

# EUR-LEX: THE EU LAW INFORMATION SERVICE

## A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO THE DATABASE

**Practical Law EU**

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# CHAPTER 1 WHAT IS AVAILABLE ON EUR-LEX?

EUR-Lex (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>), managed by the Publications Office of the EU, allows **free access to legislation** and other public documents of the EU in 24 languages.

The documents are organised in the following 12 sections:

- Treaties.
- International agreements.
- Legislation.
- Complementary legislation.
- Preparatory acts.
- Case law.
- National Implementing Measures.
- References to national case law regarding EU law.
- Parliamentary questions.
- Consolidated documents.
- Other documents published in the Official Journal C series.
- EFTA documents.

For explanations of the types of documents that can be found under each of these 12 sections, see [EUR-Lex: Types of documents in EUR-Lex.](#)

Key features on EUR-Lex include:

- **Official Journal:** the full text of all issues in PDF since 1952 in whichever sub-series and language versions that were published at the time. As of 1 July 2013, only the electronic editions of the Official Journal (e-OJ) are authentic and have legal force, except for circumstances described in Article 3 of *Regulation (EU) 216/2013 of 7 March 2013 on the electronic publication of the Official Journal*. You can verify the electronic signature and the authentic character of an e-OJ by using an application that is available on EUR-Lex. For more information, see *Chapter 9*.
- **Summaries of EU legislation:** summaries replacing the old SCADPLUS page. The EUR-Lex Helpdesk is working on the content of these pages. Over time, they intend to enlarge the scope of the summaries as much as possible. For more information, see *Chapter 7*.
- **Procedure page:** this allows you to follow legislative proposals from the moment they are published until the final laws are adopted. For more information, see *Chapter 4*.

In addition, there are a number of new interesting features available on EUR-Lex, including:

- **National Implementing Measures tab:** there is now a separate tab containing basic information about measures taken by member states to incorporate EU Directives into national law. See *Chapter 5*.
- **In force notification:** the results page now displays if a document is currently in force. See *Chapter 3*.
- **Text zoom functionality:** terms from your search will be highlighted in the results list. See *Chapter 3*.
- **Multi-lingual display for registered users:** you can preset your language options so that they display in your search results See *Chapter 11*.
- EUR-Lex has also made improvements to the search system which aims to return clearer results, such as including related corrigenda and case law summaries and also improved results when searching for a document number. See *Chapter 3*.

## CHAPTER 2 EUR-LEX HOMEPAGE BASICS

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex homepage with several key features highlighted:

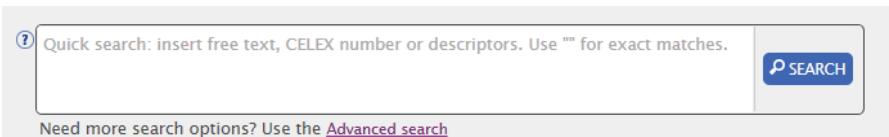
- Top Left:** A box points to the "EUR-Lex" logo with the subtext "Access to European Union law".
- Top Center:** A box points to the "Legislative procedures" menu item.
- Top Right:** A box points to the "Sign in here to access personalised My EUR-Lex area. See Chapter 11." link.
- Left Side:** A box points to the "Quick links for the latest editions of the Official Journal. See Chapter 9." section, which includes links for "OJ - current issue: L199 - C248" and "Quick links" (How to link to us, Types of documents in EUR-Lex, Summaries of EU Legislation, EU legislation on statistics, Budget, Legislative drafting guide, Previous version of EUR-Lex, and Latest developments on EUR-Lex). A separate box points to the "Link to old version of EUR-Lex."
- Middle Left:** A box points to the "Find results by" search widget, which has tabs for "Document number" and "CELEX number".
- Middle Center:** A box points to the "Recently published" widget, which displays recently published documents across various collections.
- Right Side:** A box points to the "My EUR-Lex" sidebar with links for "Sign in or Register", "My searches (0)", "My items (0)", and "My RSS feeds (0)". Another box points to the "RSS feeds" section. A third box points to the "Twitter" feed, which includes a tweet about fishing.
- Bottom Left:** A box points to the "Find results by" search function with the text: "Find results by" widget\* offers easy access to search functions. It is composed of two tabs: Document number and CELEX number. Details and examples of different search options are discussed in Chapter 3.
- Bottom Right:** A box points to the "Recently published" widget with the text: "Recently published" widget\* offers easy access to documents recently published in the following collections: legislation; international agreements; EU case-law; COM and JOIN documents; SWD documents; consolidated legislation and legislative procedures.

\*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. You can customise the number of items displayed in a widget with the button also available on the right part of the widget's title. By clicking on this button, a list will appear in order to choose how to customise the number of items displayed in the widget.

## CHAPTER 3 SEARCH OPTIONS

### 3.1 QUICK SEARCH

The “quick” search option can be found in the central part of the homepage.



The field has a predictive text function so will display suggestions as you type.

You can use “...” to search for an exact phrase, for example: “plastic carrier bags”. You can also use wildcards or wild characters:

- An asterisk (\*) replaces one or more characters (for example, road\* will find roadmap, roadworthiness, etc.).
- A question mark (?) replaces a single character (for example, t?x will find tax, taxation, textiles, etc.).

You can search by:

- The legislation number (see below *Example: searching using the legislation number*).
- Title.
- Text.
- Subject.
- Author.
- Directories of legislation and case-law.
- EUROVOC descriptors.
- Title of the legislative procedure.
- CELEX number (See *Chapter 10*).
- Code of the legislative procedure. The procedures and codes are:
  - Agreement (ACC).
  - Assent procedure (AVC).
  - Consultation of the Court of Auditors (CNC).
  - Consultation of the European Central Bank (CNB).
  - Cooperation procedure (SYN).
  - Non-legislative procedure (NLE).
  - Ordinary legislative procedure (COD).
  - Social protocol (PRT).
  - Special legislative procedure – EP consent required (APP).
  - Special legislative procedure – EP consulted (CNS).
- European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) (See *Chapter 10*).

#### **Example: searching using the legislation number**

We will search for Regulation (EU) 1307/2013 establishing rules for direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the common agricultural policy.

Start typing the number of the Directive, Decision or, in this case, Regulation, with spaces in between into the quick search field: Regulation (EU) 1307 / 2013. This will give you the most comprehensive list of results from EUR-Lex.

Regulation (EU) 1307 / 2013

Regulation (EU) 1307 / 2013

Regulation (EU) 1307 / 20130701

Regulation (EU) 1307 / 20130101

Regulation (EU) 1307 / 2013pdf

Regulation (EU) 1307 / 20138

Regulation (EU) 1307 / 20134

Regulation (EU) 1307 / 20131

Regulation (EU) 1307 / 2013the

Regulation (EU) 1307 / 20136

Select the correct option if it appears in the predictive list or click on the magnifying glass icon to run the search.

With the quick search option, the results will show all documents which include Regulation (EU) 1307/2013 somewhere in their title. Therefore, you may need to filter your results to find the correct document using the tools in the “Refine query” section on the left-hand side of the results page. You can also change what is displayed in the search results by clicking “change displayed metadata”.

Below the document there is added information to show whether an act is in force. The terms used in your search will also be highlighted.

