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# ISSA DATABASE ON INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENTS

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International social security association (ISSA)

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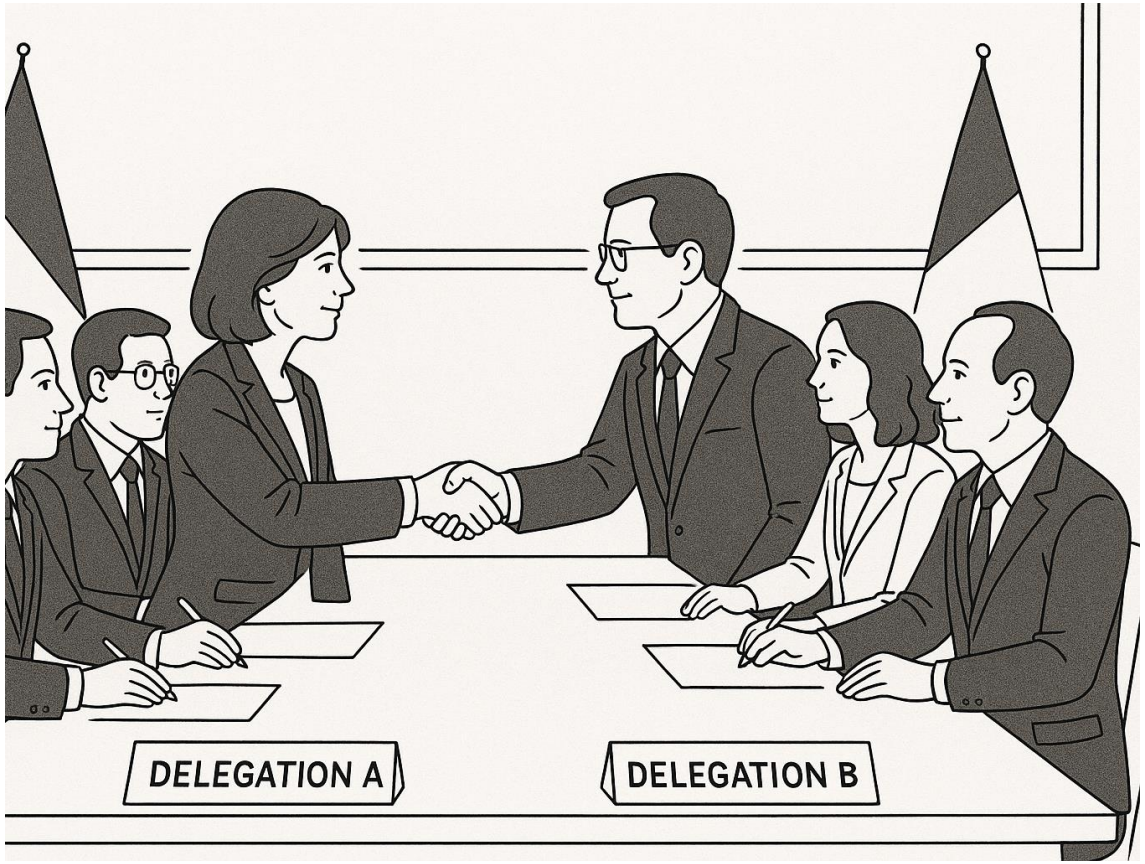
# International social security agreements

- **Formal treaty between two or more countries to protect the rights of people who move across borders for work or residency.**
- **These agreements are crucial for migrant workers, retirees, and international employers to ensure fairness and continuity in social protection.**
  - For instance, they enable the cumulation of years worked in two or more countries to fulfil the qualifying conditions of pensions.



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# Database scope

**Bilateral and multilateral social security agreements**

**Entered into force**

## Basic information

Countries involved, date of entry into force

## Exemptions for posted workers

Initial and maximum exemption periods for employees and self-employed

## Facilitated access to benefits

Benefits covered, such as pensions, work injury, health, etc.

