



Getting started with **EUR-Lex**

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu>

European Commission
Publications Office
EUR-Lex





Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION	5
1.1	History, content and basic concepts	5
1.2	Global structure — the sectors	6
1.2.1	Treaties	6
1.2.2	International agreements	7
1.2.3	Legislation	7
1.2.4	Complementary legislation	7
1.2.5	Preparatory acts	7
1.2.6	EU case-law	8
1.2.7	National implementing measures	8
1.2.8	National case-law	8
1.2.9	Parliamentary questions	9
1.2.10	Consolidated legislation	9
1.2.11	Other documents published in the C series of the Official Journal	9
1.2.12	EFTA documents	9
2.	HOMEPAGE	10
2.1	Items present on all pages	11
2.1.1	Top of page — language menu, toolbar, search, back to homepage, breadcrumb	11
2.1.2	Horizontal menu giving access to the content	11
2.1.3	Bottom of page — quick access	12
2.1.4	access to My EUR-Lex (also available on the right of the EUR-Lex homepage: see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 —reference 2.1.5).Central part — icons	12
2.1.5	Right menu — My EUR-Lex, RSS feeds, web services, social media, etc.	12
2.2	Items available only on the homepage	13
2.2.1	Quick search box	13
2.2.2	Editorial text and information	13
2.2.3	Left menu	13
2.2.4	Homepage widgets	14
2.2.4.1	‘Recently published’ widget	15
2.2.4.2	‘See also’ widget	15
2.2.4.3	‘Find results by’ widget	15
3.	MY EUR-LEX	16
3.1	Why and how to register	16
3.2	How to sign in	16
3.3	Manage your user profile and preferences	17
3.4	Access to saved searches, items and RSS feeds	18
3.5	User community	18



4.	DIFFERENT LEVELS OF SEARCH	20
4.1	Quick search	20
4.2	Search with the 'Find results by' widget	21
4.3	Advanced search: the logic of the search fields	22
4.3.1	Search headings	25
4.3.1.1	Collection drop-down menu	25
4.3.1.2	Text search	26
4.3.1.3	Document reference	27
4.3.1.4	Author of the document	27
4.3.1.5	Search by CELEX number	28
4.3.1.6	Search by date	29
4.3.1.7	Published in the Official Journal	30
4.3.1.8	Theme	31
4.3.1.9	Documents related to a legislative procedure	32
4.4	Expert search	33
5.	SEARCH RESULTS	34
5.1	Refine a search using facets	35
5.2	Change the display of the results: sorting options and modification of the available metadata	36
5.3	Modify the search	36
5.4	Work with the results list	36
5.4.1	Select results	36
5.4.2	Save the search in My EUR-Lex	37
5.4.3	Create an RSS feed for a search	37
5.4.4	Export the results list	38
5.4.5	Use the search history	38
5.5	Work with an item: document or procedure	39
5.5.1	Access an item	39
5.5.1.1	Direct access to the text of an item	39
5.5.1.2	Access to data of an item	39
5.5.1.3	Visualisation: bibliographic notice and multilingual display	41
5.5.2	Save an item in My EUR-Lex	42
5.5.3	Bookmark an item	42
5.5.4	Ask a question about an item	43
5.5.5	Download the notice in XML	43
6.	BROWSE THE COLLECTIONS	44
6.1	Items common to all collections	44
6.1.1	Specific advanced search	45
6.1.2	Recently published	45



6.2	Collections with directories	45
6.3	Collections with peculiarities	46
6.3.1	Official Journal — direct access, special editions and authentic OJ	47
6.3.1.1	Direct access to the Official Journal	47
6.3.1.2	Access to the special editions of the Official Journal:	47
6.3.1.3	Access to the authentic Official Journal:	47
6.3.2	Preparatory acts — direct access to COM, JOIN and SWD documents.....	49
6.3.3	Case-law of the European Union — ECLI.....	50
6.3.3.1	Direct access.....	50
6.3.3.2	ECLI	50
6.3.4	Legislative procedures: use of the timeline	51
6.3.5	National law: national implementing measures, national case-law, N-Lex and JURE.....	52
6.3.5.1	National implementing measures	53
6.3.5.2	National case-law	54
6.3.5.3	N-Lex	55
6.3.5.4	JURE.....	55
6.3.6	Summaries of EU Legislation	56
7.	CONCLUSIONS.....	59



1. Introduction

EUR-Lex allows easy access to legislation and other public documents of the European Union in 24 languages.

EUR-Lex is a website managed by the Publications Office of the European Union for all the institutions of the Union.

Access to EUR-Lex is totally free and contains the following topics in the 24 official languages of the European Union:

- the Official Journal of the European Union (OJ);
- European Union law (treaties, directives, regulations, decisions, consolidated legislation, etc.);
- preparatory acts (legislative proposals, reports, Green and White Papers, etc.);
- case-law of the European Union (judgments, orders, etc.);
- international agreements;
- EFTA documents;
- other public documents.

The legislative procedures can also be consulted on EUR-Lex.

1.1 History, content and basic concepts

EUR-Lex, the European law information system, was officially launched on 1 November 2004 as a result of combining the previous EUR-Lex website and the European legislation database, CELEX. Terms like CELEX number or CELEX sector are still used in the new system.

The number of available documents is the largest for Dutch, French, German and Italian — the four official languages of the founding Member States. For the other languages, translations of the legislation in force at the time of accession and texts adopted after that date are provided. Some of the texts, especially the oldest ones, are not available in the languages of the later enlargements: Danish and English; Greek, Portuguese and Spanish; Finnish and Swedish; Czech, Estonian, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Slovak and Slovenian; Bulgarian and Romanian; and, most recently, Croatian.

Since 1 January 2007, Irish (GA) has been one of the official languages of the European Union. For practical reasons and for the time being, only the essential legislation adopted jointly by the European Parliament and the Council is available in Irish. There is no complete issue of the Official Journal in this language.

The website has evolved considerably since 2004 (in terms of design, navigation, integration of new languages due to the enlargement of the European Union, etc.). The new version of EUR-Lex contains many important improvements and functionalities, such as several levels of searches, a personal space (My EUR-Lex), RSS feeds, access to social media and a community of users which enables users to interact with each other.

The database, updated daily, contains more than 3 million items. Some texts date back to 1951.

It covers many types of texts issued by the institutions of the European Union, and also texts from the Member States, the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), etc. Each document is displayed with analytical metadata (publication references, dates, key words, etc.) and organised under different tabs:

- Bibliographic notice;
- Text;
- Linked documents;



- Procedure (life cycle of a document) (this tab is only available if a document is linked to a procedure);
- All (this tab integrates a simultaneous overview of all the other tabs' data).

The *Official Journal of the European Union* is the source of authority in matters of European Union law.

The Official Journal is the EU's only periodic publication published every working day, from Tuesday to Saturday (with the exception of the day following a holiday). The OJ is published in each of the official languages of the EU. It is made up of two connected series: the L series (legislation) and the C series (resolutions, recommendations, guidelines and opinions, information, preparatory acts, notices and announcements) as well as a supplement (S series — public procurement notices).

1.2 Global structure — the sectors

The content of EUR-Lex is distributed over 12 sectors.

Table 1: The 12 sectors of EUR-Lex

CODE	CONTENT
1	Treaties
2	International agreements
3	Legislation
4	Complementary legislation
5	Preparatory acts
6	Case-law
7	National implementing measures
8	References to national case-law concerning EU law
9	Parliamentary questions
0	Consolidated documents
C	Other documents published in the Official Journal C series
E	EFTA documents

The EUR-Lex database also covers legislative procedures. It enables you to follow the life cycle of a legislative proposal, from the moment it is launched until the final law is adopted. You can also display the related documents, the information about the various steps in the ongoing procedure, the decisions of each institution, the services and departments involved, etc.

1.2.1 Treaties

The treaties form **sector 1** of EUR-Lex.

The EU treaties constitute binding agreements defining the objectives of the Union, the operating rules of the EU institutions, the decision-making processes and the relationships between the Union and the Member States. They are adopted by all the Member States of the European Union. EUR-Lex covers the founding and amending treaties and the accession treaties for the seven enlargements (1), as well as the protocols.

⁽¹⁾ 1973: Denmark, Ireland and United Kingdom; 1981: Greece; 1986: Spain and Portugal; 1995: Austria, Finland and Sweden; 2004: Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia; 2007: Bulgaria and Romania; 2013: Croatia.



1.2.2 International agreements

The international agreements form **sector 2** of EUR-Lex.

These documents cover all instruments issued by the European Union in its international areas of responsibility. They are arranged according to the classification of the 'Directory of European Union legislation in force' and cover:

- agreements concluded by the European Union with non-member countries or with international organisations in their specific areas of responsibility;
- agreements concluded jointly by the Member States and the European Union in areas of shared responsibility ('mixed type' agreements);
- decisions of joint committees set up pursuant to an international agreement and comprising representatives of the signatories for the purpose of administering the agreement.

1.2.3 Legislation

Legislation in a broad sense forms the following sectors of EUR-Lex:

- **sector 2** (see above: International agreements);
- **sector 3**, formed by the secondary legislation (acts adopted by institutions applying the treaties) and covering the following documents:
 - binding legal instruments (regulations, directives and decisions);
 - non-binding instruments (resolutions, opinions);
 - other instruments (EU institutions' internal regulations, EU action programmes, etc.);
- **sector 4** (see below: Complementary legislation).

Legislation is arranged according to the classification of the 'Directory of European Union legislation in force', with an analytical structure of 20 chapters, which are subdivided into subchapters. This directory covers binding legislation (regulations, decisions, general decisions and recommendations of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), EEC/EC/Euratom directives) and also certain important non-binding acts (resolutions, Council conclusions, codes of conduct) considered to be important by the institutions.

1.2.4 Complementary legislation

Complementary legislation forms **sector 4** of EUR-Lex.

These documents concern agreements between Member States and decisions made by the representatives of the Member States' governments.

1.2.5 Preparatory acts

Preparatory acts form **sector 5** of EUR-Lex.

This contains all documents whose aim is to prepare the legislation of the European Union and which correspond to any of the various steps in the legislative or budgetary procedures. The different types are:

- Commission legislative proposals;
- Council common positions;
- European Parliament legislative and budgetary resolutions and initiatives;
- ECSC opinions;
- Committee of the Regions opinions.

The most important documents produced by the European Commission in sector 5 use the following designations: COM, JOIN, SWD and SEC. The table below explains their meanings.



Table 2: COM, JOIN, SWD and SEC documents in sector 5 (Preparatory acts) of EUR-Lex

TYPE	AUTHOR	CONTENT
COM	European Commission	Proposals and other acts adopted within the framework of the legislative procedure. Other COM documents: reports, communications, recommendations, Green and White Papers.
JOIN	European Commission and High Representative ⁽¹⁾	Proposals, communications, reports, Green and White Papers jointly adopted by the European Commission and the High Representative.
SWD	European Commission or EU Commission and High Representative ⁽¹⁾	Staff and joint staff working documents (impact analyses, summaries of impact analyses, work documents). Until 2012, the papers of the Commission were identified as SEC, which will no longer be used in the future.
SEC	European Commission or European Commission and High Representative ⁽¹⁾	The same documents as those identified as SWD. Since 2012, this identifier is no longer used (see comment above). Nevertheless, the documents previous to 2012 will still be identified as SEC.

1.2.6 EU case-law

The case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union forms **sector 6** of EUR-Lex and contains the Court opinions on agreements between the EU and non-EU countries or international organisations, the conclusions and opinions of the Advocates General, judgments, orders and third-party proceedings concerning cases brought by the EU institutions, EU Member States or any legal or natural person against the EU institutions or the European Central Bank, cases against EU Member States for failing to implement an obligation under the treaties and preliminary rulings — interpreting EU law at the request of national courts and tribunals, and decisions in staff cases — concerning disputes between the EU and its staff.

1.2.7 National implementing measures

National implementing measures form **sector 7** of EUR-Lex.

These are the measures taken by Member States to incorporate EU directives into national law. This is a rather special sector due to its content: national, and not EU, legislation.

Directives lay down objectives to be achieved by Member States, but leave the choice of ways and means up to national authorities. EUR-Lex covers some parts of this interaction between EU legislation and national legislation by giving certain references to national publications through which Member States have included the European directives in their national legislation. Each Member State is bound to communicate the implementing measures to the Commission.

1.2.8 National case-law

National case-law concerning EU laws forms **sector 8** of EUR-Lex.

Documents are mainly issued by EU Member States, but also by non-member countries, EFTA and the European Court of Human Rights.

⁽¹⁾ High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.



1.2.9 Parliamentary questions

Parliamentary questions form **sector 9** of EUR-Lex.

These documents gather the written or oral answers to the questions addressed by the members of the European Parliament (MEPs) to the Council and to the Commission.

There are three types of Parliamentary questions:

- written questions — published, with their answer, in the Official Journal;
- oral questions raised during Parliamentary sessions, which are published in the ‘Debates of the European Parliament’;
- questions raised at question time during Parliamentary sessions (also published in the Official Journal).

1.2.10 Consolidated legislation

Consolidated legislation forms **sector 0** of EUR-Lex.

This sector has been available since 2003. Consolidation consists of the integration within a legal act of its successive amendments and corrigenda. The objective of consolidation is to improve the transparency of EU law and to facilitate access to it. Many legal acts published in the different issues of the Official Journal are gathered together and form a unique document that is easy to consult.

The texts in this sector are only kept for information purposes. They do not have any legal value. In legal matters, it is mandatory to refer to texts published in the OJ. Since the consolidation of legal acts evolves over time, it is important to check whether you are consulting the most recent version.

1.2.11 Other documents published in the C series of the Official Journal

Sector C is a ‘miscellaneous’ sector which brings together all documents published in the Official Journal (C series). All the communications published by the Court of Justice from 1 January 2008 onwards are analysed. Previous documents are analysed if they are linked to cases still ongoing. The presence of these documents aims at an exhaustive coverage of the Official Journal.

1.2.12 EFTA documents

Acts from EFTA form **sector E** of EUR-Lex. Sector **E**, started in 2002, contains the integral text of the acts adopted by the institutions of EFTA and published in the Official Journal in the framework of the European Economic Area agreement of 1994 (OJ L 1, 3.1.1994). This collection covers the full text of acts adopted by the EFTA institutions (Surveillance Authority, Standing Committee, Court) and published in the Official Journal from 1994 onwards.



