mid.ru_en_2024

Corpus based on the website of Russia's MFA (in English, 2003-2023)

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Scope of this corpus

This corpus includes all news items published on the English-language version of the website of Russia's MFA.

Summary statistics

Dataset name: mid.ru_en_2024

Dataset description: all news items published on the English-language version of mid.ru

Start date: 2003-01-04

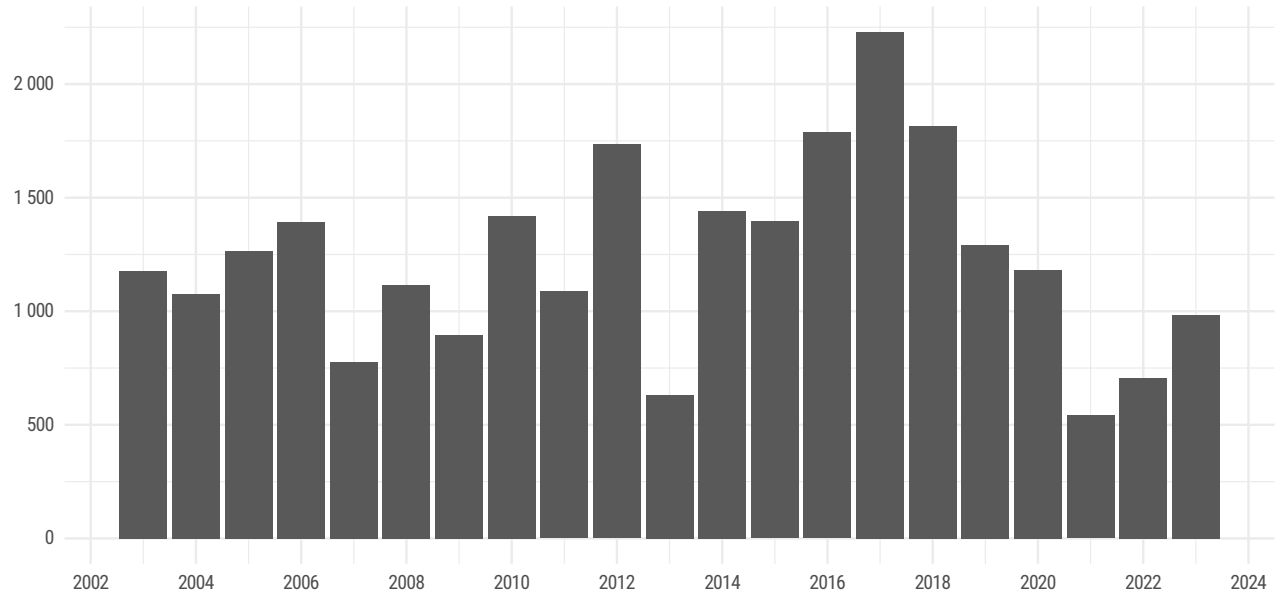**End date**: 2023-12-31

Total items: 25 943

Available columns: doc_id; text; date; datetime; title; internal_id; url_id; translations; url

License: Permissive (see details)

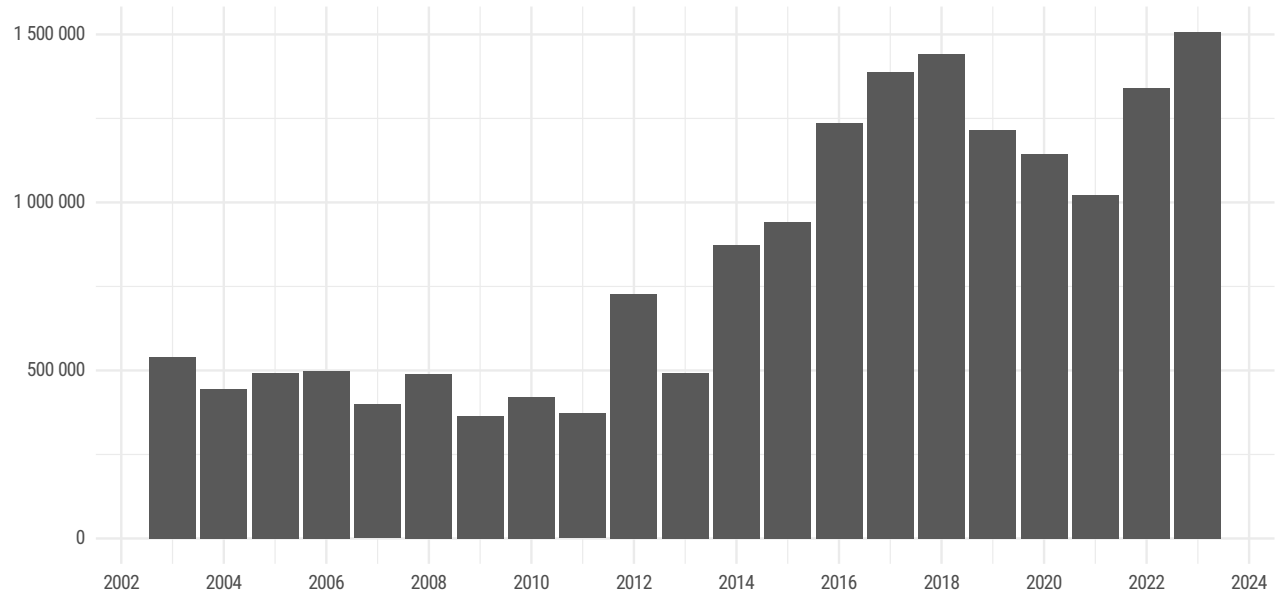## Number of items per year published on the English-language version of mid.ru
Based on 25 943 items published between 4 January 2003 and 31 December 2023

