

PolPaL (Political Party Links)

Tutorial “Curating Entities”

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Introduction

PolPaL entities are **unique identifiable entities** within the PolPaL database.

They are **central for harmonizing and linking** external party observations.

This tutorial explains how to **create**, **update**, and **delete** PolPaL entities and **manage** their **additional information**.

PolPaL entity (Basic Information)

Create, Update, and Delete

PolPaL entity – Basic Information

Variable	Content	Note	
PolPaL ID	Unique numerical identifier, automatically assigned	PolPaL ID can never be edited! If PolPaL ID gets deleted, the same PolPaL ID cannot be assigned to a new PolPaL entity again.	
Name Short	Current or latest abbreviation of the PolPaL entity in its original language (e.g., *SPD*).	If no abbreviation is known, create one following country specific conventions. Please refrain from including special characters except they are specifically part of the abbreviation (e.g., *+E* for the Italian political party *More Europe*).	Should the PolPaL entity adopt multiple names over its lifespan, only list the current or latest name. Do not append multiple names with a separator in between. Additional and previous names can be recorded under "Additional Names" (e.g., see PolPaL entity *690*, the *Moderate Party* in Sweden adopted various names during its lifespan, among others, *General Electoral League* and *The Right*).
Name English	Current or latest English name of the PolPaL entity (e.g., *Social Democratic Party of Germany*).	If no English name is known, translate from original language into English. Please refrain from including special characters except they are specifically part of the English name (e.g., *Let's Get Serbia Moving*).	
Name	Current or latest name of the PolPaL entity in its original language (e.g., *Sozialdemokratische Partei Deutschlands*).	Names should be in its romanized form (e.g., for the *Communist Party of China* the original name *中国共产党* should be written as *Zhōngguó Gòngchǎndǎng)*. If multiple languages are considered the original language, chose one and add the other name as "*Additional Name*".	
Entity Type	The entity type of the PolPaL entity. • **Party** • **Grouping** • **Unassigned**	**See '*PolPaL entities – Entity Types*' at the next page!** The PolPaL entity types *Independent*, *Others, Residual*, and *Unknown* can not be selected (only Administrators have the option). These are the "entity types" for special PolPaL entities which are available across all countries.	
Wikipedia URL	The full URL of the Wikipedia page of the PolPaL entity.	**Preferably the English Wikipedia page**. If an English Wikipedia page is not available, choose the Wikipedia page in the original country language. **Do not** use extended Wikipedia URLs that refer to or highlight a specific part of the Wikipedia page (e.g., *https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_Democratic_Party_of_Germany**#Election_results***). **Do not** insert other URLs than Wikipedia URLs. **Do not** insert Wikipedia URLs that refer to other Wikipedia pages than the one of the PolPaL entity (e.g., do not refer to the Wikipedia URL of a national election in which the PolPaL entity took part).	
Wikidata ID	The Wikidata ID of the PolPaL entity (e.g., *Q49768*)	Only the *Q-code* of the Wikidata ID, not the entire Wikidata URL!	
Comment	Comment for additional notes regarding the PolPaL entity.	The comment field should be used for unclear cases that need **further discussions**, **clarifications**, or a **clear distinction** from other PolPaL entities. If additional information is provided, please insert your reference in APA style at the end of the comment.	

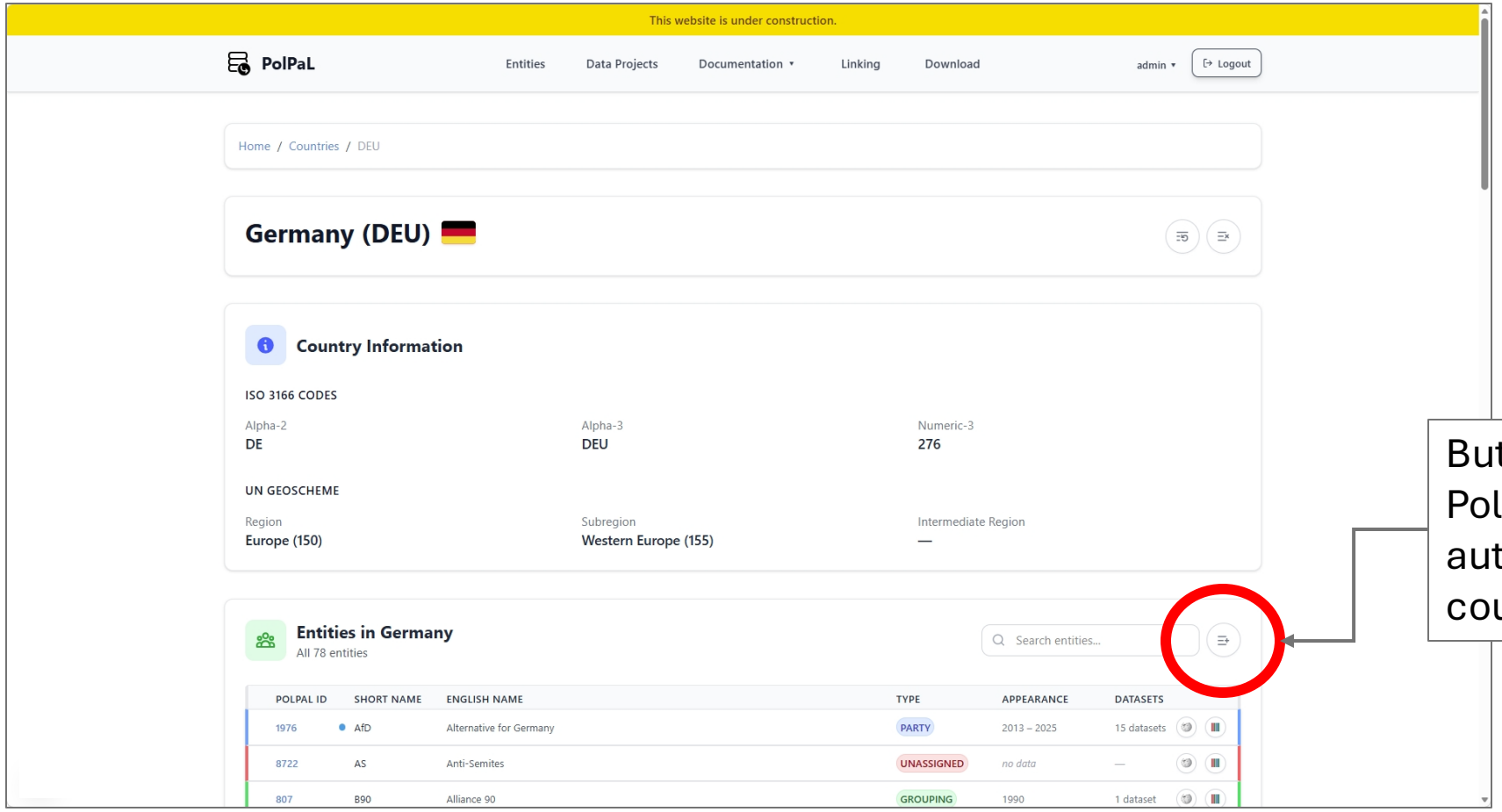
PolPaL entities – Entity Types

Type	Definition	Clarification/Coding
Party	"A political party is an identifiable collective political actor whose continuity can be traced across time through organizational, electoral, ideological, parliamentary, or governmental attributes."	**1. Collective organization** • It is more than an individual candidate or temporary personal label. **2. Recognizable identity** • It has a name, label, organization, leadership, program, or other marker allowing it to be distinguished from other actors. **3. Temporal and territorial location** • Its existence is recorded for a particular country or political territory and period. **4. Cross-dataset traceability** • At least one reliable source identifies the actor; other datasets may then be linked to it. The actor need not satisfy every condition in every year. A party may contest elections in one period, hold parliamentary seats in another, and survive mainly as an organization during a third period.
Grouping	"A political grouping is an identifiable, party-level collective actor with a recognized membership boundary composed of two or more distinct political parties, an explicit or institutionalized basis for collective action, and activity beyond the mere co-occurrence of its member parties."	**Do not** code a PolPaL grouping from joint presence, joint measurement, or joint behavior alone. Code it only when the political parties are connected by a recognized group-level identity, institution, or intentional coordination arrangement. Examples for possible observations that **do not** fulfil the definition of a PolPaL grouping: • ***One person belongs to multiple parties or organizations (e.g., CHISOLS)*** ➢ *Person-level affiliation → Multiple PolPaL parties* • ***Several parties compose a government*** ➢ *Party–cabinet or party–government relations → Multiple PolPaL parties* • ***Several parties appear as survey response options (e.g., WVS)*** ➢ *Survey instrument metadata → Multiple PolPaL parties* • ***A respondent names multiple parties they feel close to*** ➢ *Respondent-level party proximity → Multiple PolPaL parties* • ***Two parties vote for the same bill*** ➢ *Legislative voting behavior or issue-specific cooperation → Multiple PolPaL parties* • ***Parties have similar ideological positions*** ➢ *Ideological similarity or party-position data → Multiple PolPaL parties* • ***Parties are mentioned together in a document*** ➢ *Textual co-occurrence → Multiple PolPaL parties* • ***One party forms its own parliamentary group.*** ➢ *Parliamentary manifestation of that party; no separate grouping → Multiple PolPaL parties*
Unassigned	The entity type of the PolPaL entity has not been assigned yet.	This is the standard assignment of all PolPaL entities at the beginning.