2. Homepage

The address of EUR-Lex is: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu>

You can select your working language from the 24 official languages of the EU. If you choose English, you will be redirected towards the page <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html> (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex — below).

Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex

The screenshot displays the EUR-Lex homepage with various sections and color-coded markers:

- 2.1.1 a**: Navigation menu at the top right.
- 2.1.1 b**: Search bar and advanced search options.
- 2.1.1 c**: Main header with the EUR-Lex logo and 'Access to European Union law'.
- 2.1.1 d**: Secondary navigation menu.
- 2.1.2**: Quick search bar with a search button.
- 2.1.3**: 'Quick links' section on the left side.
- 2.1.4**: 'My EUR-Lex' user account section on the right.
- 2.1.5**: 'RSS feeds' and 'Webservice registration' section on the right.
- 2.2.1**: 'Find results by' section with filters for document number, CELEX number, year, number, and type (All, Regulation, Directive, Decision, EU court case, COM and JOIN documents, SEC or SWD documents).
- 2.2.2**: 'Recently published' section listing various legislative acts with dates and titles.
- 2.2.3**: 'See also' section listing related documents.
- 2.2.4**: 'Direct access' section with links to various services like Official Journal, EU law and related documents, etc.
- 2.2.5**: 'Practical information' section with links to FAQ, Help, Contact, and EuroVoc.
- 2.2.6**: 'My EUR-Lex' section with links to Preferences, My searches, My items, and My RSS feeds.

The illustration above shows the homepage of EUR-Lex. The coloured numbers denote items on the page and refer to the sections of this guide explaining these items (e.g. Sections 2.1 to 2.2.4, pages 11 to 14).

The **green numbers** indicate items present on all pages of EUR-Lex and the **red numbers** indicate items present only on the homepage.

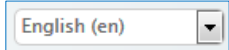
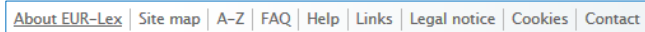

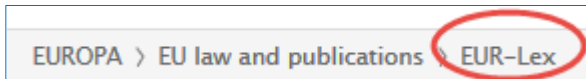


2.1 Items present on all pages

We will start by looking at all the items present on every page of EUR-Lex, including the homepage.

2.1.1 Top of page — language menu, toolbar, search, back to homepage, breadcrumb

On the top of the page, we find the following:

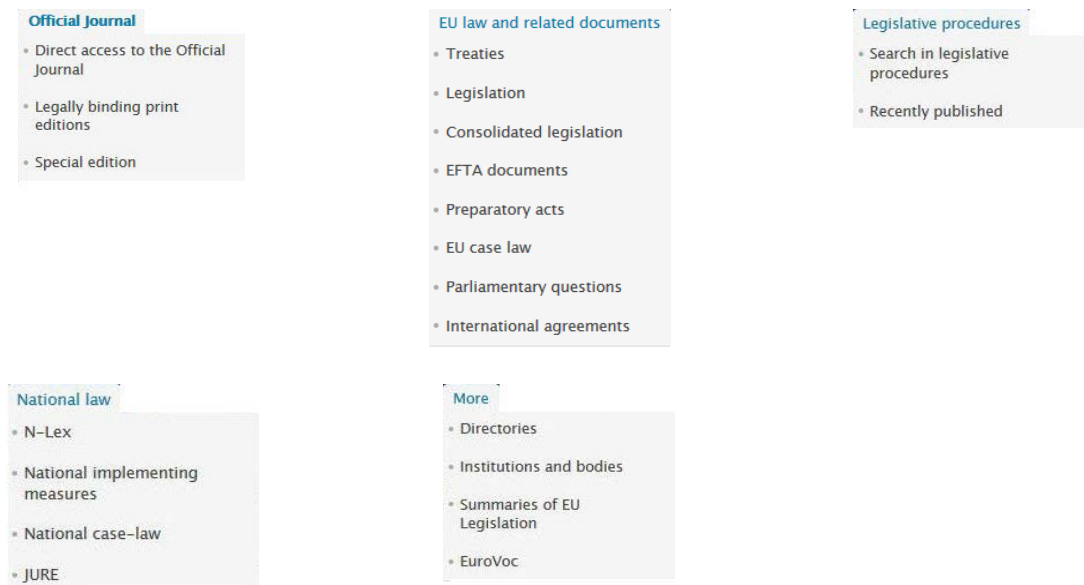
-  language drop-down menu (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.1.a) allowing you to switch at any time to another of the 24 languages of EUR-Lex;
-  a toolbar (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.1.a) offering various links related to EUR-Lex (frequently asked questions, sitemap, help, etc.) and also some external links;
- [Advanced search](#) / [Expert search](#) search tools (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.1.b);
-  go back to homepage: to go back to the homepage, you can click at any time on the EUR-Lex logo situated at the top left corner of a page (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.1.c);
-  breadcrumb (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.1.d) showing you where the page is located in the EUR-Lex website hierarchy. Just click on a step in the breadcrumb in order to go to the corresponding page. For example, clicking on 'EUR-Lex' in the breadcrumb will take you back to the homepage of EUR-Lex;

2.1.2 Horizontal menu giving access to the content



This menu (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.2) has a drop-down list structure. The following illustrations show the content of these drop-down lists.

Illustration 2: Homepage of EUR-Lex — horizontal menu

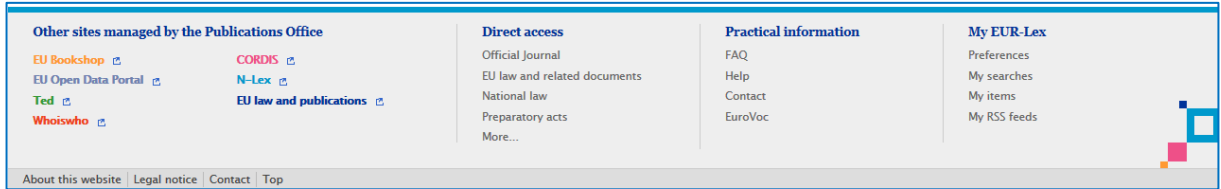




2.1.3 Bottom of page — quick access

Links situated in the footer (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.3) allow you to quickly access the various functionalities of EUR-Lex, but also to get access to other sites managed by the Publications Office. The following illustration shows this bottom part of the EUR-Lex homepage.

Illustration 3: Homepage of EUR-Lex — footer






The illustration displays the various quick access routes offered in the footer of EUR-Lex. The links displayed under ‘Direct access’, ‘Practical information’ and ‘My EUR-Lex’ are also available elsewhere on the EUR-Lex homepage.

The content of this footer is organised in four columns. From left to right, it offers:

- access to other sites managed by the Publications Office (EU Bookshop, EU Open Data Portal, Ted, Whoiswho, CORDIS, N-Lex, etc.);
- direct access to the Official Journal, EU law, national law, preparatory acts, etc. (also available on the header of the EUR-Lex homepage: see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.2);
- access to practical information (FAQ, Contact, EUROVOC, etc.);

2.1.4 access to My EUR-Lex (also available on the right of the EUR-Lex homepage: see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 —reference 2.1.5).Central part — icons

Three icons (   Share) are visible in the top right corner of the EUR-Lex homepage (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.4).

These three icons have the following functions.

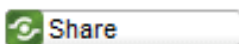
Illustration 4: Homepage of EUR-Lex — icons



This icon allows you to get direct help related to the topic of the page visited. If you use this icon on the homepage of EUR-Lex, you will switch to the help section associated with the homepage of EUR-Lex. If you use it on a page with search tools, the help topics will present the search methods.



This icon allows you to print the main content of the page, without menus, navigation bars, etc. Click on the icon and you’ll get a print preview of the page with the print dialogue box of your browser. This icon is available on all pages.



This icon allows you to send a page by email to yourself or others. It also enables you to bookmark a page and publish/share EUR-Lex content on social media such as Facebook or Twitter.

2.1.5 Right menu — My EUR-Lex, RSS feeds, web services, social media, etc.

The right menu (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.5) is dedicated to personal items such as information sharing. This menu offers you the following options.



Illustration 5: Homepage of EUR-Lex: right menu

My EUR-Lex	Access to My EUR-Lex, register and sign in (see Chapter 3: My EUR-Lex, page 16).
RSS feeds	Access to RSS feeds. These are standard RSS feeds offered by EUR-Lex to which you can subscribe. Customised RSS feeds are described later. (see Section 3.4: Access to saved searches, items and RSS, page 18).
Webservice registration	Subscription to the web service (you must first register with the European Commission Access Service (ECAS) and open an account).
Guided Tour	Access to training presentations and videos.
Statistics	Access to online statistics
User community	Only visible if you are connected to My EUR-Lex (see Section 3.5: User community, page 18).
We'd like to hear from you	Access to ongoing surveys
	Access to the latest Twitter feeds of the @EURLex Twitter account

2.2 Items available only on the homepage

This section contains an overview of the items only available on the homepage of EUR-Lex.

2.2.1 Quick search box

A quick search can be carried out by inserting some free text, a CELEX number or some descriptors in the 'quick search' box located at the top of the homepage (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.2.1).

2.2.2 Editorial text and information

Some text on the central part of the EUR-Lex homepage explains in brief what EUR-Lex is about (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.2.2). When the website is updated, this text will inform you in advance. This text also contains links to Twitter and Facebook.

2.2.3 Left menu

A series of quick links about EUR-Lex functionalities and specific aspects of the legislation such as the Summaries of EU Legislation, the EU legislation on statistics, the Budget are displayed in the left menu.



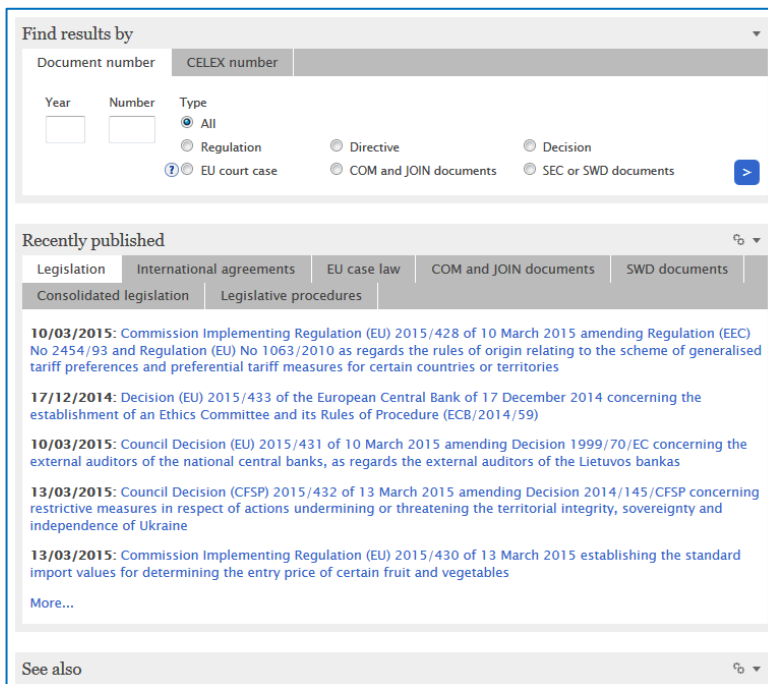
You can also access the previous version of EUR-Lex from that menu (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.2.3).

2.2.4 Homepage widgets

Widgets are relatively new on EUR-Lex. Located in the centre of the homepage (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.2.4), they offer easy access to recent news. Several widgets are available, labelled 'Find results by', 'Recently published' and 'See also'. This last widget is only available if you are signed in to My EUR-Lex. If you want to learn more about registering and signing in to EUR-Lex, see Chapter 3: 'My EUR-Lex', page 16.

Each widget includes a selection of documents arranged in different tabs, as the following illustration shows.

Illustration 6: Homepage of EUR-Lex — widgets



The widgets can be expanded or collapsed by using the buttons visible on the right side of the toolbar. You can also drag and drop your widgets in order to change their position on the page. Let's look at these widgets in turn.

You can customise the number of items displayed in a widget with the button which is also available on the right part of the widget's title. Clicking on this button displays a list enabling you to customise the number of items displayed in the widget, as the following illustration shows.

Illustration 7: Homepage of EUR-Lex — widgets: customisation



It is also possible to customise the number of displayed items by default in your preferences on My EUR-Lex (see Section 3.3: Manage your user profile and preferences, page 17).

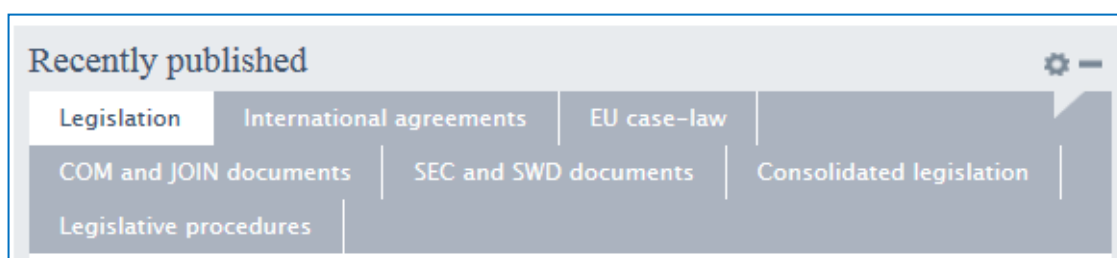


2.2.4.1 'Recently published' widget

The 'Recently published' widget has several tabs that offer easy access to documents recently published in some collections such as legislation, international agreements, etc. The tabs are:

- Legislation;
- International agreements;
- EU case-law;
- COM and JOIN documents (Definition: see Table 2: COM, JOIN, SWD and SEC documents in sector 5 (Preparatory acts) of EUR-Lex, page 8);
- SWD documents (Definition: see Table 2: COM, JOIN, SWD and SEC documents in sector 5 (Preparatory acts) of EUR-Lex, page 8);
- Consolidated legislation;
- Legislative procedures.