**Refine query**

- By domain
  - EU law and related documents (153)
  - Official Journal (86)
- By subdomain
  - All (149)
  - Preparatory acts (83)
  - Legislation (54)
  - EU case law (9)
  - Parliamentary questions (4)
- See more...
- By year of document
  - 2015 (11)
  - 2014 (66)
  - 2013 (25)
  - 2012 (11)
  - 2011 (12)
- See more...
- By type of procedure
  - Ordinary legislative procedure (COD) (25)
  - Non-legislative procedure (NLE) (7)
  - Special legislative procedure - EP consulted (CNS) (2)
  - Codecision procedure (COD) (2)
  - Consultation procedure (CNS) (2)
- See more...
- By author
  - European Commission (123)
  - European Parliament (42)
  - Council of the European Union (14)

**Search criteria**

Search for: Regulation (EU) 1307 / 2013, Search language: English

Save to My searches  Create in My RSS feeds  Save to My items

Sort by: Default Descending

Results 1 – 10 of 185 [Export selection/Export](#) [Change displayed metadata](#) [Clear selection](#) 1 2 3 4 5

**32013R1307: Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing rules for direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 637/2008 and Council Regulation (EC) No 73/2009**  
*OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 608-670 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, GA, HR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV)*  
**Direct text access:** [HTML](#)  
**In force**  
 Form: Regulation  
 Latest consolidated version: 02013R1307-20150101

**Author:** European Parliament, Council of the European Union  
**Date of document:** 17/12/2013

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**32013R1306: Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 352/78, (EC) No 165/94, (EC) No 2799/98, (EC) No 814/2000, (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 485/2008**  
*OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 549-607 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, GA, HR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV)*  
**Direct text access:** [HTML](#)  
**In force**  
 Form: Regulation  
 Latest consolidated version: 02013R1306-20140101

**Author:** European Parliament, Council of the European Union  
**Date of document:** 17/12/2013

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**32013R1305: Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural**

## Example: searching for legislation using an acronym

We will search for Directive 2012/19/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on waste electrical and electronic equipment, known as the WEEE Directive.

In the Quick search box, type “WEEE”. The use of “...” will enable you to search for the exact phrase.

For this example, under “By type of act” on the left-hand side “Refine query” options select “Directive”. The top result gives you Directive 2012/19/EU.

You have selected:  
Directive x

Search criteria  
Search for: "WEEE", Search language: English, Form: Directive

Save to My searches Create in My RSS feeds Save to My items

Sort by Default Descending

Results 1 – 10 of 13 Export selection/Export all Change displayed metadata Clear selection 1 2

32012L0019: Directive 2012/19/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEED) Text with EEA relevance  
OJ L 197, 24.7.2012, p. 38-71 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV)  
This document has been published in a special edition(s) (HR)  
Direct text access: [HTML](#) Author: European Parliament, Council of the European Union  
Date of document: 04/07/2012  
In force  
Form: Directive  
Latest consolidated version: 02012L0019–20120724

32009L0125: Directive 2009/125/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 establishing a framework for the setting of ecodesign requirements for energy-related products (Text with EEA relevance)  
OJ L 285, 31.10.2009, p. 10-35 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV)  
This document has been published in a special edition(s) (HR)  
Direct text access: [HTML](#) Author: European Parliament, Council of the European Union  
Date of document: 21/10/2009  
In force  
Form: Directive

## 3.2 FIND RESULTS BY (WIDGET SEARCH)

The “Find results by” (Widget) search can be found in the centre of the homepage and is an intermediary search level between the quick search and the advanced search.

It is composed of two tabs: Document number and CELEX number.

## Example: finding a COM document with the document number

The document number search is straightforward to use if you know the year and number of the document.

Simply complete the year and number fields, select the COM document radio button, then click the search button.

Find results by

Document number CELEX number

Year Number Type

2011 625 All  
Regulation EU court case  
COM and JOIN documents Directive Decision  
SEC or SWD documents

This will return the following results:

The screenshot shows a search interface with the following details:

- Refine query**: You have selected: All documents (All (3) Preparatory acts (3))
- Search criteria**: Domain: All documents, Number: 0625, Year: 2011, Type of act: COM and JOIN documents, Search language: English
- Buttons**: Edit search, Save to My searches, Create in My RSS feeds, Save to My items
- Sort by**: Default, Descending
- Results**: Results 1 – 3 of 3. The first two results are for 52011PC0625R(01). The third result is for 52011PC0625R(02), which is circled in orange.
- Details for 52011PC0625R(02)**:
  - Direct text access:** HTML DOC
  - Author:** European Commission
  - Date of document:** 12/10/2011
  - Form:** Proposal for a regulation
- Details for 52011PC0625R(01)**:
  - Direct text access:** HTML DOC
  - Author:** European Commission
  - Date of document:** 12/10/2011
  - Form:** Proposal for a regulation

### Example: finding a case using the CELEX number

You can also search if you do not have the document reference number, but know the CELEX number.

As an example, we will search for the *Van Gend en Loos* case. Its CELEX number is 61962CJ0026.

The screenshot shows a search interface with the following details:

- Find results by**: Document number, CELEX number
- CELEX number**: 61962CJ0026
- Buttons**: >

The results will return the case judgment only.

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex search results for case number 61962CJ0026. The results are sorted by default and descending. One result is shown, which is a judgment from the Court of Justice of the European Union. The judgment is identified as '61962CJ0026: Judgment of the Court of 5 February 1963. NV Algemene Transport- en Expeditie Onderneming van Gend & Loos v Netherlands Inland Revenue Administration.' It refers to a preliminary ruling from the Tariefcommissie – Netherlands. Case 26-62. The judgment is in English special edition 1963 00001, with ECLI identifier: ECLI:EU:C:1963:1. The direct text access is through HTML. The author is the Court of Justice, and the date of the document is 05/02/1963. The form is Judgment. There are buttons for Export selection/Export all, Change displayed metadata, and Clear selection at the top and bottom of the result.

### 3.3 ADVANCED SEARCH

The “Advanced” search can be found on the top right corner or the middle of the homepage.

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex homepage. At the top right, there is a link labeled 'Advanced search' which is circled in orange. Below the header, there are tabs for 'All documents', 'National law', 'Legislative procedures', and 'More'. A message encourages users to help improve the website by filling out a survey. On the right side, there is a 'My EUR-Lex' sidebar with links for 'Sign in', 'Register', 'My searches (0)', 'My items (0)', and 'My RSS feeds (0)'. At the bottom left, there is a quick search bar with a note about using free text, CELEX numbers, or descriptors, and a 'SEARCH' button. A link to the 'Advanced search' is also present here, circled in orange.

## Example: searching for Advocate General Opinions

Did the Advocate General deliver any Opinions relating to labelling from November 2012 to November 2014?

To search for related Opinions, complete the fields below.

Note: you can further filter your results by selecting the options available at the top of the search form (each collection will have its own preset filters at the top), and adding one or more subject areas, in the subject matter field near the bottom of the search form.

The screenshot shows a search interface for Advocate General Opinions. At the top, there are two checkboxes: "Limit to documents published in Court Reports" and "Search also in case law summaries". Below these are buttons for "Search" and "Clear". A dropdown menu labeled "Collection" is set to "EU case law", with a link "Choose multiple collections" nearby. The main search area is titled "EU CASE LAW" and contains a "Text search" section. It includes a search input field containing "labelling", search checkboxes for "In title" and "In text", and a "Search hints" sidebar with tips like "Implementing regulation = Implementing AND regulation" and "exact phrase search". There are also sections for "OR conditions" and "NOT conditions". Below the text search is a "Document reference" section with fields for "Year" and "Number", and radio buttons for "Type": "All", "Judgment", "Order", and "Advocate General's opinion" (which is circled). Further down are sections for "Author of the document" (with radio buttons for "Court": "All", "Court of Justice", "General Court", and "Civil Service Tribunal"), "Search by ECLI" (with an input field for "European Case Law Identifier"), "Search by Celex number" (with an input field for "CELEX number" containing "6"), and "Search by date" (with a dropdown "Type of date" set to "All dates", a "Specific date" field, and a "Date range" field set to "18/11/2012 - 18/11/2014" which is also circled). A "Valid formats:" sidebar lists "yyyy", "mm/yyyy", and "dd/mm/yyyy".

**Procedure**

Name of the Advocate General All	Name of Judge Rapporteur All
Type of procedure Please choose	Results Please choose

**Parties**

Applicant All Institutions All Member states All Other	Defendant All Institutions All Member states All Other
--	--

**Theme**

EuroVoc thesaurus Include sub-levels of selected narrow terms	Subject matter
Directory of case-law: classification scheme Directory after 2010	Directory of case-law: code
<input type="checkbox"/> Show cases from both classification schemes.	