## Third country totalization

Possibility to accumulate periods across 3+ countries

# Process to date

- **Data collection by region**
  - integrated with the collection of countries' social security profiles
- **Pilot user interface and database developed in partnership with ILO's STATISTICS department**
  - Statistical model = SDMX
  - User interface = .Stat Suite Data Explorer
- **Presentation of pilot interface to ISSA members and feedback received**

# Example of one country

CANADA International social security agreements

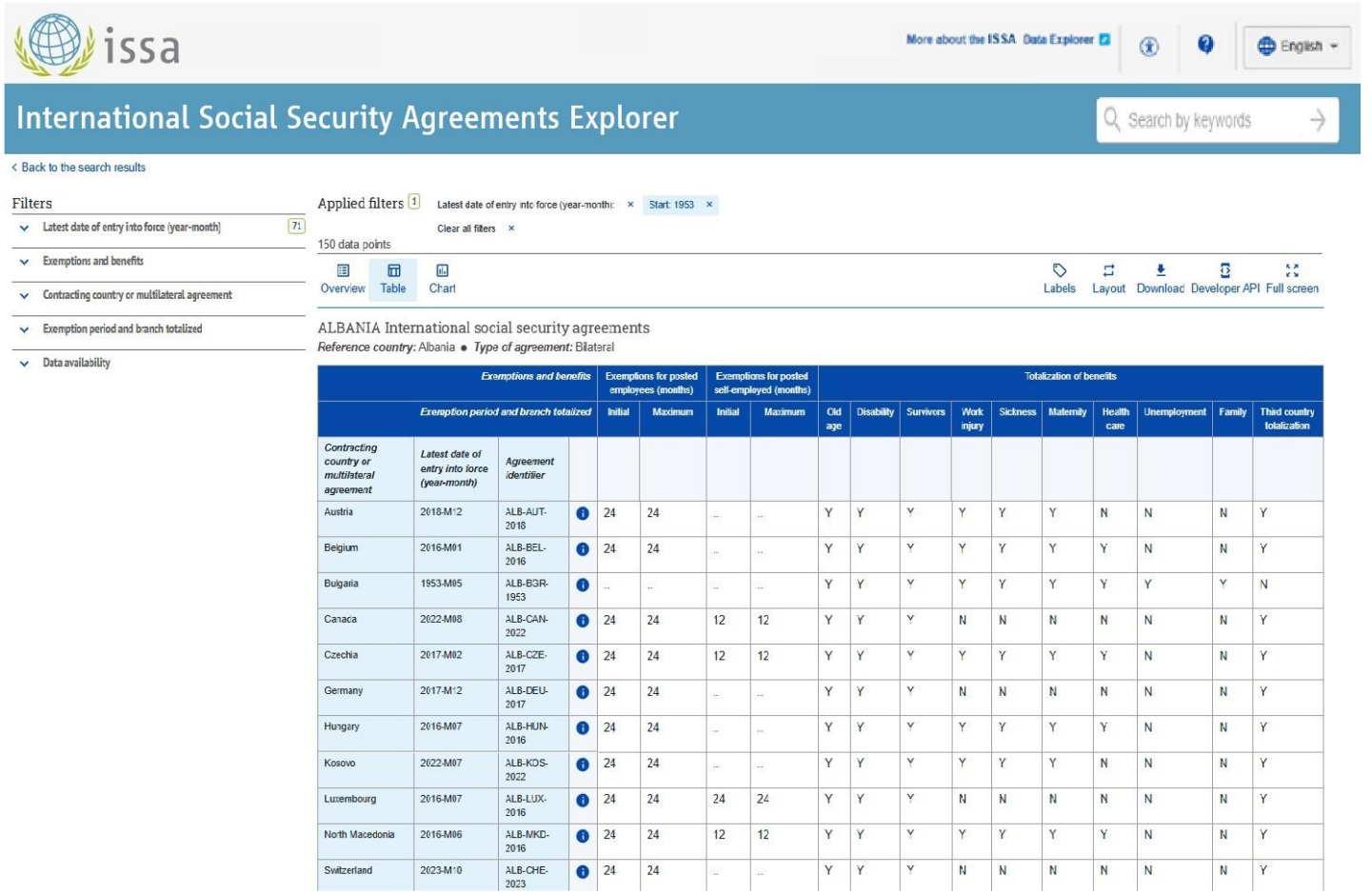
*Reference country:* Canada • *Type of agreement:* Bilateral