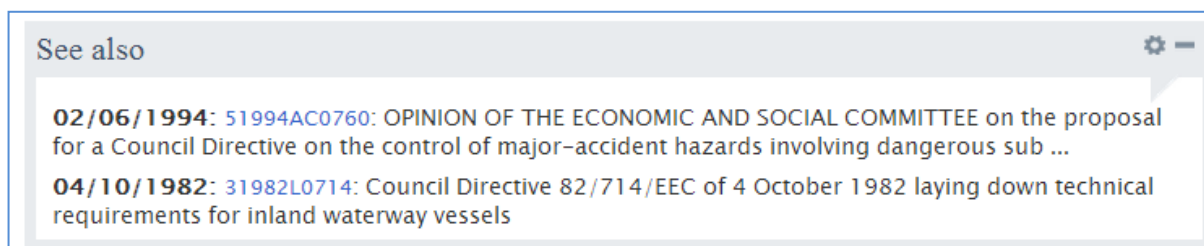
Illustration 8: Homepage of EUR-Lex — 'Recently published' widget



2.2.4.2 'See also' widget

The 'See also' widget is only available to signed-in users (see Section 3.2: How to sign in, page 16). Here, you will find a selection of documents based on your recent searches. The suggested documents are displayed with the document date and their title.

Illustration 9: Homepage of EUR-Lex — 'See also' widget



2.2.4.3 'Find results by' widget

The 'Find results by' widget offers easy access to searching. It is composed of the following tabs: 'Document number' and 'CELEX number'. It combines some of the essential fields of the advanced search (see Section 4.3, Advanced search: the logic of the search fields on page 22). More about this widget can be found in the section dedicated to it (see Section 4.2, Search with the 'Find results by' widget, page 21).



Illustration 10 : Homepage of EUR-Lex — ‘Find results by’ widget

Find results by

Document number CELEX number

Year Number Type

All

Regulation Directive Decision

EU court case COM and JOIN documents SEC or SWD documents

3. My EUR-Lex

My EUR-Lex is your personal space on EUR-Lex.

3.1 Why and how to register

Registering is not mandatory for accessing and using EUR-Lex.

Nevertheless, registering offers a lot of advantages: you can save documents and searches, create customised RSS feeds based on your searches, set your preferences for the website and for searching, exporting and printing, and can also ask questions about European Union law to members of the EUR-Lex community and answer other users' questions too. As we have previously seen (see Section 2.2.4: Homepage widgets, page 14), the 'See also' widget is displayed on the homepage only if you are signed in to EUR-Lex.

In order to register, click on the corresponding link in My EUR-Lex on the homepage (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.5 and Illustration 11 ci-dessous).

Illustration 11: My EUR-Lex: register

My EUR-Lex

[Sign in](#)

or [Register](#)

- My searches (0)
- My items (0)
- My RSS feeds (0)

This will take you to the form for registering as a user of the authentication service of the European Commission (ECAS). Fill in the form in order to get an ECAS account, allowing you to connect to all systems requiring an ECAS authentication and to which you are allowed access. You will be invited to indicate your domain, so if you're external to the European Commission, select 'External'.

3.2 How to sign in

In order to sign in, click on the corresponding link in My EUR-Lex on the homepage of EUR-Lex (see Illustration 11: My EUR-Lex: register, above). This takes you to the ECAS authentication form, where you can fill in your username and password. The following illustration shows the My EUR-Lex window before and after having signed in. If you're signed in, your name is displayed and you have access to your preferences, searches, items and customised RSS feeds.



Illustration 12: My EUR-Lex: not signed in mode and signed in mode

My EUR-Lex when not in signed in mode



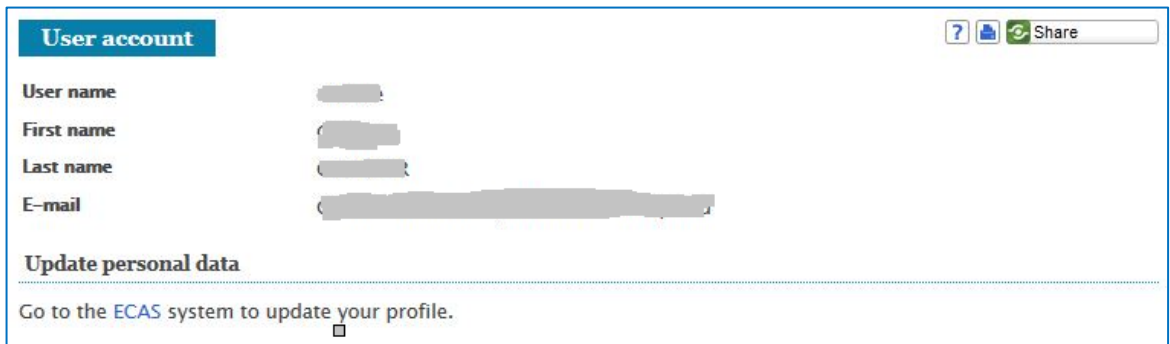
My EUR-Lex when in signed in mode



3.3 Manage your user profile and preferences

If you're signed in (see Section 3.2: How to sign in, page 16), you can set your preferences by clicking in My EUR-Lex on 'Preferences'. The following screen will appear.

Illustration 13: My EUR-Lex — manage the user's profile



The parameters of your user account (user name, first name, last name and e-mail) are displayed. You can update your ECAS profile by clicking on the ECAS link, situated under your user account.

On the left side of the screen, you can access your preferences for the site, the user community, search, export and print.

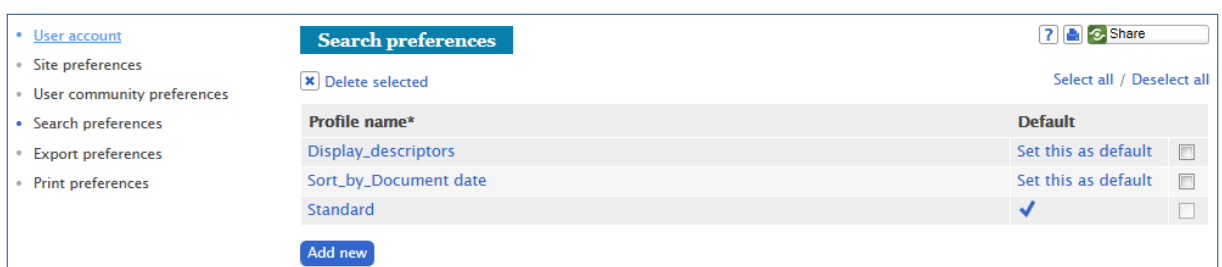
The preferences for the site concern language selection (preferred language and two secondary languages), the number of items in the widgets (see Section 2.2.4: Homepage widgets, page 14) and the display options.

The preferences for the user community concern topics of interest for which you want to be updated on the questions asked by the users of EUR-Lex. Only the questions linked to your topics of interest will be displayed when you consult the user community (see Section 3.5: User community, page 18).

Search, export and print preferences allow you to define different profiles.

The following illustration shows the access to search preferences.

Illustration 14: My EUR-Lex — Manage the user's profile, search





In this example, two profiles have already been created. In order to modify an existing profile, click on its label. To add a profile click on 'Add new' and to delete a profile, select it by ticking the box on the right and click on 'Delete selected' (top left of the window).

When adding a new profile in your search preferences, you can modify the number of results displayed per page, change the sort criteria and modify the metadata to display in your results.

The choice of metadata to display also appears in the Export preferences and the Print preferences profiles, so you can decide to have only certain metadata displayed in your exports or in your prints.

In your export preferences, you can also create profiles with different export formats (CSV, Excel, PDF ...) and in your print preferences, you can choose between HTML and PDF for the format of your prints.

For hands-on examples on customised search preferences, please check our tutorial in the Guided Tour page: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/guided-tour/customised-search-preferences.html>

3.4 Access to saved searches, items and RSS feeds

Once signed in to My EUR-Lex, you can access your saved items, searches and customised RSS feeds.

To create and manage saved items, see the following sections: Section 5.4.2: Save the search in My EUR-Lex, page 37; Section 5.4.3: Create an RSS feed for a search, page 37; Section 5.5.2: Save an item in My EUR-Lex, page 42.

To learn everything about RSS feeds in EUR-Lex, please check our tutorial in the Guided Tour page: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/guided-tour/setting-rss-feeds.html>

3.5 User community

The user community allows you to interact with other users of EUR-Lex. You can ask questions and look at the answers given to your questions by other users. You can also answer questions asked by other users. The questions can be quite general or specific to a document or a procedure.

Remember that only the questions linked to your topics of interest, as defined in your user preferences, will be displayed.

In order to set your preferences (see Section 3.3: Manage your user profile and preferences, page 17) use the button available at the bottom right of the active EUR-Lex page.

(See Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.5). Remember that this link is available only if you are signed in to My EUR-Lex (see Section 2.1.5: Right menu — My EUR-Lex, RSS feeds, web services, social media, etc., page 12). The illustration below shows us a page of the user community.

Illustration 15: User community

The screenshot shows the 'Latest open questions' section of the EUR-Lex user community. On the left is a navigation menu with options: Latest open questions, Add question, My open questions, My archived questions, and User community preferences. The main content area has a title 'Latest open questions' with a share button. Below the title is a message: 'Only questions matching subjects of interest in the preferences of the user are displayed.' There is a dropdown menu for 'Subjects of interest' currently set to 'All my subjects of interest'. Below that, it shows 'Results 1 - 1 of 1'. A table lists the question details:

Date	Question	Subject of interest	Author
18/03/2015 12:06	New Directive on intl exchange of info for traffic offences	48. TRANSPORT	Cecilia CHARLIER

At the bottom, there is a link: 'Edit your user-community preferences. This is a user forum, if you need assistance with EUR-Lex, write to us via the [contact form](#).'

A menu at the left of the user community page (see Illustration 15: User community, ci-dessus) allows you to access the latest open questions and to manage your own questions (add, consult open or



archived questions). You can only display questions pertaining to the topics of interest defined in your user preferences, but you can choose to display all your topics or a specific one, using the drop-down list in the middle of the page. In order to set your preferences, see Section 3.3: Manage your user profile and preferences, page 17.

To answer a question, click on it to reveal an 'Answer' button. You will also find a 'Report' button, enabling you to report any abuse.

Information on how to ask a question about an item in the list of search results can be found later on (see Section 5.5.4: Ask a question about an item, page 43).



4. Different levels of search

EUR-Lex provides several different search levels:

- quick search;
- 'search' widget;
- advanced search;
- expert search.

These search levels are outlined below. This manual concentrates mainly on the advanced search.

4.1 Quick search

A quick search is carried out using the search box situated at the top of the screen (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.2.1 and Illustration 16: Quick search box on homepage below). You need to enter a word, phrase or number in the quick search box. Wildcards can be used, which means you can use the signs * to replace 0 to n characters (example: transport* will find transportation, transporting, etc.) and ? to replace 1 character (example: ca?e will find case, care, cane, etc.).

Bear in mind that the search is always conducted in the same language as the interface. If the interface is in English, your search results will be in English only.

To launch the search, click on the magnifier glass icon or press the Enter key on your keyboard. Once you type or insert a term in the quick search box, it remains — allowing you to directly edit your search by adding or deleting terms.

Illustration 16: Quick search box on homepage

Quick search: insert free text, CELEX number or descriptors. Use "" for exact matches.

SEARCH

Need more search options? Use [EUR-Lex Advanced search](#)

This functionality looks for the required criteria in:

- titles;
- text;
- subjects;
- authors;
- directories of legislation and case-law;
- EuroVoc descriptors;
- titles of the legislative procedure;
- codes of the legislative procedure;
- CELEX numbers.

Confirm your search by clicking on .

The search zone has an automatic suggestion function, as illustrated below.

When you navigate on another page than the homepage, the quick search box will then be located in the top-right corner of the page and will allow you to perform a quick search at any time (see Illustration 17: Quick search on pages other than homepage, page 21).



Illustration 17: Quick search on pages other than homepage

Illustration 18: Quick search — automatic suggestions

Any search can also be refined (see Section 5.1: Refine a search using facets, page 35).

For hands-on examples on the quick search, please check our tutorial in the Guided Tour page: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/guided-tour/quick-search.html>

4.2 Search with the ‘Find results by’ widget

The ‘Find results by’ widget on the EUR-Lex homepage (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.2.4) is an intermediate level between the quick search, as described above, and the advanced search, described in the following section.

This widget is composed of the following tabs:

- Document number;
- CELEX number.

Illustration 19: the tabs of the ‘Find results by’ widget



The first tab, 'Document number', allows you to search according to the year, the number or the desired type of document.

The second tab allows a search by CELEX numbers. For more information about CELEX numbers see the relevant section (Section 4.3.1.5: Search by CELEX number, page 28). In Illustration 19: the tabs of the 'Find results by' widget ci-dessus we are searching for Council Directive 2006/112/EC. This can be done by filling the 'Document number' tab with the information displayed in this illustration or, if you know the CELEX number for this document, by inserting directly the CELEX number of this document in the 'CELEX number' tab.

4.3 Advanced search: the logic of the search fields

To access the advanced search tool, click on the link available at the top of the screen (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.1.b).

The illustration below (Illustration 20: Advanced search form — All documents, page 23) displays the general advanced search form.



Illustration 20: Advanced search form — All documents

Advanced search ? Share

Exclude consolidated versions Exclude corrigenda Search Clear

Collection: All documents + Choose multiple collections

ALL COLLECTIONS

Text search

Search: Find results containing: In title In text

OR: Add results containing: In title In text

+ OR conditions

NOT: Remove results containing: In title In text

+ NOT conditions

Document reference

Year: Number:

Type: All Regulation EU court case Other

Directive COM and JOIN documents

Decision SEC or SWD documents

+

Author of the document

Author: All Other: +

Search by Celex number

CELEX number:

Search by date

Type of date: All dates Specific date Date range

Specific date:

Date range: -

Valid formats:
- yyyy
- mm/yyyy
- dd/mm/yyyy

Published in the Official Journal

OJ series: All Number: Year: Initial page:

OJ Special edition: All Chapter: Volume:

Theme

EuroVoc thesaurus: +

Documents related to a legislative procedure

Year: Number: Type of legislative procedure: All

Search Clear

The illustration shows the main search headings:

- collection;
- text search;
- document reference;
- author of the document;
- search by CELEX number;
- search by date;
- published in the Official Journal;
- theme;
- documents related to a legislative procedure.