Number of words per year published on the English-language version of mid.ru
Based on 25 943 items published between 4 January 2003 and 31 December 2023
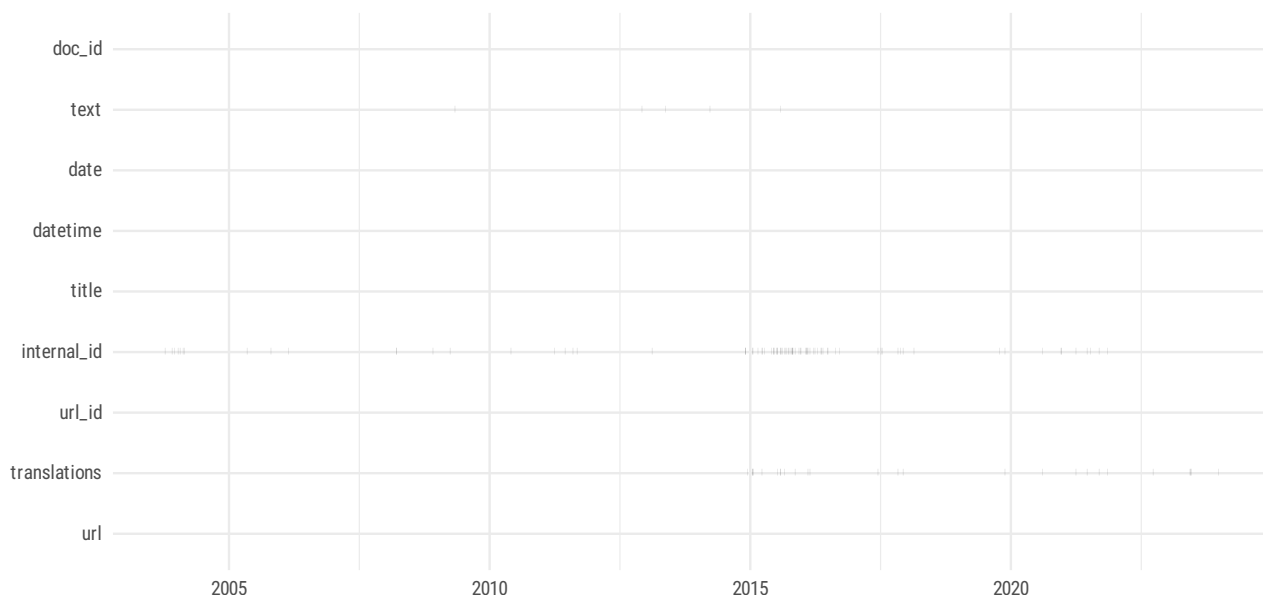
Missing data

field	present	missing	missing_share
doc_id	25 943	0	0.0%
text	25 938	5	0.0%
date	25 943	0	0.0%
datetime	25 943	0	0.0%
title	25 943	0	0.0%
internal_id	25 856	87	0.3%
url_id	25 943	0	0.0%
translations	25 917	26	0.1%
url	25 943	0	0.0%

Missing metadata on the English-language version of mid.ru

A thin line represents an empty field

Source: Giorgio Comai / tadadit.xyz / mid.ru_en_2024

Narrative explanation of how this textual dataset was built

The website of Russia's MFA makes it possible to search in its news section by date. All index pages for each date starting with earliest publications have been retrieved. In the few occasions when more than 20 items were published on the same day, a second page for the relevant day was also retrieved. Here is an example of such an index page:

- https://www.mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/?activeFrom=22.09.2011&activeTo=22.09.2011

Direct links to news items were extracted from these pages.

The corpus includes the limited metadata available through the website, namely:

- title
- date and time of publication
- an internal id which is included in almost all posts (see note below)
- a list of the languages in which a given post has been published

Notes

This section lists some issues that may be of interest to users of this corpus

- Many items include the string: "Unofficial translation from Russian"
- Along with news, the MFA publishes items that detail the timing and accreditation rules for press briefings, see for example: https://mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1927386/. As these do no not include substantive contents, they are not included in the dataset.
- Almost all news items are published with an identifier, e.g. "1383-22-09-2011" for this item. In a few dozens of instances the identifier is missing, and in a handful it is not unique. As a consequence, the numeric component of the url is likely preferable as the main unique identifier.
- The Russian-language version of this corpus has a significantly larger number of publications.
- There are 5 items with empty text fields, they are listed below. Indeed, they simply include no text besides the title or include just a link to an external file (not included in this corpus).

date	url
2009-05-05	https://mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1711875/
2012-12-06	https://mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1653435/
2013-05-21	https://mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1587812/
2014-03-28	https://mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1709087/
2015-08-05	https://mid.ru/en/foreign_policy/news/1512649/

License information

The page on the conditions for the use of website contents makes clear that contents can be used for research purposes and can be re-published, as long as reference is always made

to the website of the MFA.

> Materials on the website of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs are gener-ally accessible and open for non-commercial use (personal, family, education, research, etc.).

> Their reprinting, as well as any quoting in the mass media is allowed only with a reference to the website of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a source of the information.

No specific license is however mentioned.

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Funding and disclaimers

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The views expressed are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.