



# European e-Justice Portal

A guide for lawyers



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# Table of Contents

1

**About this guide**

3

**Other useful interactive tools with links**

3.1 Law

3.2 Glossaries and translations

2

**Interactive tools on the portal**

2.1 Registers

2.2 Find a legal professional

2.3 Online forms

2.4 Training of Justice professionals

2.5 Case-law and law databases

4

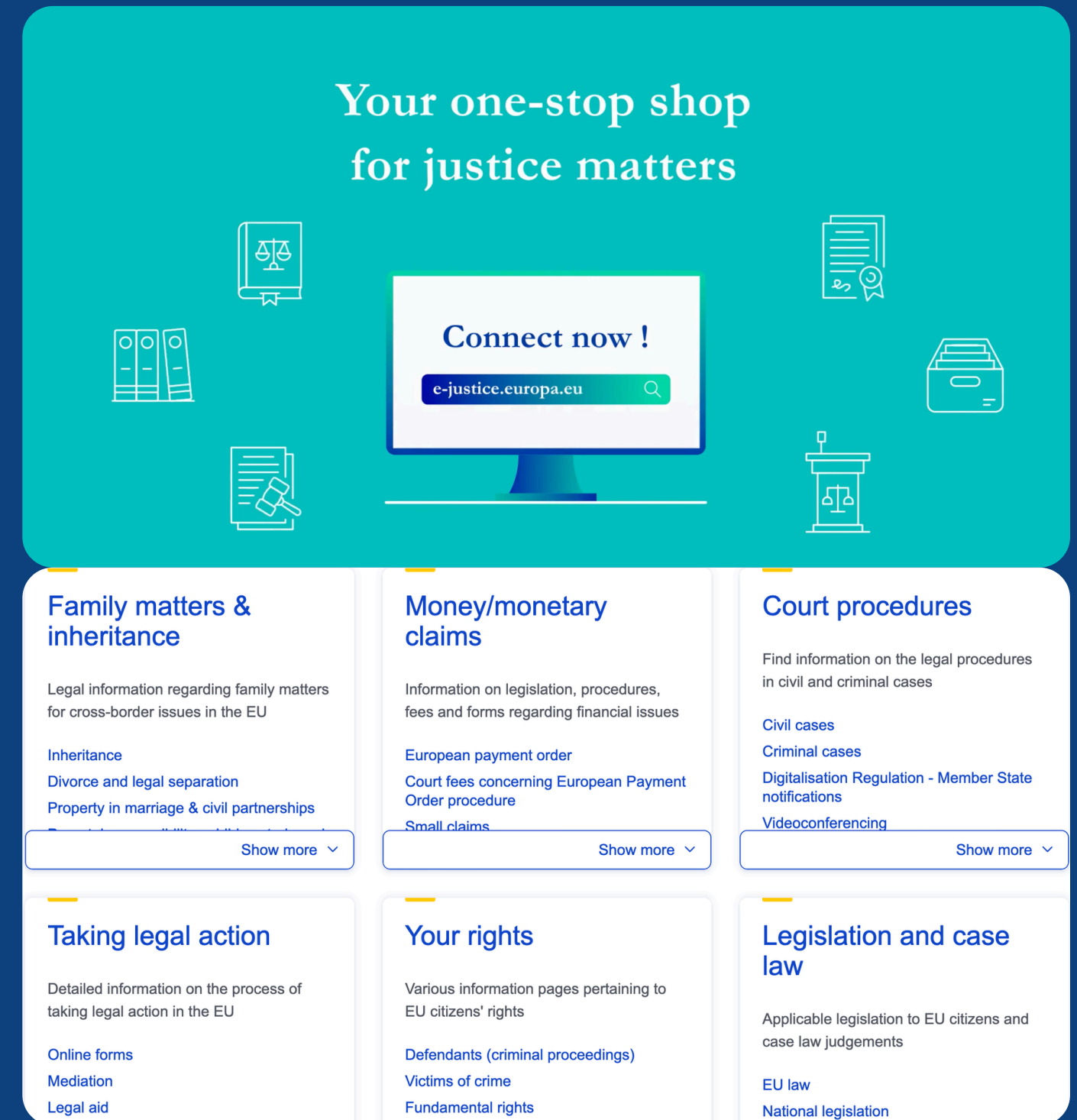
**Information and resources**


# 1. About this guide

In 2010, the European Commission (EC) launched the [e-Justice portal](#) (the Portal), an electronic one-stop shop in the area of justice. Its aim has always been to make life easier for consumers and justice practitioners by providing information on justice systems and improving access to justice throughout the EU, in 23 languages.