These headings are presented as fields, which can be expanded or collapsed by using the buttons visible on the left of the title bar. The search fields are presented as drop-down menus, free-text fields, radio-buttons or tick boxes.



: This interface is dynamic and adapts to the selected options. For example, if you choose the collection 'Legislation', other fields will appear grouped under the section entitled 'Legal basis'. The illustration below shows you an example of a dynamic adaptation of the search form, according to the selected options.

Illustration 21: Advanced search — dynamic interface

Advanced search form just opened

Example of a dynamic adaptation of the advanced search form according to the selected options

We will see later on (Chapter 6: Browse the collections, page 44) that in consulting EUR-Lex by collections, you can switch to the specific advanced search where many search criteria are automatically adapted to the collection in question.

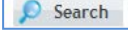

At the top of the general advanced search form, the following options can be ticked Exclude consolidated versions Exclude corrigenda . By default, consolidated versions and corrigenda are included in the search results of an advanced search. Similar options are available for the different collections. See the following example in the collection 'Legislation':

Limit to legislation in force Limit to basic acts Exclude corrigenda . In that screen ticking the box next to 'Limit to basic acts' will exclude amending acts from the search results.



Many fields allow contextual help with tooltips. When scrolling with the mouse over a field, the question mark button appears. This shows some contextual help by simply pointing with the mouse (see illustration below).

Illustration 22: Advanced search — contextual help

The button labelled  at the top and at the bottom of the screen lets you confirm the search action. In order to clear the parameters and to start a new search, use the  button, also situated at the top and at the bottom of the advanced search window.

4.3.1 Search headings

Several different search headings are available in the general advanced search form. The following analysis is by heading, from top to bottom.

4.3.1.1 Collection drop-down menu

You can choose one or multiple collections. The Collection field is a drop-down menu in which you can select a specific Collection.

Illustration 23: Advanced search, drop-down menu — selection of a collection

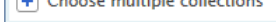
In order to choose multiple collections, click on . You will then see the illustration below appear and will be able to select multiple collections.

Illustration 24: Advanced search, drop-down menu — selection of multiple collections



4.3.1.2 Text search

The 'Text search' field allows the user to introduce the search terms and includes the possibility of automatic suggestions.

If you want to search for documents containing fruit together with 'exceptional support measures' or containing fruit together with 'entry price', just type 'entry price' to the 'Add results containing' search box (see illustration below).

Illustration 25: Advanced search — text search

▼ Text search

Search Find results containing
fruit "exceptional support measures" In title In text

OR Add results containing:
fruit "entry price" In title In text

+ OR conditions

Search hints:

- *Implementing regulation = Implementing **AND** regulation*
- "" exact phrase search
- * replace 0 to n characters
- ? replace a single character

If you want to remove from the results list documents containing specific term(s), just type it to the 'remove results containing' search box.

If you want to add any extra condition to your search (e.g. remove documents containing either oranges or apples) you need to type them in the 'OR condition' box (see illustration below).

Illustration 26: Advanced search — text search

▼ Text search

Search Find results containing
regulation fruit vegetables In title In text

OR Add results containing: ?
 In title In text

+ OR conditions

NOT Remove results containing:
oranges In title In text

OR
apples In title In text

Remove condition

+ NOT conditions

Search hints:

- *Implementing regulation = Implementing **AND** regulation*
- "" exact phrase search
- * replace 0 to n characters
- ? replace a single character


On the right side of each text window you can select by ticking a box whether you want to have the specific words/text only in the title, only in the text or both in the title and in the text. You can also enter incomplete words, replacing the missing characters with special symbols: * for multiple characters and ? for a single character.



4.3.1.3 Document reference

The 'Document reference' field: free fields allow you to search on year, number and type of document. If you are looking for Council Directive 2006/112/EC, you will insert the data as displayed on the illustration below in order to find it.

Illustration 27: Advanced search — document reference

Clicking on the  button situated at the right of the

field takes you to a window showing other types of acts. You can select the categories you are interested in by ticking the boxes (see illustration below).

Illustration 28: Advanced search, document reference — other type of act

4.3.1.4 Author of the document

The 'Author of the document' field is a drop-down menu and allows you to choose the author of the searched documents.



Illustration 29: Advanced search — author of the document


Clicking on the  button situated at the right of the field takes you to a window showing other authors. You can select the categories you're interested in by ticking the boxes (see illustration below).

Illustration 30: Advanced search, author of the document — other

4.3.1.5 Search by CELEX number

The search can be performed by CELEX number (see illustration below). The CELEX number is a unique identifier for each document registered in EUR-Lex. It is the same in all languages.

The CELEX number is structured as follows: SaaaT(T)nnn(n):

- Sone character for the sector (see Section 1.2: Global structure — the sectors, page 6);
- aaaa..four digits for the year (mostly date of adoption);
- T(T) ...one or two characters for the type of document;
- nnn(n)...four digits (generally) for the number of the document.

To learn more about the construction of the CELEX numbers and the characters indicating the type of document, see this page on EUR-Lex:

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/tools/TableOfSectors/types_of_documents_in_eurlex.html?locale=en



Illustration 31: Advanced search — search by CELEX number

▼ Search by Celex number

CELEX number

32006L0112

A search on the CELEX number mentioned in Illustration 31: Advanced search — search by CELEX number ci-dessus will display the Council Directive 2006/112/EC on VAT as this is the CELEX number for this document. The first digit (3) shows that this is a legislative document. The next four digits (2006) indicate the year of the document. The next character (L) identifies that it is a directive and the last four digits show the number of the document.

You can also search by ECLI identifier. Discover more about ECLI in the relevant section about this topic (see section 6.3.3: Case-law of the European Union — ECLI, page 50).

4.3.1.6 Search by date

The 'Search by date' field: a drop-down menu allows you to choose the type of date (document date, date of entry into force, etc).

Illustration 32: Advanced search, drop-down menu — date

▼ Search by date

? Type of date

All dates

All dates

Date of document

Date of publication

Date of entry into force

Date of end of validity

Date of notification

Date of signature

Date of transposition

Date lodged

Delivery date

Date of deadline

Reply date

Date of vote

Date of debate

You can also select a specific date by inserting a precise date in the box below the 'Specific date' button (see illustration below). In the 'Date range' box you can type the period you want to be covered by your search or select it from the calendar. Please make sure that the 'Date range' button is ticked.(see illustration below).



Illustration 33: Advanced search, 'date' field

The screenshot shows the 'Date range' section of the search interface. It includes radio buttons for 'Specific date' and 'Date range'. The 'Date range' option is selected. Below it, there are two input fields for dates, separated by a hyphen, with a calendar icon to the right of each. A calendar pop-up is displayed, showing the months of April and May for the year 2015. The calendar has columns for days of the week (Mo, Tu, We, Th, Fr, Sa, Su) and rows for dates. The date '15' in April is highlighted in yellow. To the right of the calendar, there is a 'Valid formats:' section with two bullet points: '• yyyy' and '• mm/yyyy'.

4.3.1.7 Published in the Official Journal

The screenshot shows the 'Published in the Official Journal' section of the search interface. It features a dropdown menu for 'OJ series' with 'All' selected. To the right of the dropdown are three input fields labeled 'Number', 'Year', and 'Initial page'. Below the 'OJ series' dropdown is another dropdown for 'OJ Special edition' with 'All' selected. To the right of this dropdown are two input fields labeled 'Chapter' and 'Volume'.

The 'Published in the Official Journal' field allows you to search for acts published in the Official Journal.

Free fields (Number and Year) are to be filled in addition to an 'OJ series' value chosen in a drop-down menu.

Illustration 34: Advanced search, published in the Official Journal — OJ series

The screenshot shows the 'Published in the Official Journal' section of the search interface. The 'OJ series' dropdown menu is open, displaying a list of options: 'All', 'A (1952 - 4/1958)', 'C (Information and Notices)', 'CA - supplement A', 'CE - supplement E', 'L (Legislation)', 'LG - editions in Irish', 'LM (editions in Maltese)', and 'P (5/1958 -1967)'. The 'All' option is highlighted in blue.

When searching for special editions, a drop-down menu allows you to choose the language. The language of the special edition is dependent on the language of the interface. To search for the Spanish special edition of the OJ, go to the Spanish search interface (see illustration below).




Illustration 35: Advanced search, published in the Official Journal — OJ Special edition

4.3.1.8 Theme

The ‘Theme’ field allows you to narrow your search results by selecting a term from the ‘EuroVoc thesaurus’ (see illustration below).

Illustration 36: Advanced search — Theme

EuroVoc is a multilingual, multidisciplinary thesaurus covering the activities of the EU. It covers keywords, classified under 21 domains and 127 subdomains, used to describe the content of the documents available in EUR-Lex.

Clicking on the  button situated at the right of the

field takes you to a window showing the categories and

subcategories (expandable list) of the EuroVoc thesaurus. You can select the categories you’re interested in by ticking the boxes (see illustration below).

If you type the keyword ‘VAT’ in the Eurovoc thesaurus field as shown in Illustration 36: Advanced search — Theme ci-dessus, you will find all documents which have this Eurovoc descriptor in their metadata.

Illustration 37: Advanced search — search by EuroVoc



A filter is also available at the top of the window, in which you can insert a keyword and confirm by clicking on the 'Filter' button. When a filter is applied, the red cross icon in the input area allows the user to remove this filter (see illustration below).

Illustration 38: Advanced search, search by EuroVoc (filter)

In the advanced search form, the Theme field adapts according to the Collection chosen. For example, in the 'Legislation' Collection, the 'Theme' field appears with more options as displayed in the illustration below.

Illustration 39: Advanced search — Theme display in 'Legislation' Collection

4.3.1.9 Documents related to a legislative procedure

This field allows the user to search the documents related to a legislative procedure. Drop down menu allows to choose 'type of legislative procedure' (see illustration below).

Illustration 40: Advanced search — type of legislative procedure



For hands-on examples on the advanced search, please check our tutorial in the Guided Tour page: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/guided-tour/advanced-search.html>

4.4 Expert search

The expert search is only accessible when you are signed in to My EUR-Lex. In order to access the expert search, which is the most complex search method, click on the link at the top of the screen (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.1.b). The illustration below (Illustration 41: Search in expert search, page 33) shows the expert search form.

Illustration 41: Search in expert search

The expert search offers the possibility to create complex searches based on data fields (metadata of documents, such as the title) and Boolean operators (AND, OR, etc.). Search criteria are therefore very numerous and you can combine complex searches which can be saved.

This search functionality is not covered in depth in this manual.



5. Search results

In this chapter, we will use the results obtained through the different searches described in the previous chapter (see Chapter 4: Different levels of search, page 20), refine the search, change displayed metadata or modify the search, work with results lists and save searches or an item from a results list.

You will discover the usefulness of the commands situated on top of the search results (see Illustration 42: Search results, below) or on the left side (facets) (see Illustration 43: Refine the search by using the facets (example), page 35).

Illustration 42: Search results

Search criteria

Search for: vat, Search language: English, Exclude corrigenda: True **A**

[Edit in expert search](#) [Save to My searches](#) [Create in My RSS feeds](#) **B**
[Save to My items](#)

Sort by Relevancy **C** Descending and Document identifier Ascending

Results 1 – 10 of 15426 [Export selection/Export all](#) [Change displayed metadata](#) [Clear selection](#) **D** 1 2 ▶▶

E [Council Directive 2006/112/EC of 28 November 2006 on the common system of value added tax](#)

Direct text access: [PDF](#) [HTML](#) Author: Council of the European Union

Form: Directive
Latest consolidated version: 02006L0112-20150101

31998D0527: 98/527/EC, Euratom: Commission Decision of 24 July 1998 on the treatment for national accounts purposes of VAT fraud (the discrepancies between theoretical VAT receipts and actual VAT receipts) (notified under document number C(1998) 2202) (Text with EEA relevance)

*OJ L 234, 21.8.1998, p. 39-42 (ES, DA, DE, EL, EN, FR, IT, NL, PT, FI, SV)
This document has been published in a special edition(s) (CS, ET, LV, LT, HU, MT, PL, SK, SL, BG, RO, HR)*

Direct text access: [PDF](#) [HTML](#) Author: European Commission

The illustration above, representing the header of a search results window (quick search), shows, from top to bottom:

- search criteria (reference **A**);
- a toolbar (reference **B**);
- drop-down menus for filtering (reference **C**);
- a second toolbar (reference **D**);
- a boosted document (reference **E**).

The boosted documents are particularly relevant results, shown on top of the results list. They only appear in quick search results. In the example above, we've found such a document by using VAT as a keyword in the quick search.



Note that, by default, you only have one 'Sort by' criteria (see Illustration 42: Search results — reference C, above) but that you can add more sorting criteria via the 'Preferences' link in My EUR-Lex, in the 'Search preferences' menu, when you are signed in (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.5). You will find more details on how to manage your preferences in the relevant section (see Section 3.3: Manage your user profile and preferences, page 17).

5.1 Refine a search using facets

The results window displays various facets on the left of the screen.

These facets allow you to refine your search. The suggested facets will vary depending on the type of search and the marked options.

In the example illustrated in the figure below (a quick search on the word 'artichoke'), the initial (step A) six facets displayed allow you to refine your search by domain, subdomain, year of publication, type of procedure, author and type of act. Selection of the year 2012 (step B) replaces the facet 'year of publication' by a 'month of publication' facet. The choice of an author and a type of act (step C) hides the two corresponding facets. You will see a list of options appearing on top of the facets (marked as 'You have selected'). You can remove this option by clicking on the small cross on the right.

