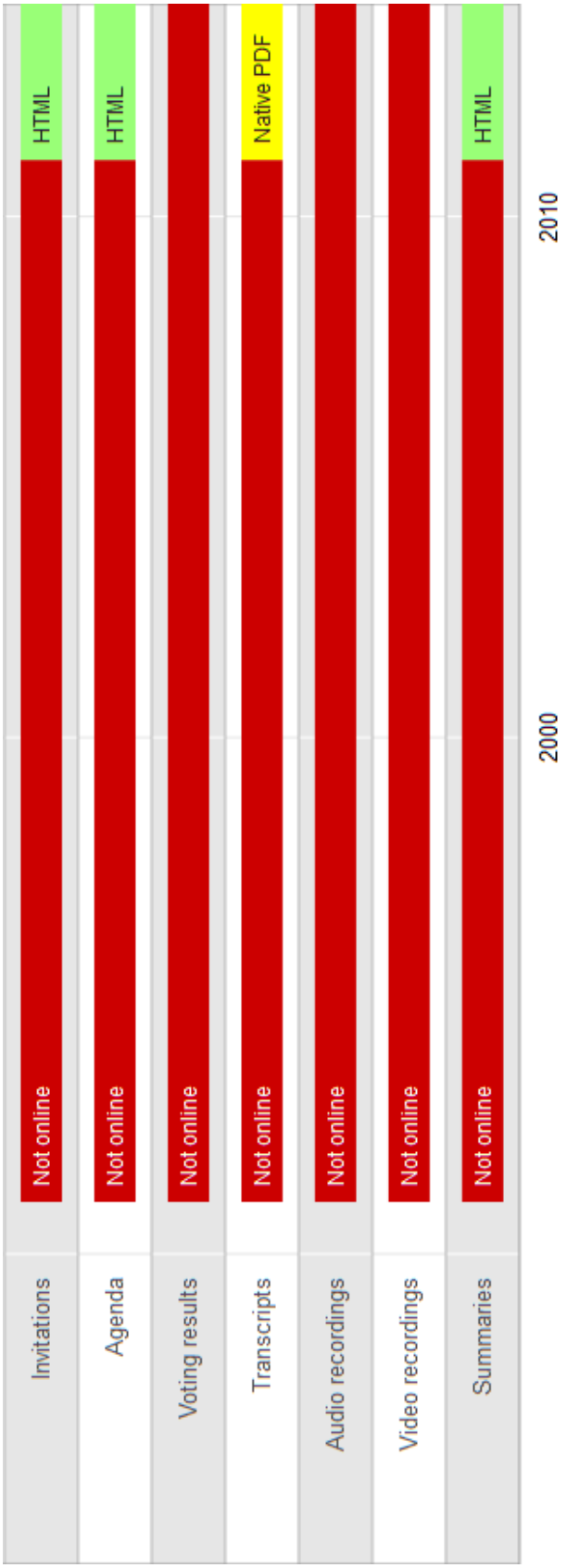
The parliamentary chamber has been publishing invitations and agenda of plenary sessions since 2011 on a special webpage. All scheduled sessions are listed there, including date, time, place description of agenda and links to further details.[251]

Polish Sejm is among few parliamentary chambers that publishes word-by-word transcripts of committee sessions. The transcripts have been produced since 2011 and are published as native PDF files.[252] Apart from word-by-word transcripts, the parliamentary chamber has also been publishing brief summaries of committee sessions since 2011. Each session has its own separate webpage. The summaries are usually only about one page long.[253]

The parliament does not record results of votes taken during committee sessions in such way that would enable citizens to discern how individual committee members voted. The official parliamentary website also doesn't include any audio or video recordings of committee sessions.

[251] http://is.gd/hYo1KE
[252] http://is.gd/dTC5rl
[253] http://is.gd/qXVjJM

Diagram 48: Availability and openness of committee session data in the Sejm of Poland