| *Exemptions and benefits* | | | | Exemptions for posted employees (months) | | Exemptions for posted self-employed (months) | | Totalization of benefits | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Exemption period and branch totalized* | | | | Initial | Maximum | Initial | Maximum | Old age | Disability | Survivors | Work injury | Sickness | Maternity | Health care | Unemployment | Family | Third country totalization |
| *Contracting country or multilateral agreement* | *Latest date of entry into force (year-month)* | *Agreement identifier* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Albania | 2022-M08 | ALB-CAN-2022 | ⓘ | 24 | 24 | 12 | 12 | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 1994-M01 | ATG-CAN-1994 | ⓘ | 60 | 60 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |
| Australia | 2003-M01 | AUS-CAN-2003 | ⓘ | .. | .. | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Austria | 2023-M07 | AUT-CAN-1987 | ⓘ | 60 | 60 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |
| Barbados | 1986-M01 | BRB-CAN-1986 | ⓘ | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Belgium | 1996-M03 | BEL-CAN-1987 | ⓘ | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Brazil | 2014-M08 | BRA-CAN-2014 | ⓘ | 60 | 60 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |

# Non-statistical SDMX application

- Structures qualitative agreement content and benefit classifications using SDMX, allowing users to filter and compare across countries, time periods, and agreement types.
- Via the pilot ILO ISSA.Stat Data Explorer, users can explore complex, text-based and multidimensional data on agreement provisions
- Part of an ongoing collaboration between the International Social Security Association (ISSA) and the International Labour Organization's (ILO) STATISTICS department

# ILO ISSA .Stat Data Explorer




| Exemptions and benefits | | | | Exemptions for posted employees (months) | | Exemptions for posted self-employed (months) | | Totalization of benefits | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Exemption period and branch totalized | | | | Initial | Maximum | Initial | Maximum | Old age | Disability | Survivors | Work injury | Sickness | Maternity | Health care | Unemployment | Family | Third country totalization |
| Contracting country or multilateral agreement | Latest date of entry into force (year-month) | Agreement identifier | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Austria | 2018-M12 | ALB-AUT-2018 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y |
| Belgium | 2016-M01 | ALB-BEL-2016 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y |
| Bulgaria | 1953-M05 | ALB-BGR-1953 | | .. | .. | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N |
| Canada | 2022-M08 | ALB-CAN-2022 | | 24 | 24 | 12 | 12 | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |
| Czechia | 2017-M02 | ALB-CZE-2017 | | 24 | 24 | 12 | 12 | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y |
| Germany | 2017-M12 | ALB-DEU-2017 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |
| Hungary | 2016-M07 | ALB-HUN-2016 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y |
| Kosovo | 2022-M07 | ALB-KOS-2022 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y |
| Luxembourg | 2016-M07 | ALB-LUX-2016 | | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |
| North Macedonia | 2016-M06 | ALB-MKD-2016 | | 24 | 24 | 12 | 12 | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y |
| Switzerland | 2023-M10 | ALB-CHE-2023 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |

# Link to agreements and notes

| *Exemptions for posted workers: period of coverage (months)* | | | | | Posted employees | | Posted self-employed | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | *Exemptions and benefits* | Initial | Maximum | Initial | Maximum | Old-age | | | | | |
| *Agreement identifier* | *Contracting country* | *Type of agreement* | *Latest date of entry into force (year-month)* | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *Type of agreement:* Bilateral | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BIH-GBR-1958 | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Bilateral | 1958-M09 | | 12 | 12 | .. | .. | Y | | | | | |
| BMU-GBR-1969 | Bermuda | Bilateral | 1969-M11 | | 12 | 12 | .. | .. | Y | | | | | |
| BRB-GBR-1992 | Barbados | Bilateral | 1992-M04 | | 36 | 36 | .. | .. | Y | | | | | |
| CAN-GBR-1998 | Canada | Bilateral | 1998-M04 | | 60 | 60 | .. | .. | N | | | | | |
| CHE-GBR-2023 | Switzerland | Bilateral | 2023-M10 | | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| CHL-GBR-2015 | Chile | Bilateral | 2015-M06 | | 60 | 60 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N |
| GBR-IRL-2020 | Ireland | Bilateral | 2020-M12 | | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N |
| GBR-ISR-1957 | Israel | Bilateral | 1957-M11 | | 24 | 60 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N |
| GBR-JAM-1972 | Jamaica | Bilateral | 1997-M04 | | 36 | 36 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N |
| GBR-JPN-2001 | Japan | Bilateral | 2001-M02 | | 60 | 60 | 60 | 60 | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| GBR-KOR-2000 | Korea, Republic of | Bilateral | 2000-M08 | | 60 | 60 | .. | .. | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |

Information

Collapse all

**Agreement identifier: BMU-GBR-1969**

Data Characteristics

**Additional information**

This Agreement applies in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and also the Isle of Man, Jersey and Guernsey (including Alderney, Herm and Jethou).