Illustration 43: Refine the search by using the facets (example)

STEP A	STEP B	STEP C
<p>Refine query</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ By domain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU law and related documents (2455) Official Journal (2438) ▼ By subdomain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All (2441) Legislation (2224) Preparatory acts (165) International agreements (41) Parliamentary questions (14) ▼ By year of document <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2015 (23) 2014 (98) 2013 (100) 2012 (100) 2011 (79) ▼ By type of procedure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreement (ACC) (34) Consultation procedure (CNS) (24) Assent procedure (AVC) (21) Non-legislative procedure (NLE) (20) Ordinary legislative procedure (COD) (11) ▼ By author <ul style="list-style-type: none"> European Commission (2292) Council of the European Union (158) European Communities (123) European Parliament (25) European Community (15) ▼ By type of act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation (1056) Regulation (845) Implementing regulation (176) Proposal for a regulation (57) Implementing regulation (55) <p>Quick search for the word 'artichoke'</p>	<p>Refine query</p> <p>You have selected: 2012 x</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ By domain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Official Journal (95) EU law and related documents (91) ▼ By subdomain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All (91) Legislation (82) Preparatory acts (7) International agreements (2) ▼ By month of document <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January (13) February (18) March (24) April (14) May (4) ▼ By type of procedure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-legislative procedure (NLE) (6) Ordinary legislative procedure (COD) (2) ▼ By author <ul style="list-style-type: none"> European Commission (89) Council of the European Union (8) European Union (2) European Parliament (2) The Member States (2) ▼ By type of act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing regulation (65) Regulation (13) decision without addressee (7) Preparatory act (5) Announcements (3) <p>Option chosen: Year of publication = 2012</p>	<p>Refine query</p> <p>You have selected: 2012 x Regulation x European Commission x</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▼ By domain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Official Journal (12) EU law and related documents (12) ▼ By subdomain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All (12) Legislation (12) ▼ By month of document <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January (1) February (1) March (1) April (1) May (1) <p>Options chosen: Year of publication = 2012 Author = European Commission Type of act = regulation</p>



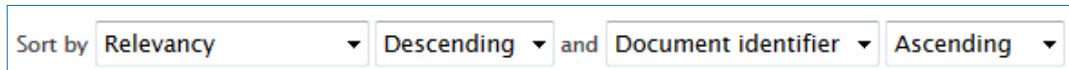
5.2 Change the display of the results: sorting options and modification of the available metadata

Sorting options

Remember that the default display of your results depends on your preferences defined in My EUR-Lex (see Section 3.3: Manage your user profile and preferences, page 17).

You can modify the sorting options using the drop-down menu situated on top of the search results (see Illustration 42: Search results— reference C, page 34 and Illustration 44, ci-dessous).

Illustration 44: Display of search results — sorting options



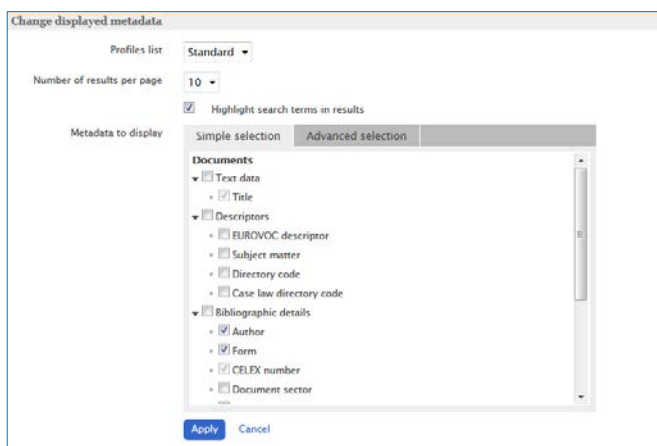
Display of metadata

Let's also remember that metadata that are displayed by default depend on your preferences defined in My EUR-Lex if you're signed in (see Section 3.3: Manage your user profile and preferences, page 17).

You can modify the metadata display by clicking on the [Change displayed metadata](#) link situated within the search results window (see Illustration 42: Search results — reference D, page 34 and Illustration 45: Display of search results — metadata, ci-dessous).

You will be able to tick or untick the metadata to display in the window that appears.

Illustration 45: Display of search results — metadata



5.3 Modify the search

When looking at the results of an advanced search, you will see a button at the top of the results list allowing you to edit the search criteria again in order to modify them. Note that the result of a quick search can only be modified in expert search, whereas the result of an advanced search can be modified in advanced search.

5.4 Work with the results list

This section covers work on the results list.

5.4.1 Select results

To select the search results, use the tick boxes to the left of each result. By selecting different items, you can save them all in My EUR-Lex in a single operation (see Section 5.5.2: Save an item in My Eur-Lex, page 42).

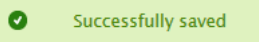


You can clear the selection at any time by using the link on top of the search results (see Illustration 42: Search results — reference D, page 34).

5.4.2 Save the search in My EUR-Lex

In order to save the search in My EUR-Lex when you are signed in, use the button at the top of the window of the search results (see Illustration 42: Search results — reference B, page 34). In the next window, name the search in order to save it, add a comment if you wish and confirm your choice (see illustration below).

Illustration 46: Save the search in My EUR-Lex

A  confirmation that the search has been saved appears on top of the screen. You can now access this saved search in My EUR-Lex (see Section 3.4: Access to saved searches, items and RSS feeds, page 18).

The following illustration shows a saved search example.

Illustration 47: Visualisation of saved searches in My EUR-Lex

Id	Name	Language	Search scope	Results	Latest search date	RSS
1	teaties croatia preparation enlargement [View search]	en	Legal Content	1147	16/03/2015 17:13	
2	spanish case law 2012 [View search]	en	Legal Content	2107	16/03/2015 17:14	

Icon

Meaning



Edit the search as an advanced search.



Edit the search information.

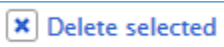


Perform search.



Select search.

You can also expand or collapse the search criteria with the instruction 'View search' or 'Hide search' situated alongside the name of the search.

In order to clear a saved search, select it and use the  button visible at the top of the saved searches.

5.4.3 Create an RSS feed for a search

In order to convert your saved search into an RSS feed, select the item in your list of saved searches and use the instruction available at the top of search list.

An RSS icon in the 'RSS' column indicates that an RSS feed exists for this search (see Illustration 47: Visualisation of saved searches in My EUR-Lex, ci-dessus).

You can also create an RSS feed while saving the search result by using the icon situated at the top of the search results window (see Illustration 42: Search results — reference B, page 34).



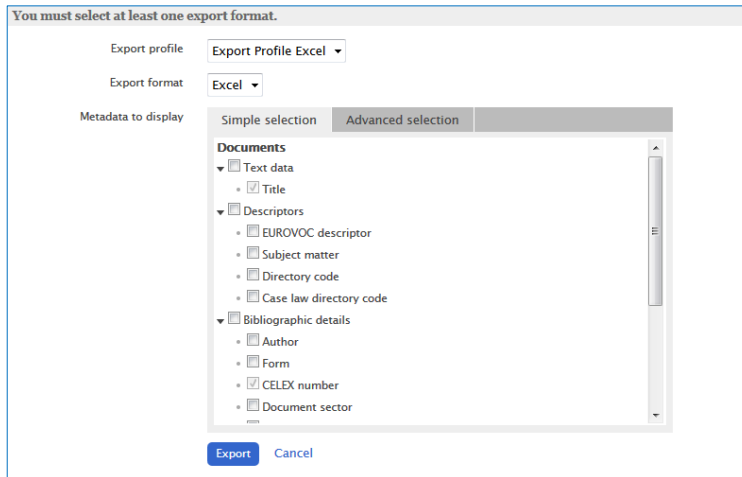
5.4.4 Export the results list

In order to export the list of results, use the instruction (see Illustration 42: Search results — reference D, page 34), available above the results.

A window appears (see Illustration 48: Export a list of search results, ci-dessous) allowing you to choose the format (Excel, CSV, etc.) and the metadata to export.

If you are signed in to My EUR-Lex (see Section 3.1: Why and how to , page 16), you can create export profiles in your preferences in My EUR-Lex (see Section 3.3: Manage your user profile and preferences, page 17).

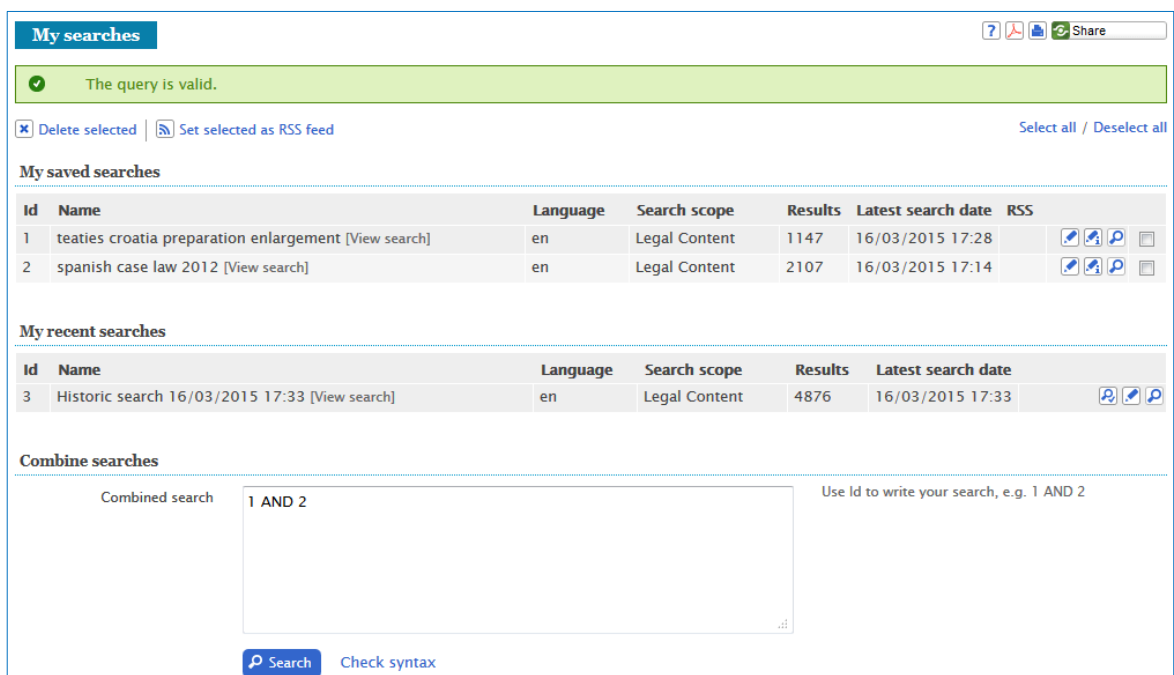
Illustration 48: Export a list of search results



5.4.5 Use the search history

You can easily retrieve searches carried out during your work session on EUR-Lex thanks to the search history. This list of searches is reset every time you close your Internet browser. It is not necessary to be connected to My EUR-Lex to be able to use this function. To access the history, click on 'My searches' in My EUR-Lex (see Illustration 49: Search history, below).

Illustration 49: Search history





The search history appears in the **My recent searches** category. You can combine the searches with the Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT). The expression must be written in the **Combined search** box. For example, to find documents that match the combined query of searches 1 and 2 you would write '1 AND 2'. EUR-Lex offers you the possibility to check your syntax. Just click on **Check syntax** at the bottom of the query box. The result of the syntax check will appear at the top of your screen and will be marked as 'Valid search'.

Do not forget to confirm your search by clicking on the **Search** button situated at the bottom of your screen.

5.5 Work with an item: document or procedure

Let's look at how to work with an item in the results list.

5.5.1 Access an item



5.5.1.1 Direct access to the text of an item

If your goal is just to display the text of an item in PDF or HTML format, you can access it directly through the icons. The illustration below shows an item in a results list, where we see a link in the title for access to the full details of that item in a new window, as described below (see Section 5.5.1.2: Access to data of an item, below), but also the icons with a direct access to the text in PDF and HTML format.

Illustration 50: Access an item — icons or links

31982L0714: Council Directive 82/714/EEC of 4 October 1982 laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels Link

OJ L 301, 28.10.1982, p. 1-66 (DA, DE, EL, EN, FR, IT, NL)
This document has been published in a special edition(s) (ES, PT, FI, SV, CS, ET, LV, LT, HU, MT, PL, SK, SL, BG, RO)

Direct text access:   Icon

Form: Directive Author: Council of the European Union
 Latest consolidated version: [01982L0714-20081230](#) Date of document: 04/10/1982

5.5.1.2 Access to data of an item

In order to access the data of an item in a search results list, click on the link in the title (see Illustration 50: Access an item — icons or links, above).

The item is displayed in a new window with several tabs: bibliographic notice, text, procedure (only if a procedure exists), summary (only for sector 6), summary of legislation (only when a summary of legislation is linked to this item), linked documents, all, etc.

The different categories appear as widgets and can be expanded or collapsed (see illustration, below).



Illustration 51: Access to an item in the search results list

First example: a regulation

[Back to result list](#) **A** Share

Document 32012R0465 Ask a question Save to My items Bookmark this item Download notice **B**

About this document | Text | Procedure | Linked documents | All | **C** Collapse all | Expand all

Title and reference

Regulation (EU) No 465/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2012 amending Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems and Regulation (EC) No 987/2009 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EC) No 883/2004
Text of relevance to the EEA and to the EU/Switzerland Agreement

OJ L 149, 8.6.2012, p. 4–10 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, GA, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV)
Special edition in Croatian: Chapter 05 Volume 006 P. 328 – 334

Languages, formats and link to OJ

BG ES CS DA DE ET EL EN FR GA HR IT LV LT HU MT NL PL PT RO SK SL FI SV

HTML PDF Official Journal

To see if this document has been published in an e-OJ with legal value, click on the icon above (For OJs published before 1st July 2013, only the paper version has legal value).

Multilingual display

Language 1: English (en) | Language 2: Please choose | Language 3: Please choose | **Display** **D**

Text

8.6.2012 | EN | Official Journal of the European Union | L 149/4

REGULATION (EU) No 465/2012 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 22 May 2012
amending Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems and Regulation (EC) No 987/2009 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EC) No 883/2004
(Text of relevance to the EEA and to the EU/Switzerland Agreement)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,
Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 48 thereof,
Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,
After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,
Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure (1),

Second example: a judgment of the Court

[Back to result list](#) **A** Share

Document 62003CJ0150 Ask a question Save to My items Bookmark this item Download notice **B**

About this document | Text | Linked documents | All | Summary | **C** Collapse all | Expand all

Title and reference

Judgment of the Court (Second Chamber) of 23 September 2004.
Chantal Hectors v European Parliament.
Appeal – Officials – Temporary staff in the European Parliament's political groups – Recruitment – Rejection of candidature – Grounds – Requirement of a statement of specific reasons.
Case C-150/03 P.

