

## EUROPEAN UNION LEGAL RESEARCH

The European Union has developed over the years from the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) in 1953 with just six member states to the following 25: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. Always check the [Europa](#) website for updates of member states. The Law Library attempts to collect all materials relevant to the nature of its research. This guide identifies primary, secondary, online databases, current awareness, blogs, wikis and research guides available for European Union legal research. An effort has been made to identify the available resources in major online databases such as Westlaw Canada, LexisNexis/Quicklaw, LexisNexis Academic and HeinOnline. The sources listed are not exhaustive and efforts will be made to update the guide as new sources become available.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. [Primary Materials](#)
- II. [Secondary Materials](#)
- III. [Online Databases](#)
- IV. [Current Awareness](#)
- V. [Wiki](#)
- VI. [Blogs](#)
- VII. [Research Guide](#)
- VIII. [Legal Citation](#)

### PRIMARY MATERIALS

#### Treaties and Agreements

The Treaty on European Union was signed in Maastricht in 1992 and came into force on November 1, 1993. There have been earlier founding treaties and they can be found in the Official Journal of the European Union. [EURLEX](#) contains all the online documents of the EU in full text.

#### Legislation

You can find EU legislation electronically in any of these sources

- EURLEX,
- LexisNexis/Quicklaw
- LexisNexis Academic
- vLex
- Westlaw Canada.

#### Law Reports

The following law reports are available in print in the Law Library collection:

- Common Market Law Reports Volume 1 – 107 KJE 925.5 C66
- European Law Digest 1973 – 1991 KJC 30 E95
- European Court of Human Rights Judgments Volumes 1 – 338 KJC 5132 A52 E87

## **SECONDARY MATERIALS**

### **Digests and Encyclopedia**

- Modern Legal Systems Cyclopedia Vols. 3, 3A, 4, 4A K530 M62
- European Law Digest KJC 30 E95

### **Books**

The Law Library has a variety of books on the following legal topics covering the European Union; alternative dispute resolution, contracts, criminal, environmental, human rights, immigration, media, planning, privacy. Monographs can be found under call number KJE in the library collection.

### **Journals**

The following journals are available in HeinOnline most of which focus on issues related to the countries in the European Union:

- Columbia Journal of East European Law Vol. 1 2007
- Columbia Journal of European Law Vols. 1-13#1 (1994-2007)
- East European Constitutional Review Vols. 1-12 (1992-2003)
- European Company and Financial Law Review (ECFR) Vol. 1 (2004)
- European Competition Journal Vol. 1 (2005)
- European Journal of Crime, Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Vols. 1-12 (1993-2004)
- European Journal of Health Law Vols. 1-10 (1994-2003)
- European Journal of International Law Vols. 1-8 (1990-1997)
- European Journal of Law Reform Vols. 1-9 (1999-2007)
- European Journal of Migration and Law Vols. 1-6 (1999-2004)
- Review of Central and East European Law Vols. 1-29 (1975-2004)

The following journals are available through eResources:

- East European Business Law Issue 93-98 (1997 – 1998)
- European Law Journal Vols. 3-14 (1997 to date)
- European Journal of Law and Economics Vols. 1-25 (1994 to date)
- European Journal of International Law Vols. 1-19 (1990 to date)

## **ONLINE DATABASES**

The main online databases considered for this guide are LexisNexis/Quicklaw. LexisNexis Academic, vLex and Westlaw Canada which are available to faculty and students.

**LexisNexis** – In LexisNexis the following materials are available:

### **Treaties**

- Basic Documents of International Economic Law
- EUR-Lex EU Law Database

### **Caselaw**

- EC Decisions Relating to Competition – Here you’ll find full text decisions made by the European Community Court applying fair competition rules under Articles 85 & 86 of the European Economic Treaty. Coverage is from Nov. 1959 – July 1997
- EUR-Lex European Union cases – These are full text decisions of the European Community Court of Justice, coverage is from 1954 to date.
- European Court Cases Selected by Butterworths – This contains selected cases that have been reported in the All England Reports (European Community), coverage is from 1954 to date.
- Human Rights Cases – These are decisions of the European Court of Human Rights and the Butterworths Human Rights Cases covering landmark decisions from international, European and English courts and tribunals. Coverage is from 1960 to date.

