

European Union Resources




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informED
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**UNIVERSITY OF
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Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha
CHRISTCHURCH NEW ZEALAND

The EU Collection at the University of Canterbury

The University of Canterbury Library became an EU Document Centre in 1984, along with the University of Auckland Library. Now known as EUi Centres, this reflects the emphasis on information as well as paper documents.

The collection at the University of Canterbury is shelved on Level 3 in the Law Library. It consists of official publications (legislation, regulations, parliamentary publications, debates etc) which are not available in print but can be read on microfiche and more recently on the Web. There are also a large number of serial publications (such as statistics and annual reports of EU agencies) as well as separate publications on a variety of economic, social and environmental topics. It is highly likely you will make more use of the secondary sources (academic books and journals) than the publications in the EU collection itself, many of which are now available on the Web.

Arrangement of the Collection

All EU publications are classified according to a simple subject scheme outlined below.

1	Bibliographic works. Guides. Reference Works. Directories
2	Institutional developments
3	People and politics
4	The Budget - Financing the European Union
5	Economic and monetary policy
6	Single market. Competition
7	Business. Industry. Trade
8	Employment. Labour market
9	Social policy. Social issues
10	Structural policies. Regional policies
11	Environment
12	Consumer affairs
13	Agriculture. Fisheries. Forestry
14	Transport. Communication. Tourism
15	Energy
16	Science and Technology
17	Education. Training. Culture
18	External Relations
19	Law

EUROPA – Gateway to the European Union

http://europa.eu/index_en.htm

The European Union's web portal, a vast site organised by activities, institutions, documents and services. Perhaps the quickest way to find a specific document is to use the **Google Advanced** screen and limit your search to the domain **europa.eu**

Official publications of the European Union

Like any governing institution the EU publishes a huge volume of official papers including legislation (laws, regulations and directives), court judgements, parliamentary debates, discussion papers, etc. These are available in a variety of formats. More recent publications are available on the Web, older ones on microfiche. The main online sources of official publications are:

EUR-Lex

The portal of European Union Law, which contains Official Journal, Treaties, Legislation, Legislation in preparation, Parliamentary Questions, documents of public interest.

Westlaw (Library database)

Contains all cases, legislation, current awareness, journals and materials for the EU. Go to the International Law tab.

The major official publications of the European Union are:

Official journal of the European Union

Full-text of *Official Journal* entries from late 1998 is available on the Web on Eur-Lex. Older legislation can be found in the Westlaw or Lexis databases, or found on microfiche if the number is known.

All documents from the *Official Journal* are identified by the date and document number eg *Official journal* L316/29, 31-10-1992.

The *Journal* is published daily and is divided into four parts:

- 1 **Debates of the European Parliament - (Annex).**
Full text of the Parliamentary debates. From 1998 these are available on the Web.
- 2 **Legislation (L series)**
(See EUR-Lex below)
- 3 **Information and notices (C series)**
Includes the text of proposed legislation, COM documents (see below), job vacancies, selected reports on aspects of EU policy and organisation.
- 4 **Supplement (S series)**
Includes public works and supply contracts.

COM documents

COM documents form one of the largest and most important categories of EU documentation. They include proposals for legislation, broad policy documents and reports on the implementation of policy. **White papers** contain an official set of proposals in specific policy areas. **Green papers** are discussion papers for public consideration.

- COM documents published in the *Official Journal* since 1 July 1996 are available on the Web in Eur-Lex. Older COM documents can be found on microfiche, or on the Westlaw or Lexis databases.
- COM documents are labelled with the code: COM (94) 50 final 08-04-1994.

Bulletin of the European Union

A monthly record of the activities of the EU, including a list of the latest EU publications. Its aim is to inform the public about EU activities, and is very useful for getting an overview of the EU's activities in a particular area. It is divided into three parts:

(1) Special features, (2) Activities in "month, year", (3) documentation (lists publications relevant to the subject of the chapter). Now includes a search engine covering 1994 to the present.

From 1996 the full text of the *Bulletin* is available on the Web with links into the documents.

Shelved at **EU Collection 2.1pb**

A supplement to the *Bulletin* was published at irregular intervals until 2000. Each supplement covered a separate topic. Shelved at EU Collection 2.1pbs

General Report on the Activities of the European Union

Annual review of the activities of the European Union published by the Commission. Like the *Bulletin*, the *General report* is arranged by subject and refers to relevant COM documents and *Official journal* entries. Available full text on the Web, with a search engine from 1994 to the present. Shelved at **EU Collection 2.2pg**

Three reports published annually as addenda to the *General Reports* are:

The agricultural situation in the Community (**EU Collection 13.1a**)

Report on competition policy (**EU Collection 6.2pr**)

Report on social policy (not held)

European Parliament Documents

Documents that the MEPs use in carrying out their business. Held on microfiche with the code: *European Parliament documents (PEDOC)*, eg. PEDOC A3-247/93f

Debates since 1998 and other Parliamentary publications are available full-text on the Web through the EU Parliamentary homepage.