PolPaL entities – Create/Update/Delete

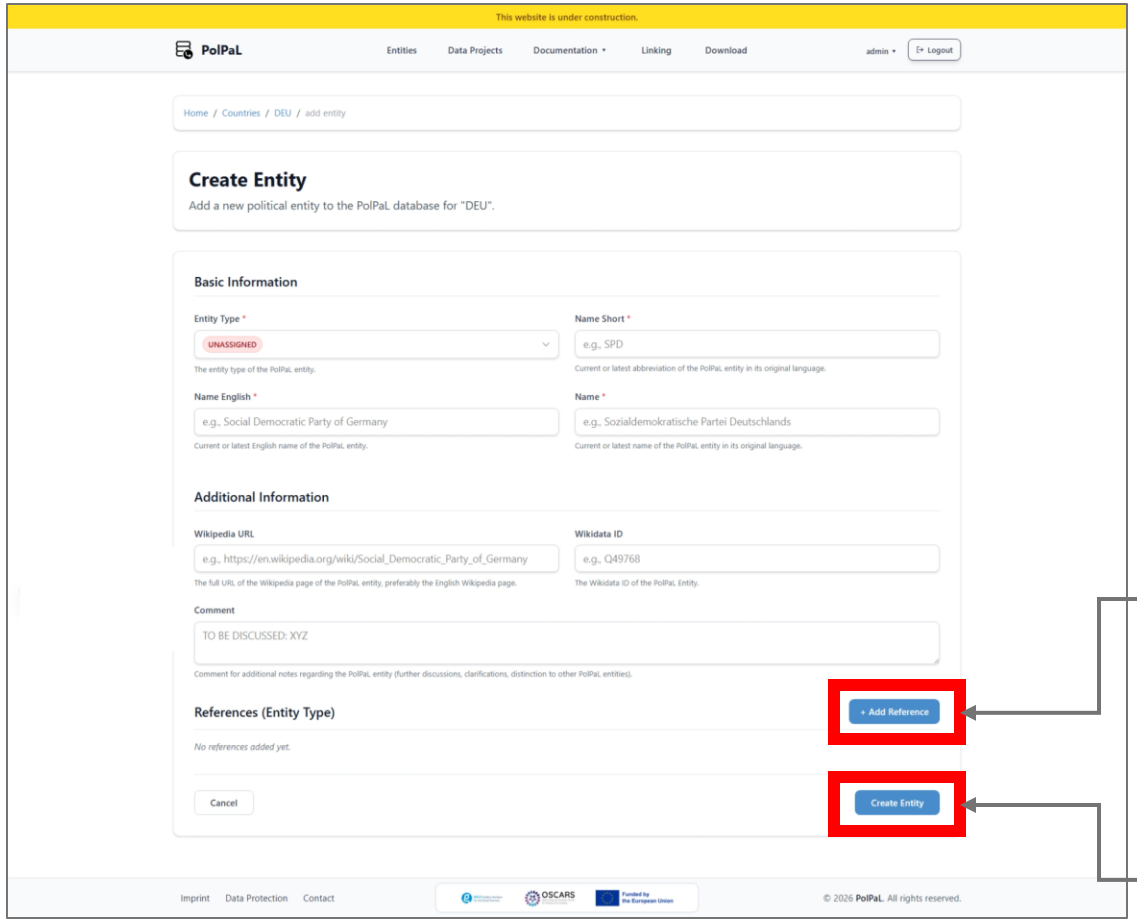
Action	Roles		Note
CREATE	ADMIN DATAMANAGER EDITOR	A new PolPaL entity should only be created if the user is certain that the **PolPaL entity does not exist already** in the database. The user should **check the existing PolPaL entities** for the relevant country first, afterwards the list of all PolPaL entities. Only then the user should create a new PolPaL entity.	CONTRIBUTOR can request the creation of new PolPaL entities via the ticket system.
UPDATE	ADMIN DATAMANAGER EDITOR CONTRIBUTOR	An existing PolPaL entity should only be updated in order to **correct and update the existing information** and to **add missing information**.	Please make sure to double-check that the newly created information is indeed correct or better than the old version before making changes. You might have to discuss changes with another PolPaL team member to be on the save side.
DELETE	ADMIN DATAMANAGER EDITOR	An existing PolPaL entity should only be deleted if it was just created by mistake. Don't delete if: ➢ the PolPaL entity exists in another country already. ➢ the PolPaL entity is equal to another PolPaL entity within the same country but with different name. ➢ the PolPaL entity is originally taken from Party Facts In those cases, the 'wrong' PolPaL entity should be set '*hidden*' by a user with the role ADMIN or DATAMANAGER with a comment providing the reason.	CONTRIBUTOR can request the deletion/hiding of existing PolPaL entities via the ticket system.

PolPaL entities – Create (1/2)



Button for creating a new PolPaL entity: the entity is automatically assigned to the country in which it is created.

PolPaL entities – Create (2/2)



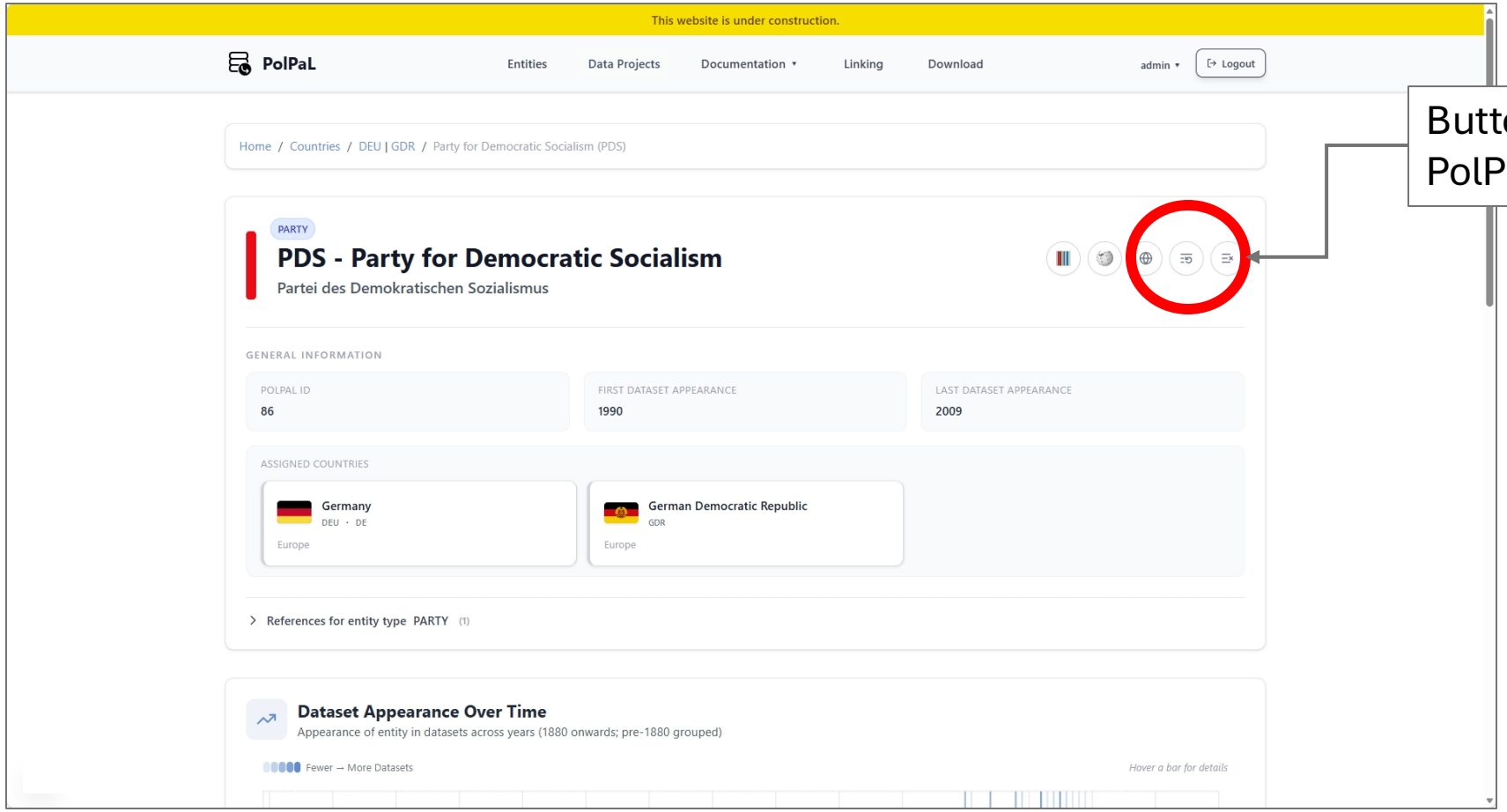
1. Select entity type and fill out the required fields
2. Add references for the entity type
3. Create new PolPaL entity

Button for adding references, which should be added in APA style when the entity type is selected.