[Search](#) [Clear](#)

The following results will be returned:

[Home](#) [Official Journal](#) [EU law and related documents](#) [National law](#) [Legislative procedures](#) [More](#)

[Refine query](#)

You have selected:  
EU law and related documents x  
EU case law x

**By author**  
Court of Justice (14)  
Court of Justice of the European Union (12)

**By year of document**  
2015 (5)  
2014 (12)  
2013 (8)  
Other (1)

**By type of procedure**  
Reference for a preliminary ruling (18)  
Action for annulment (4)  
Appeal - unfounded (3)  
Action for annulment - unfounded (3)  
Appeal - successful (2)

**By subject matter**  
Approximation of laws (11)  
Consumer protection (6)  
Intellectual, industrial and commercial property (4)  
area of freedom, security and justice (3)  
Environment (3)

**Search criteria**

Domain: EU law and related documents, Subdomain: EU case law, Document type: Advocate General's opinion, Date: All dates, From: 18/11/2012, To: 18/11/2014, Results containing: labelling In title and text, Search language: English

Edit search  Save to My searches  Create in My RSS feeds  
 Save to My items

Sort by Default Descending

Results 1 – 10 of 26 [Export selection / Export all](#) [Change displayed metadata](#) [Clear selection](#)

1 2 3

**62014CC0095: Opinion of Advocate General Sharpston delivered on 23 April 2015.**  
Unione Nazionale Industria Conciaria (UNIC) and Unione Nazionale dei Consumatori di Prodotti in Pelle, Materie Concianti, Accessori e Componenti (Uni.co.pel) v FS Retail and Others.  
Reference for a preliminary ruling: Tribunale di Milano – Italy.  
Reference for a preliminary ruling – Free movement of goods – Articles 34, 35 and 36 TFEU – Measures having equivalent effect – Directive 94/11/EC – Articles 3 and 5 – Exhaustive harmonisation – Bar on impeding the placing on the market of footwear which complies with the *labelling* requirements of Directive 94/11 – National legislation requiring the country of origin to be shown on the *labelling* of products manufactured abroad which use the Italian term ‘pelle’ – Products in free circulation.  
Case C-95/14.

ECLI identifier: ECLI:EU:C:2015:270  
Direct text access: [HTML](#)  
Author: Court of Justice  
Date of document: 23/04/2015  
Form: Advocate General's Opinion

**62013CC0137: Opinion of Advocate General Sharpston delivered on 8 May 2014.**  
Herbaria Kräuterparadies GmbH v Freistaat Bayern.  
Reference for a preliminary ruling: Bayerisches Verwaltungsgericht München – Germany.  
Request for a preliminary ruling – Agriculture – Common agricultural policy – Organic production and

As with all above examples, you can filter the results as required using the “Refine query” with the drop down menu options.

## CHAPTER 4 TRACKING DEVELOPMENTS

Using EUR-Lex, you can follow legislative proposals from the moment they are published until the final laws (Directives, Regulations or Decisions) are adopted. You can also display related documents and information about the various steps in the ongoing procedure.

### Example: tracking the development of a proposal using the EUR-Lex procedure page

Use the “Find results by” search to find the COM document using its reference number. For this example, we will use the proposal for a Directive on package travel and assisted travel arrangements (COM (2013) 512).

Find results by

Document number	CELEX number
Year	Number
2013	512

Type

All  
 Regulation  
 EU court case  
 Directive  
 Decision  
 COM and JOIN documents (?)  
 SEC or SWD documents

The search will return the following results (the proposal and a corrigendum):

Search criteria

Domain: All documents, Number: 0512, Year: 2013, Type of act: COM and JOIN documents, Search language: English

Edit search     Save to My searches     Create in My RSS feeds  
 Save to My items

Sort by Default ▾ Descending ▾

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

52013PC0512R(01): Vorschlag für eine RICHTLINIE DES EUROPÄISCHEN PARLAMENTS UND DES RATES über Pauschal- und Bausteinreisen, zur Änderung der Verordnung (EG) Nr. 2006/2004 und der Richtlinie 2011/83/EU sowie zur Aufhebung der Richtlinie 90/314/EWG des Rates /\* COM/2013/0512 final/2 – 2013/ 0 \*/  
Form: Proposal for a directive      Author: European Commission  
Date of document: 09/07/2013

52013PC0512: Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on package travel and assisted travel arrangements, amending Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004, Directive 2011/83/EU and repealing Council Directive 90/314/EEC /\* COM/2013/0512 final – 2013/0246 (COD) \*/  
Direct text access: [HTML](#) [DOC](#)      Author: European Commission  
In force      Date of document: 09/07/2013

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

Once you select the correct option from your results list, you will be taken to the page showing the text of the document in question in all available languages and formats:

If you need to know which stage the proposal has reached in the legislative process, you should choose the “Procedure” tab.

This procedure page will provide details including:

- A **colour-coded timeline** of the legislative process showing all stages within the Commission, Council and European Parliament.
- Which **legislative procedure** the proposal falls under (e.g. ordinary legislative procedure, consultation procedure, consent procedure etc.).
- The **legal basis** of the proposal.
- The **lead person and service** for the proposal, which is particularly useful if you want to contact someone within the Institutions with a query.
- Any **related documents** directly linked with the proposal (e.g. Staff Working Documents, which are usually Impact Assessments).
- The **CELEX number** of the proposal which can be useful for search purposes across all the Institutional websites and databases.
- A **stage-by-stage view** of the proposal with related document links (for example to European Parliament Resolution texts or Official Journal publications) presented in chronological order.
- At the bottom of the page, you will find a link, if available, to the relevant page of the **European Parliament Legislative Observatory** (Oeil), which is the European Parliament's tracking database.

Colour-coded timeline showing stages of the procedure across all three Institutions

Information on procedure type, leading person/department/CELEX numbers and related documents

Headings showing different stages of legislative procedure, colour-coded to match the timeline at the top of the page

Links to relevant Official Journal publications

Link to the European Parliament Legislative Observatory tracking page, if available

The screenshot shows the 'Procedure 2013/0246/COD' page with the 'Procedure' tab selected. At the top, there's a timeline from 2014 to 2015 showing the progress through various institutions: European Commission, Economic and Social Committee, European Parliament, and Council of the European Union. Below the timeline, detailed information is provided for each stage:

- Legal basis:** COM (2013) 512: Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on package travel and assisted travel arrangements, amending Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004, Directive 2011/95/EU and repealing Council Directive 90/314/EEC
- Procedure:** Ordinary legislative procedure (COD)
- Type of file:** Commission: Proposal for a Directive
- EuroVoc thesaurus:** hotel industry; consumer information; vehicle rental
- Directory code:** 15.20.20.00 Environment, consumers and health protection / Consumers / Consumer information, education and representation
- 09/07/2013 : Supplement**
  - Documents:** SWD/2013/263/FINAL, CSST/2013/12257/ADD 1, 52013SC0263
  - CELEX number of the main document:** 52013SC0263
- 09/07/2013 : Supplement**
  - Documents:** SWD/2013/264/FINAL, CSST/2013/12257/ADD 2, 52013SC0264
  - CELEX number of the main document:** 52013SC0264
- 09/07/2013 : Supplement**
  - Documents:** SWD/2013/266/FINAL, CSST/2013/12257/ADD 3, 52013SC0266
  - CELEX number of the main document:** 52013SC0266
- 09/07/2013 : Adoption by Commission**
  - Leading person:** Viviane REDING
  - Leading service:** Directorate-General for Justice
  - Decision mode:** Written procedure
  - Addressee for formal act:** European Parliament ; Council of the European Union
- 09/07/2013 : Addressee for mandatory consultation:** Committee of the Regions ; European Economic and Social Committee
- Legal basis:** TFUE/art 114
- Procedure:** Ordinary legislative procedure (COD)
- Type of file:** Proposal for a Directive
- Documents:** COM/2013/512/FINAL, CSST/2013/12257, IP/2013/663
- CELEX number of the main document:** 52013PC0512
- 09/07/2013 : Transmission to Parliament**
- 09/07/2013 : Transmission to Council**
- 11/12/2013 : European Economic and Social Committee opinion**
  - Decision mode:** Unanimity
  - Rapporteur:** Anna Maria DARMININ
  - Documents:** OJ E/2013/293, JO C/2014/170/73, 52013AE0087
  - CELEX number of the main document:** 52013AE0087
- 12/03/2014 : EP opinion on 1st reading**
  - Decision:** Approval with amendments
  - Rapporteur:** Hans-Peter MAYER
  - Documents:** A7/2014/124, TA/2014/222/P7
- 10/06/2014 : Commission position on EP amendments on 1st reading**
  - Decision:** Partial agreement
- 04/12/2014 : Discussions within the Council or its preparatory bodies**
  - Documents:** CS-PRES/2014/16505, CSST/2014/16515
- 28/05/2015 : Council agreement**
  - Documents:** CS-PRES/2015/9385, CSST/2015/9352/ADD 1, IP/2015/5063
- Activities of the institutions**
  - European Parliament – Legislative observatory**