European Court Reports 2004 I-08691
• ECLI identifier: ECLI:EU:C:2004:555

Languages and formats available

BG ES CS DA DE ET EL EN FR GA HR IT LV LT HU MT NL PL PT RO SK SL FI SV

HTML PDF

Multilingual display

Language 1: English (en) | Language 2: Please choose | Language 3: Please choose | **Display** **D**

Text

Case C-150/03 P
Chantal Hectors
v
European Parliament
(Appeal – Officials – Temporary staff in the European Parliament's political groups – Recruitment – Rejection of candidature – Grounds – Requirement of a statement of specific reasons)

Summary of the judgment

1. *Officials – Decision adversely affecting an official – Recruitment of a member of the temporary staff by a political group of the Parliament – Rejection of an application – Duty to state reasons at the latest when rejecting a complaint – Scope*
(Staff Regulations, Art. 25, second para.)

2. *Officials – Actions – Actions for damages – Failure to calculate the loss, in the application, or to justify that omission – Inadmissible*
(Rules of Procedure of the Court of First Instance, Art. 44(1))

1. The duty to state reasons imposed by the second paragraph of Article 25 of the Staff Regulations and, as regards decisions taken as a result of a complaint, that imposed by the second subparagraph of Article 90(2) thereof, are intended, on the one hand, to provide the persons concerned with sufficient details to enable them to assess whether the decision was well founded and whether it would be expedient to bring legal proceedings to contest its legality and, on the other hand, to enable the Court to review the decision.

In the case of a decision involving a choice between several candidates, the appointing authority or, by analogy, the authority authorised to conclude



The illustrations above show:

- navigation buttons in order to return to the results list or to switch to another item in the list of results (reference A);
- the CELEX number of the displayed item (reference B);
- a tab bar (reference C);
- the language selection for a multilingual display (reference D).

Note: from this window you can also click on the icons and access the text in HTML or PDF format. Note also that the display of this window can vary depending upon the type and nature of the visualised document.

5.5.1.3 Visualisation: bibliographic notice and multilingual display

Bibliographic notice

In order to visualise the bibliographic notice, click on [About this document](#) (see Illustration 51: Access to an item in the search results list — reference C, page 40).

Illustration 52: Examples of bibliographic notices

Bibliographic notice for a regulation

Document 120055A > [Save to My items](#) [Bookmark this item](#) [Download n](#)

About this document | **Text** | [Linked documents](#) | [All](#)

Title and reference

Act concerning the conditions of accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania founded

OJ L 157, 21.6.2005, p. 203–375 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, GA, IT, LV, LT, ...)

Authentic language

- Authentic language: Bulgarian, Spanish, Czech, Danish, German, Estonian, Greek, Dutch, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Finnish, Swedish

Dates

- Date of document: 25/04/2005
- Date of effect: 01/01/2007; Entry into force See 120055/TTE/04 – P2
- Date of signature: 25/04/2005; Luxembourg
- Date of end of validity: 31/12/9999

Classifications

- Subject matter: [Accession](#) [anti-discrimination](#)

Miscellaneous information

- Author: Bulgaria, Romania, The Member States
- Form: Treaty
- Depositary: Italy – Government

Bibliographic notice for a judgment of the Court

Document 62003CJ0150 > [Save to My items](#) [Bookmark this item](#) [Downl](#)

About this document | **Text** | [Linked documents](#) | [All](#) | [Summary](#)

Title and reference

Judgment of the Court (Second Chamber) of 23 September 2004.
Chantal Hectors v European Parliament.
Appeal – Officials – Temporary staff in the European Parliament’s political groups – a statement of specific reasons.
Case C-150/03 P.

European Court Reports 2004 I-08691

- ECLI identifier: ECLI:EU:C:2004:555

Authentic language

- Authentic language: French

Dates

- Date of document: 23/09/2004
- Date lodged: 31/03/2003

Classifications

- Subject matter: [Staff regulations and employment conditions – EC](#)
- Case law directory code:
 1. F-03.05 Staff cases / [Rights and obligations of officials](#) / [Individual decisions](#) / [F-18 Staff cases](#) / [Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Parliament](#)
 2. F-16.06.01 Staff cases / [Judicial proceedings](#) / [Actions for damages](#) / [Rules](#)

Miscellaneous information

- Author: Court of Justice

Multilingual display

Click on the ‘Text’ tab (see Illustration 51: Access to an item in the search results list — reference C, page 40).

Three drop-down menus allow the user to display the text of the document in one, two or three languages (see Illustration 51: Access to an item in the search results list — reference D, page 40). Make a choice and confirm with the ‘Display’ button.

As shown in the following illustration, the text is displayed in several languages columns: the different sections of the text are well-aligned in the different languages.



For hands-on examples on the multilingual display, please check our tutorial in the Guided Tour page: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/guided-tour/multilingual-display.html>

Illustration 53: Multilingual display

The screenshot shows the 'Multilingual display' interface for Regulation (EU) No 465/2012. It features three columns of text corresponding to the selected languages: English (en), French (fr), and Romanian (ro). At the top, there are dropdown menus for selecting the language and a 'Display' button. Below the language selection, there are buttons for 'Display information about this document' and 'Back to unilingual display'. The main content area is divided into three columns, each showing the text of the regulation in the respective language. The English column is on the left, the French column is in the middle, and the Romanian column is on the right. The text in each column is aligned and formatted consistently, showing the title, the date, and the main body of the regulation.

5.5.2 Save an item in My EUR-Lex

When you display a search item, you can save it to My EUR-Lex by clicking on 'Save to My Items' at the top of the window (see Illustration 51: Access to an item in the search results list — reference B, page 40) in which the item is displayed.

You can also select an item (without opening it) in the search results list by ticking the box on the left and saving it into My EUR-Lex with a click on the button displayed at the top of the search results window (see Illustration 42: Search results — reference B, page 34).

Either way, a window will appear to let you save the item in My EUR-Lex (see following illustration).

Illustration 54: Save an item in My EUR-Lex

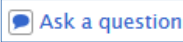
The screenshot shows a 'Save item' dialog box. It has a title bar that says 'Save item'. Inside the dialog, there are three main sections: 'Folder', 'Folder name', and 'Comment (optional)'. The 'Folder' section has a dropdown menu with 'Create new folder' selected. The 'Folder name' section has a text input field. The 'Comment (optional)' section has a larger text area. At the bottom of the dialog, there are two buttons: 'Save' and 'Cancel'.

5.5.3 Bookmark an item

If your Internet browser supports automatic bookmarking, you can add an item by clicking on the button visible at the top of the window (see Illustration 51: Access to an item in the search results list — reference B, page 40) in which the item is displayed.



5.5.4 Ask a question about an item

If you are signed in to My EUR-Lex, you can ask a question about the displayed item in the user community, by clicking on the  link visible at the top of the screen (see Illustration 51: Access to an item in the search results list — reference B, page 40). To discover more about the user community, refer to the section dealing with this subject (see Section 3.5: User community, page 18).

5.5.5 Download the notice in XML


The bibliographic notice, with the metadata of the document, can be downloaded in XML by clicking on the  button available with all the other icons alongside the document number (see top of Illustration 51: Access to an item in the search results list — reference B, page 40). The illustration below shows an example of a bibliographic notice in XML.