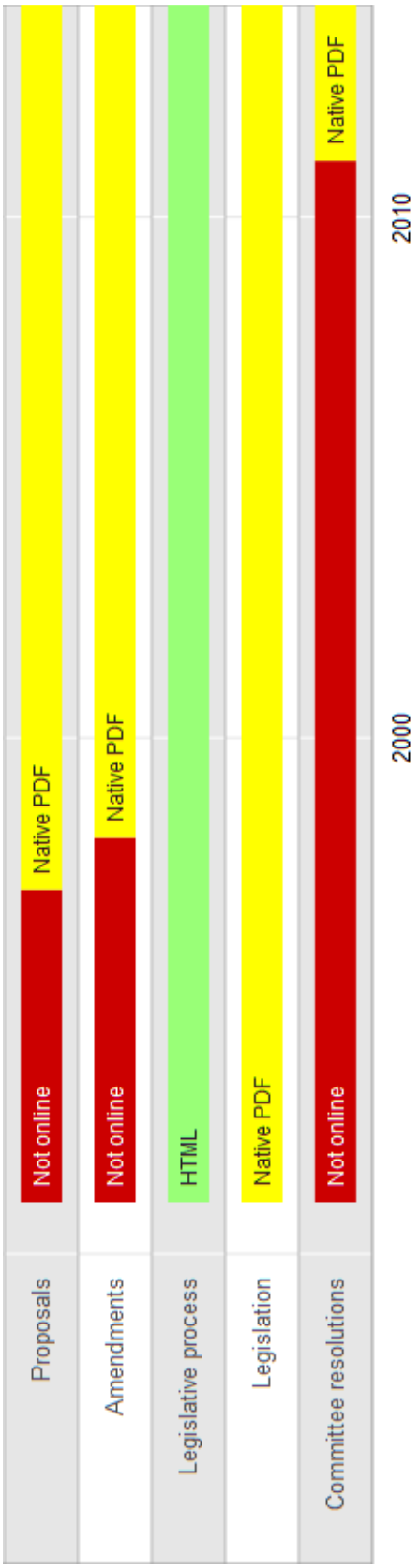
LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The parliamentary chamber has been publishing full texts of bill proposals since 1997, either as native PDFs or scans of printed documents.[254] The chamber has also been publishing full texts of amendments to bill proposals since 1998 in native PDF format.[255]

Full texts of approved legislation have been published on the official website of the parliamentary chamber since 1991. It is available in native PDF format.[256] Overview of bill proposals' legislative process has been available since 1991. Each proposal has its own webpage that contains links to PDFs of related documents.[257] Full texts of committee resolutions have been published on the official website of the parliamentary chamber since 2011. It is available in native PDF format.[258]

[254] http://is.gd/bkG5ud
[255] http://is.gd/TT8W03
[256] http://is.gd/RPISit
[257] http://is.gd/4I592G
[258] http://is.gd/1ooJ0P

Diagram 49: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the Sejm of Poland



POLAND – SENATE

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official website of the Polish Senate contains profiles of individual MPs with a number of information[259]. There is an overview of former education and professional positions. A level of detail varies significantly among individual MPs. The profiles inform citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees. They also contain their email addresses.

The official parliamentary website includes MPs' declaration of assets. The Polish Senate is also the only parliamentary chamber surveyed that contains information on MPs' interaction with lobbyists. Reports regarding lobbying activities are published online, including names and professional affiliations of lobbyists. There is no information published on MPs' travel expenses.

PLENARY SESSIONS

The parliamentary chamber does not publish invitations to plenary sessions as separate documents but information about date, time and place can be found in agenda of the sessions that is available since 1997 in HTML format. Agenda of each session is published on a separate webpage. It includes links to related documents, most importantly to overviews of legislative process of discussed bill proposals.[260]

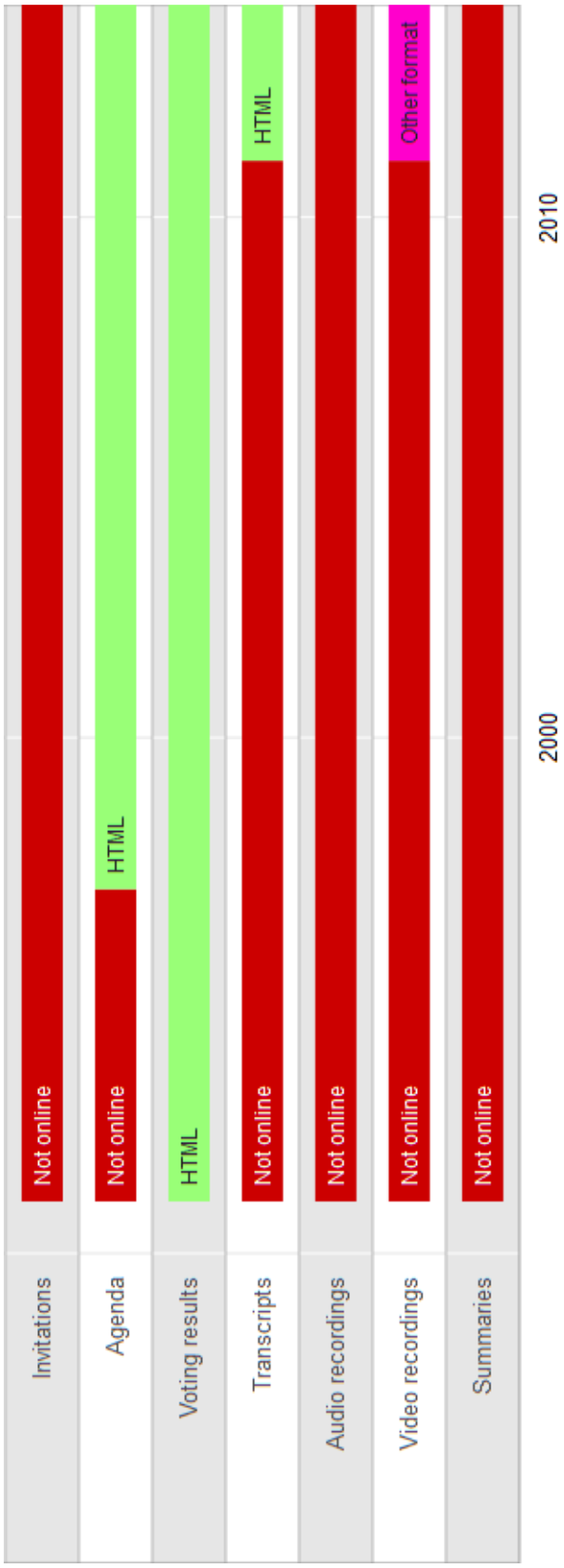
[259] http://is.gd/dyPVBs
[260] http://is.gd/5JCkaY