## CHAPTER 5 NATIONAL IMPLEMENTING MEASURES (NIMS)

Using EUR-Lex, you can find basic information about measures taken by member states to incorporate an EU Directive into national law.

Alternatively, you can search on N-Lex, an interface of national legislation databases. By using a standardised search form (in any official EU language) you can find national legislation in every EU country, directly in the original national databases. For more information, see [EUR-Lex: About N-Lex](#).

Below, you will find examples of two searches for NIMs using EUR-Lex.

Please note that for the time being, EUR-Lex only displays the bibliographic notice of NIMs. To find the actual text of a NIM, you can search for it using the bibliographic notice on the national law database of the relevant country, if known, or alternatively, type the bibliographic notice in an online search engine.

### Example: finding out whether a Directive has been implemented into national law

To find out whether Directive 2012/27/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on energy efficiency has been implemented into national law, first click on the tab "By document number" and type in the number of the Directive. Select Directive under "Type". Click the search button.

Find results by  
Document number CELEX number  
Year Number Type  
2012 27 All  
Regulation  
EU court case  
Directive  
COM and JOIN documents  
Decision  
SEC or SWD documents >

The following results will be returned:

Search criteria  
Domain: All documents, Number: 0027, Year: 2012, Type of act: Directive, Search language: English  
Edit search Save to My searches Create in My RSS feeds  
Save to My items  
Sort by Default Descending  
Results 1 – 3 of 3 Export selection/Export all Change displayed metadata Clear selection 1  
32012L0027: Directive 2012/27/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on energy efficiency, amending Directives 2009/125/EC and 2010/30/EU and repealing Directives 2004/8/EC and 2006/32/EC Text with EEA relevance  
OJ L 315, 14.11.2012, p. 1–56 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SI, FI, SV)  
This document has been published in a special edition(s) (HR)  
Direct text access: Author: European Parliament, Council of the European Union  
In force Date of document: 25/10/2012  
Form: Directive  
32012L0027R(02): This document does not exist in your search language.  
OJ L 71, 12.3.2014, p. 24–24 (BG)  
Form: Directive Author: European Parliament, Council of the European Union  
Date of document: 12/03/2014  
32012L0027R(01): Rectificatif à la directive 2012/27/UE du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 25 octobre 2012 relative à l'efficacité énergétique, modifiant les directives 2009/125/CE et 2010/30/UE et abrogeant les directives 2004/8/CE et 2006/32/CE (JO L 315 du 14.11.2012)  
OJ L 113, 25.4.2013, p. 24–24 (BG, CS, DE, ET, EL, FR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, PL, PT, RO, SK, SI, FI)  
Form: Directive Author: European Parliament, Council of the European Union  
Date of document: 25/04/2013

After you click on the Directive link, select the “NIM” tab on the horizontal menu. This will show you an expandable list/table of NIMs that have been communicated by the member states.

Document 32012L0027 > [Save to My items](#) [Bookmark this item](#) [Download notice](#)

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

**Title and reference**

Directive 2012/27/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on energy efficiency, amending Directives 2009/125/EC and 2010/30/EU and repealing Directives 2004/8/EC and 2006/32/EC Text with EEA relevance

OJ L 315, 14.11.2012, p. 1-56 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV)  
Special edition in Croatian: Chapter 12 Volume 004 P. 202 – 257

**Languages, formats and link to OJ**

HTML	BG	ES	CS	DA	DE	ET	EL	EN	FR	GA	HR	IT	LV	LT	HU	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SK	SL	FI	SV
PDF	<a href="#">HTML</a>																							
Official Journal	<a href="#">PDF</a>																							

**Multilingual display**

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

The table will show you the member states, the transposition deadline and the number of NIMs. The number of NIMs for Germany for example is 26.

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

**Title and reference**

National Implementing Measures (NIM) communicated by the Member States concerning:

Directive 2012/27/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on energy efficiency, amending Directives 2009/125/EC and 2010/30/EU and repealing Directives 2004/8/EC and 2006/32/EC Text with EEA relevance

OJ L 315, 14.11.2012, p. 1-56 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV)  
Special edition in Croatian: Chapter 12 Volume 004 P. 202 – 257

The member states bear sole responsibility for all information on this site provided by them on the transposition of EU law into national law. This does not, however, prejudice the results of the verification by the Commission of the completeness and correctness of the transposition of EU law into national law as formally notified to it by the member states.

**NIM by Member State**

Collapse all / Expand all	Transposition deadline	Number of NIM
+ Belgium	05/06/2014	122
+ Bulgaria	05/06/2014	5
+ Czech Republic	05/06/2014	18
+ Denmark	05/06/2014	22
+ Germany	05/06/2014	26
+ Estonia	05/06/2014	11
+ Ireland	05/06/2014	13
Greece		0
+ Spain	05/06/2014	16
+ France	05/06/2014	21
+ Croatia	05/06/2014	17
+ Italy	05/06/2014	2
+ Cyprus	05/06/2014	26
+ Latvia	05/06/2014	31
+ Lithuania	05/06/2014	3
+ Luxembourg	05/06/2014	9

To expand the section, click on the blue cross. You will see the bibliographic references for that member state.