Illustration 55 : Example of a bibliographic notice in XML

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
- <NOTICE type="branch" decoding="eng">
  - <WORK>
    - <URI>
      <VALUE>http://publications.europa.eu/resource/cellar/a8a3c4f2-c66f-11e1-b84a-01aa75ed71a1</VALUE>
      <IDENTIFIER>a8a3c4f2-c66f-11e1-b84a-01aa75ed71a1</IDENTIFIER>
      <TYPE>cellar</TYPE>
    </URI>
    - <SAMEAS>
      - <URI>
        <VALUE>http://publications.europa.eu/resource/celex/32012R0465</VALUE>
        <IDENTIFIER>32012R0465</IDENTIFIER>
        <TYPE>celex</TYPE>
      </URI>
      - <SAMEAS>
        - <URI>
          <VALUE>http://publications.europa.eu/resource/oj/JOL\_2012\_149\_R\_0004\_01</VALUE>
          <IDENTIFIER>JOL_2012_149_R_0004_01</IDENTIFIER>
          <TYPE>oj</TYPE>
        </URI>
        - <SAMEAS>
          - <URI>
            <VALUE>http://publications.europa.eu/resource/cellar/e6b4ce87-40db-4e5f-8a18-c3a666486dd1</VALUE>
            <IDENTIFIER>e6b4ce87-40db-4e5f-8a18-c3a666486dd1</IDENTIFIER>
            <TYPE>cellar</TYPE>
          </URI>
          - <SAMEAS>
            - <URI>
              <VALUE>http://publications.europa.eu/resource/celex/12010E048</VALUE>
              <IDENTIFIER>12010E048</IDENTIFIER>
              <TYPE>celex</TYPE>
            </URI>
            - <SAMEAS>
              - <BASED_ON>
                - <WORK_HAS_EXPRESSION type="link">
                  - <EMBEDDED_NOTICE>
                    - <WORK>
                      - <WORK_IS_ABOUT_CONCEPT_EUROVOC type="concept_facet">
                        - <WORK_IS_ABOUT_CONCEPT_EUROVOC_CONCEPT type="concept">
                          - <URI>
                            <VALUE>http://eurovoc.europa.eu/1946</VALUE>
                            <IDENTIFIER>1946</IDENTIFIER>
                            <TYPE>EUROVOC</TYPE>
                          </URI>
                          <IDENTIFIER>1946</IDENTIFIER>
                          <PRELABEL>labour mobility</PRELABEL>
                          <ALTLABEL>worker exchange</ALTLABEL>
                          <ALTLABEL>staff mobility</ALTLABEL>
                          <ALTLABEL>employee mobility</ALTLABEL>
```



6. Browse the collections

For greater flexibility, EUR-Lex lets you browse documents by collection.

These collections cover:

- the Official Journal;
- EU law and related documents;
 - treaties;
 - legislation in force;
 - consolidated legislation;
 - EFTA documents;
 - preparatory acts;
 - EU case-law;
 - Parliamentary questions;
 - international agreements;
- national law;
 - national implementing measures;
 - national case-law;
 - JURE
- legislative procedures.

To access the collections, use the horizontal menu at the top of the screen (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.2). When accessing the collections, a menu appears to the left of the screen via which you can easily switch from one collection to another.

A description of the collection is also displayed (see Illustration 56: Browse by collections, below).

Illustration 56: Browse by collections

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex interface for the 'Treaties' collection. At the top, there is a horizontal navigation menu with tabs for 'Home', 'Official Journal', 'EU law and related documents' (which is active), 'National law', 'Legislative procedures', and 'More'. Below the navigation menu, there is a sidebar on the left with a 'Treaties' section expanded, showing sub-items: 'Search in treaties', 'Treaties currently in force', 'Founding treaties', 'Accession Treaties', 'Other treaties and protocols', and 'Chronological overview'. The main content area has a 'Treaties' header with a search icon and a 'Share' button. Below the header, there is a descriptive paragraph: 'The EU treaties are binding agreements between EU member countries. They set out EU objectives, rules for EU institutions, how decisions are made and the relationship between the EU and its member countries. Every action taken by the EU is founded on treaties. Treaties are amended to make the EU more efficient and transparent, prepare for new member countries and introduce new areas of cooperation. EUR-Lex contains the **founding, amending and accession treaties**, as well as some **protocols**.' Below this, there is a section titled 'Treaties currently in force' with a list of links: 'Treaty of Lisbon (2007)', 'Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (Consolidated version 2012)', 'Treaty on European Union (Consolidated version 2012)', 'Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community (Consolidated version 2012)', and 'Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (2012)'. At the bottom of the main content area, there is a list of sub-items: 'Treaties currently in force', 'Founding treaties', 'Accession Treaties', 'Other treaties and protocols', 'Chronological overview', and 'Search in treaties'.

6.1 Items common to all collections

All collections offer a specific advanced search and access to recent publications.



6.1.1 Specific advanced search

By accessing a collection, you will find a 'Search in ...' link such as [Search in legislation](#) (see Illustration 56: Browse by collections, page 44). This link leads you to the advanced search (see Section 4.3: Advanced search: the logic of the search fields, page 22) Advanced search: the logic of the search fields

where various fields (for example, the domain) are automatically selected according to the collection consulted.

6.1.2 Recently published

To obtain a list of recent publications in a collection, click on [Recently published](#) (see Illustration 56: Browse by collections, page 44).

6.2 Collections with directories

The collections of legislation, consolidated legislation, preparatory acts and international agreements use the same classification system, containing 20 topics. As an example, click on

[Directory of European Union legislation](#) in order to access the directory for the legislation collection (see Illustration 56: Browse by collections, page 44). The following illustration shows the directory.

Illustration 57: Directory of European Union legislation in force

Directory of European Union legislation

Browse by **subject** to find EU legislation currently in force:

Main document types

- agreements
- directives
- regulations
- decisions

This directory also contains [consolidated texts](#).

[Chapter 01](#), [Chapter 02](#), [Chapter 03](#), [Chapter 04](#), [Chapter 05](#), [Chapter 06](#), [Chapter 07](#), [Chapter 08](#), [Chapter 09](#), [Chapter 10](#), [Chapter 11](#), [Chapter 12](#), [Chapter 13](#), [Chapter 14](#), [Chapter 15](#), [Chapter 16](#), [Chapter 17](#), [Chapter 18](#), [Chapter 19](#), [Chapter 20](#).

Download all PDF files
(15/03/2015)

Display [links to all related documents and all consolidated documents](#) **A**
for [legislation in force](#) **B**

- ▶ **01 General, financial and institutional matters** (number of acts: 1340)
- ▶ **02 Customs Union and free movement of goods** (number of acts: 1077)
- ▶ **03 Agriculture** (number of acts: 3364)
- ▶ **04 Fisheries** (number of acts: 1402)
- ▶ **05 Freedom of movement for workers and social policy** (number of acts: 641)
- ▶ **06 Right of establishment and freedom to provide services** (number of acts: 368)
- ▶ **07 Transport policy** (number of acts: 810)
- ▶ **08 Competition policy** (number of acts: 1861)
- ▶ **09 Taxation** (number of acts: 202)
- ▶ **10 Economic and monetary policy and free movement of capital** (number of acts: 576)
- ▶ **11 External relations** (number of acts: 4176)
- ▶ **12 Energy** (number of acts: 435)
- ▶ **13 Industrial policy and internal market** (number of acts: 1689)
- ▶ **14 Regional policy and coordination of structural instruments** (number of acts: 395)
- ▶ **15 Environment, consumers and health protection** (number of acts: 2156)
- ▶ **16 Science, information, education and culture** (number of acts: 467)
- ▶ **17 Law relating to undertakings** (number of acts: 119)
- ▶ **18 Common Foreign and Security Policy** (number of acts: 618)
- ▶ **19 Area of freedom, security and justice** (number of acts: 718)
- ▶ **20 People's Europe** (number of acts: 25)



You can expand the headings. To see a list of documents in the classification headings, click on the reference of the number of acts in each heading (see above).

You can also get a PDF with the complete chapter by selecting the classification in the list of these 20 classifications at the top of the directory (see above).

Some choices are available. The list item [links to all consolidated documents](#) (see reference A in the illustration above) allows you to limit your search to the consolidated documents. Remember that these have only an information value. The choice list [links to latest consolidated documents](#) (see reference A in the illustration above) allows you to search in the legislation in force or in all the documents whose validity date has been reached.

There is also a directory of European Union case-law. Actually there are two directories. After the signature of the Lisbon Treaty, modifications were made. The scheme used to classify case-law from 1954 to 2009 has been modified and has resulted in the creation of a new scheme applicable to the case-law since 2010.

You can access these directories by consulting the 'European Union Case-law' collection, by clicking on the link [Classification scheme before the Lisbon Treaty \(2009\)](#) / [Systematic classification scheme after the Lisbon Treaty \(2010\)](#) visible above the classification scheme. Some cases can be classified according to both the old and the new classification scheme. In order to display these cases, tick the box Show cases from both classification schemes. (see below).

Illustration 58: Directory of European Union case-law

Classification scheme of the case-law before the Lisbon Treaty

- ▶ **1 The legal order of the European Union** (number of acts: 615)
- ▶ **2 Institutional framework of the European Union** (number of acts: 719)
- ▶ **3 Legal proceedings** (number of acts: 2604)
- ▶ **4 Internal policy of the European Union** (number of acts: 3318)
- **5 Association of Overseas Countries and Territories** (number of acts: 0)
- ▶ **6 External policy** (number of acts: 252)
- ▶ **7 General and final provisions** (number of acts: 32)
- ▶ **8 Accession of new Member States** (number of acts: 20)
- ▶ **9 Staff cases** (number of acts: 667)

Classification scheme of the case-law after the Lisbon Treaty

- ▶ **A The Community legal order** (number of acts: 1213)
- ▶ **B European Community (EEC/EC)** (number of acts: 10646)
- ▶ **C European Coal and Steel Community** (number of acts: 352)
- ▶ **D European Atomic Energy Community** (number of acts: 58)
- ▶ **E Convention on jurisdiction and the enforcement of judgments** (number of acts: 144)
- ▶ **F Staff cases** (number of acts: 2168)
- ▶ **G European Union** (number of acts: 36)
- **H Convention on the law applicable to contractual obligations** (number of acts: 1)

6.3 Collections with peculiarities

Some collections have certain peculiarities which will be outlined in this section, which may be useful for your searches.



6.3.1 Official Journal — direct access, special editions and authentic OJ

6.3.1.1 Direct access to the Official Journal

Clicking on [Official Journal](#) [EU law and related documents](#) in the horizontal menu on top of the screen (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.2) gives you direct access to the Official Journal (see Illustration 59: Direct access to the Official Journal — reference A, below). You can access an issue of the Official Journal directly if you know the year, the series and the number. Just fill in the data in the screen shown below and confirm using the small button on the right of the area where the number of the OJ to be searched for was filled in ().

Illustration 59: Direct access to the Official Journal

Direct access to the Official Journal

Year: 2015 | OJ series: All | OJ sub-series: All | OJ number: 🔍

Access by year

Year: 2015 | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | All

Recent issues

Results 1 – 19 of 19

Date	L (Legislation)	C (Information and Notices)
17/03/2015	L072 L073	C090
16/03/2015		C089

You can also perform a quick search on year and month (see Illustration 59: Direct access to the Official Journal — reference B, above). The list of issues of the Official Journal, corresponding to the searched year and month, will be displayed instead of the recent issues shown above. This view appears when the page is refreshed. If you want to display the old page again, click on [Official Journal](#) [EU law and related documents](#).

6.3.1.2 Access to the special editions of the Official Journal:

To find the special editions of the OJ, use the [Special edition](#) link (see Illustration 59: Direct access to the Official Journal — reference D, above). A special edition is issued when a new Member State joins the EU. This edition contains the secondary law in force at the date of accession of this country. The acts published are integrated in the 20 chapter classification headings, corresponding to the 'Directory of European Union legislation in force'. A special edition in Croatian has been available on EUR-Lex since the recent accession of Croatia (July 2013).

6.3.1.3 Access to the authentic Official Journal:

The printed edition of the Official Journal has legal value for the issues published up until 1 July 2013. From that date, the electronic edition of the OJ (e-OJ) is authentic and produces legal effects, pursuant to Council Regulation (EU) No 216/2013.

Due to this, the printed version no longer has legal value. Nevertheless the publication of the electronic version can be impossible, due to an unforeseen and exceptional disruption of the Publications Office's IT systems. In such cases access the printed version, producing legal effects, can



be accessed through the links [Legally binding print editions](#) or [Legally binding print editions](#) (see Illustration 59: Direct access to the Official Journal — reference E, above). The following illustration is an example of the screen showing the access to legally binding print editions.

Illustration 60: Official Journal: legally binding print editions

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Home, Official Journal, EU law and related documents, National law, Legislative procedures, and More. The main heading is 'Official Journal - Print editions with legal effect'. Below this, there is a text block explaining that as of 1 July 2013, the electronic edition of the OJ (e-OJ) is authentic and produces legal effects, but for certain OJs, the paper version has legal value. There are sections for 'Direct access to print editions with legal effect' with filters for Year (2015), OJ series (All), OJ sub-series (All), and OJ number. Another section is for 'Direct access to print editions with legal effect (special editions)' with filters for Language, Volume, and Chapter. Below these are 'Access by year' filters and a table of results. The table shows two results:

Date	L (Legislation)	C (Information and Notices)
20/12/2013	L347	
25/07/2014	L221	

For more information about the electronic edition of the Official Journal, see the following page:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/oj/e-oj.html>

In order to guarantee the authenticity, integrity and inalterability of the OJ, each electronic OJ issue carries an advanced electronic signature. The Publications Office has developed the CheckLex application, with which the electronic signature and the authenticity of the electronic Official Journal can be checked (<https://checklex.publications.europa.eu/faces/VerifySignature.xhtml?lang=EN>).

How to use CheckLex

First step: download the text in PDF () and the electronic signature () of the document whose authenticity you want to verify (see illustration below).

Illustration 61: CheckLex, download of PDF and electronic signature

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex website interface for document L:2013:233:TOC. It includes navigation tabs, a breadcrumb trail, and options to save, bookmark, or download the document. The document title is 'Official Journal of the European Union, L 233, 31 August 2013'. Below this, there is a section for 'Languages and formats available' with a grid of icons for different languages and formats:

	BG	ES	CS	DA	DE	ET	EL	EN	FR	GA	HR	IT	LV	LT	HU	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SK	SL	FI	SV
HTML																								
PDF																								
e-signature																								

At the bottom, there is a note: 'To verify the electronic signature and authentic character of the OJ, download the PDF file of the e-OJ and its signature, then use CheckLex. The paper version of the OJ has legal value for OJs published before 1 July 2013, the date Regulation (EU) No 216/2013 entered into force.'



Second step: access the CheckLex website

(<https://checklex.publications.europa.eu/faces/VerifySignature.xhtml?lang=EN>) and follow the instructions: select the two files (PDF and electronic signature), introduce the code and confirm the verification request (see next illustration). You can easily access CheckLex through the link visible on the illustration above.

Illustration 62 : CheckLex, authenticity verification of the document

1. Select a document for verification

Select Document... (no file selected)

Select Associated Signature... (no file selected)

2. Start the verification

This helps to ensure that a person, not an automated program, is submitting the verification request.

[Show a different image](#)

Type the letters you see in the image above:

No distinction is made between upper and lower case letters.

Verify Signature

The result of the verification, either positive or negative, appears quickly (see illustration below)

Illustration 63 : CheckLex, verification results of document authenticity

Verification Result

The document is authentic.

[Show Signature Details](#)

Verification Result

The signature is INVALID.

Failure Details

Failure Code: C-100

Failure Message: The electronic signature does not correspond to the document

6.3.2 Preparatory acts — direct access to COM, JOIN and SWD documents

In the 'Preparatory acts' collection, there is direct access to COM, JOIN and SWD documents. The definition of these types of documents was given previously (see Table 2: COM, JOIN, SWD and SEC documents of sector 5 (Preparatory acts) of EUR-Lex, page 8). This access operates with drop-down menus situated at the bottom of the screen (see Illustration 64: Preparatory acts — direct access to COM, JOIN and SWD, ci-dessous).



Illustration 64: Preparatory acts — direct access to COM, JOIN and SWD documents

6.3.3 Case-law of the European Union — ECLI

6.3.3.1 Direct access

Direct access to EU case-law is available (see illustration below). Document type, Court and case number can be chosen.

Illustration 65 : Direct access to EU case-law

6.3.3.2 ECLI

The ECLI (European Case Law Identifier) identifier was introduced in 2011 in order to facilitate the further development of EU case-law databases. In EUR-Lex, ECLI identifies the documents of sector 6 and sector 8.

The ECLI consists of five components, separated by colons (:) in the following order:

- abbreviation 'ECLI';
- country code (two digits);
- court code (one to seven digits);
- year of the decision (four digits);
- unique number identifying the judgment (maximum 25 digits; dots allowed).

The fifth part of the ECLI is a sequential number, restarted every year and specific for every jurisdiction.

Examples of ECLI identifiers:

- ECLI:EU:C:1998:27 is the 27th decision of the Court of Justice in 1998.
- ECLI:EU:F:2010:80 is the 80th decision of the Civil Service Tribunal in 2010.
- ECLI:EU:T:2012:426 is the 426th decision of the General Court in 2012.



Illustration 66: Search by ECLI in the advanced search