Results of votes taken during plenary sessions in the Polish Senate have been published broken down to voting options of individual MPs since 1991. Results are published in HTML format; each vote has its own webpage.[261]

The parliamentary chamber has been producing video recordings of plenary sessions since 2011. The recordings can be viewed but not downloaded and do not contain timestamps of individual MPs' speeches.[262]

[261] http://is.gd/29Zvks
[262] http://is.gd/BFKrYU

Diagram 50: Availability and openness of plenary session data in the Senate of Poland



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

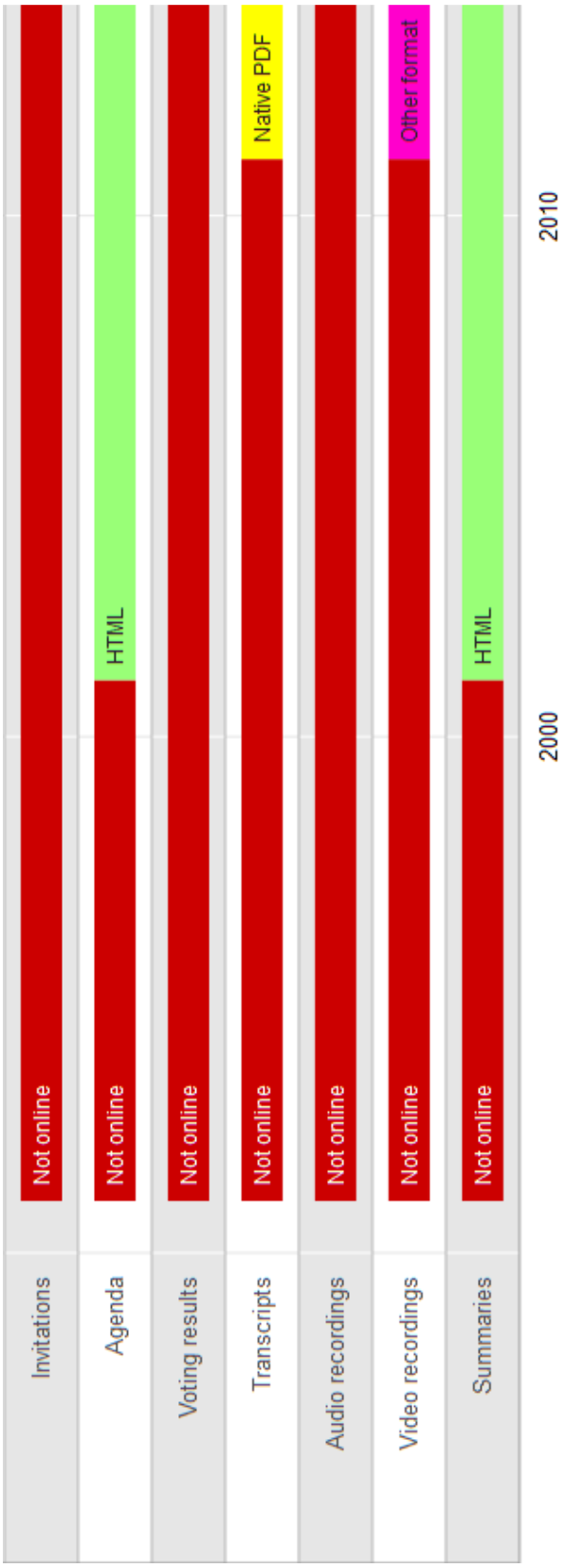
The parliamentary chamber has been publishing invitations and agenda of plenary sessions since 2001 on a special webpage.[263] The parliamentary chamber is among few that publishes video recordings of committee sessions. It has been available on the official parliamentary website since 2011. The recordings can be viewed but not downloaded and do not contain timestamps of individual MPs' speeches.[264]

The Polish Senate is among few parliamentary chambers that publish word-by-word transcripts of committee sessions. They have been produced since 2011 in native PDF formats.[265] Apart from word-by-word transcripts, the parliamentary chamber has also been publishing brief summaries of committee sessions since 2001 in native PDF or HTML formats.[266]

The Senate is not publishing results of votes taken during committee sessions that would be broken down by names of individual MPs.

