

## Usage of text mining in auditing process

Ms Meeli Saksing, Auditor
Ms Kaia Philips, Senior adviser
NAO of Estonia



# Audit "Publicity efforts of local authorities in municipal newspapers" (2018)

### What and Why?

NAO analysed the media coverage of candidates participating in the 2017 local elections across municipal newspapers published from January to October 2017.

The goal was to make sure that newspapers financed by local governments have <u>not</u> been used towards

- personal political interests;
- covert election campaigns;
- other party-political image campaigns.

#### How?

Outsourced to a Balti Meediamonitooringu Grupp OÜ

- media monitoring and analysis tool called Station
- created a database of electronically available municipally funded newspapers
- total of 191 electronically available municipally funded newspapers.
- Keywords: "candidate name", "political party name", "elections", "opening", "investing"
- Analysis using the keywords and combinations of keywords incl: sequence, placement, size, visulizations used, overall "emotion" of the article, connection with elections, author of the article.

#### How?

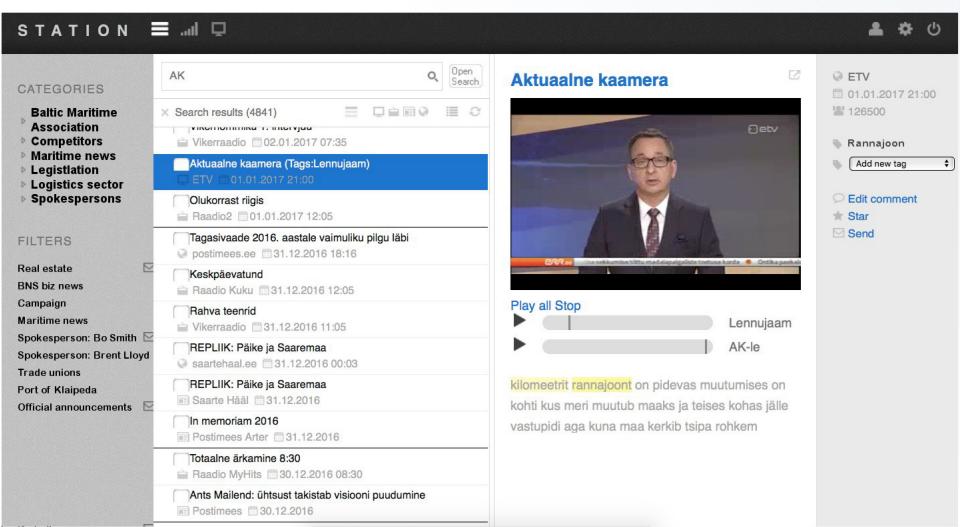
MS Excel spreadsheet:

Stationi link	Date	Name of the newspaper	Emotion of the article	Page nr	Author	Connected with elections	Picture	Size of the picture	Candidate mentioned in the arcticle
	2017-01-								
http://station.e	01								
e/#16999383	00:00:00	Sindi Sõnumid	Neutral	3	U.S	No	Yes	1/8	M.H
	2017-01-								
http://station.e	01	Haljala Valla							
e/#15970845	00:00:00	Sõnumid	Positive	1	M.T	No	No	1/8	M.T
	2017-01-								
http://station.e	01								
e/#16358417	00:00:00	Tamsalu Ajaleht	Positive	7	Т	No	Yes	-	T.V
	2017-01-	Koduvald					·		
http://station.e	01	(Häädemeeste							
e/#16045313	00:00:00	valla leht)	Neutral	10	K.V	No	No	1/16	K.S

 The search returned 24 500 results/mentions of keywords (in total 6000 articles).



#### Station?





# Audit "Effectiveness of probation supervision" (2019)

### What and Why?

- Community sanctions such as probation is considered to be more efficient than imprisonment.
- Efficiency of probation system is measured by the rate of recidivism.

Audit question was focussing on possible ways to improve the effect of probation or lower the recidivism.