+ Denmark	05/06/2014	[22]
- Germany	05/06/2014	[26]
Gesetz für die Erhaltung, die Modernisierung und den Ausbau der Kraft-Wärme-Kopplung (Kraft-Wärme-Kopplungsgesetz) Official Journal: <i>Bundesgesetzblatt Teil 1 (BGB 1)</i> ; OJ number: 7; Publication date: 2013-08-07; Page: 03154-03167		
Beschluss in dem Verwaltungsverfahren wegen der Festlegung zu Verfahren zur Ausschreibung von Regelennergie in Gestalt der Sekundärregelung, insbesondere zu Mindestangebotsgrößen, Ausschreibungszeiträumen und Ausschreibungszeitschreiben, zum technisch notwendigen Anteil nach § 6 Abs. 2 StromNZV und zu den einheitlichen Bedingungen, die Anbieter von Regelennergie erfüllen müssen, sowie zu den zu veröffentlichten Daten nach § 27 Abs. 2 StromNZV Official Journal: <i>Verwaltungsmassnahmen</i> , OJ number: 7; Publication date: 2011-04-12; Page: 00001-00065		
Gesetz über die Elektrizitäts- und Gasversorgung (Energiewirtschaftsgesetz – EnWG) Official Journal: <i>Bundesgesetzblatt Teil 1 (BGB 1)</i> ; OJ number: 7; Publication date: 2013-10-04; Page: 03746-03858		
Gesetz über Energiedienstleistungen und andere Energieeffizienzmaßnahmen (EDL-G) Official Journal: <i>Bundesgesetzblatt Teil 1 (BGB 1)</i> ; OJ number: 7; Publication date: 2010-11-04; Page: 01483-01489		
Mitteilung der Bundesregierung der Bundesrepublik Deutschland an die Europäische Kommission gemäß Artikel 7 der Richtlinie des Europäischen Parlaments und des Rates vom 25. Oktober 2012 zur Energieeffizienz (2012/12/EU) Official Journal: <i>Verwaltungsmassnahmen</i> , OJ number: 7; Publication date: 2014-06-05; Page: 00001-00053		
Gutachten zur Wirtschaftlichkeit von Systemen zur Erfassung und Abrechnung des Wärmeverbrauchs Official Journal: <i>Verwaltungsmassnahmen</i> , OJ number: 7; Publication date: 2014-01-31; Page: 00001-00092		
Verordnung über Rahmenbedingungen für den Messstellenbetrieb und die Messung im Bereich der leitungsgebundenen Elektrizitäts- und Gasversorgung (Messzugangsverordnung – MessZV) Official Journal: <i>Bundesgesetzblatt Teil 1 (BGB 1)</i> ; OJ number: 7; Publication date: 2013-07-25; Page: 02722-02728		
Beschluss in dem Verwaltungsverfahren wegen der Festlegung zu Verfahren zur Ausschreibung von Regelennergie in Gestalt der Primärregelung, insbesondere zu Mindestangebotsgrößen, Ausschreibungszeiträumen und Ausschreibungszeitschreiben, zum technisch notwendigen Anteil nach § 6 Abs. 2 StromNZV und zu den einheitlichen Bedingungen, die Anbieter von Regelennergie erfüllen müssen, sowie zu den veröffentlichten Daten nach § 27 Abs. 2 StromNZV Official Journal: <i>Verwaltungsmassnahmen</i> , OJ number: 7; Publication date: 2011-04-12; Page: 00001-00051		
Verordnung über Vereinbarungen zu abschaltbaren Lasten vom 28.12.2012 Official Journal: <i>Bundesgesetzblatt Teil 1 (BGB 1)</i> ; OJ number: 7; Publication date: 2012-12-28; Page: 02998-03005		
Verordnung über die Anreizregulierung der Energieversorgungsnetze (Anreizregulierungsverordnung – ARegV) Official Journal: <i>Bundesgesetzblatt Teil 1 (BGB 1)</i> ; OJ number: 7; Publication date: 2013-08-14; Page: 03250-03272		

EU member states must notify the Commission when they implement an EU Directive. The bibliographic references you find on EUR-Lex in the example above are the implementing measures for Directive 2012/27/EU communicated to the Commission by Germany.

However, if you do not find the references for a particular member state on EUR-Lex, this does not necessarily mean that the member state has not implemented the Directive. It could mean that the EU member state has implemented the Directive, but has failed to notify the Commission. In this case, the best option is to contact the Permanent Representation of that specific member state.

## Example: finding NIMs using the CELEX number

The “Find results by” and “quick” searches can be used to find NIMs with the NIM CELEX number of the Directive.

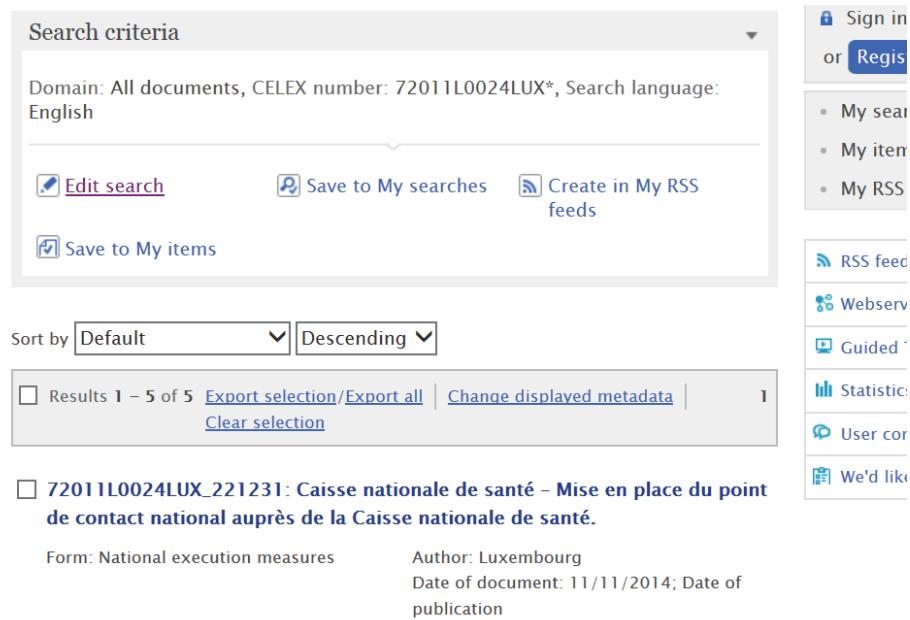
For example:

The CELEX number of Directive 2011/24/EU is 32011L0024. To find the NIMs for this Directive, replace the first digit (that refers to sector 3 Legislation) with the number 7 (that refers to the NIM sector). Then add an asterisk at the end. The reference becomes: 72011L0024\*.



In the search results, you can filter by country and year on the left hand side of the page.

If you are interested in only measures from a specific member state, add the three letter country code and an asterisk at the end. For example, the NIMs for Luxembourg would be found using: 72011L0024LUX\*



Search criteria

Domain: All documents, CELEX number: 72011L0024LUX\*, Search language: English

[Edit search](#) [Save to My searches](#) [Create in My RSS feeds](#)

[Save to My items](#)

Sort by Default Descending

Results 1 – 5 of 5 [Export selection/Export all](#) | [Change displayed metadata](#) | [Clear selection](#) 1

72011L0024LUX\_221231: Caisse nationale de santé – Mise en place du point de contact national auprès de la Caisse nationale de santé.

Form: National execution measures Author: Luxembourg  
Date of document: 11/11/2014; Date of publication

Sign in or Register

- My search
- My items
- My RSS

RSS feed

Webserv

Guided

Statistic

User cor

We'd like

## CHAPTER 6 CONSOLIDATED LEGISLATION

You can find the consolidated versions of legal acts in EUR-Lex. Consolidation is the integration of the successive amendments and corrigenda in a legal act. Practically speaking, it means that several legal texts published in different issues of the Official Journal are combined in one easy-to-read document. Consolidated texts do not have legal value; they are intended for use as documentation tools. For legal purposes you will need to refer to the texts published in the Official Journal.

The EU Publications Office consolidates EU Regulations, Directives and Decisions. However, it does not consolidate legal acts which will be in force for only a short time.

On average, consolidated versions are available on EUR-Lex within 2-3 weeks after the entry into force of an amendment published in the Official Journal.

An entry “Consolidated legislation” can be found under the horizontal menu EU law and related documents. From there, you can:

- Access the advanced search page for consolidated legislation.
- Consult the Directory of EU consolidated legislation.
- Browse the recently published.

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex homepage with the following details:

- Header:** EUR-Lex logo, "Access to European Union law", "About EUR-Lex | Site map | A-Z | FAQ | Help | Links | Legal notice | Cookies | Contact | English (en)" dropdown, "Quick search" input field, and "Advanced search" link.
- Breadcrumbs:** EUROPAL → EU law and publications → EUR-Lex → Consolidated legislation
- Navigation Bar:** Home, Official Journal, EU law and related documents (highlighted with an orange circle), National law, Legislative procedures, More.
- Left Sidebar:** Treaties, Legislation, Consolidated legislation (highlighted with an orange circle), EFTA documents, Preparatory acts, EU case law, Parliamentary questions, International agreements.
- Center Content:** A search bar with placeholder text "Search EUR-Lex", a "Share" button, and a message about cookies. Below it is a yellow box stating "Your session has timed out, unsaved searches and other unsaved data are no longer available."
- Right Sidebar:** My EUR-Lex section with "Sign in" and "Register" links, and links for "My searches (0)", "My items (0)", and "My RSS feeds (0)". Below that are links for "RSS feeds", "Webservice registration", "Guided Tour", "Statistics", and "We'd like to hear from you".