[263] http://is.gd/OBrjXx
[264] http://is.gd/b8KSoP
[265] http://is.gd/b8KSoP
[266] http://is.gd/b8KSoP

Diagram 51: Availability and openness of committee session data in the Senate of Poland

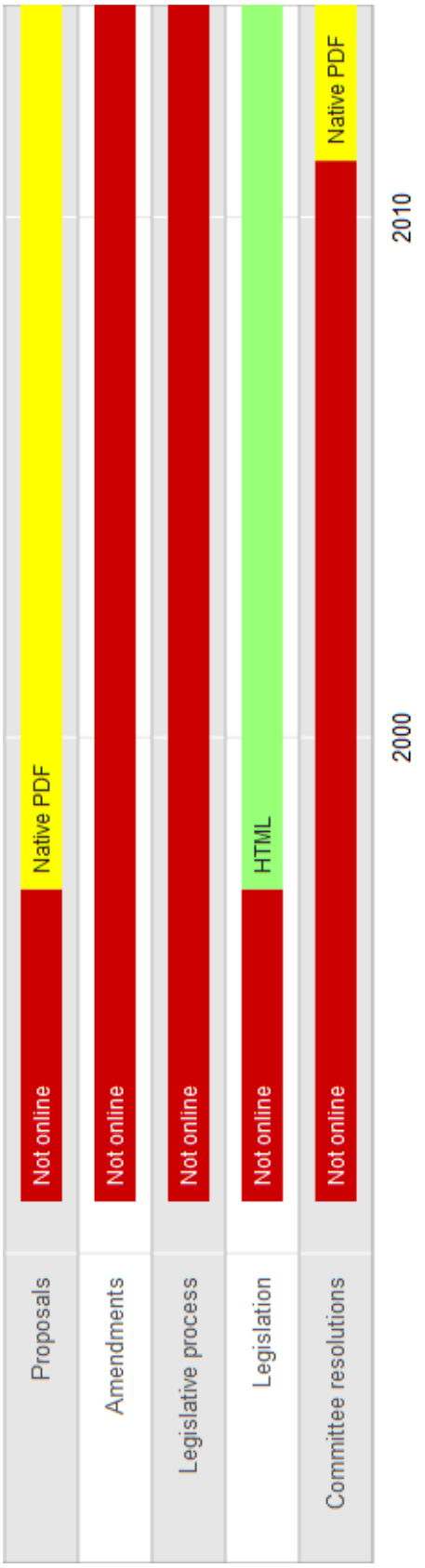


LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The Senate has been publishing full texts of bill proposals since 1997, mostly as native PDF files. Some of the newer proposals have also been published as DOC files.[267] Full texts of approved legislation have been published on the official website of the parliamentary chamber since 1997. It is available in native PDF or HTML formats.[268] Full texts of committee resolutions have been published since 2011. It is available in native PDF format.[269]

[267] http://is.gd/402WGV
[268] http://is.gd/402WGV
[269] http://is.gd/oSdrlV

Diagram 52: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the Senate of Poland



SERBIA

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official website of the Serbian parliament contains profiles of individual MPs with very little information[270]. It only informs citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees. Other types of data, such as information on their professional background, formal education, income, expenses, and identity of personal staff or interactions with lobbyists are not published.