Finding books about the European Union

The Library uses a prescribed list of subject headings to catalogue the books on the shelves. You may find it helpful to consult the following list of headings. Institutions can be searched both as authors and subject headings.

NOTE: Subject headings may be confusing, so here are some alternative approaches:

- 1. Keywords and Title keywords** searches can be more flexible, as they will retrieve words not used in subject headings. Use truncation where appropriate.
eg ***europa* politic****, ***europa* defen*e***
- 2.** Use the blue hypertext subject links to find books on subject similar to the one you have already found.
- 3.** Check the resources page from the NCRE homepage for EndNote bibliographies of EU books held in the University of Canterbury Library.

Some useful subject headings: (Subject begins with)

Europe 1992

[HC 241.2]

This subject heading is used for books about the efforts by the EU member states to create a single internal market by 1992. Used instead of: Single European Market, or Internal Market.

European communities

Used for publications by and about common institutions of the three European Communities.

European cooperation

This subject heading is used for books on cooperation among European countries in several fields of activity. Books on efforts to achieve the political unity of European countries are under **European Federation**.

European Economic Community countries

Used for books dealing collectively with the member countries of the EU as a geographic region.

European Economic Community

Differs from the previous heading as it refers to the EU as an international body rather than a geographical entity from 1958-1992 (See European Union after 1992)

European Federation

[D 1060 (History)]

[JN 15 (Constitutional history)]

Used for books on efforts to achieve the political entity of European countries. Used instead of European Union, Federation of Europe, Pan European federation.

Finding Journal Articles about the European Union

For information in journals and newspapers on the European Union but not published by them, you will need to consult a range of useful electronic databases held by the Library. Most databases can be accessed from home through the database link on the Library's web page.

ECLAS

Potentially the most useful database for university students, ECLAS is the database of the Central Library of the European Commission. It includes references to books, journal articles, EU publications, publications of other international organizations, and theses.

Worldwide Political Science and Government Abstracts

A specialist database which indexes over 300 journals in political science. Covers material published back to 1984.

Factiva

Full-text articles from international newspapers, including NZ. Works only with Internet Explorer. Includes Agence Europe.

WestLaw

Primarily focussed towards legal materials, but WestLaw does have an international news section that includes everything in Factiva.

Legaltrac

Indexes all major law reviews and law journals, and covers European Union and International Law.

General OneFile

A multidisciplinary index to key journals in each academic area. 50-60% of the articles are available full text and can be printed directly or emailed.

ProQuest

Consists of 17 subject databases, which can be searched individually or together. Useful databases are ABI/Inform which covers business, economics and trade issues, and Social Sciences Plus, which indexes major journals in the social sciences, including public administration and political science. Covers 1986 onwards. Some overlap with General OneFile.

Sociological Abstracts

The chief abstracting journal for sociology. Useful for social issues in the European Union, particularly women's and racial issues, migration, social policy, criminology, etc. Covers material written since 1974.

Web of Science

A multidisciplinary database, covering Science, Social Sciences and Humanities. Contains abstracts but no full text, although abstracts are linked to Library holdings. Can also be used to see how many times a key article has been cited subsequent to its publication.

Finding theses

Abstracts only can be found in *ProQuest Digital Dissertations* (North American) and *Index to Theses* (British).

Current Awareness

The European Union and other organisations publish a range of information sheets and newsletters that describe recent activities. Many of the EU sites have *What's New or Latest Development* links. Some useful titles include:

Europe Daily Bulletin (Agence Europe) (2.1apq)

A key publication that relates events in the European Union on a daily basis. Published by Agence Europe. Available full text on Factiva. To search on Factiva

- Change to All Sources
- Type sn=Agence Europe and topic keywords eg sn=Agence Europe and Iraq
- Select full article option

News@EU

Published by the Delegation to Australia and New Zealand. A weekly newsletter.

EUobserver

Latest EU related news – online link from the European Union guide.

European Voice (2.1a pv)

Published by the Economist Group. Held since 2001. Latest issues displayed on the recently received area in the Law Library.

The **Rapid** database is updated daily and has the full-text of press and other information releases. Can be customized to suit particular interests.

Also check the NCRE home-page and the Web pages of the EU Delegation to Australia and New Zealand.

Research Guides

From Library > subject guides > European Union Studies > EU web guides:

[European Union Law: an integrated guide to electronic and print research](#)

[European Union Legal Materials: an infrequent user's guide](#)