Read more: [“About Consolidation” on EUR-Lex](#)

## CHAPTER 7 EUROPA LEGISLATION SUMMARIES

You can easily view related summaries of legislation on EUR-Lex, if available. A [glossary](#) is available to explain the concepts and terms used in the summaries.

Once you have carried out your search for a piece of EU legislation and selected a search result, you can select the “Summary of legislation” tab on the horizontal menu bar.

The screenshot shows a EUR-Lex document page for the "European system for registration of carriers of radioactive materials (Proposal)". The horizontal menu bar includes tabs for "About this document", "Text", "Summary of legislation" (which is circled in orange), "Procedure", "Linked documents", and "All". Below the menu, there's a "Title and reference" section and a "Languages and formats available" section showing links for various languages (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, GA, HR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV) in both HTML and PDF formats. The main content area has sections for "Multilingual display" (with dropdowns for Language 1, 2, and 3), "Dates", "Classifications", "Summarized and linked documents", "Miscellaneous information", and "Text". The "Text" section contains the title "European system for registration of carriers of radioactive materials (Proposal)" and a summary of the proposal's aim to replace national reporting and authorisation procedures with a unique registration system. It also mentions the proposal for a Council Regulation of 30 August 2011 establishing a Community system for registration of carriers of radioactive materials [COM(2011) 518 final – Not published in the Official Journal].

If your selected search result does not have this tab, you can look at the [Summaries of EU Legislation](#) page under the horizontal menu “More”, to see if any information is available as not all acts have their related summary linked at this stage:

The screenshot shows the "Summaries of EU Legislation" page. The top navigation bar includes "Home", "Official Journal", "EU law and related documents", "National law", "Legislative procedures", "More" (which is circled in orange), and a search icon. Below the navigation is a sidebar with "Directories", "Institutions and bodies", and a "Summaries of EU Legislation" section. The main content area features a summary of the summaries, a search bar, and a "Summaries by topic" section with icons and labels for Agriculture, Audiovisual and media, Budget, Competition, Consumers, and Culture.

## CHAPTER 8 LINKING TO INDIVIDUAL EU TREATY ARTICLES

Legal updates and other materials produced by Practical Law often refer to specific Articles of the *Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union* (TFEU).

EUR-Lex offers the possibility to link to individual Articles of the TFEU, provided that the Articles have been indexed by EUR-Lex as separate documents.

In order to do this, you need to specify the number of the Article you require in the CELEX URL of the TFEU, see: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:12012E/TXT>

For example, to find Article 200 of the TFEU, you have to add 200 after the letter E as follows: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:12012E200>

The only constraint is that such notices for single Articles only give access to the HTML version of the text, not the PDF (which does not exist for the single Article). However, a link to the complete Treaty is always present, via the Official Journal in which it was published.

The link to the Official Journal containing the complete Treaty is found via the “Linked documents” horizontal tab.

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links to 'About EUR-Lex', 'Site map', 'A-Z', 'FAQ', 'Help', 'Links', 'Legal notice', 'Cookies', and 'Contact'. A language selector shows 'English (en)'. Below the navigation is a search bar with placeholder text 'Quick search: insert free text, CELEX number or descriptors. Use "" for exact matches.' and a 'Search' button. To the right of the search bar is a 'Advanced search' link. The main content area shows a breadcrumb trail: 'EUROPA > EU law and publications > EUR-Lex > EUR-Lex - 12012E290 - EN'. Below the breadcrumb is a horizontal menu with tabs: 'Home', 'Official Journal', 'EU law and related documents', 'National law', 'Legislative procedures', and 'More'. The 'More' tab has a dropdown arrow. Underneath the menu, there are several buttons: 'Document 12012E290', 'Save to My items', 'Bookmark this item', 'About this document', 'Text', 'Linked documents' (which is circled in orange), and 'All'. To the right of these buttons is a 'Collapse all | Expand all' link. Further down, there is a section titled 'Relationship between documents' with a dropdown arrow. It contains a list of options: 'Select all documents based on this document', 'Select all legislative procedures based on this document', 'Select all documents mentioning this document', and 'Display the Official Journal containing the document'. On the right side of the page, there is a sidebar titled 'My EUR-Lex' with links for 'Sign in' (with a 'Register' link), 'My searches (0)', 'My items (0)', and 'My RSS feeds (0)'. Below this are sections for 'RSS feeds', 'Webservice registration', 'Guided Tour', 'Statistics', 'User community', and 'We'd like to hear from you'. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with links to 'Other sites managed by the Publications Office' (EU Bookshop, CORDIS, EU Open Data Portal, Ted, Whoiswho), 'Direct access' (Official Journal, EU law and related documents, National law, Preparatory acts), 'Practical information' (FAQ, Help, Contact, EuroVoc), and 'My EUR-Lex' (Preferences, My searches, My items, My RSS feeds).

If you come across an Article that is not available individually, you should report it to the [EUR-Lex Helpdesk](#) and they will investigate the problem.

## CHAPTER 9 OFFICIAL JOURNAL

You can access the Official Journal from the links on the homepage.

The screenshot shows the European Commission's homepage. At the top, there are three main tabs: 'Home', 'Official Journal' (which is highlighted with an orange circle), and 'EU law and related documents'. Below the tabs, a banner displays the date '03 31' and an image of the 'Official Journal of the European Union'. To the right of the banner, a box contains the text: 'Clicking here will allow you to search within the Official Journal. See below.' In the center, it says 'OJ – current issue: L086 L087 – C108 C109 C110' with a 'More >' link. Below this, under 'Quick links', is a list of nine items: How to link to us, Types of documents in EUR-Lex, Summaries of EU Legislation, EU legislation on statistics, Budget, Legislative drafting guide, Previous version EUR-Lex, and Latest developments on EUR-Lex.

If you choose to select the Official Journal tab, you can search through all existing Official Journals as follows:

The screenshot shows the 'Official Journal of the European Union' search interface. At the top, there are several tabs: 'Home', 'Official Journal' (selected), 'EU law and related documents', 'National law', 'Legislative procedures', and 'More'. Below these are sections for 'Direct access to the Official Journal' (with filters for Year, OJ series, OJ sub-series, and OJ number) and 'Access by year' (with a dropdown menu for the year and month filters). A large orange circle highlights the 'OJ number' input field and its associated search icon. Another orange circle highlights the 'Year' dropdown set to '2014' and the month buttons. To the right, a box says: 'Search for an Official Journal, if you know the number.' At the bottom, there is a table titled 'Recent issues' showing results 1 - 25 of 25. The table has columns for 'Date', 'L (Legislation)', and 'C (Information and Notices)'. The data is as follows:

Date	L (Legislation)	C (Information and Notices)
19/11/2014	L332	C412 C412A C413
18/11/2014	L331	C410 C410A C411
17/11/2014		C409
15/11/2014	L330	C407 C408
14/11/2014	L329	C404 C405 C406
13/11/2014	L328	C400 C401 C402 C403
12/11/2014	L327	C397 C398 C399

A box on the left says: 'Filter and click through old editions of the Official Journal using the year and month filters.' Another box on the left says: 'Click through the most recent OJ publications presented in date order.'

## Uploading of the Official Journal on EUR-Lex

Acts are first made accessible on EUR-Lex as part of an Official Journal. It is useful to know that the Official Journal is published in two separate flows:

- Firstly, a PDF is made available. In 95% of the cases, the Official Journal is available in PDF format via the EUR-Lex website by 10:00 each day.
- In 95% of cases, a XHTML version is available 30 minutes after the PDF version. The XHTML becomes available for most of the remaining cases on the same date as the PDF.

After publication in the Official Journal, acts become available as separate documents which can be searched for on EUR-Lex. On average, 90% of the separate acts are accessible via the website by 10:30 in PDF format and by 12:30 in XHTML format. If an act is not accessible as a separate document, you can read it in the Official Journal in which it was published.