PLENARY SESSIONS

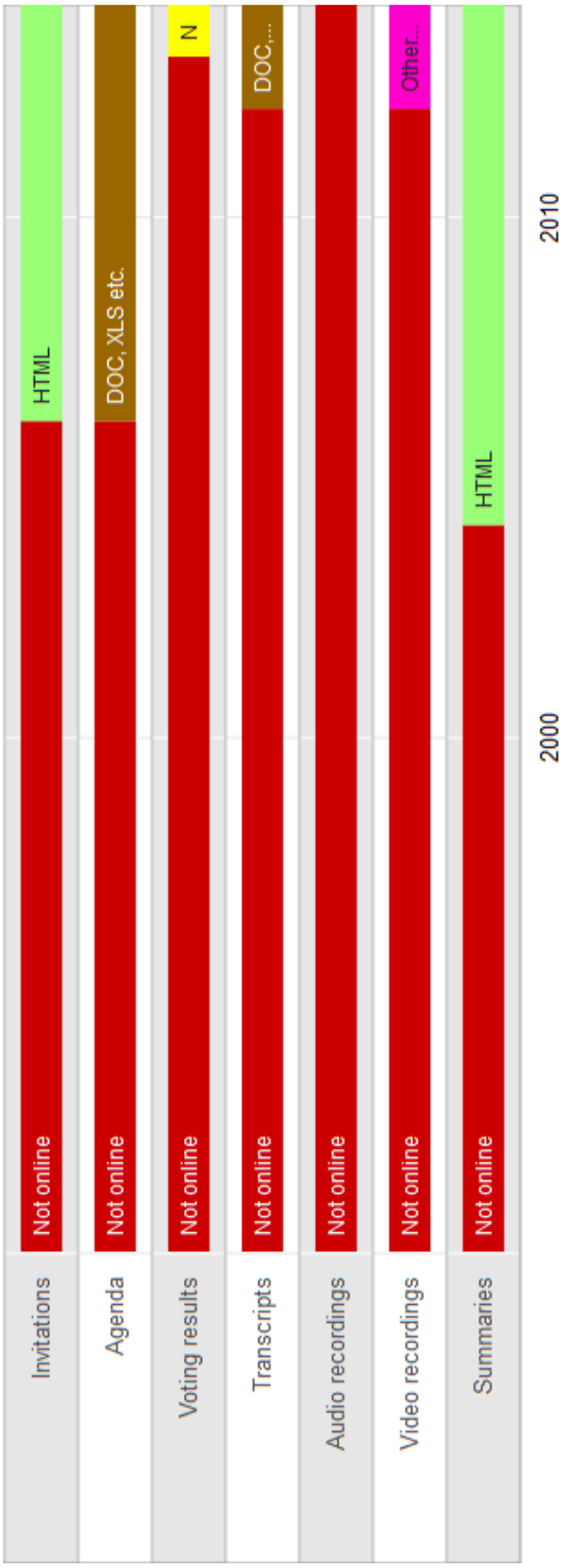
The parliament has been publishing invitations to plenary sessions as a part of its online calendar system since 2006. The invitations include date, time and place of sessions and link to agenda.[271] Agenda of plenary sessions has been published by the parliament since 2006 in DOC files.[272]

Results of votes taken during plenary sessions in the Serbian parliament have been published broken down to voting options of individual MPs since 2012. Results are published as native PDF files.[273]

The parliament has been producing short summaries of plenary sessions since 2004. A summary of one plenary session is published on one webpage.[274]

[270] http://is.gd/aEKMoY
[271] http://is.gd/OUZUnY
[272] http://is.gd/OUZUnY
[273] http://is.gd/RVXChh
[274] http://is.gd/2oAOZv

Diagram 53: Availability and openness of plenary session data in the National Assembly of Serbia



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

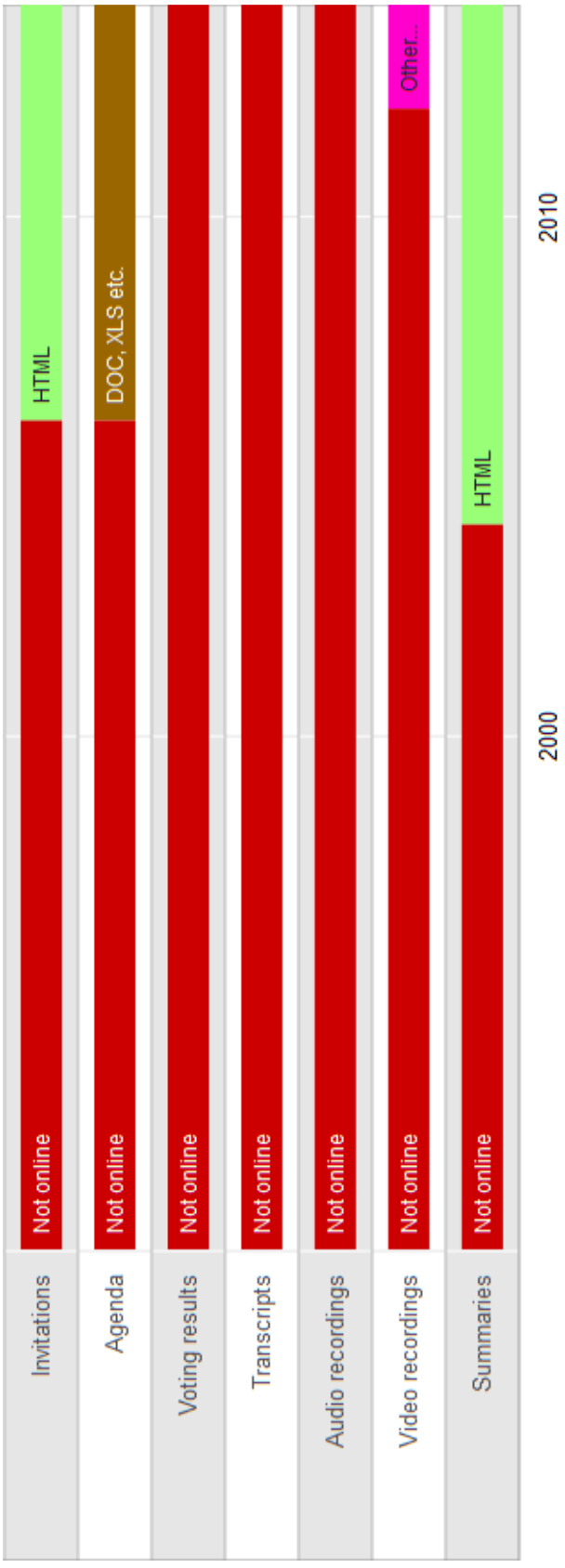
The parliament has been publishing invitations to committee sessions as a part of its online calendar system since 2006. The invitations include date, time and place of sessions and link to agenda.[275] Agenda of committee sessions has been published by the parliament since 2006 in DOC files.[276]