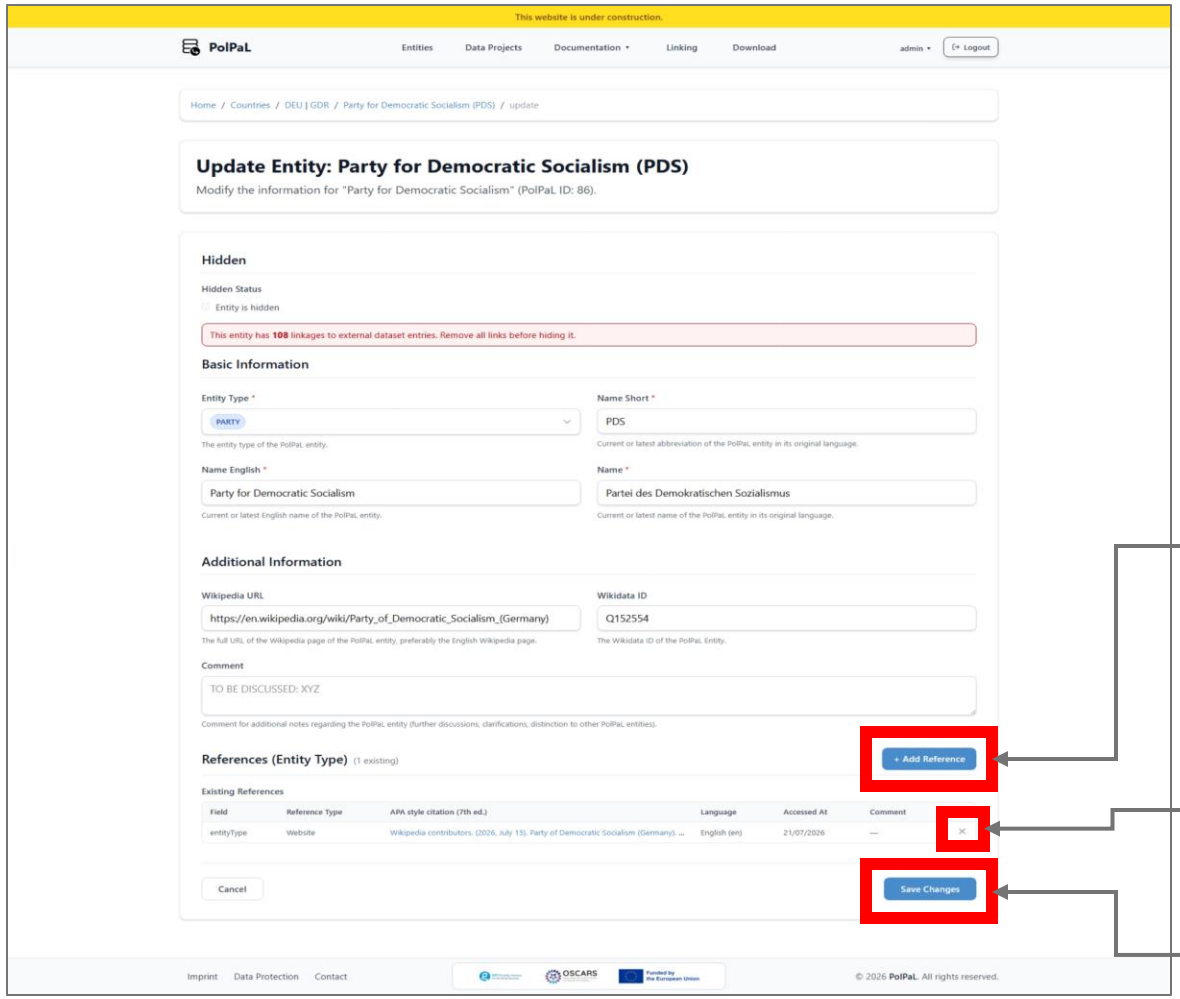
Button for creating the new PolPaL entity

PolPaL entities – Update (1/2)



Button for updating an existing PolPaL entity

PolPaL entities – Update (2/2)



1. Update/Add information
2. Update/Add references for the entity type
3. Save changes

('*Hidden*' section only available for ADMIN and DATAMANAGER)

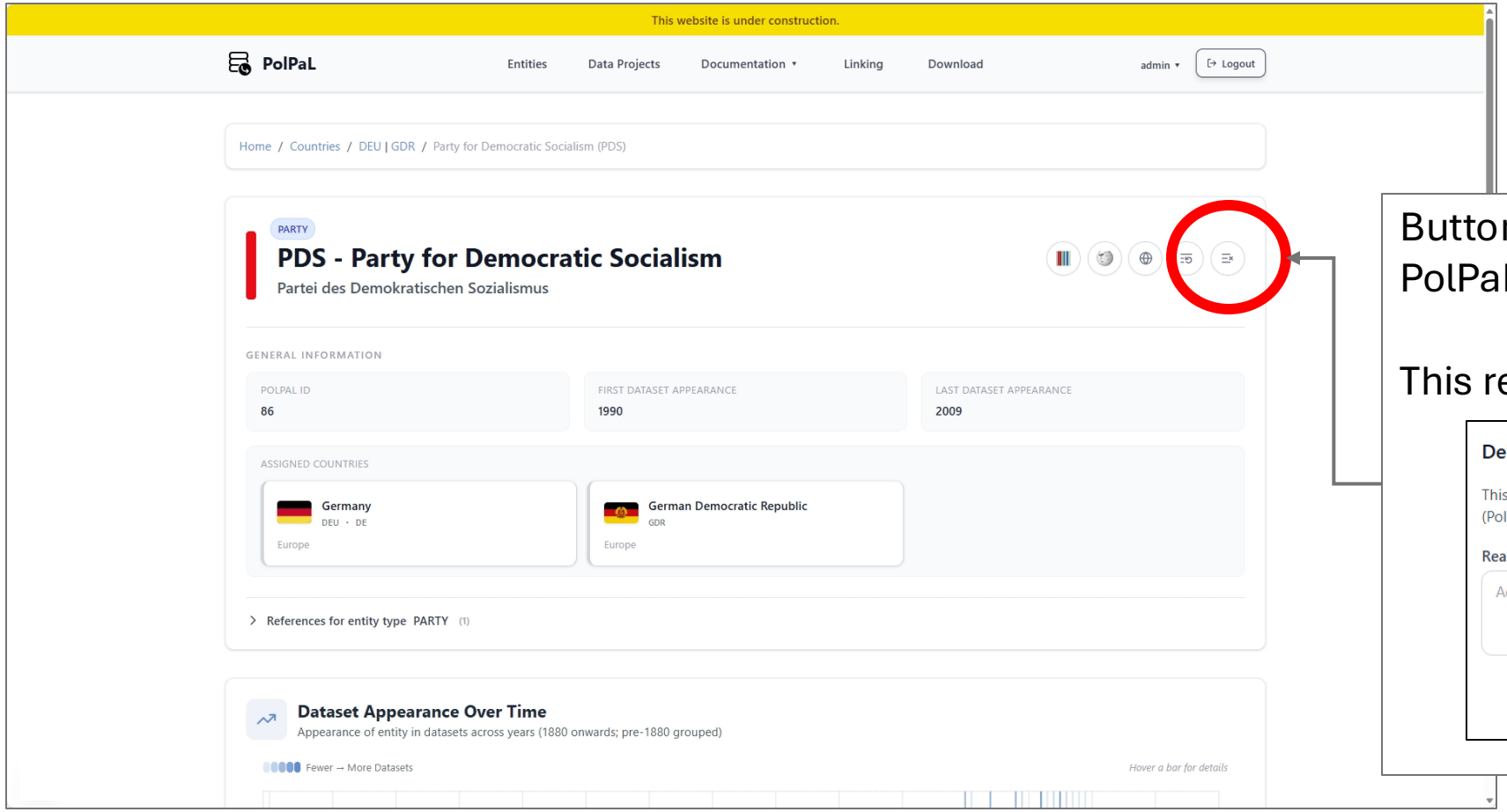
Button for adding references, which should be added in APA style when the entity type is selected.



