


Energy policy discourses after the 1973 oil price shock in the UK and Germany

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UK - Sampling scheme

For the dataset “Energy policy discourses after the 1973 oil price shock in the UK and Germany”

August 07, 2019

Martina Rapp

First round

Keywords

Search for in

And in

Not in

And in

Or in

Or in

Or in

Or in

Or in

Or in

Allow variations ⓘ

Explanation:

The first four keywords are used to limit the results to articles containing “oil crisis”, “Britain”, “energy policy” and not containing “EEC” (and the variations of these words). The choice of these keywords was defined after several trials, identifying this combination as necessary to obtain relevant results considering the research question.

Seen that the focus of the analysis is on domestic energy policies, “And Britain” helps limiting the boundaries of the results to articles about the United Kingdom and “Not EEC” allows avoiding all the news on European Community Energy policies.

Once defined the above-mentioned limiting criteria, all keywords expressed via the *or* option allow having different combinations of these words inside the articles. These last keywords, which cover a rather wide range of topics, have the goal to increase the amount of results, in order to cover as much as possible of the aspects that have been identified as important through the case studies.

Limit research by:

Publication Date

All Before On After Between

And

Publication Section

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Advertising	Business News
Arts and Sports	News
Opinion and Editorial	
People	
Preliminary and Supplementary Mate	

Add »
« Remove

Document type

- Article
- Case overview
- Case study
- Column
- Conference notes
- Discussion
- Financial report
- Front matter
- Interview
- Report
- Survey

Explanation:

In order to further narrow down the results, the publication date was defined to a window of 15 years and the publication section was limited to news and business news.

Moreover, the document type was also restricted to some relevant types (avoiding options such as “buyers guide”, “letter to the editor”, etc.).

Results

The above-defined criteria gave a total of 79’918 articles from The Times. Even if this number is too large to be fully analysed, it was decided to keep all results to be able to start from a wider and therefore more complete sample.

In order to start the selection of the articles, the results were sorted via the “relevance” criteria (which uses a mathematical formula to determine how closely each item focuses on the defined search terms¹).

From this point onwards, the coder selected the articles based on case-study knowledge, reading the headlines and the main keywords contained (which are highlighted by the website) in order to decide if they are policy-relevant, i.e., based on the following relevance criteria (based on a literature review):

● For the UK, we consider articles about policies targeted at:

- UK’s 12-point Energy Reform Package (we specifically searched for the 12-point Energy Reform Package, but could not find any article reporting about it specifically; nevertheless articles report about the supply and demand-side policies under the 12-point Energy Package.)

Supply-side policies:

- the reduction of oil consumption/ gasoline supply
- the development of oil and gas industry in the North Sea / of oil and gas extraction in the North Sea
- Electricity price increases / wage increases of workers in the electricity supply industry
- fuel efficiency / energy savings / taxes
- the coal industry / wages of miners
- nuclear energy programs
- R&D programs into renewable energies (hydro, wind), Wave energy program/hydro energy programs

Demand-side policies:

- Managing demand for oil and gas / electricity
 - Rationing / price controls / price increases / “fuel poverty”
 - Energy use restrictions / maximum heating standards / bans (e.g. commercial floodlighting, electricity used for advertising)
 - energy savings

¹ <https://support.gale.com/technical/1015>

- Coal saving programs / price increases for coal
- VAT increase

Sampling done until 500 articles, considered relevant, were downloaded (until page 56 of the research).

Second round

In order to be able to develop a significant comparison between the policies applied before and after the oil crisis, a second round of articles' selection was implemented, allowing to have a more balanced number of articles per year of analysis.

Keywords

Search for in

And in

Not in

Or in

Or in


Or in

Or in

Or in

Or in

Or in

Allow variations 

Explanation:

Since before 1973 the oil crisis did not take place, the latter keyword is used as a *or* option, instead of a limiting one.

Limit research by:

We kept the same parameters as in the first round but the time frame was narrowed down from 1970 to 1973 (to focus on the articles *before* the oil crisis).

Results:

The above-mentioned parameters gave a total of 16'026 articles, which were again ordered by relevance. Most of the articles appearing as first results have already been downloaded in the first round of sampling. Thus, in the second round, 59 additional relevant articles from the '70-'73 period were downloaded and added to our final database.

The final distribution of number of articles downloaded per year of analysis can be observed in the graph below.

Number of articles downloaded per year