The parliament of Serbia is among few parliaments that publish video recordings of committee sessions. The recordings have been produced since 2014. The files can be watched online and even downloaded.[277] The parliament has been publishing short summaries of committee session since 2004. Each committee session has a separate section on the official website. The summaries are usually only about one paragraph long.[278]

Committees of the Serbian parliament do not publish results of votes taken during the sessions that would allow citizens to identify how individual members voted.

[275] http://is.gd/OUZUnY
[276] http://is.gd/OUZUnY
[277] http://is.gd/JPBtQg
[278] http://is.gd/6rCDlk

Diagram 54: Availability and openness of committee session data in the National Assembly of Serbia



LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

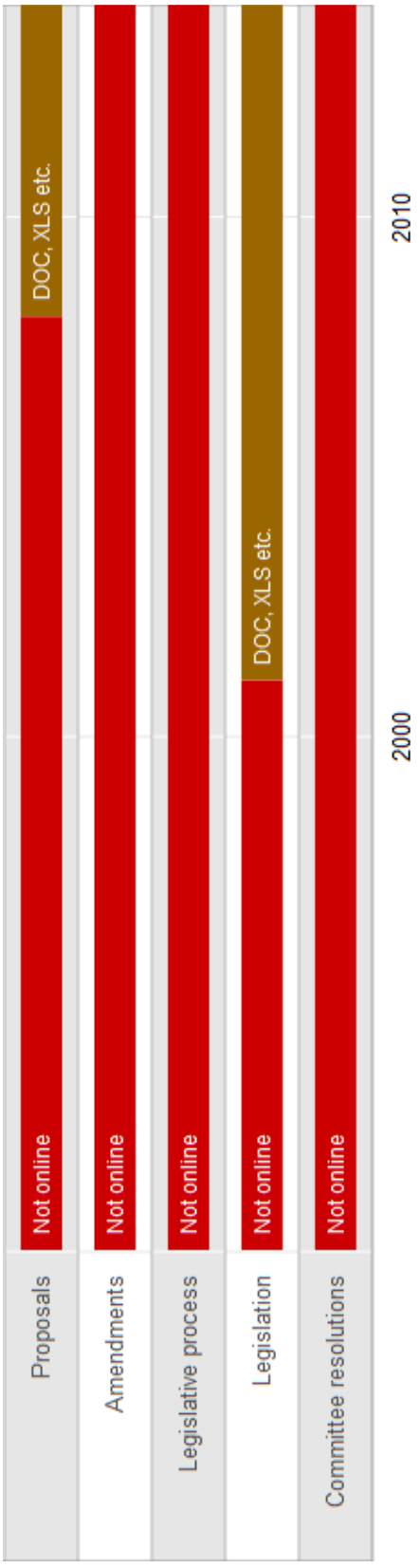
The parliament has been publishing full texts of bill proposals since 2008 as native PDF and DOC files.[279]

Full texts of approved legislation have been published on the official website of the parliament s since 2001. It is available in native PDF and DOC formats.[280]

The website, however, does not contain texts of amendments to bill proposals and committee resolutions.

[279] http://is.gd/8t6kZh
[280] http://is.gd/Jzwevi

Diagram 55: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the National Assembly of Serbia



SLOVAKIA

MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT

The official website of the Slovak National Council contains profiles of individual MPs with a number of information[281]. It informs citizens about MPs' political affiliation and membership in parliamentary committees and discloses MPs' email addresses. The Slovak National Council is the only parliament in the region that publishes not only names of personal staff members but also their salaries.

The website also contains MPs' declaration of assets where details about their income can be found. It does not, however, publish information about their travel expenses or interactions with lobbyists.