**Agreement text**

Link

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# Possible to select multiple countries

| *Exemptions for posted workers: period of coverage (months)* | | | | | | Posted employees | | Posted self-employed | | Totalization of benefits: Social security branch | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Exemptions and benefits* | | | | | | Initial | Maximum | Initial | Maximum | Old-age | Disability | Survivors | Work injury | Sickness | Maternity | Me ca |
| *Agreement identifier* | *Reference country* | *Contracting country* | *Type of agreement* | *Latest date of entry into force (year-month)* | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *Type of agreement:* Bilateral | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CYP-SYR-2010 | Syrian Arab Republic | Cyprus | Bilateral | 2010-M05 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N |
| CZE-SYR-2020 | Syrian Arab Republic | Czechia | Bilateral | 2020-M06 | | 60 | 60 | 24 | 24 | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N |
| EGY-GRC-2020 | Egypt | Greece | Bilateral | 2020-M09 | | 24 | 48 | 12 | 24 | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N |
| EGY-MAR-2006 | Egypt | Morocco | Bilateral | 2013-M05 | | 36 | 72 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| EGY-NLD-2005 | Egypt | Netherlands | Bilateral | 2005-M09 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y N | N |
| GRC-SYR-2002 | Syrian Arab Republic | Greece | Bilateral | 2002-M03 | | 60 | 60 | .. | .. | N | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| CYP-EGY-1988 | Egypt | Cyprus | Bilateral | 1988-M08 | | .. | .. | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N |
| EGY-TUN-TBD | Egypt | Tunisia | Bilateral | 2001-M12 | | .. | .. | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| *Type of agreement:* Multilateral | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ML_GCC-2006 | Bahrain | Unified Law on Insurance Protection Extension for Citizens of Gulf Cooperation Council | Multilateral | 2006-M01 | | .. | .. | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N |

- [x] Saudi Arabia
- [ ] Senegal
- [ ] Serbia
- [ ] Sierra Leone
- [ ] Slovakia
- [ ] Slovenia
- [ ] Spain
- [ ] Sweden
- [ ] Switzerland
- [x] Syrian Arab Republic
- [ ] Tajikistan
- [ ] Thailand
- [ ] Togo
- [ ] Trinidad and Tobago
- [ ] Tunisia
- [ ] Turkey
- [ ] Turkmenistan
- [ ] Ukraine
- [x] United Arab Emirates

# .Stat suite functionalities also relevant for non-statistical data, e.g. Change layout

150 data points

Overview | Table | Chart

Labels | Layout | Download | Developer API | Full screen

ALBANIA International social security agreements

*Reference country:* Albania • *Type of agreement:* Bilateral

| *Contracting country or multilateral agreement* | | | Austria | Belgium | Bulgaria | Canada | Czechia | Germany | Hungary | Kosovo | Luxembourg | North Macedonia | Switzerland | Turkey |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Latest date of entry into force (year-month)* | | | 2018-M12 | 2016-M01 | 1953-M05 | 2022-M08 | 2017-M02 | 2017-M12 | 2016-M07 | 2022-M07 | 2016-M07 | 2016-M06 | 2023-M10 | 2005-M02 |
| *Agreement identifier* | | | ALB-AUT-2018 | ALB-BEL-2016 | ALB-BGR-1953 | ALB-CAN-2022 | ALB-CZE-2017 | ALB-DEU-2017 | ALB-HUN-2016 | ALB-KOS-2022 | ALB-LUX-2016 | ALB-MKD-2016 | ALB-CHE-2023 | ALB-TUR-2005 |
| *Exemptions and benefits* | *Exemption period and branch totalized* | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Exemptions for posted employees (months) | Initial | | 24 | 24 | .. | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 |
| Exemptions for posted employees (months) | Maximum | | 24 | 24 | .. | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 60 |
| Exemptions for posted self-employed (months) | Initial | | .. | .. | .. | 12 | 12 | .. | .. | .. | 24 | 12 | .. | .. |
| Exemptions for posted self-employed (months) | Maximum | | .. | .. | .. | 12 | 12 | .. | .. | .. | 24 | 12 | .. | .. |
| Totalization of benefits | Old age | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Totalization of benefits | Disability | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Totalization of benefits | Survivors | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |

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# .Stat suite functionalities also relevant for non-statistical data, e.g. identifiers