Button for deleting existing reference(s)

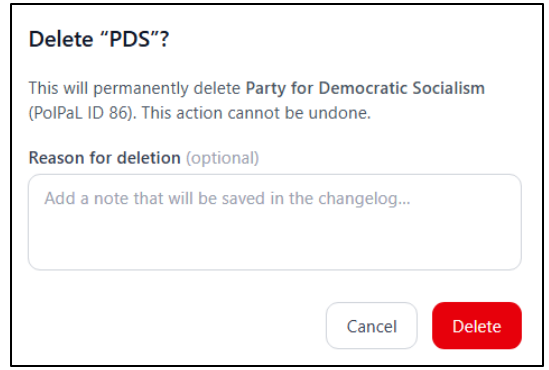
Button for saving the changes

PolPaL entities – Delete



Button for deleting an existing PolPaL entity

This requires confirmation:



PolPaL entity (Additional Information)

Additional Names, Party Changes, Grouping Memberships, and Country Assignments

PolPaL entities – Additional Information

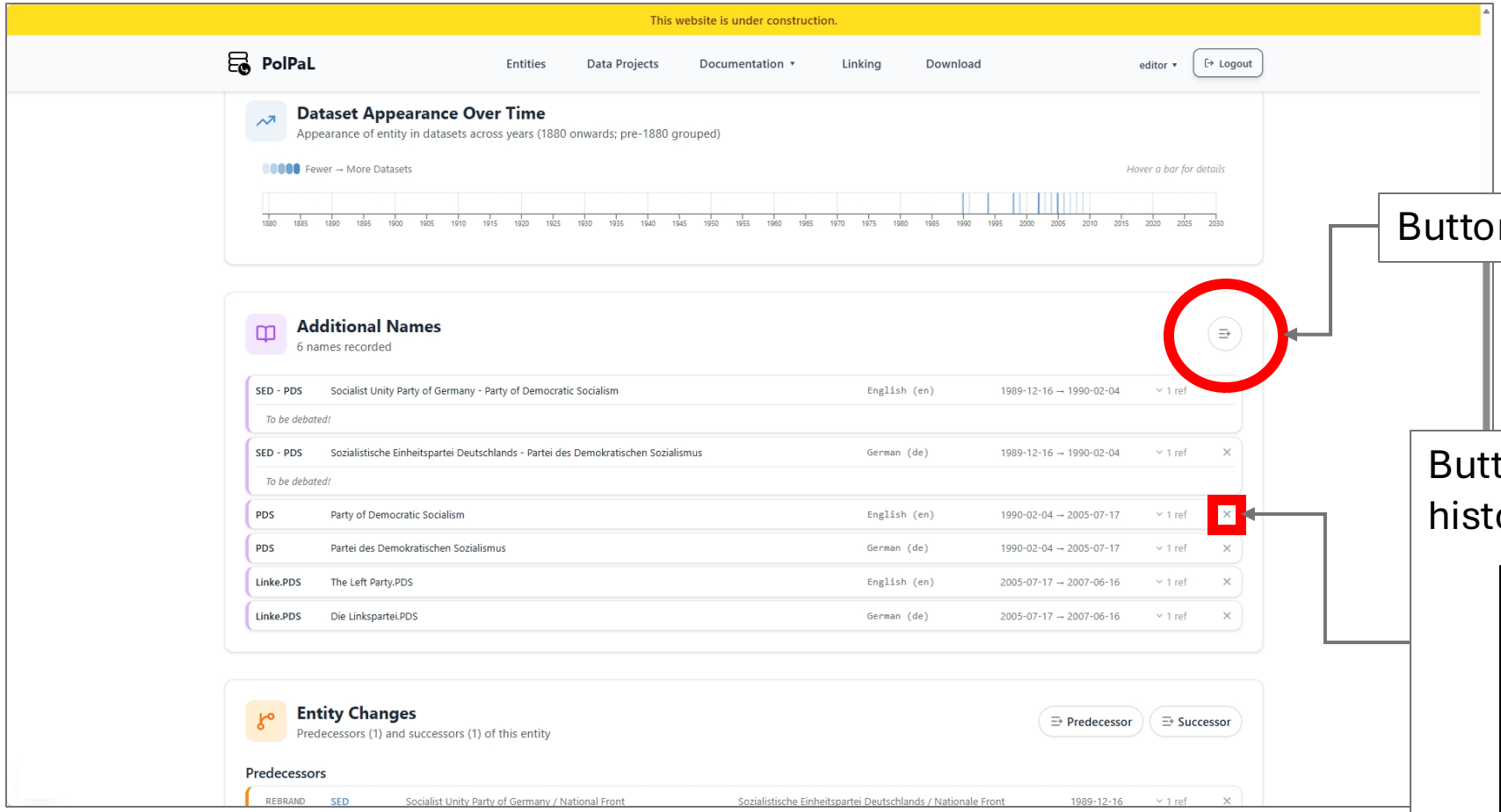
Type	Roles	Context
Additional Names	ADMIN DATAMANAGER EDITOR CONTRIBUTOR	Additional names are the **names adopted** by the PolPaL entity or by which it was **commonly known** during its lifespan. This can also be the English translation of the previously adopted name in its original language. If available, provide the timespan during which the name was adopted (timespans can overlap!). Enter only one name per entry! If the original name is not written in the Latin alphabet, create one entry for the original version and one entry for the romanized version.
Party Changes	ADMIN DATAMANAGER EDITOR CONTRIBUTOR	Party changes are information about **relationships between PolPaL entities of the type '*Party*'**. This is only available for entities of the type **'*Party*'**.
Grouping Memberships	ADMIN DATAMANAGER EDITOR CONTRIBUTOR	**PolPaL entities of the type '*Party*' can be members of PolPaL entities of the type 'G*rouping*'.** Adding this information allows for detailed linking of external datasets on parties and groupings. PolPaL entities of the type '*Grouping*' cannot be members of other PolPaL *Groupings*!
Country Assignments	ADMIN DATAMANAGER EDITOR	Note that a PolPaL entity can be assigned to more than one country.

Additional Names

Additional Names (1/3)

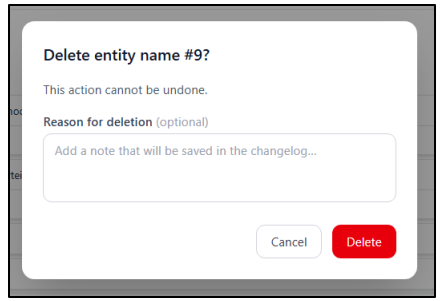
Variable	Content	Note
Language	Language code of the name (ISO 639-3:2007 code).	If the language code is not available, select the English language code and write a brief comment.
Short Name	Abbreviation of the name.	If no abbreviation is known, create one following country specific conventions. Please refrain from including special characters except they are specifically part of the abbreviation (e.g., *+E* for the Italian political party *More Europe*).
Full Name	Name of the PolPaL entity.	Enter only one name per entry! If the original name is not written in the Latin alphabet, create one entry for the original version and one entry for the romanized version.
Start/End Date	Year, Month, Day for the period the name was adopted.	As precise as possible. Leave out '*End Date*' information if the entity is still using the name.
Comment	Additional comment about the name.	Please add a brief comment if deemed necessary.