### **Journals**

- Competition Law Insight (formerly Competition Law Monitor & European Competition Law Insight) Coverage from January 1999 – June 2003
- European Journal of International Law Coverage from 1998 to date

### **vLex**

This database contains cases, legislation, books and journals from the following EU jurisdictions:

- Austria
- Belgium
- Czech Republic
- Estonia
- France
- Italy
- Latvia
- Netherlands
- Portugal
- Slovakia
- Spain
- United Kingdom

Some of the materials are in the original languages.

**Westlaw Canada** – The following materials can be found in Westlaw Canada:

### **Treaties**

- European Union Treaties coverage from 1951

### **Caselaw**

- All European Union Materials – Comprehensive coverage of European Union Legislation, case law, preparatory documents, parliamentary questions, treaties, and information and notices (OJ C Series)

Common Market Law Reports C.M.L.R coverage from 1962 to date

- European Commercial Cases series E.C.C coverage from 1978 to date
- Entertainment & Media Law Reports series E.M.L.R coverage from 1993 to date
- Environmental Law Reports Env. L.R. coverage from 1993 to date
- European Patent Office Reports coverage begins from 1979
- European Trade Mark Reports coverage begins from 1996
- European Human Rights Reports coverage is from 1960
- European Union Legislation coverage begins with 1952
- European Union OJ C Series coverage begins with 1992
- Fleet Street Reports coverage is from 1966
- Human Rights Case Law Locator coverage is from 1890

### **Legislation**

- European Union Intellectual Property (Legislation ) coverage begins from 1952

### **Journals**

- European Competition Law Review coverage begins from Vol. 7(1)
- European Human Rights Law Review coverage begins from 1996
- European Intellectual Property Review coverage begins from 1986 Vol. 8(1)
- European Law Review Selected coverage begins with 1986 (vol. 11)
- Industrial Relations Journal coverage begins from September 1999

### **CURRENT AWARENESS**

- Legal and Regulatory Developments Index coverage is from January 1994 (Westlaw Canada)

### **WIKI**

Wikipedia definition and facts about the European Union -

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European\\_Union](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Union)

### **BLOGS**

EU Law Blog - <http://eulaw.typepad.com/> This blog discusses all legal topics pertaining to the European Union.

## RESEARCH GUIDES

Librarians from all over the world have prepared guides on researching the European Union:

- European Union Legal Materials: An Infrequent User's Guide by Duncan Alford  
[http://www.nyulawglobal.org/Globalex/European\\_Union.htm#\\_ednref1](http://www.nyulawglobal.org/Globalex/European_Union.htm#_ednref1)

History, role and activities of the Council of Europe: Facts, figures and information sources by Sophie Lobey  
[http://www.nyulawglobal.org/Globalex/Council\\_of\\_Europe.htm](http://www.nyulawglobal.org/Globalex/Council_of_Europe.htm)

- European Union Law: An Integrated Guide to Electronic and Print Research by Marilyn J. Raisch  
<http://www.llrx.com/features/eulaw2.htm>

## LEGAL CITATION

- Canada

The Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation 6<sup>th</sup> Ed (McGill Guide) on pages E133 – E136 discusses how to cite EU documents. The Bluebook on pages 175 – 177 discusses how to cite cases from the EU Courts and EU Court of Human Rights and on pages 184 – 188 EU and European Community materials.

- United Kingdom

The citation style for the United Kingdom is the [Oxford Standard for Legal Citation](#)

- United States

The citation style for the United States can be found in The Bluebook: a uniform system of citation [KF 245 H3](#)

**Prepared by Yemisi Dina  
Revised September 2009  
Osgoode Hall Law School Library**