MAKING IDENTITY COUNT

Constructing a National Identity Database

https://www.makingidentitycount.org/

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Country Leader Germany: Dr. Falk Ostermann (JLU Gießen)

involved JLU students: Marlene Böger, Noah Levin Damschke, Charlotte Gemmeke, Thea M. Rathmann, Momoko von Sprockhoff (BA Social Sciences, MA Democracy and Governance)

Table 1: Identity Category Raw Counts

No.	Identity Category	Total	Speeches	Newspapers (Op-Eds)	Textbooks	Newspapers (Letters)	Novels	Movies
1	United/ Unity	55	35	1	11		7	0
2	German History	41	10	8	10	10	3	0
3	National Politics	36	8	8	11	9	0	0
4	Nazi Germany	35	0	0	31	2	0	2
5	Anti-xeno-phobic	32	9	6	11	5	0	1
6	Demo-cratic	32	13	5	6	8	0	0
7	Education	31	3	13	0	15	0	0
8	Europe	30	16	9	5	0	0	0
9	France	30	3	15	10	2	0	0
10	Peaceful	28	9	0	13	6	0	0
11	Economic success-ful	23	17	2	3	1	0	0
12	Modern	23	17	0	1	4	0	1
13	GDR/ East Germany	21	8	1	4	2	6	0
14	Anti-passive consensus	19	1	1	15	2	0	0
15	Active	19	5	1	13	0	0	0
16	Changed	19	9	3	1	5	1	0
17	East ⟷ West Germany	18	4	1	5	0	8	0
18	Liberal	18	7	1	8	2	0	0
19	Responsible	16	9	1	1	4	0	1
20	Xenophobic/ Right-extremism	14	3	0	10	1	0	0

Year 2000 Raw Identity Counts Germany (Marlene Böger)

What the project does

➢ … constructing a bottom-up national identity database from 1950 onwards (every 10 years)

➢ … on the grounds of five mass and elite text-genres (letters, movies, newspapers, novels, speeches)

➢ … using discourse analysis and (later) quantification (relative salience; valence)

➢ … to produce a more valid, intersubjectively meaningful measurement of national identity than existing proxy variables for comparative scholarship

➢ … to analyze great power relations, with the ultimate goal of constructing a database of all great power identities from 1810 to the present

Coded Countries: Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Russia, United Kingdom, United States of America

Publications and Work in Progress:

➢ Hopf, Ted, and Bentley B. Allan (2016). *Making Identity Count. Building a National Identity Database.* New York: Oxford University Press.

➢ 7 national identity reports on Germany

➢ 3 MA theses

➢ …

German Identity Topography

Table 2 German Identity Topography

	Total	Speech	Newspapers (Op-Eds)	Textbooks	Newspapers (Letters)	Novels	Movies
Historical Others							
Russia	\	+		----	-		---\\
National socialism	-	-	-		-		
External Others							
Soviet Union	-	-	-		-		
United States	+	+	\	-	+		
GDR	\	++\-	-		\		
Communism	-	-	-	-	-		
Socialism	-	-	-				
Europe							
European	++	++	+	+	+		
Western	+	+	++	+	+		
France	\	+	+	--\\		+	

Year 1990 Identity Topography Germany, with valences (Charlotte Gemmeke)

JUSTUS-LIEBIG-UNIVERSITÄT GIESSEN

NUS National University of Singapore