Additional Names (2/3)

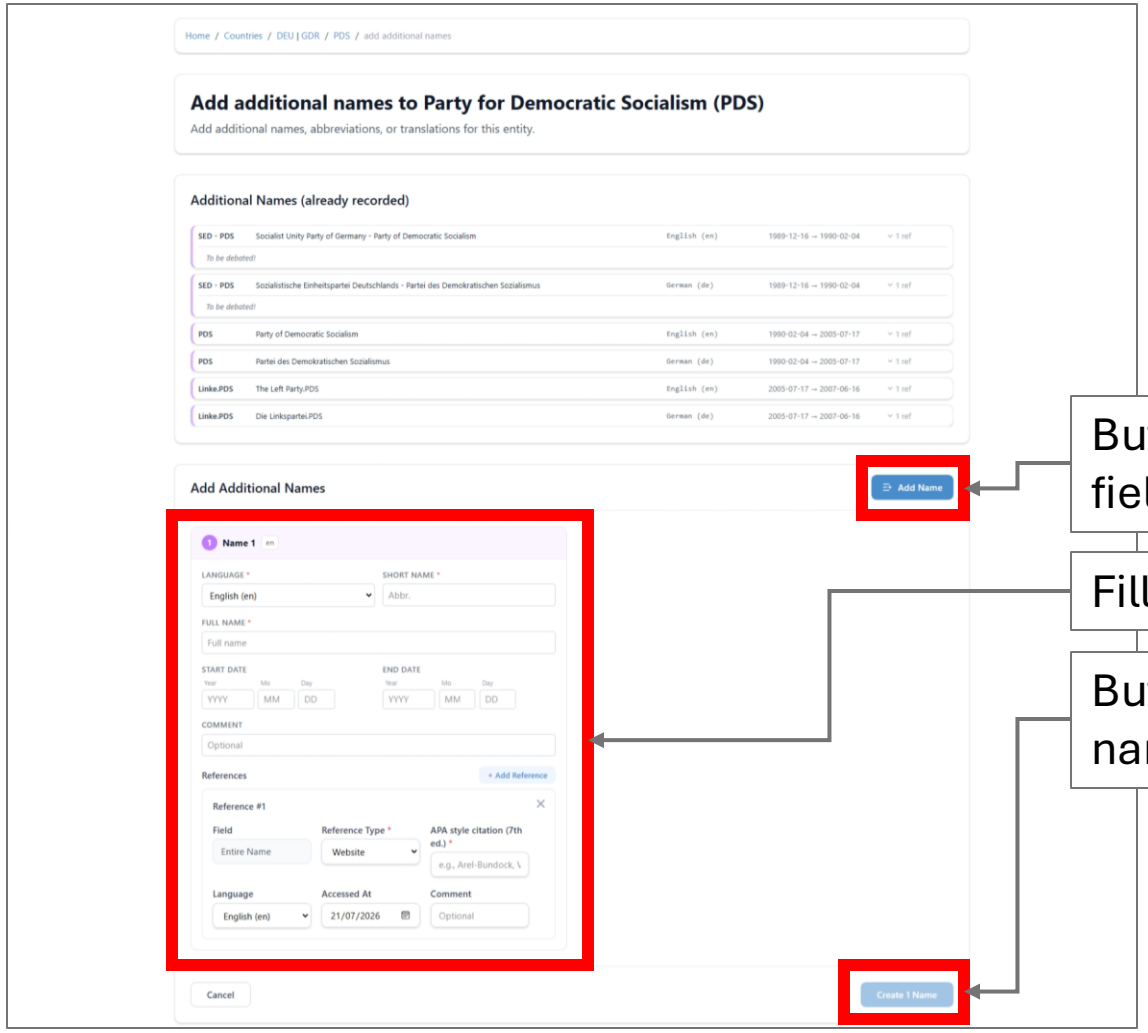


Button for adding historical names

Button for deleting existing historical name



Additional Names (3/3)



Button for adding another name field

Fill out relevant information

Button for creating the historical names

Party Changes

Party Changes (1/4)

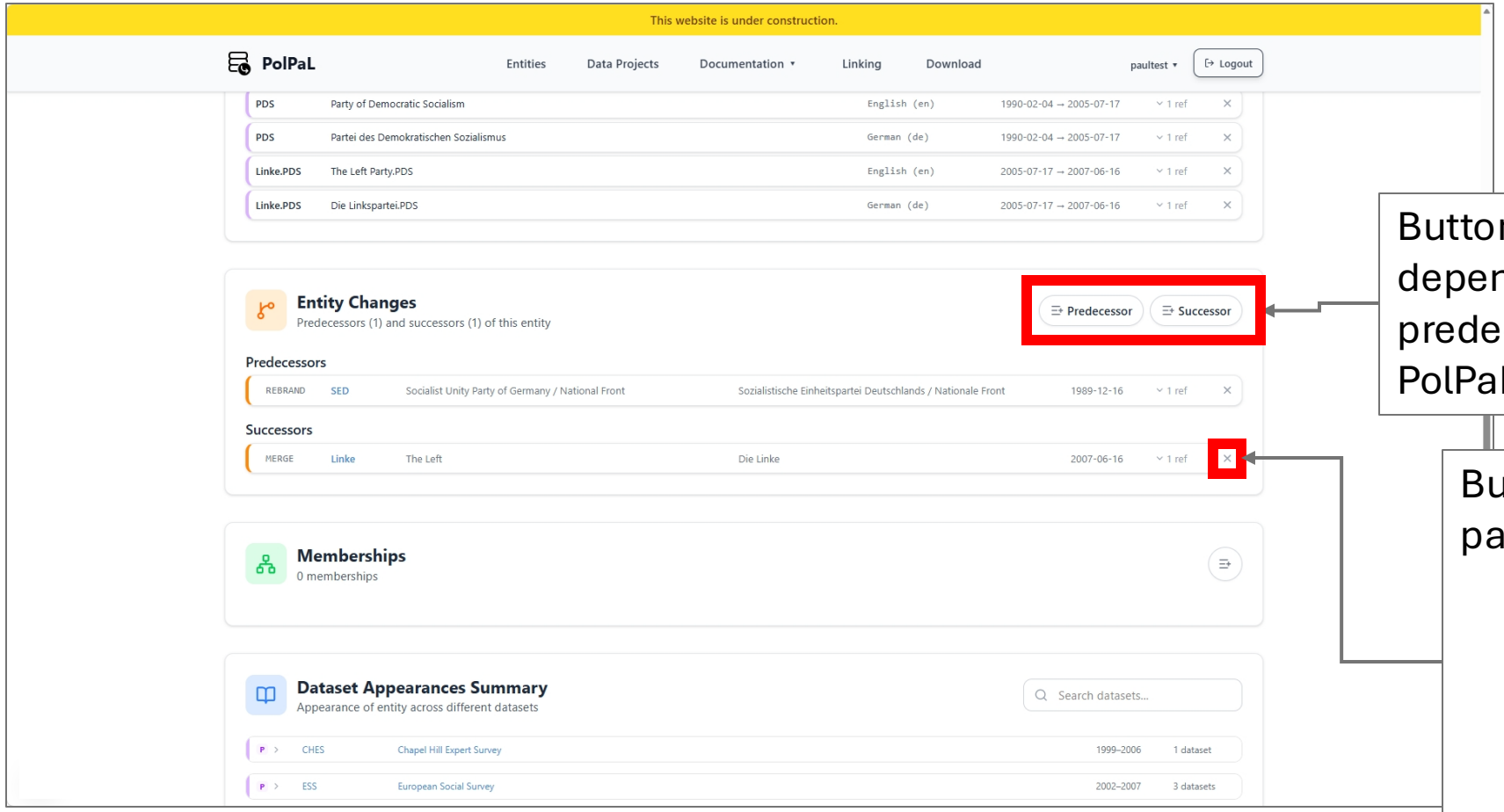
Variable	Content	Note
Change Type	Type of the party change.	See Party Change types on the next slide!
Date	Year, Month, Day on which the party change occurred.	Be as precise as possible, at least the year is required!
Comment	Additional comment explaining the party change (if deemed necessary).	

Please also add the relevant references in APA style for the party change!

Party Changes (2/4)

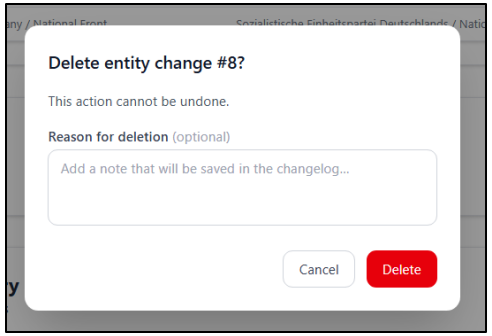
Change Type	Definition
SPLIT	A significant number of members of a political party are leaving the party and forming a new party. The former political party continues to exist.
Merge	(1) One political party joins into another political party and ceases to exist in its original form. (2) Two or more political parties join to form a new party. The former political parties cease to exist.
SPLIT_MERGE	(1) A significant number of members of a political party are leaving the party and joining another party. The original political party either continues or ceases to exist. (2) A significant number of members of two or more political parties leave their respective parties and form a new party together. The original political parties either continue or cease to exist.
REBRAND	A political party restructures its party organization. This constitutes more than a formal change of the party name. The former political party ceases to exist.
UNKNOWN	Choose this category when information is available regarding a party change, but it is unclear in what form and to what extent the change has occurred.

