A Corpus of Federal Constitutional Court Decisions: BVerfGE-Korpus 1.0

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The Corpus

• Contains 3354 decisions published in the Official Series (Amtliche Sammlung) in the years 1951-2019 and an additional 6462 decisions from the years 1997-2019 published on the GFCC website (total 9816 decisions, ~50 million tokens + metadata)

• Multi-layer annotations include
  • content sections (Leitsätze, Rubrum, Tenor, Gründe, abweichende Meinung)
  • identification of basic rights

• Available in various formats under CC-Attribution-Non-Commercial 4.0 via Zenodo (doi: 10.5281/zenodo.4551408)

Ongoing Developments & Future Research

• Extension of network analysis to European contexts (Kirchmair et al. in prep)

• Text-linguistic analysis of GFCC developments (Wendel in prep.)

• Historical comparison of GFCC jurisdiction rooted in freedom rights and equality rights (Tischbirek in prep.)

• Analysis of word bundles and collocations (Reule in prep.)

• Historical development of legal concepts and argumentative structure in GFCC jurisdiction

• Implementation as a graph database for integrated search functionality with knowledge graphs of legal entities

References


Wendel, L., A. Shadrova, and A. Tischbirek (submitted): From Modeled Topics to Areas of Law: A Comparative Analysis of Types of Proceedings in the German Federal Constitutional Court.