The reason for the delay in the uploading of the Official Journal texts in XHTML format is because everything that is authentic has to go through a manual signature procedure at the EU Publications Office and that takes time.

The unique CELEX number is available three or four days after publication.

## Example: checking the authenticity of an Official Journal publication

Using the methods above, select a text published in the Official Journal.

Open and save the PDF version of the document and the Official Journal signature. NOTE: Ensure both are opened and saved in the same language.

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex interface for a specific document. At the top, there are tabs for 'About this document', 'Text' (which is selected), 'Linked documents', and 'All'. Below these are sections for 'Title and reference' and 'Languages, formats and link to OJ'. The 'Languages, formats and link to OJ' section lists various languages (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, GA, HR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV) with corresponding icons for HTML, PDF, and Official Journal. A large orange circle highlights the 'Official Journal' row for the EN language, and a smaller orange circle highlights the 'e-OJ' icon in that row. A note at the bottom states: '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)'.

Click on the link for [Check Lex](#). Then upload the two documents where required:

The screenshot shows the CheckLex website interface. At the top, there is a header with the European Union flag, the text "CheckLex", "Official Journal of the European Union", and "Online verification of the certified electronic edition". Below the header, a breadcrumb navigation shows "UROPA » CheckLex » Welcome". On the right side of the header, there is a "Useful links" dropdown menu. The main content area is titled "Welcome" and contains several paragraphs of text about the service's purpose and legal status. A large orange oval highlights the first step, "1. Select a document for verification", which includes fields for "Select Document..." (PDF[1]) and "Select Associated Signature..." (SIG[1]). Below this, another section is titled "2. Start the verification" and features a CAPTCHA image with the letters "WZFRB6". To the right of the CAPTCHA, instructions say "This helps to ensure that a person, not an automated program, is submitting the verification request." and a link to "Show a different image". A text input field is provided for entering the CAPTCHA letters, with a note that "No distinction is made between upper and lower case letters."

You will then be given a response:

#### Verification Result



**The document is authentic.**

[Show Signature Details](#)

If verification succeeds, it gives you a guarantee that the electronic edition is authentic and it has not been changed since the date of its signature.

Since 1 July 2013, only the electronic edition of the OJ (e-OJ) is authentic and produces legal effect except under circumstances described in Article 3 of *Council Regulation (EU) 216/2013 of 7 March 2013 on the electronic publication of the Official Journal*.

# CHAPTER 10 DOCUMENT NUMBERING AND IDENTIFIERS

## Numbering of EU legal acts in OJ L series

Since 1 January 2015, the numbering of EU legal acts has changed. A new method has been defined to attribute numbers to documents published in the L (Legislation) series of the Official Journal. According to this new method, EU legal acts will bear unique, sequential numbers.

The EU Publications Office has published an explanatory note: [\*Harmonising the numbering of EU Legal Acts\*](#).

## Document identifiers used in the EUR-Lex database

### CELEX

CELEX is the documentation system for EU documents produced by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (EUR-OP). CELEX numbers are the unique reference numbers assigned to EU documents. CELEX numbers are made up of the following component parts:

Sector (1 number) + Year (4 numbers) + Document Type (1 or 2 letters) + Document Number (3-4 numbers).

Read more:

[\*EUR-Lex: Frequently asked questions: 10. What are Celex numbers composed of?\*](#)

[\*EUR-Lex: How CELEX numbers are composed\*](#)

Example: finding a case using the CELEX number, see *Chapter 3*.

Example: finding NIMs using the CELEX number, see *Chapter 5*.

### European Case Law Identifier (ECLI)

ECLI is a 5-part identifier for a legal document, designed to make European case law databases more usable. Following a Recommendation of the Council in April 2011, the Court of Justice of the EU has assigned an ECLI to all Decisions delivered by the EU courts since 1954 and to the Opinions and Views of the Advocates General. The 5-parts are:

1. Abbreviation "ECLI".
2. Country code (2 characters).
3. Court code (1-7 characters).
4. Year of the decision (4 digits).
5. Unique identifying number (max. 25 characters, dots allowed).

For example, the ECLI of the Judgment of the Court of Justice of 8 April 2014 in C-288/12 *European Commission v Hungary* is the following: ECLI:EU:C:2014:237

It is broken down as follows:

- "EU" indicates that it is a decision delivered by an EU Court or Tribunal (for decisions of national courts, the code corresponding to the relevant member state appears in the place of 'EU').
- "C" indicates that this decision was delivered by the Court of Justice. Decisions delivered by the General Court are indicated by the letter "T" and those of the Civil Service Tribunal by "F".
- "2014" indicates that the decision was delivered during 2014.
- "237" indicates that it is the 237th ECLI attributed in respect of that year.

The Advanced Search offers the option to search for Decisions via the ECLI, with the latest being from July 2014. Since May 2015, it is possible to search for ECLI via the quick search. For more information about the quick search, see *Chapter 3*.

*Read more:*

[\*Council conclusions inviting the introduction of the ECLI and a minimum set of uniform metadata for case law were published in the OJ C 127 on 29 April 2011\*](#)

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/help/faq/intro.html#help11>

### **The European Legislation Identifier (ELI)**

The ELI references EU and national legislation. It uses structured, consistent and stable machine-readable URLs. The Publications Office plans to provide ELI for the widest range of legislation published in the Official Journal L series and also for NIMs.

ELI is constructed as follows:

`http://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/{type of document}/{year of adoption}/{number of document}`

Example:

The ELI for Council Regulation (EU) 216/2013 of 7 March 2013 on the electronic publication of the Official Journal of the European Union is:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2013/216>

*Read more:*

[\*Council conclusions inviting the introduction of the European Legislation Identifier \(ELI\) were published in the OJ C 325 on 26 October 2012\*](#)

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/help/faq/intro.html#help12>

## CHAPTER 11 MY EUR-LEX: YOUR PERSONAL SPACE

You do not need to have a “My EUR-Lex” account to use and search the site. However, if you do set up your own account, you can:

- Save documents and searches.
- Create customised RSS feeds based on your searches.
- Set your preferences for the website, for example search, export, print, and languages.
- Ask questions on EU law to members of the EUR-Lex community as well as being able to answer other users’ questions.
- Use the “see also” widget which only displays on the homepage if you are signed in to My EUR-Lex. This will display content which may be of interest to you based on your search history.

### Signing up for My EUR-Lex

To sign up for My EUR-Lex and to log into your account and manage your settings, use the Register option at the top right of the homepage:



On first use, you will need to register for the European Commission authentication service (ECAS). By filling out the form, you will receive an ECAS account, allowing you to connect to all systems requiring an ECAS authentication. You will then be sent an email containing a link to set a password. Once you have done this, you will be taken to the My EUR-Lex section of the website and can start setting your preferences.

### Saving to “My searches”

Conduct a search using any of the search methods available. (For this example, the Document number search has returned the proposal on the Common European Sales Law. See *Chapter 3*).

A screenshot of a search interface. At the top, there is a dropdown menu "Find results by" with options "Document number" and "CELEX number". Below this, there are fields for "Year" (2011) and "Number" (635), both of which are circled in orange. To the right of these fields, there is a "Type" section with radio buttons: "All" (selected), "Regulation", "EU court case", "Directive" (highlighted with a red circle), "Decision", and "SEC or SWD documents". At the bottom right, there is a blue search button with a white arrow pointing right, also circled in orange.

When your search results appear, you can select the tick box option and perform several tasks:

The screenshot shows the EUR-Lex search results for document 2011PC0635. A callout box labeled "Select items you would like to save." points to the checkbox in the search results list. Another callout box highlights the "Save to My searches" button in the toolbar above the results. A third callout box on the right side of the screen, titled "My EUR-Lex", lists tasks available to signed-in users, such as "My searches (0)", "My items (0)", and "My RSS feeds (0)". A note next to this box states: "You can only perform these tasks if you are signed in to My EUR-Lex. Otherwise, you will be asked to sign in or register."