PLENARY SESSIONS

The parliament has been publishing invitations to plenary sessions since 1993. For the period of 1993-1998 the invitations are available in the parliamentary digital archive in HTML format. For the period of 2002 to 2006, the original DOC files are available. Since 2006, the invitations have been mostly released as native PDF files.[282]

The official parliamentary website contains detailed agenda of every plenary session since 1993 in HTML format. Each plenary session has its agenda listed on a separate webpage. The agenda links to texts of relevant bill proposals.[283]

[281] http://is.gd/yxMuey
[282] http://is.gd/Ylscfc
[283] http://is.gd/IhWCKB

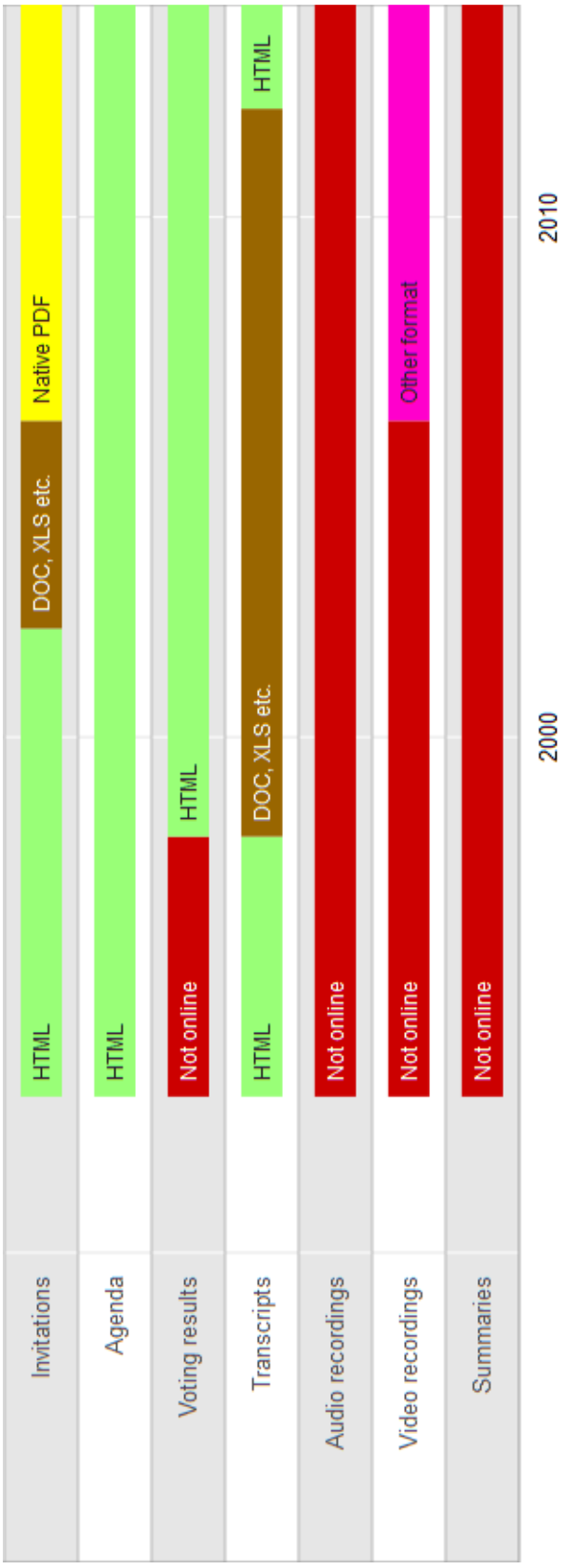
Results of votes taken during plenary sessions have been available since 1998. Each vote event has its own website where votes of individual MPs are published.[284]

The parliament has been producing video recordings of plenary sessions since 2006. The video files can be viewed on the official parliamentary website but cannot be downloaded. The files are edited to include a speech of one MP at a time and are searchable by sessions and by speakers.[285]

The parliament has been publishing word-by-word transcripts of plenary sessions since 1993. For the period of 1993-1998 they are available in the parliamentary digital archive in HTML format. For the period of 2002 to 2012, the original DOC files are available. Since 2012, the transcripts have been published as HTML files again.[286]

[284] http://is.gd/GHwnml
[285] http://is.gd/zwc44b
[286] http://is.gd/d2fU5o

Diagram 56: Availability and openness of plenary session data in the National Council of Slovakia