The Portal incorporates interactive tools which are very useful for EU lawyers. This quick start guide presents, in a user-friendly way, the most useful Portal tools and information pages for lawyers.

Additionally, the guide also provides information on other resources available on the Portal.



Hyperlinks are included in all circles of this page 

# 2. Interactive tools on the Portal

## 2.1 Registers



Business registers



Insolvency registers



Beneficial ownership registers interconnection system (BORIS)



Land registers

## 2.2 Find a legal professional



Find a Lawyer



Find a Notary

## 2.3 Online forms

## 2.4 Training of Justice professionals



European Training Platform

## 2.5 Case-law and law databases

# 2.1 Registers

## Business Registers

Since June 2017, the business registers of all EU Member States have been interconnected and become searchable, as part of the [Business Registers Interconnection System](#) (BRIS), set up in line with [Directive 2012/17/EU](#) and Commission Implementing [Regulation \(EU\) 2015/884](#). The business registers of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway are also included in this service.

The core services provided by all registers are to register, examine and store company information, such as information on a company's legal form, its seat, capital and legal representatives.

The information provided through BRIS is gathered in real time from the business registers of the Member States, without any fees for companies; however, Member States may charge national fees for certain documents.

To search for a company, use the company number and/or registration number.

### Business registers – search for a company in the EU

The EU single market has resulted in the number of companies expanding beyond their national borders. As of June 2017 the business registers of all EU countries have been interconnected and become searchable.

[General information on find a company](#)



#### Find a company

Welcome to the Business Registers Interconnection System (BRIS). It allows you to search for and access company information from the national business registers.

Company name



Company registration number



Search in all participating countries

[Select all](#) | [Clear all](#)

- |   |                                  |  |                                      |                                   |
|---|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Austria        | <input type="checkbox"/> Denmark | <input type="checkbox"/> Hungary       | <input type="checkbox"/> Luxembourg  | <input type="checkbox"/> Romania  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Belgium        | <input type="checkbox"/> Estonia | <input type="checkbox"/> Ireland       | <input type="checkbox"/> Malta       | <input type="checkbox"/> Slovakia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bulgaria       | <input type="checkbox"/> Finland | <input type="checkbox"/> Italy         | <input type="checkbox"/> Netherlands | <input type="checkbox"/> Slovenia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Croatia        | <input type="checkbox"/> France  | <input type="checkbox"/> Latvia        | <input type="checkbox"/> Norway      | <input type="checkbox"/> Spain    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cyprus         | <input type="checkbox"/> Germany | <input type="checkbox"/> Liechtenstein | <input type="checkbox"/> Poland      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweden   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Czech Republic | <input type="checkbox"/> Greece  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lithuania     | <input type="checkbox"/> Portugal    |                                   |

# Insolvency registers

The [Insolvency Registers Interconnection search interface](#) enables searches for insolvent entities, either natural or legal persons, within the EU in accordance with Article 25 of [Regulation \(EU\) 2015/848](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The system offered is similar to the one for Business registers, a service interconnecting the decentralised national insolvency registers of the Member States, which does not constitute a centralised EU insolvency register. Consequently, no data is stored or maintained on the Commission systems. A request is sent to the national registers, and the reply is returned within a few seconds. Coverage has been expanded to the great majority of Member States.

The search is by the name of the debtor and by Registration ID (company registration number or personal identification) in the Member States' registers. An advanced search, and search of insolvency proceedings of individual debtors, allows users to search using different criteria according to the national insolvency law of each Member State, for which there are search instructions per Member State.

The Member States' registers may have specific national rules on the necessary search criteria, how long data is retained, etc. For the time being, the service is available only in the EU Member States' registers which have completed the interface set up in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2015/848 – this excludes, at the time of writing, Czechia, Denmark, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Slovakia and Slovenia.

