Setup for Importing the Anonymised Quarterly Data Sets for 1983–1997

Content

I. Overview

II. Explanatory notes on the recoding of alphanumeric variables into numeric variables

III. Explanatory notes about the recoding of missing values

IV. Explanatory notes about specific recoding and the definition of variable and value labels

V. Notes on irregularities not mentioned in the User Guide

VI. Classifications

I. Overview

The following information will help you to import the EU-LFS 1983–1997 quarterly data. The data you received from Eurostat are formatted as comma separated values (csv). With the routines provided by GESIS's German Microdata Lab, these data can be converted into SPSS.

The routine to convert the data into SPSS consists of two files:
Setup_EULFS_1983-1997_q.sps
Labels_EULFS_1983-2010.sps

The setup provided by the German Microdata Lab achieves the following objectives:

– Transformation of EU-LFS 1983–1997 quarterly data from csv into sav (SPSS)
– Recoding of alphanumeric variables into numeric variables
– Recoding of missing values
– Definition of variable and value labels (by executing Labels_EULFS_1983-2010.sps).
For a first check of the converted data, you can compare the number of cases per country with the number of cases listed in table 1 to 15. Consistent numbers indicate that the execution of the setup was successful.

II. Explanatory notes on the recoding of alphanumeric variables into numeric variables

- COUNTRYW
  The first two digits indicate the region, according to the country codification from 2010 (e.g. 05 for North Africa). Countries not explicitly assigned to one region by this classification have been classified by GESIS.
  The last two digits usually display the alphabetical order of a country in the corresponding region as given by the ISO code elements (e.g. 01 for Algeria, so that the whole code for Algeria is 0501). The alphanumerical code from the EU-LFS deviated from the ISO classification with regard to the United Kingdom (UK instead of GB).
  In Slovenia, the coding of COUNTRYW in the raw data differs from the other countries (see User Guide 2011, p. 63). Thus the recoding within the Setup is different as well. The cases of "EU15" and "Non EU15" have been assigned the values "1501" and "1502".

- HHNUM, QHHNUM, REGION, REGIONW
  These variables have a large amount of values. Thus they remain alphanumeric.

III. Explanatory notes about the recoding of missing values

Coding standard for missing values:
- -1 for "No answer"
- -2 for "Not applicable"
- -3 for "Not available"
- -4 for "Not specified"
- in exceptional cases -9 for "Otherwise" (only LEAVCLAS) and -101 for "No answer", -102 for "Not applicable" and -103 for "Not available" (only STARTIME and LEAVTIME, see below)

In SPSS these missing values are declared as user-missing values.

The Code -3 for "Not available" is assigned, if a variable has no valid cases in a country. Some of these variables have only system-missings (i.e. blanks) in the raw data of the respective country, others have only cases with "No answer" and/or "Not applicable".

2 http://www.iso.org/iso/country_codes/iso_3166_code_lists/country_names_and_code_elements.htm
Specifications and exceptions:

- **COUNTRYB, NATIONAL**
  The code -1 includes not only cases without a valid answer, but also suppressed cases, cases with the original code “Other or Stateless”, and in some countries certain other cases (see User Guide 2011, p. 67).

- **STARTIME, LEAVTIME**
  These variables had valid negative values in previous years. Thus the missing value category is set to -101 (for “No answer”), -102 (for “Not applicable”) and -103 (for “Not available”).

IV. Explanatory notes about specific recoding and the definition of variable and value labels

- **ISCO3D, ISCOPR3D**
  A number of cases belonging to the category “armed forces” had been coded incorrectly in the 3-digit ISCO code. This became obvious while crosstabulating the 1-digit with the 3-digit ISCO code. Thus these cases have been recoded.

- **REGION, REGIONW**
  The values of these variables have country-specific meanings (according to the NUTS classification). Thus they remain unlabelled.

V. Notes on irregularities not mentioned in the User Guide

- **DEGURBA, REFWEEK**
  These variables contain system-missings in some countries and years. The origin of these missings is unclear.

- **ISCO3D, ISCOPR3D**
  There is a small number of cases with invalid codes (e.g. 249, 729 or 899) in some countries and years. The meaning of these codes is unclear. Thus they remain unlabelled.

- **REM**
  In Spain and Portugal there are cases with the invalid code 13 (in 1996 and 1997). The meaning of this code is unclear. Thus it remains unlabelled.

- **YEARPR, LEAVTIME**
  In Slovenia in 1996, there are a few cases with invalid codes (e.g. 193 for YEARPR or 21647 for LEAVTIME). The meaning of these codes is unclear. Thus they remain unlabelled.

- **COEFF**
  There are some cases with a weighting factor of zero in Denmark (in 1983 and from 1988 to 1993), Italy (from 1985 to 1987), Luxembourg (from 1984 to 1991) and in United Kingdom (from 1983 to 1991). There is one system-missing in Sweden in 1995. The origin of this missing is unclear.

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VI. Classifications

- ISCED classification (EDUCLEVEL, HATLEVEL):

- other classifications used in the EU LFS:
  http://circa.europa.eu/irc/dsis/employment/info/data/eu_lfs/LFS_MAIN/Coding_lists_explanatory_notes_and_classifications/Index_EU_LFS_coding_lists_explanatory_notes_and_classifications.htm
Table 1: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1983, quarterly data

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* see also “datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv” on the DVD you received from Eurostat
Table 2: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1984, quarterly data

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* see also "datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat
Table 3: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1985, quarterly data\(^a\)

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\(^a\) see also "datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat
Table 4: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1986, quarterly data\(^a\)

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<th>Country</th>
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* see also “datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv” on the DVD you received from Eurostat
Table 5: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1987, quarterly data

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*a see also "datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat*
Table 6: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1988, quarterly data

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* see also “datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv” on the DVD you received from Eurostat
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*a see also “datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv” on the DVD you received from Eurostat*
Table 8: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1990, quarterly data\textsuperscript{a}

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\textsuperscript{a} see also "datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat
Table 9: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1991, quarterly data

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*see also “datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv” on the DVD you received from Eurostat*
Table 10: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1992, quartery data\(^a\)

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\(^a\) see also "datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat
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*a see also “datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv” on the DVD you received from Eurostat*
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*a* see also “datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv” on the DVD you received from Eurostat
Table 13: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1995, quarterly data

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*see also “datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv” on the DVD you received from Eurostat
Table 14: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1996, quarterly data

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* see also "datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat
Table 15: Number of cases per country in the EU Labour Force Survey 1997, quarterly data\(^a\)

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\(^a\) see also "datafileinfo_1983-1997.csv" on the DVD you received from Eurostat