COMMITTEE SESSIONS

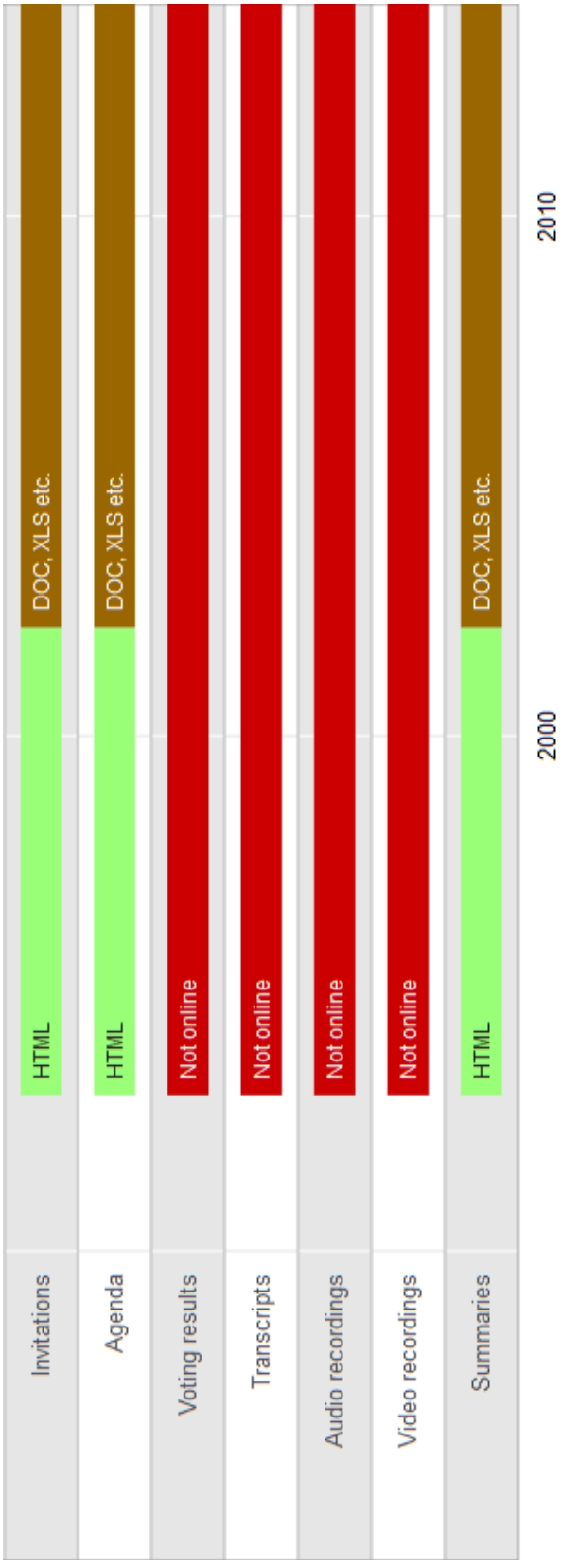
The parliament has been publishing invitations to committee sessions since 1993. For the period of 1993-2002 the invitations are available in the parliamentary digital archive in HTML format. Since 2002, the invitations have been mostly released in HTML format.[287]

The official parliamentary website contains detailed agenda of every committee session since 1993. Agenda published before 2002 is available in HTML files in the parliamentary digital library. Newer files are published in DOC files.[288] Committees have been releasing short summaries of their session since 1993. Summaries published before 2002 are available in the parliamentary digital library. Summaries produced after 2002 has been published in DOC files.[289]

Committees in the parliament do not publish any audio or video recordings of their sessions. Results of votes taken during committee sessions that would allow citizens to identify how individual committee members voted are also unavailable

[287] http://is.gd/4tTjlM
[288] http://is.gd/Tbzktx
[289] http://is.gd/Tbzktx

Diagram 57: Availability and openness of committee session data in the National Council of Slovakia



LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The parliament has been publishing full texts of bill proposals and committee resolutions since 1993. In both cases, files older than 2002 are available in HTML format while files newer than 2002 are available as DOC files.[290]

Full texts of amendments have only been available since 2002 as native PDF files.[291] Full texts of approved legislation have been published since 2006, mostly in DOC files.[292] An overview of legislative process of bill proposals is available for bills proposed after 2006. Each proposal has its own webpage that links to transcripts of related sessions, committee resolutions, voting results etc.[293]

The parliament has been publishing full texts of bill proposals and committee resolutions since 1993. In both cases, files older than 2002 are available in HTML format while files newer than 2002 are available as DOC files.[294]

[290] http://is.gd/qQ0ek9
[291] http://is.gd/ZbdE37
[292] http://is.gd/3YJjRG
[293] http://is.gd/3FfHyK
[294] http://is.gd/RSnS5o

Diagram 58: Availability and openness of legislative process data in the National Council of Slovakia



Availability of information on activities of national parliament is a necessary condition for strong and stable democracy. Parliaments and parliamentary chambers vary significantly in an extent to which they publish various data about their activities and in ways how they provide them to the public. The ways of publishing parliamentary data are very important because they determine how easy it is to search, understand, obtain and re-use this data.

This publication surveys and evaluates availability and openness of a large number of key parliamentary data types in 12 parliamentary chambers in the Visegrad and Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Czech Republic, Hungary, Kosovo, Montenegro, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia). Its aim is to help increase availability, quality and re-usability of parliamentary information by comparing the surveyed parliamentary chambers, identifying strengths and weaknesses and recommending specific strategies to mitigate them.

2015