There is a core set of common information for all insolvency records in the participating Member States, some mandatory, some optional. Among the mandatory items are: the date of opening of the insolvency proceedings, type of insolvency proceedings (based on a list of predefined values centrally managed by the Commission), and the jurisdiction for opening the proceedings. Finally, there is extensive information on the national rules and registers in each Member State.

## Bankruptcy & insolvency registers - search for insolvent debtors in the EU

Search for insolvent entities, either natural or legal persons, within the EU.

[General information on interconnected registers](#)



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Welcome to the Insolvency Registers Interconnection search interface! This functionality of the European e-Justice Portal allows you to search for insolvent entities, either natural or legal persons, within the EU in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2015/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

This service is provided by the European Commission in cooperation with the EU Member States with the exception of Denmark.

Please note that the Member States registers may have specific national rules on the necessary search criteria, how long data is retained, etc. Please take a few moments to read more on this on our [General Information Page](#).

For the time being this service is available only in the EU Member States registers that completed the interface set up in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2015/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

Name:

Registration ID (company registration number or personal identification):

Search the registers of

- |                                  |                                      |                                     |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Belgium | <input type="checkbox"/> Bulgaria    | <input type="checkbox"/> Germany    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Estonia | <input type="checkbox"/> Ireland     | <input type="checkbox"/> Spain      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Croatia | <input type="checkbox"/> France      | <input type="checkbox"/> Cyprus     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Latvia  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lithuania   | <input type="checkbox"/> Luxembourg |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Malta   | <input type="checkbox"/> Netherlands | <input type="checkbox"/> Austria    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poland  | <input type="checkbox"/> Romania     | <input type="checkbox"/> Finland    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sweden  |                                      |                                     |

# Beneficial ownership registers interconnection system (BORIS)

**BORIS** is a tool for linking national central registers containing information on the beneficial owners of companies and other legal entities, trusts and other types of legal arrangements.

In accordance with [Directive \(EU\) 2015/849](#) as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/843, BORIS will gradually connect the beneficial ownership registers of all EU Member States as well as Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. To date, the registers in 15 Member States plus Iceland can be searched. Certain information may be restricted from public access in accordance with national law, while information subject to a fee will only become available on the Portal at a later stage.

A beneficial owner can be searched by entity name and/or entity registration number. A list of results will appear with the fee and respective beneficial ownership information. You then need to pay and download.

The Portal has links to all the national registries (whether or not they are yet connected to BORIS).

## Beneficial ownership registers interconnection system (BORIS)

The Beneficial Ownership Register Interconnection System ('BORIS') is a tool for linking national central registers containing information on the beneficial owners of companies and other legal entities, trusts and other types of legal arrangements.

[General information on finding beneficial owners](#)








### Find beneficial ownership information

Here you will be able to search for a company, legal entity, trust or legal arrangement and access information on its beneficial owner(s) supplied by the national registers. In accordance with Directive (EU) 2015/849 as amended by Directive (EU) 2018/843 this service will gradually connect the beneficial ownership registers of all EU countries as well as Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. Certain information may be restricted from public access in accordance with national law, while information subject to a fee will only become available on the Portal at a later stage. If you are looking to access information or documents from registers which are not yet part of this search page, you can find the links to the respective national registers on our "General information and terms and conditions" page.

Entity name

Entity registration number

Search in all participating countries.

- |  |  |   |  |   |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Austria | <input type="checkbox"/>  France  | <input type="checkbox"/>  Iceland    | <input type="checkbox"/>  Netherlands | <input type="checkbox"/>  Spain  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Belgium | <input type="checkbox"/>  Germany | <input type="checkbox"/>  Latvia     | <input type="checkbox"/>  Norway      | <input type="checkbox"/>  Sweden |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Cyprus  | <input type="checkbox"/>  Greece  | <input type="checkbox"/>  Lithuania  | <input type="checkbox"/>  Portugal    |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Finland | <input type="checkbox"/>  Hungary | <input type="checkbox"/>  Luxembourg | <input type="checkbox"/>  Romania     |   |

# Land registers

There is no equivalent search function across EU land registers as there is for business, insolvency and beneficial ownership registers.

The European Land Registry Association is working on improving co-ordination between the national registers.