150 data points

Overview | Table | Chart

Labels | Layout | Download | Developer API | Full screen

Name | Identifier | Both

DF_ALB

*REF_COUNTRY:* ALB • *MULTILAT:* 0

| | | *EX_BEN_GRP* | | PSTEMP | | PSTSLF | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | *EXEMPT_BENEFIT* | | INIT | MAX | INIT | MAX | OLD | DIS | SURV | WKNJ | | | MDCARE | UNE | FAM | 3RDCOU |
| *CONTR_COUNTRY* | *TIME_PERIOD* | *AGREEMENT_ID* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AUT | 2018-M12 | ALB-AUT-2018 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | |
| BEL | 2016-M01 | ALB-BEL-2016 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y |
| BGR | 1953-M05 | ALB-BGR-1953 | | .. | .. | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N |
| CAN | 2022-M08 | ALB-CAN-2022 | | 24 | 24 | 12 | 12 | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |
| CZE | 2017-M02 | ALB-CZE-2017 | | 24 | 24 | 12 | 12 | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y |
| DEU | 2017-M12 | ALB-DEU-2017 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |
| HUN | 2016-M07 | ALB-HUN-2016 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y |
| KOS | 2022-M07 | ALB-KOS-2022 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y |
| LUX | 2016-M07 | ALB-LUX-2016 | | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |
| MKD | 2016-M06 | ALB-MKD-2016 | | 24 | 24 | 12 | 12 | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y |
| CHE | 2023-M10 | ALB-CHE-2023 | | 24 | 24 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | N | N | Y |
| TUR | 2005-M02 | ALB-TUR-2005 | | 24 | 60 | .. | .. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y |

