

SOIL Discuss., referee comment RC1
<https://doi.org/10.5194/soil-2021-16-RC1>, 2021
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Comment on soil-2021-16

Anonymous Referee #1

Referee comment on "Application of the governance disruptions framework to German agricultural soil policy" by Bartosz Bartkowski et al., SOIL Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/soil-2021-16-RC1>, 2021

The paper describes the application of the so-called GDF to the German legislation about soil in the light of SDG and the European Green Deal.

The subject is interesting and the various aspects of soil protection are covered. However, the paper fails to address one major problem of all legislative attempts to apply a soil protection law which is the lack of data. It is not very useful to invoke to "explicitly and directly address all soil functions and the interactions between them" when science is far from attain such a target or even defining it.

More space should be given to the root problem of the scarcity and quality of data which is, after all, the very reason why soil is neglected in the legislations. The difficulties in obtaining the data and their variability should be taken into account and duly commented upon.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://soil.copernicus.org/preprints/soil-2021-16/soil-2021-16-RC1-supplement.pdf>