The Portal nevertheless contains links to the [national registers](#), which all share a common purpose: to register, examine and store land and property information, such as location and ownership, and to make this information available to the public and professional customers.

Each national link also contains information about the land registration system in the Member State concerned.

## Land registers in EU countries

Land registries in the Member States offer a wide range of services, which may vary from one country to another.



However, the core services provided by all registries are to register, examine and store land and property information, such as location and ownership, and to make this information available to the public and professional customers.

Please select the relevant country's flag to obtain detailed national information.

### Find information per region

Belgium	Bulgaria
Czechia	Denmark
Germany	Estonia
Ireland	Greece
Spain	France
Croatia	Italy
Cyprus	Latvia
Lithuania	Luxembourg
Hungary	Malta
Netherlands	Austria
Poland	Portugal
Romania	Slovenia
Slovakia	Finland
Sweden	

## 2.2 Find a legal professional

The opening page of this section of the Portal contains information about the range of legal professionals in the EU: judges, public prosecutors, court staff, bailiffs, lawyers and notaries. The Portal also covers legal translators/interpreters, experts and forensic experts, and mediators.

The only two legal professions which have searchable EU-wide databases are lawyers and notaries. That means that there is a single source for finding either a lawyer or a notary in one of the Member States of the EU, as explained below.

For the other professions listed (legal translators/interpreters, experts and forensic experts, and mediators), there are links to many national databases and national information, but no EU-wide searchable database.



### [Find a lawyer](#)

A lawyer can be found throughout the EU based on the lawyer's name, location, spoken language, or practice area. The information is obtained and kept up-to-date through the use of national bars' databases. However, not all Member States are yet connected (at the time of writing, there are 18 Member States plus Norway). The European Commission aims to have full EU coverage in due course.



### [Find a notary](#)

This is a similarly searchable database found on the Portal. 22 Member States' data are covered by the search function, and notaries can be found based on their location, spoken language and/or name.

[Find a Lawyer Search Engine Interface](#)

[Find a Notary Search Engine Interface](#)



## 2.3 Online Forms

One of the Portal's main attractions is that it offers a single access point to a variety of online forms available for use in relation to EU instruments.

There is a small interactive part, which is called the [Dynamic forms wizard](#) which helps a user decide whether either a European payment order (for uncontested claims) or a small claims form is the correct procedure for the recovery of money in certain circumstances.

Otherwise the Portal offers access to [online forms](#) for all Member States in the following areas.

European Payment Order	Small claims	Serving documents	Taking of evidence	Brussels IIb Regulation
Brussels IIa Regulation	Maintenance obligations	Judgements in civil and commercial matters	Legal aid	European enforcement order
European account preservation order	Compensation for crime victims	Public documents	European certificate of succession	Mutual recognition of protection measures

## 2.4 Training of Justice Professionals

The next area in which an interactive tool can be found concerns the training of justice professionals. There is a good deal of information on judicial training on the Portal – about national training systems, good training practices, judicial training policy and judicial training networks and structures.

But the interactive part is the [European Training Platform](#) (ETP). ETP is a search tool for those legal practitioners and justice professionals who want to train themselves on any practice area of EU law or related matters. The ETP includes self-learning material on a great variety of topics.

[Recognised training providers](#) supply information about the training they organise in the EU and in different languages. The European Commission contributes to the platform with ready-to-use training materials or handbooks produced with EU financial support.

### European Training Platform

Search tool for justice professionals to find EU law training materials.

[Homepage](#) | [Dashboard](#) | [Self-learning materials](#) | [Training providers / Catalogues](#) | [Glossary](#)

[E-Justice](#) > [European judicial training](#) > [European Training Platform \(ETP\)](#)

## About the Platform

#### PAGE CONTENTS

[What's new](#)

[Judicial Training Policy](#)

[You are a justice professional?](#)

[You are a training provider?](#)

[Subscriptions](#)

[Accessibility Statement](#)

The European Training Platform (ETP) is a search tool for justice professionals. You can find self-learning materials on a great variety of EU law practice areas and related topics, as well as links to training providers' homepages and course catalogues.

Recognised training providers and partners inform potential trainees about their training activities and share high-quality self-learning materials on the ETP. The European Commission and EU agencies also contribute to the platform with ready-to-use self-learning materials or handbooks, also produced thanks to EU financial support.

