REGIE OP DATA

What is it? Where are we now? And how to get it... (especially if you think you lost it)





WHAT IS 'REGIE OP DATA'? A LITTLE EXAMPLE FROM A WHILE AGO



DO YOU RECOGNIZE THIS BUILDING? --->

It's the Beverly Hills Hotel.... better known from... **Hotel California!**







BUT WHAT HAS THIS TO DO WITH 'REGIE OP DATA'?

The picture is data, and it was used as an album cover. The Eagles used the picture without permission and were almost sued. But because their bookings increased, the Beverly Hills Hotel did not sue the Eagles – money is more important.

In 2017 the Eagles sued the real Hotel California... and you could ask, what is the point of that? So, in a way, these are questions about ownership of data... costs and values

THE ELEMENTS OF REGIE OP DATA IN THIS EXAMPLE:



THIS IS WHERE WE ARE NOW



UNEASY FEELING ABOUT 'REGIE OP DATA'

Regarding the example for 'Regie op Data', this is pretty close to the situation we now find ourselves in with Research and Education. There is lots of data, different types of data, we have data ambitions, and we face real world challenges....

There are lots of factors at play and perspectives on how to do things. All this leads to the uneasy feeling about 'Regie op Data'.



regie-op-data anxiety

Noun

1.) A mild anxiety, mainly present in people responsible for data-related decisions, e.g. directors or policy makers.

2.) Feeling the need to do something, but not being quite sure what because of fuzzy terms, leading to refraining from action because there is no direct pain if you do nothing...

The world is moving fast and the anxiety will not pass.

It took a while, but a good thing is that our members put 'Regie op Data' on the SURF thematic agenda and it got the attention it deserves.

This was the starting point for the 'Regie op Data' initiative.

WALK WALK AND TAKE OFF

HOW TO GET 'REGIE OP DATA'





It starts with the realization that 'Regie op Data' is not a greenfield.

There are many initiatives, stakeholders and building blocks, so...

it is not easy to see the big picture.



First we started asking questions

We formulated answers to questions like 'Why do we need 'Regie op Data'? Why is it important? What happens if we do nothing? What should we be doing? What do we want and what is needed?

In total 17 interviews with **board members, directors, data officers and policy makers** from the research and education sector (MBO, HBO, WO and UMC) and consortia. Review and interpretation was done by our team.

The interviews gave us lots of insights on wishes and bottlenecks



WISHES

Frameworks and agreements based on guidelines, values and laws. This includes scoping and having a strategy related to looking after data.

Sharing and availability of data based on open and standardized metadata and architecture. Sharing across institutions on a national level.

Collaboration related to data sharing across institutional boundaries. Having rules and guidelines for international partnerships and incentives for sharing. Need for joint action.

Sovereignty and control: Clarity and agreement needed regarding who has control and responsibility over which data.

Infrastructure: Having a well connected (std's and architecture), well functioning (UI and functionality) federated infrastructure.

Awareness and digital proficiency: Needed for all (students, lecturers, scientists, policymakers, etc.)

Structural capacity: Having sustainable resources and funding.

BOTTLENECKS

Culture: We say we want to collaborate, but the actual willingness is low.

Time and money: Shortage of people dealing with these challenges. Temp-based projects.

The market: Big Tech is taking over and not necessarily supporting our values. Vendor lock-in and the affordability of the service is at stake.

Collaboration takes effort. Many different types of parties involved; who-does what and why?

Data sharing sounds easy but is not. This is about types of data (research, study etc.), metadata, FAIR, as well as the culture of re-using data. Technical and mindset issue.

Knowledge and overview: The landscape of stakeholders and initiatives is fragmented and there is little overview (e.g. with decision makers). The world is changing fast, and we are not keeping pace...

WE FOUND MANY RELATED DILEMMAS

Share data We need Big Tech We want to be **open** We need to standardize and control Use of personal data

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	but remain in control
	but do not want vendor lock-in
	but respect privacy at the same time
	but we want to respect (academic) freedom too
	. versus data sovereignty



Back to the question: How do we get 'Regie op Data'? First understand that it is a **holistic problem**. For some people, holistic is a synonym for vague, but it is not.

There are:

- different types of data;
- different stakeholders;
- different wants and needs, different problems.

It is tempting to look at this from a single stakeholder perspective: researcher, buyer, IT director or policy maker - but we need to look at the whole picture.

A starting point (to get 'Regie op Data') is **understanding the different parts** and understanding **how they connect** and **relate to each other**. Right now this in not really happening, either in isolation or from a single perspective.



MOST IMPORTANT LEARNINGS

We have **big data ambitions** and want to unlock the potential data has to offer, but we also realize there are many **challenges and dilemmas**. Various data **stakeholders** and **organizations** working on various data **initiatives** and **solutions**. Various **important themes**: RDM, FAIR, working under architecture, public values – to mention just a few. Understanding the anxious feeling regarding *'Regie op Data'* starts with acknowledging the **different parts** and realizing there are **many connections** that need to be mapped out and understood; the 'Regie op Data' issue is **holistic...**

LET'S WALK THE WALK

We think the answer is to put serious energy into connecting the dots. We believe this is best done by **actual people** who are responsible for connecting the dots in a sustainable matter.



This is a call to connect!

By **sharing your stories** and following the developments of others, you can take iterative steps towards getting 'Regie op Data'.

Please join the community at

<u>https://communities.surf.nl/regie-op-data</u> and be part of connecting the dots and acting together.

Connecting initiatives on multiple levels is an important first step in getting 'Regie op Data'

Connect: COMMUNITIES.SURF.NL/REGIE-OP-DATA

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