Party Changes (3/4)



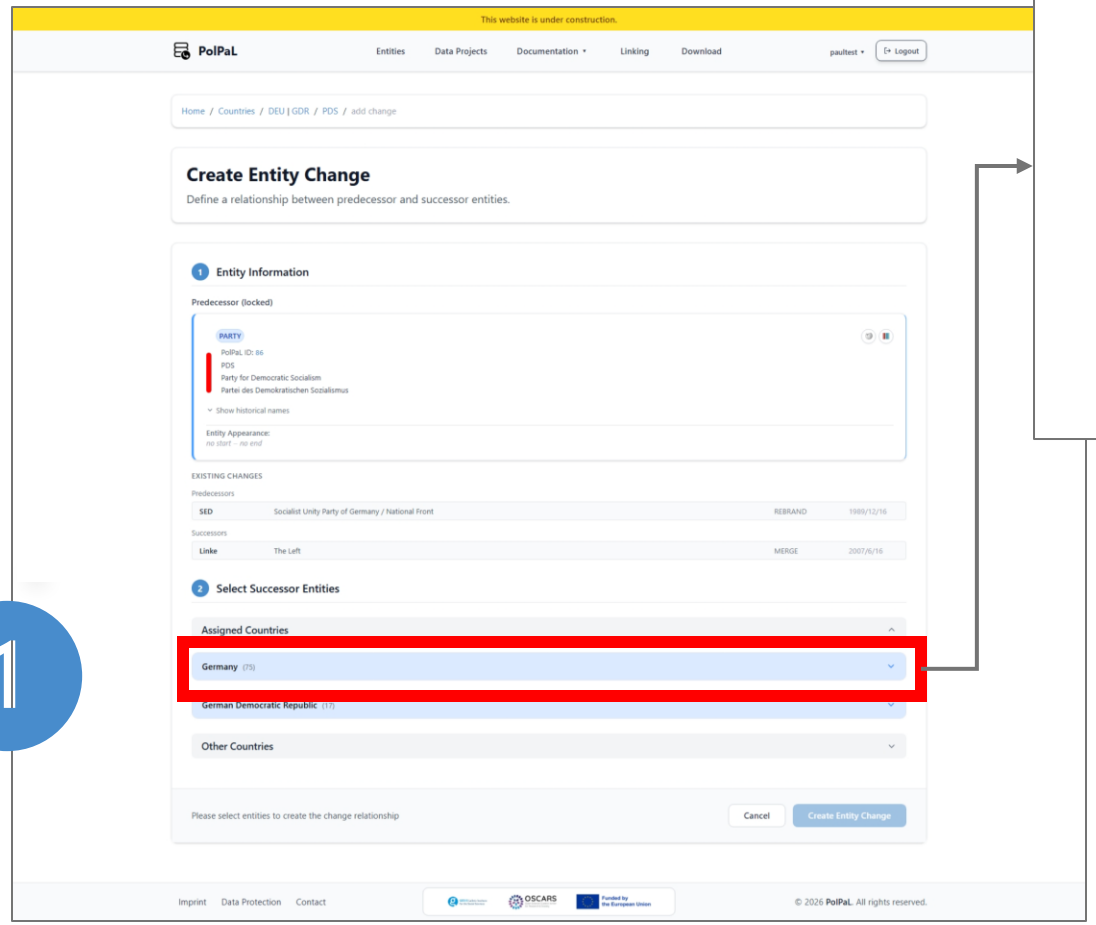
Buttons for adding party change: depending on the button, a predecessor or successor of the PolPaL party can be added.

Button for deleting existing party changes



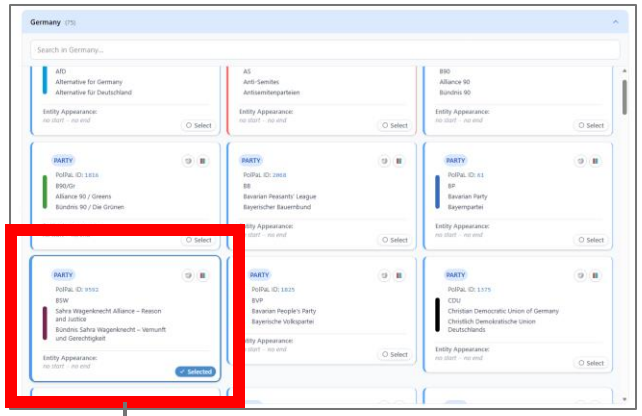
Party Changes (4/4)

1

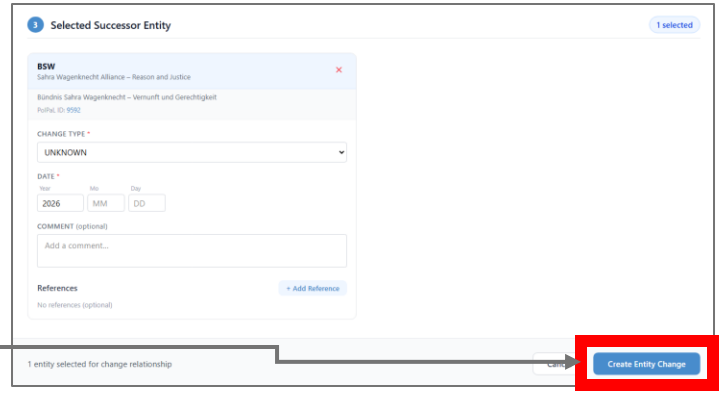


Select the country of the predecessor/successor:

2



Select one or more PolPaL '*Parties*' and fill out required information:



3

Button for creating the additional names

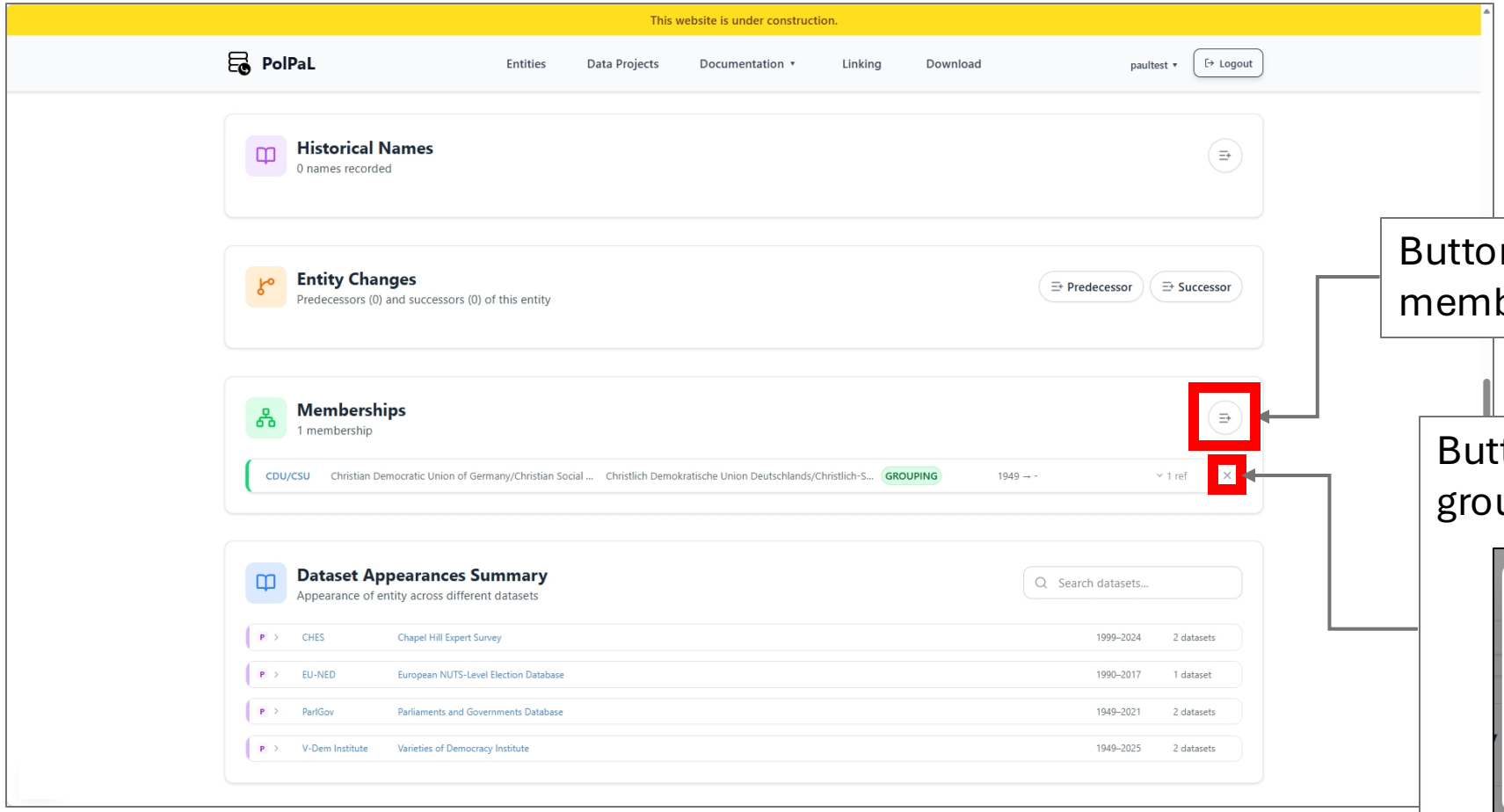
Grouping Memberships

Grouping Memberships (1/3)

Variable	Content	Note
Start/End Date	Year, Month, Day for the period the PolPaL 'Party' was member of the PolPaL 'Grouping'.	As precise as possible. Leave out '*End Date*' information if membership is still active.
Comment	Additional comment explaining the membership (if deemed necessary).	