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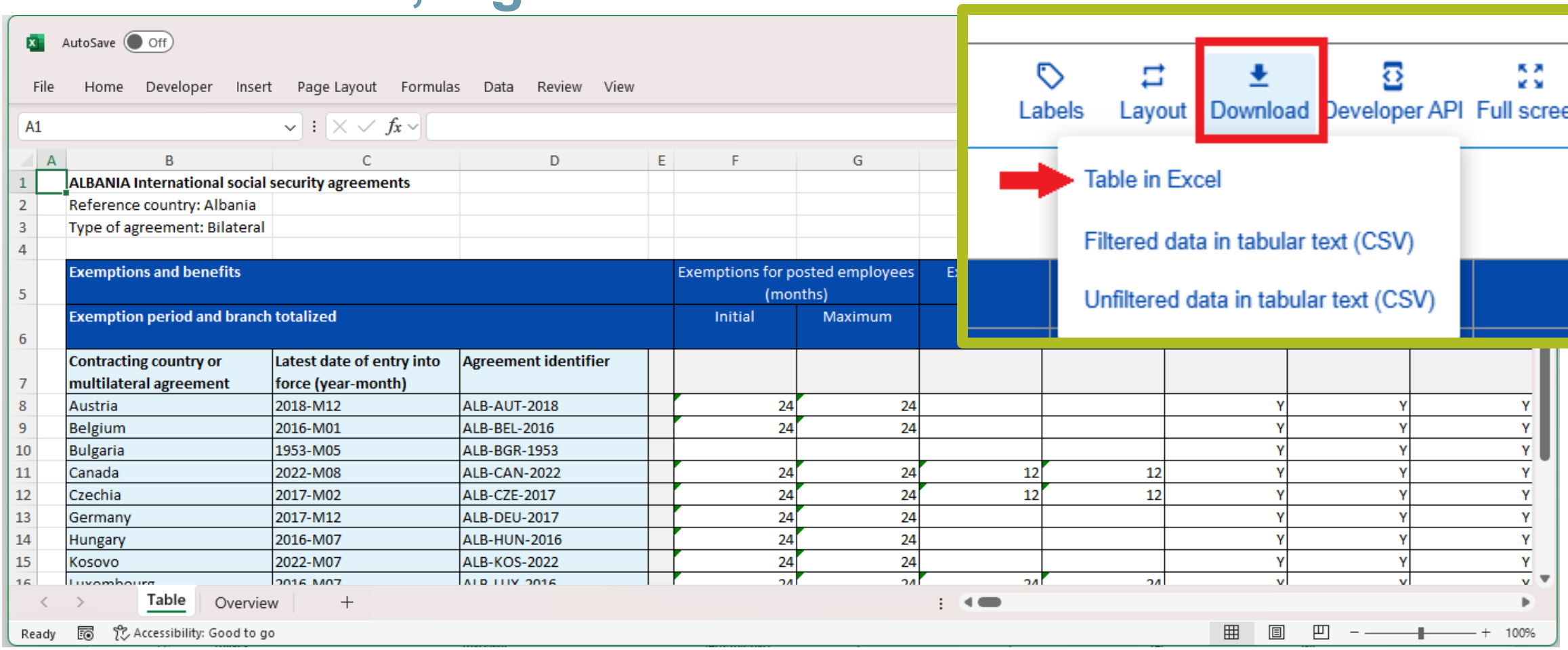
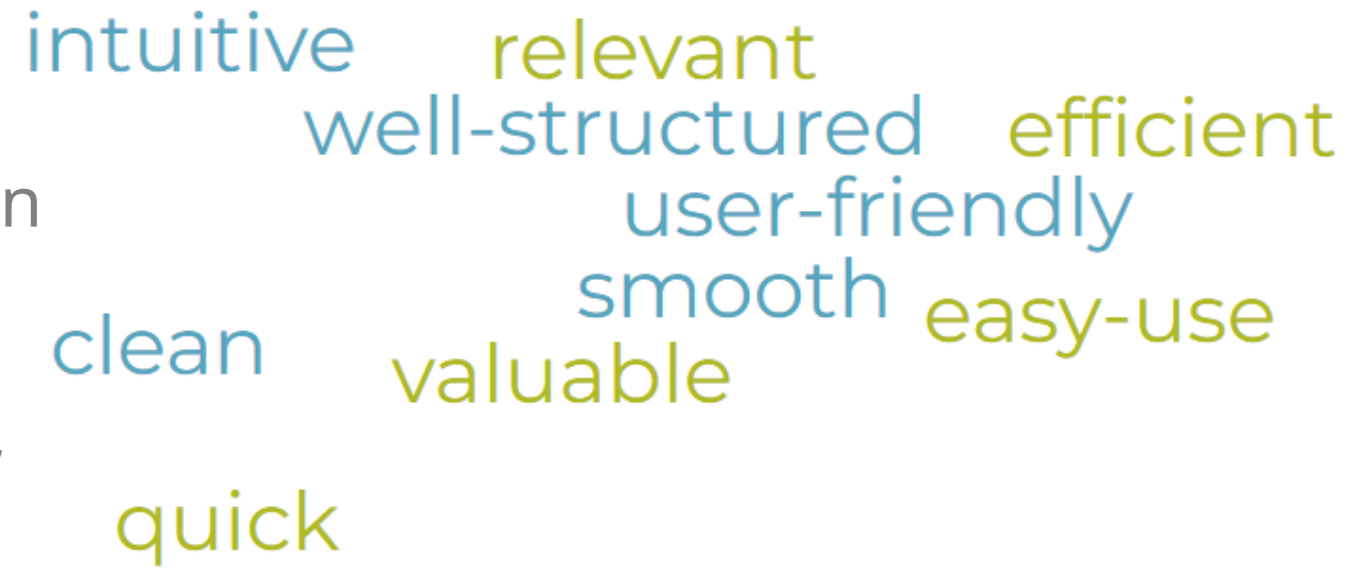
# .Stat suite functionalities also relevant for non-statistical data, e.g. download to excel



# Feedback received on data explorer (usability)

- Overall rating: 4.25 (“easy”)
- Understood as a valuable resource
- General praise and interest in continued development
- Few specific areas for improvement: Technical, UX, and Formatting.



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# SDMX application for social security data exchange

- **To implement international agreements, data exchange is needed**
  - e.g. to establish eligibility:
    - Workers' personal data, including residence status
    - Worked periods, including total work periods across countries
    - Other information as needed
  - e.g. for payment continuity and compliance enforcement:
    - Life-status validation.
    - Income and residence information.
    - Other information as needed
- **The ISSA is using SDMX to standardise different data types and support data exchange operations.**
  - DSD to model data types, prioritizing life-status validation.
  - Standardized dataflows to implement effective data exchange.
  - Privacy/security measures to allow for data encryption with digital signatures
    - Not possible within current SDMX functionalities
- **Current status:**
  - Pilot of life-status validation data exchange.

# Summary: Next steps

- Updating data to latest versions
- Activating multilingual interface
- Official launch of the database
- Ongoing work on data exchange
- Exploring other visualizations using SDMX web service

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# Thank you!

# Questions?