Offenders on probation are affected by:

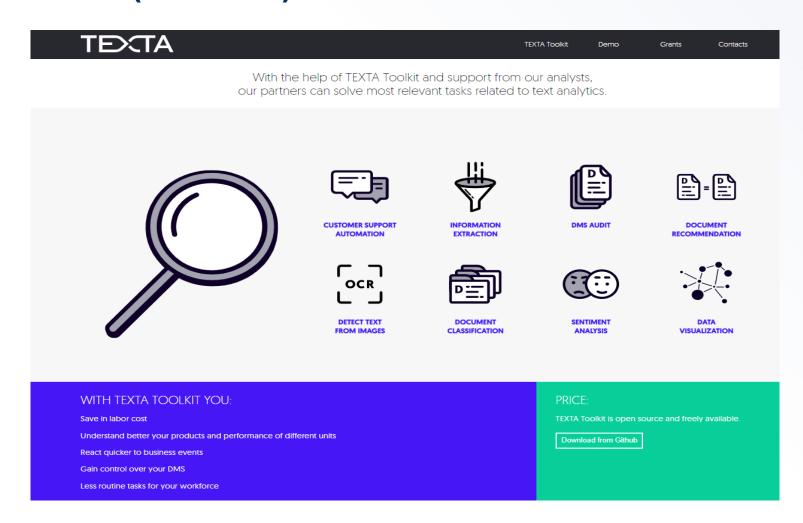
- the service offered by probation system: e.g. professionalism of the probation officers, readiness of the care system (material and skillrelated);
- many other factors such as addictions, employment, residence characteristics, other kind of services, debts etc.

### How? – Data from 8 public sector databases

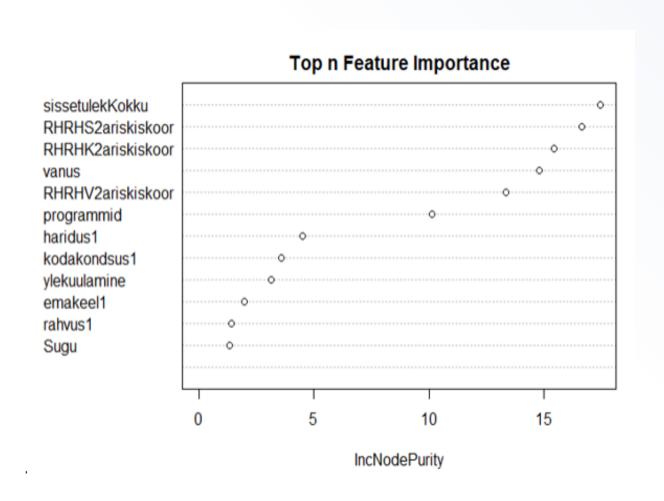
- 1. Prisoners and probationers register -> probationers' personal data
- 2. Criminal Records Database -> criminal record 2 years after probation
- 3. E-dossier system -> criminal record 2 years after probation
- 4. Enforcement procedure register -> debts, claims by bailiffs
- 5. Social services and benefits register -> social services and benefits
- 6. Income tax register -> income and the regularity of income
- 7. Unemployment and labour market services register -> unemployment status and services provided by Unemployment Fund
- 8. Population register -> deaths and moving abroad



## How? - Analysis of textual data with help of TEXTA (texta.ee)

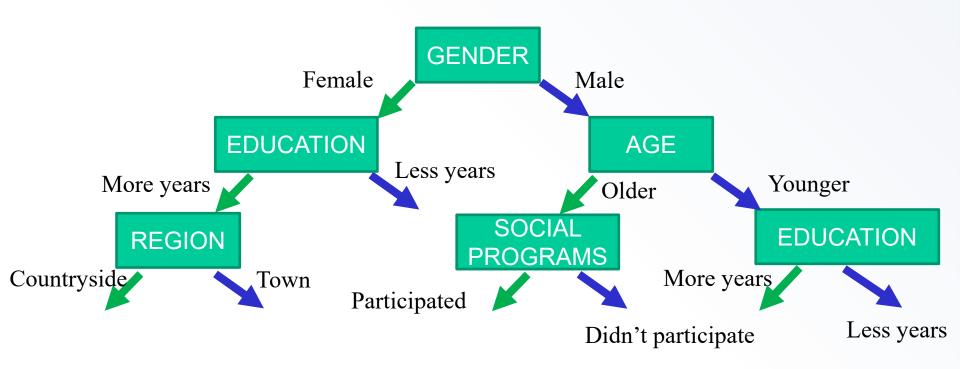


## How? – Regression analysis and experiments of using random forest and decision tree





#### Decision tree – who is more likely to reoffend?



#### Legend:



### Some findings - which factors lead to success?

#### Probation related

- The length of the probation officer's responsibility period (+)
- Change of probation officers (-)
- Social and rehabilitation programs (+)

#### Person related

- Addiction problems (drugs and alcohol) (-)
- Unemployment (-)
- Living conditions and cohabitation (+ / -)