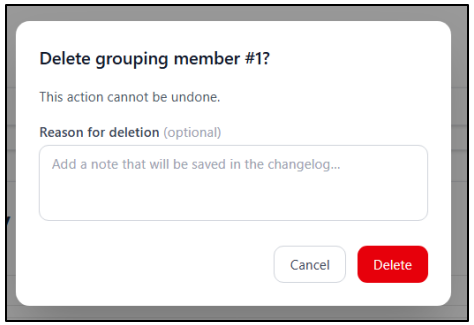
Please also add the relevant references in APA style for the membership!

Grouping Memberships (2/3)



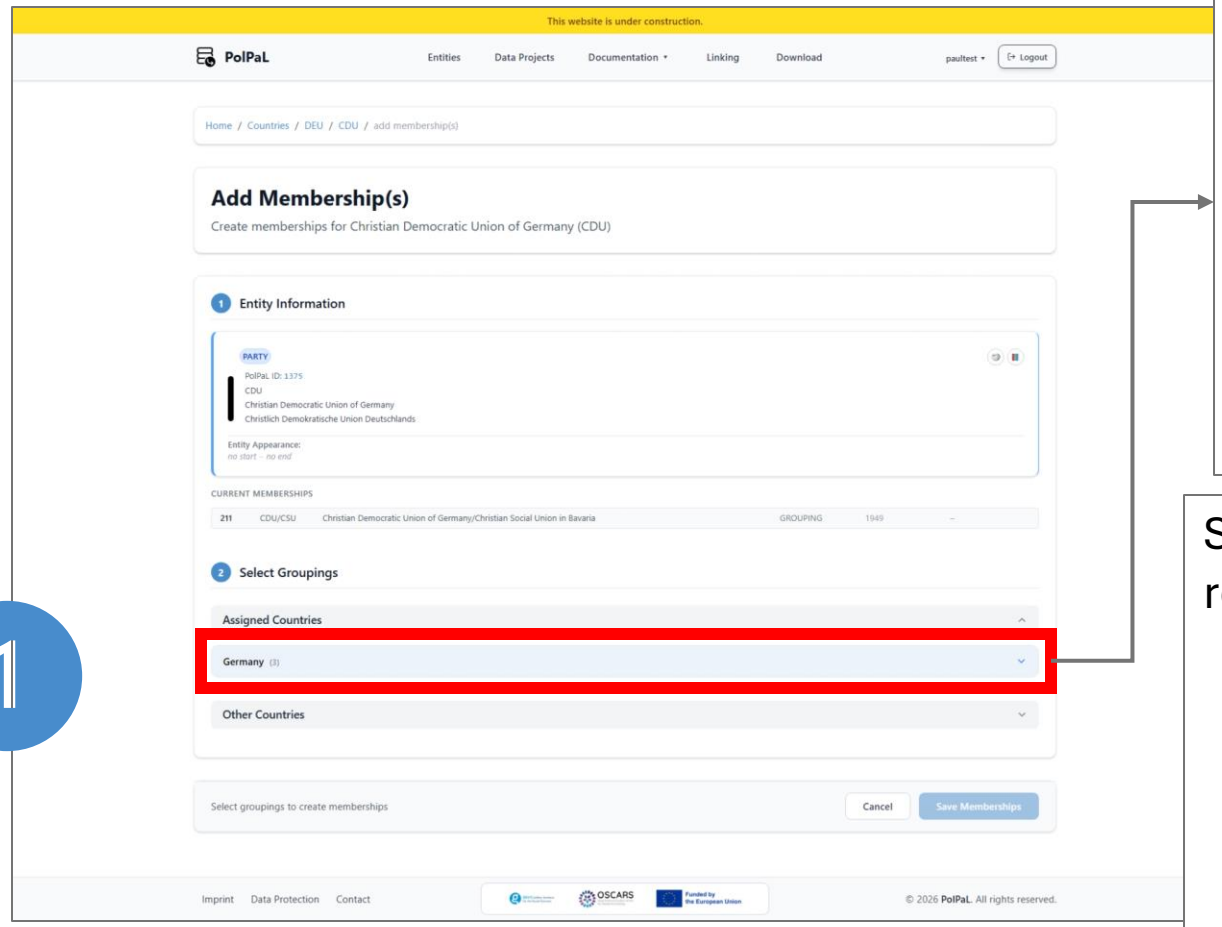
Buttons for adding grouping membership

Button for deleting existing grouping membership



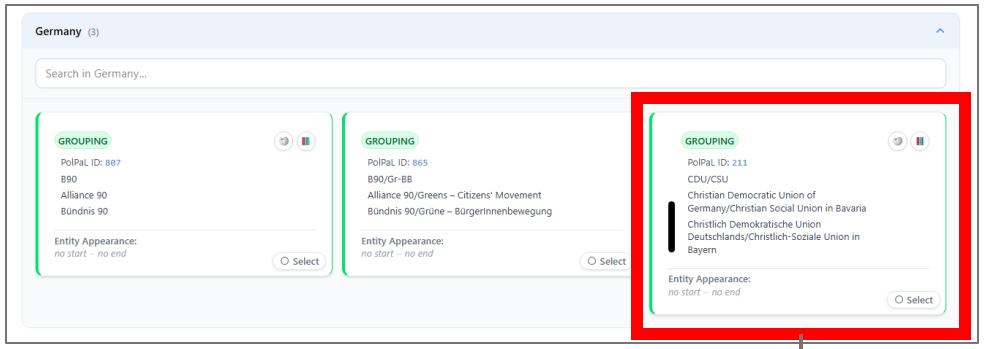
Grouping Memberships (3/3)

1



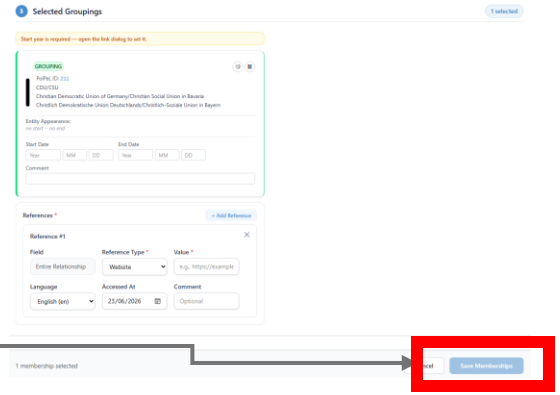
2

Select the country of the PolPaL '*Grouping*' the PolPaL '*Party*' is member of:



3

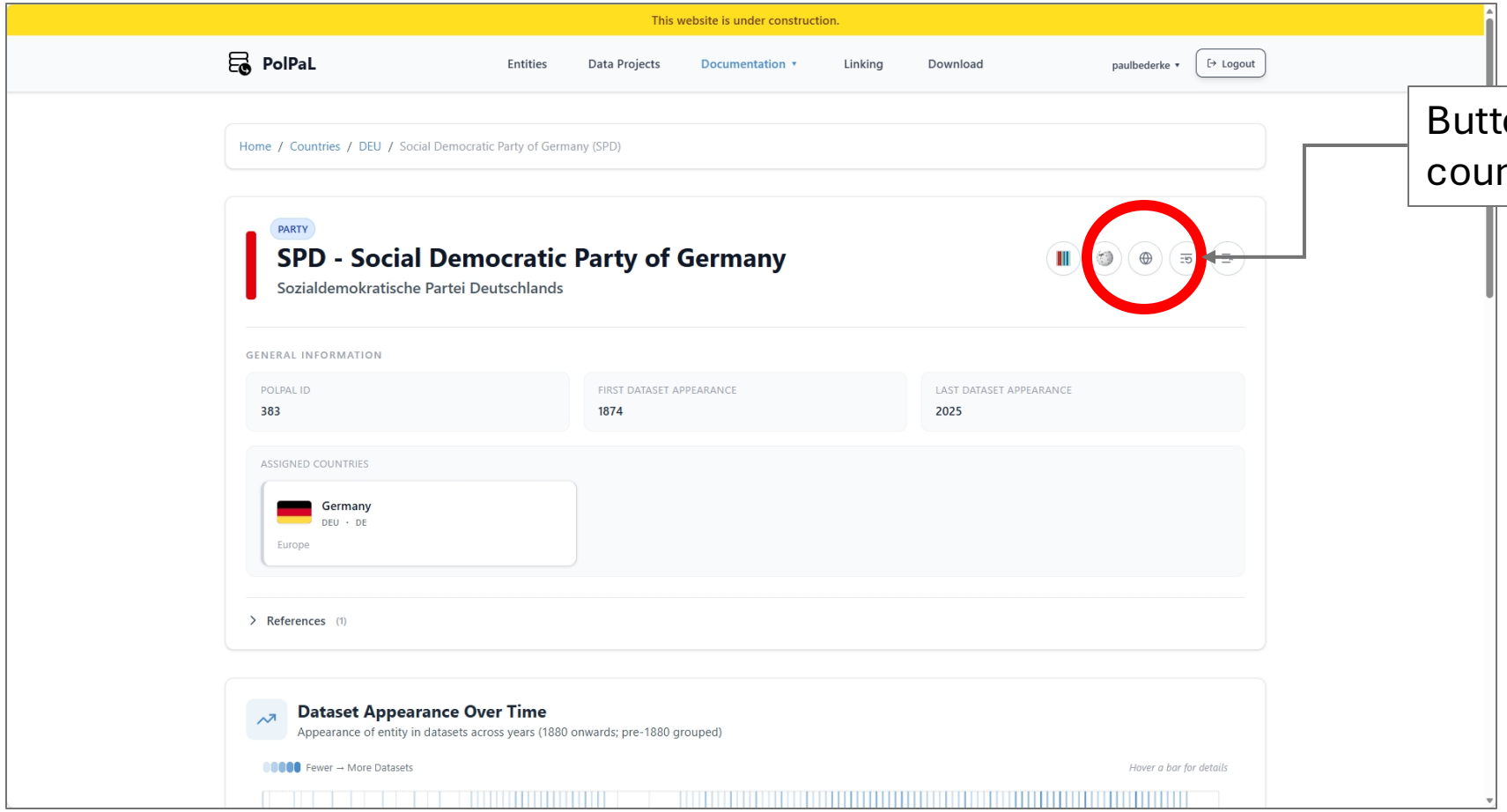
Select one or more PolPaL '*Groupings*' and fill out required information:



Button for creating the grouping memberships

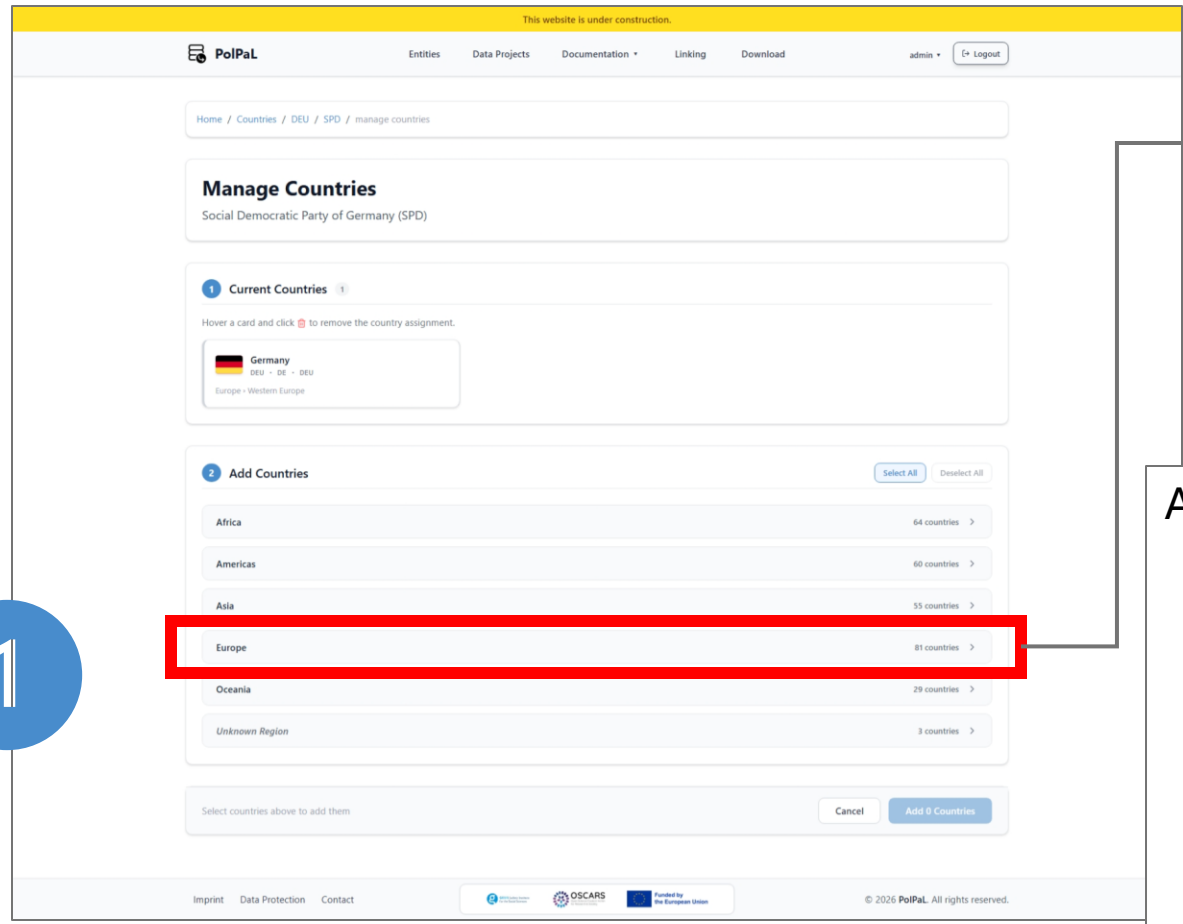
Country Assignments

Country Assignment (1/2)



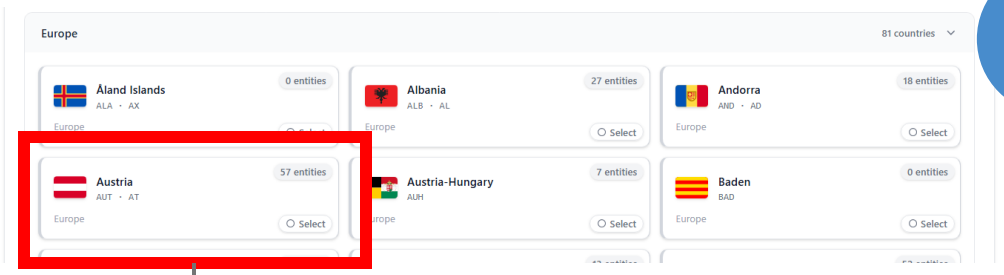
Button for assigning additional countries to the PolPaL entity

Country Assignment (2/2)



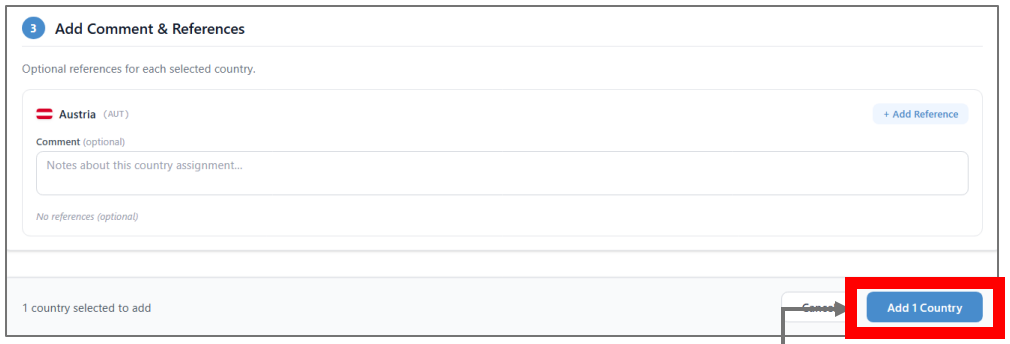
1

Select the region of the country the PolPaL entity should be assigned to:



2

Add a comment and a reference if needed:



3

Button for creating the country assignment

If something is unclear, please discuss with another PolPaL Team Member!

lea.kaftan@gesis.org or paulbederke@ps.au.dk