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced search' interface on EUR-Lex. At the top, there are options to 'Limit to documents published in Court Reports' and 'Search also in case law summaries', along with 'Search' and 'Clear' buttons. The 'Collection' dropdown menu is set to 'EU case law'. Below this, the 'EU CASE LAW' section is expanded, showing 'Text search' options (Search, OR, NOT) with checkboxes for 'In title' and 'In text'. A 'Search hints' box provides examples like 'Implementing regulation = Implementing AND regulation'. The 'Document reference' section includes fields for 'Year' and 'Number', and radio buttons for 'Type' (All, Judgment, Order, Advocate General's opinion, Third-party proceedings, Opinion, Attachment order, Judicial information). The 'Author of the document' section has radio buttons for 'Court' (All, Court of Justice, General Court, Civil Service Tribunal). The 'Search by ECLI' section is highlighted with a red box, showing the 'European Case Law Identifier' and an 'ECLI:' input field. Below it is the 'Search by Celex number' section.

You can search by ECLI in the following collections: 'EU case law', 'National case-law' and 'JURE — jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters'.

6.3.4 Legislative procedures: use of the timeline

When you view a document (see Section 5.5.1.2: Access to data of an item, page 39) that has been part of a legislative procedure, you can visualise it by clicking on the 'procedure' tab. The different steps of the procedure are displayed as milestones. In order to get details about any one of them, put the pointer of your mouse on top of it (see illustration below).



Illustration 67: Legislative procedures — the timeline

Home Official Journal EU law and related documents National law Legislative procedures More

Back to result list | Next >>

Document 51990PC0407(01) > Ask a question Save to My items Bookmark this item

About this document Text Procedure Linked documents All

Procedure
COM (1990) 407 - 1: There's no title for the procedure.

Adoption by Commission
COM/1990/407/FINAL/1
CS/1990/9163/90/AGRIORG376/AGRIFIN305
JO C/1990/297/1
1141 ; 51990PC0407(01)
19/09/1990
[Details]

European Commission
European Parliament
Council of the European Union

1990 1991
Collapse all | Expand all

Legal basis: Commission: Traité/adhésion/ESPAGNE-PORTUGAL-CEE/acte joint/art234/par2 ; Traité/CEE
Procedure:
Type of file: Commission: Proposal for a Regulation
Council of the European Union: Regulation

You can also find a procedure using its number in the quick search (see Section 4.1 Quick search, page 20.). For example, if you enter the values **COM (1990) 407** in the quick search box, with a space before and after the brackets, you will directly find the related COM document. You can also search procedures even if they have not yet given rise to any document. Choose 'Legislative procedures' in the main menu at the top of the page (see following illustration).

Illustration 68: Search for legislative procedures

Home Official Journal EU law and related documents National law Legislative procedures More

- Search in legislative procedures
- Recently published

6.3.5 National law: national implementing measures, national case-law, N-Lex and JURE

In order to access national law, click on 'National law' in the horizontal menu situated at the top of the EUR-Lex window (see Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.2). The following illustration shows the access to national law.

Illustration 69: Access to national law

Home Official Journal EU law and related documents National law Legislative procedures More

N-Lex

National law

- National implementing measures: Each EU Member State has its own law and legal system. In addition, they are bound by EU and international law. Find out more on the [interaction between EU and national law](#).
- National case-law: Member States law is made available through national databases. N-Lex links most of these: [N-Lex collection page](#).
- JURE: Part of the EU legislation has direct effect in the Member States. This is the case for Regulations and Decisions. Directives on the other hand have to be implemented by Member States into their national law: [MNE collection page](#). The courts of the Member States apply and interpret national and EU law. Most Member States have one or more databases of their case law. In addition, EUR-Lex gives access to national case law references concerning EU law: [national case law collection page](#). The JURE collection gives public access to relevant judgments from national courts and the EU Court of Justice under the Brussels and Lugano Conventions, and Regulation No 44/2001. Read more on [Curia website](#).

- N-Lex
- National implementing measures
- National case-law
- JURE - jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters



The illustration above shows the different ways to access national law:

- Access to N-Lex;
- National implementing measures (sector 7 of EUR-Lex) (see Table 1: The 12 sectors of EUR-Lex, page 6);
- An access to national case-law (sector 8 of EUR-Lex) (see Table 1: The 12 sectors of EUR-Lex, page 6).
- An access to JURE

6.3.5.1 National implementing measures

By choosing 'Search in national implementing measures' in the menu visible on the left of your screen (see Illustration 69: Access to national law, page 52), you will get a form as shown below.

Illustration 70: Search in national implementing measures

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced search' interface for 'National implementing measures'. At the top, there is a 'Collection' dropdown menu set to 'National implementing measures' and a 'Choose multiple collections' button. Below this, the search criteria are organized into several sections:

- NATIONAL IMPLEMENTING MEASURES**
 - Text search**
 - Search for titles in the original language of the implementing measure. (Info icon)
 - Search Find results containing: (Help icon) [Text input field]
 - OR Add results containing: [Text input field]
 - + OR conditions
 - NOT Remove results containing: [Text input field]
 - + NOT conditions
 - National Implementing Measures for Directive**
 - Year [Text input field] Number [Text input field]
 - CELEX number of the Directive [Text input field with value '3']
 - Author of the document**
 - Member states [Dropdown menu with value 'All']
 - Search by CELEX number of National Implementing Measures**
 - CELEX number [Text input field with value '7']

Search hints are provided on the right side of the text search section:

- *Implementing regulation = Implementing AND regulation*
- "" exact phrase search
- * replace 0 to n characters
- ? replace a single character

At the bottom of the form, there are 'Search' and 'Clear' buttons.



6.3.5.2 National case-law

In order to search in national case-law, click on the link ‘Search in national case-law’ in the menu visible on the left of your screen (see Illustration 69: Access to national law, page 52). This will take you to the advanced search form for national case-law.

Illustration 71: search in national case-law

Advanced search ? Share

Collection
National case-law

NATIONAL CASE-LAW

Text search
Search for titles in the original language of the case. Titles in Bulgarian and Greek must be transliterated

Search Find results containing:

OR Add results containing:

NOT Remove results containing:

Instruments cited

All

Treaties
Choose a treaty: Article:

Secondary legislation
Secondary legislation: Year:

EU case law
EU case law: Year: Number:

CELEX number:

Author of the document
Country:

Search by ECLI
European Case Law Identifier
ECLI:

Search by Celex number
CELEX number:

Date of document

Specific date:

Date range: -

Valid formats:

- yyyy
- mm/yyyy
- dd/mm/yyyy

Theme
Subject matter:

Reference for preliminary ruling
Year: Number:



You can also access the recent publications by choosing the link 'Recently published' associated with the search in the national case-law. You will find it on the left side of the screen (see Illustration 69: Access to national law page 52).

6.3.5.3 N-Lex

N-Lex was developed for enterprises, administrations, national parliaments, universities, lawyers and the general public. It provides searches of national legal databases. N-Lex uses EuroVoc, the multilingual and multidisciplinary thesaurus of the European Union (see Section 4.3.1.8: Theme, page 31). Clicking on the N-Lex link will take you to the N-Lex website (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/n-lex/index_en.htm).

6.3.5.4 JURE

JURE (Jurisdiction Recognition Enforcement) is a system for exchanging information about the pertinent decisions made in civil and commercial law in order to apply the Convention of Brussels of 1968, the Convention of Lugano of 1988, the new Convention of Lugano of 2007 and the so-called 'Brussels I', 'Brussels II' and 'new Brussels II' regulations. JURE is a database containing more than 3 500 decisions of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

To search in JURE, select JURE as subdomain in the advanced search (see following illustration).

Illustration 72: Search in JURE

Advanced search

Search Clear

Collection
JURE - jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in ci Choose multiple collections

JURE - JURISDICTION AND THE RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENTS IN CIVIL AND COMMERCIAL MATTERS

Text search

Search Find results containing:

In title
 In text

OR Add results containing:

In title
 In text

+ OR conditions

NOT Remove results containing:?

In title
 In text

+ NOT conditions

Instruments involved

Display documents delivered under

Brussels Convention (1968)
 Lugano Convention (1988)
 Brussels I Regulation (2000)
 Brussels II Regulation (2000)

Search hints:

- Implementing regulation =
Implementing AND regulation
- " exact phrase search
- * replace 0 to n characters
- ? replace a single character

You can also access JURE through the horizontal menu on the homepage (see Illustration 69: Access to national law, page 52).



6.3.6 Summaries of EU Legislation

The Summaries of EU legislation inform on the main aspects of the European legislation, policies and activities in a clear, easy-to-read and concise way for non-specialised audience. They focus primarily on secondary legislation (i.e. directives, regulations, decisions, etc.) but cover also other acts such as the Treaties, acts adopted by the Council, COM documents and, in some cases, they take into consideration even the decisions of the Court. They cover 32 topics corresponding to the activities of the European Union.

You can access the summaries either from the 'More' tab in the horizontal menu on the top of the screen (See Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.1.2) by clicking on

• Summaries of EU Legislation

or by clicking on

► Summaries of EU Legislation

in the left menu of the homepage

(See Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex, page 10 — reference 2.2.3). You will then be redirected to the page displayed on Illustration 73: Access to the Summaries of EU Legislation ci-dessous.

Illustration 73: Access to the Summaries of EU Legislation

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs: Home, Official Journal, EU law and related documents, National law, Legislative procedures, and More (which is selected). Below the navigation bar, there is a left sidebar with a 'Summaries of EU Legislation' menu item. The main content area is titled 'Summaries of EU Legislation' and includes a search box labeled 'A', a list of links labeled 'B' and 'C', and a grid of topic buttons. The topic buttons are: Agriculture, Audiovisual and media, Budget, Competition, Consumers, Culture, Customs, Development, Economic and, Education, training, Employment and, and Energy.

In order to search in the summaries, you can either enter your search criteria in the 'Search in summaries of EU legislation' search box (see Illustration 73: Access to the Summaries of EU Legislation — reference A, above). In this box, you can use truncation in the same way as in the quick search.



Illustration 74: Advanced search in summaries

Advanced search in summaries
? Share

Include archived summaries Search Clear

▼ Words in text/title

Text search Search in In title and text ▼

[More options](#)

▼ Identifiers of summarised or linked documents

Document reference

Year	Number	Type	
<input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/>	All ▼	

CELEX number

▼ Search by date

Type of date All dates ▼

Specific date Date range

dd/mm/yyyy 📅 - dd/mm/yyyy 📅

Valid formats:

- yyyy
- mm/yyyy
- dd/mm/yyyy

▼ More search options

Topic +

Search Clear

You can also perform an advanced search by clicking on the ‘Advanced search in summaries’ link (see Illustration 73: Access to the Summaries of EU Legislation — reference B, page 56).

Recently published summaries of EU legislation can be accessed through the ‘Recently published’ link on the summaries page (see Illustration 73: Access to the Summaries of EU Legislation — reference C, page 56). They offer a list of summaries with the ‘date of last review’ from the last 6 months.

Illustration 75: Direct access to recently published summaries

Refine query
? Share

▼ Summaries by topic

[Internal market \(4\)](#)

[Transport \(3\)](#)

[Foreign and security policy \(2\)](#)

[Research and innovation \(2\)](#)

[Information society \(2\)](#)

See more... ▼

▼ Last review - by year

[2014 \(18\)](#)

[2015 \(2\)](#)

▼ By Eurovoc (1)

[technical regulations \(4\)](#)

[means of transport \(3\)](#)

[transport policy \(3\)](#)

[land transport \(3\)](#)

[operation of the Institutions \(3\)](#)

See more... ▼

Search criteria ▼

Subdomain: Summaries of EU Legislation, Date: Date of last review, From: 19/09/2014, To: 18/03/2015, Include archived summaries: True

Edit search
 Save to My searches
 Create in My RSS feeds

Save to My items

Sort by Date of last review ▼ and Descending ▼ and Relevancy ▼ and Ascending ▼

Results 1 – 10 of 20
[Export selection/Export all](#)
[Change displayed metadata](#)
[Clear selection](#)
1 2

Taxation of savings income

Direct text access: [HTML](#)

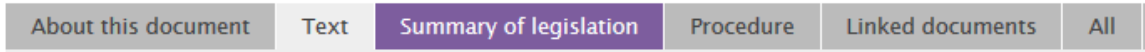
State aid elements in sales of land and buildings by public authorities

Direct text access: [HTML](#)

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)



You can also access the summaries directly via legal acts, if a summary is available on that document. The tab 'Summary of legislation' will appear in the tab bar as follows:



(see Illustration 51: Access to an item in the search results list — reference C, page 40 and section 5.5.1.2: Access to data of an item, page 39).



7. Conclusions

EUR-Lex: a portal offering access to European Union law

EUR-Lex offers centralised access to the legislation of the European Union law, where you can find:

- the Official Journal;
- the treaties;
- legislation in force;
- EU case-law;
- national case-law;
- Commission documents;
- legislative procedures.

Remember that the documents on EUR-Lex can be legally binding or have only an objective of documentation. A lot of information is provided about the documents found.

EUR-Lex: a modern and user-friendly interface

The EUR-Lex website has been continuously improved since 2004. The new version is a milestone in this development. It has a more modern and user-friendly interface, including widgets and the possibility for users to register with My EUR-Lex to get further options of customisation.

EUR-Lex: various search possibilities

EUR-Lex offers various levels of search. The search criteria are numerous and complete, allowing precise searches. Registered and signed-in users can keep their saved search criteria and results for as long as they are registered.

EUR-Lex: multilingualism

EUR-Lex is available in all the official languages of the European Union. You can display the text of a document in two or three languages simultaneously.

EUR-Lex: a website under constant improvement

EUR-Lex has been continuously improved since its launch. The content grows daily. New languages are taken into account to reflect the enlargement of the European Union to new Member States. A major new version has been rolled out and many improvements and new features will be added.



TABLE OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Table 1: The 12 sectors of EUR-Lex	6
Table 2: COM, JOIN, SWD and SEC documents in sector 5 (Preparatory acts) of EUR-Lex	8
Illustration 1: Homepage of EUR-Lex	10
Illustration 2: Homepage of EUR-Lex — horizontal menu	11
Illustration 3: Homepage of EUR-Lex — footer	12
Illustration 4: Homepage of EUR-Lex — icons	12
Illustration 5: Homepage of EUR-Lex: right menu	13
Illustration 6: Homepage of EUR-Lex — widgets	14
Illustration 7: Homepage of EUR-Lex — widgets: customisation.....	14
Illustration 8: Homepage of EUR-Lex — ‘Recently published’ widget	15
Illustration 9: Homepage of EUR-Lex — ‘See also’ widget.....	15
Illustration 10 : Homepage of EUR-Lex — ‘Find results by’ widget.....	16
Illustration 11: My EUR-Lex: register	16
Illustration 12: My EUR-Lex: not signed in mode and signed in mode	17
Illustration 13: My EUR-Lex — manage the user’s profile	17
Illustration 14: My EUR-Lex — Manage the user’s profile, search.....	17
Illustration 15: User community	18
Illustration 16: Quick search box on homepage	20
Illustration 17: Quick search on pages other than homepage	21
Illustration 18: Quick search — automatic suggestions.....	21
Illustration 19: the tabs of the ‘Find results by’ widget	21
Illustration 20: Advanced search form — All documents	23
Illustration 21: Advanced search — dynamic interface	24
Illustration 22: Advanced search — contextual help	25
Illustration 23: Advanced search, drop-down menu — selection of a collection	25
Illustration 24: Advanced search, drop-down menu — selection of multiple collections	25
Illustration 25: Advanced search — text search	26
Illustration 26: Advanced search — text search	26
Illustration 27: Advanced search — document reference	27
Illustration 28: Advanced search, document reference — other type of act	27
Illustration 29: Advanced search — author of the document.....	28
Illustration 30: Advanced search, author of the document — other.....	28
Illustration 31: Advanced search — search by CELEX number.....	29
Illustration 32: Advanced search, drop-down menu — date.....	29
Illustration 33: Advanced search, ‘date’ field.....	30
Illustration 34: Advanced search, published in the Official Journal — OJ series	30
Illustration 35: Advanced search, published in the Official Journal — OJ Special edition	31
Illustration 36: Advanced search — Theme	31
Illustration 37: Advanced search — search by EuroVoc.....	31
Illustration 38: Advanced search, search by EuroVoc (filter)	32
Illustration 39: Advanced search — Theme display in ‘Legislation’ Collection	32
Illustration 40: Advanced search — type of legislative procedure	32
Illustration 41: Search in expert search	33
Illustration 42: Search results	34
Illustration 43: Refine the search by using the facets (example).....	35
Illustration 44: Display of search results — sorting options	36
Illustration 45: Display of search results — metadata	36
Illustration 46: Save the search in My EUR-Lex.....	37



Illustration 47: Visualisation of saved searches in My EUR-Lex	37
Illustration 48: Export a list of search results.....	38
Illustration 49: Search history	38
Illustration 50: Access an item — icons or links.....	39
Illustration 51: Access to an item in the search results list.....	40
Illustration 52: Examples of bibliographic notices	41
Illustration 53: Multilingual display.....	42
Illustration 54: Save an item in My EUR-Lex	42
Illustration 55 : Example of a bibliographic notice in XML.....	43
Illustration 56: Browse by collections	44
Illustration 57: Directory of European Union legislation in force	45
Illustration 58: Directory of European Union case-law	46
Illustration 59: Direct access to the Official Journal.....	47
Illustration 60: Official Journal: legally binding print editions	48
Illustration 61: CheckLex, download of PDF and electronic signature.....	48
Illustration 62 : CheckLex, authenticity verification of the document.....	49
Illustration 63 : CheckLex, verification results of document authenticity	49
Illustration 64: Preparatory acts — direct access to COM, JOIN and SWD documents	50
Illustration 65 : Direct access to EU case-law.....	50
Illustration 66: Search by ECLI in the advanced search.....	51
Illustration 67: Legislative procedures — the timeline	52
Illustration 68: Search for legislative procedures	52
Illustration 69: Access to national law	52
Illustration 70: Search in national implementing measures	53
Illustration 71: search in national case-law.....	54
Illustration 72: Search in JURE	55
Illustration 73: Access to the Summaries of EU Legislation	56
Illustration 74: Advanced search in summaries	57
Illustration 75: Direct access to recently published summaries	57