Whichever action you choose, you will then see a pop up box asking you to name your search and add a comment, if necessary.

A modal dialog box titled "Specify a name and a comment for your search" is displayed. It contains fields for "Name" (set to "Common European Sales Law") and "Comment (optional)" (set to "CESL legislation"). Below these fields are "Save" and "Cancel" buttons. The background of the dialog shows the same search results as the previous screenshot.

Once this has been saved, your personal space on the right-hand side of the screen will start to populate depending on what you have chosen to do.

The "My EUR-Lex" sidebar is shown, featuring a list of saved items. The first item, "My searches (1)", is highlighted with a red circle. Other items listed are "My items (0)" and "My RSS feeds (0)".

You can then view all of your saved items and feeds and choose to search again or edit your settings.

**My searches**

Delete selected |  Set selected as RSS feed

Select all / Deselect all

**My saved searches**

ID	Name	Language	Search scope	Results	Latest search date	RSS
1	Common European Sales Law [View search]	en	Legal Content	1	19/11/2014 13:35	

**My EUR-Lex**

- Sign out
- Signed in as **nwoodfje**
- Preferences
- My searches (1)
- My items (0)
- My RSS feeds (0)

## Creating an RSS feed

Carry out all of the steps above and when the results are returned, select the “create in my RSS feed” option.

**Refine query**

You have selected:

All documents

By subdomain

All (1)  
Preparatory acts (1)

**Search criteria**

Domain: All documents, Type of document: COM document, Number: 0635, Year: 2011, Exclude corrigenda: True, Search language: English

Edit search  Edit in expert search  Save to My searches  
 Create in My RSS feeds  Save to My items

Sort by Relevancy Descending

Results 1 – 1 of 1 Export selection/Export all | Change displayed metadata | Clear selection

2011PC0635: Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on a Common European Sales Law  
/\* COM/2011/0635 final – 2011/0284 (COD) \*/  
Direct text access: Author: European Commission  
Form: Proposal for a regulation Date of document: 11/10/2011

Results 1 – 1 of 1 Export selection/Export all | Change displayed metadata | Clear selection

**My EUR-Lex**

- Sign out
- Signed in as **nwoodfje**
- Preferences
- My searches (0)
- My items (0)
- My RSS feeds (0)

**RSS feeds**

Webservice registration  
 Guided Tour  
 Statistics  
 User community  
 We'd like to hear from you

Your results will then be saved in your “My RSS feeds”.

**My saved RSS feeds**

Delete selected

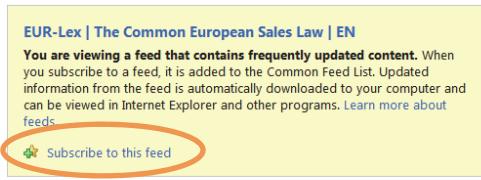
Select all / Deselect all

Name	Search scope
The Common European Sales Law [View search]	Legal Content

**My EUR-Lex**

- Sign out
- Signed in as **nwoodfje**
- Preferences
- My searches (2)
- My items (0)
- My RSS feeds (1)

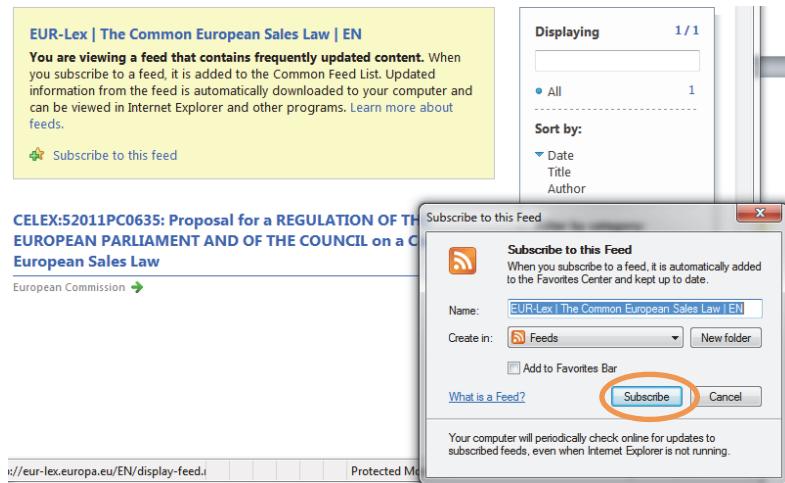
If you then select the item in your list, you will be able to choose to subscribe to the related RSS feed offered by EUR-Lex:



CELEX:52011PC0635: Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on a Common  
European Sales Law

European Commission ➔

You can then choose to save your RSS feeds as you wish:



## Language preferences in search

Click on preferences, then search preferences to see your search profiles. You might need to create a new one by clicking “Add new”. Then, select your desired search profile.

The screenshot shows the 'Search preferences' page. On the left, there is a sidebar with links: User account, Site preferences, User community preferences, **Search preferences** (highlighted with an orange circle), Export preferences, and Print preferences. The main area has a 'Search preferences' heading with a 'Delete selected' button. A table lists a single profile named 'Standard'. To the right, there is a 'Default' column with a checked checkbox. At the bottom are 'Select all / Deselect all' buttons and 'Add new' and 'Delete' buttons. On the far right, the 'My EUR-Lex' sidebar shows a sign-out link, the user's name 'Signed in as prmanjoyc', and a 'Preferences' link (also highlighted with an orange circle). Below that are links for My searches (3), My items (0), and My RSS feeds (1).

Tick the box next to the “Activate link for multilingual display” and select your three languages.

The screenshot shows the 'Search preferences – Update profile' page. It includes fields for 'Profile name\*' (Standard), 'Number of results per page' (10), 'Default sort criteria' (Default, Descending), and two checked checkboxes: 'Highlight search terms in results' and **'Activate link for multilingual display'** (highlighted with an orange circle). Below these are dropdown menus for 'Preferred languages for multilingual display' containing English, Danish, and French.

Once your settings have been saved, a multilingual display link will appear in your search results, where you can immediately click and go to the texts displayed in three languages.

The screenshot shows a search result page. At the top, it displays 'Results 1 – 10 of 1069' with links for 'Export selection/Export all' and 'Change displayed metadata' and a 'Clear selection' button. Below this is a list of documents. The first document listed is '32013R0549: Regulation (EU) No 549/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2013 on the European system of national and regional accounts in the European Union Text with EEA relevance'. To its right is a 'Multilingual display' link (highlighted with an orange circle). Below the document title, it says 'OJ L 174, 26.6.2013, p. 1-727 (BG, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, GA, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV)' and 'This document has been published in a special edition(s) (HR)'. At the bottom, it shows 'Direct text access: HTML' with a link icon, 'In force', 'Form: Regulation', 'Latest consolidated version: 02013R0549-20130716', 'Author: European Parliament, Council of the European Union', and 'Date of document: 21/05/2013'.

## CHAPTER 12 FURTHER READING AND USEFUL LINKS

### Useful Pages

The [Help](#) and [FAQ](#) pages provide detailed guidance on all aspects of the service.

### The EUR-Lex helpdesk

For the latest versions of publications and specific questions, you can e-mail the helpdesk at: [EURLEX-HELPDESK@publications.europa.eu](mailto:EURLEX-HELPDESK@publications.europa.eu)

### Alternative ways to contact EUR-Lex

You can fill in the contact form on the website [here](#).

You can also ask a question via the User Community on MY EUR-LEX if you are a registered user.

### Videos

#### [EUR-Lex - What's in it for you?](#)

You can view the following online guided tours [here](#):

- Quick Search Form.
- Advanced Search Form.
- Multilingual Display.
- Customised Search Preferences.
- Setting RSS feeds.

### Keep up with new developments

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EURLex>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EULawandPublications>

Sign up for email updates: <http://surveys.publications.europa.eu/formserver/PO/eurlex/eur-lex.html>

Look at Latest developments page: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/development/developmentLatest.html>