## 2.5 Case-law and law databases

### ECLI

The European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) has been developed to facilitate the unequivocally correct citation of judgments from European and national courts. A set of uniform metadata has helped to improve search facilities. Easy access to judicial decisions of other Member States is of growing importance in reinforcing the role of the national judge in applying and upholding EU law.

The obstacle of differences in national case law identification systems, citation rules and technical fields describing the characteristics of a judgment has been removed by the European Commission having developed a multi-lingual [ECLI search engine](#).

ECLI is a uniform identifier that has the same recognisable format for all Member States and EU courts. It is composed of five, mandatory, elements, separated by a colon:

- ECLI to identify the identifier as being a European Case Law Identifier
- The country code
- The code of the court that rendered the judgment
- The year the judgment was rendered
- An ordinal number, up to 25 alphanumeric characters

There is information on the Portal about which Member States have introduced ECLI and which are planning to do so, and also information on implementation of ECLI by the Court of Justice of the European Union and the European Patent Office.

The screenshot shows the 'European Case Law Identifier' search interface. At the top is a search bar labeled 'Search Ecli Identifier'. Below it is a section titled 'Issuing country or institution' which contains a grid of checkboxes and flags for various countries and institutions. The options are:

- Court of Justice of the European Union
- Bulgaria
- Czech Republic
- Greece
- Portugal
- European Patent Office
- Court of Justice Benelux
- Estonia
- Italy
- Slovenia
- Belgium
- Croatia
- Finland
- Latvia
- Spain
- Cyprus
- France
- Lithuania
- Germany
- Netherlands

### Case-Law

There is searchable functionality on the Portal in case-law.

### Freedom of movement and other union citizens' rights

This is a [search engine](#) that contains case law of higher national courts pertaining mostly to the implementation of [Directive 2004/38/EC](#) on the right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States.

The database focuses particularly on the entry and residence requirements that may be imposed on EU nationals and their family moving to another EU country, definition of a family member, and the grounds on which a Member State is entitled to restrict their rights. The documents returned by the search tool are a result of an outsourced commissioned project.

# 3. Other useful interactive tools with links listed in the Portal

## 3.1 Law

There are searchable databases on law, both national and EU-wide, that can be discovered through the Portal, although the databases are established elsewhere.

### N-Lex

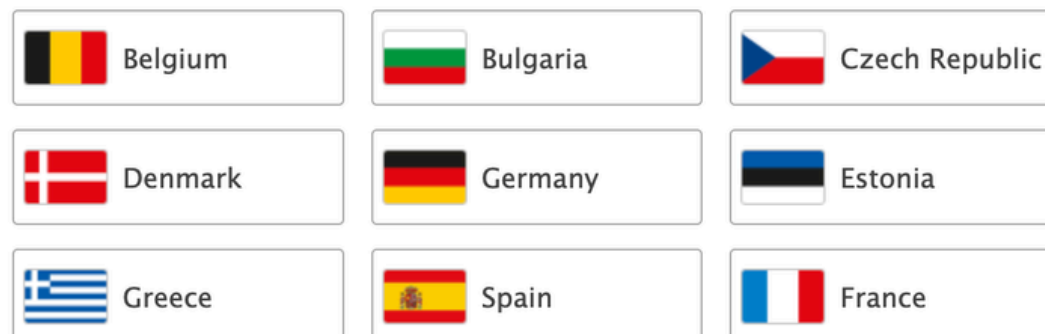
This covers the national law of EU countries. There is a [single entry point](#) to individual EU countries' national law databases. The user must choose a country from the list or the map to search for legal acts, or find out more about its legal system. The user can also click on a link for a list of national law databases from non-EU countries – but the full N-Lex functionality is not available for these sites.

### EUR-Lex

From the EU perspective, many laws of the Member States implement EU law. In particular, this is the case for national law implementing EU directives. Those looking for such implementing measures, by which the Member States have incorporated certain provisions of EU law, can use the relevant search function at the [EUR-Lex database](#).

#### National law of EU countries

Single entry point to individual EU countries' national law databases. Choose a country from the list or the map to search for legal acts, or find out more about its legal system. You can also click the link below for a list of national law databases from non-EU countries – but the full N-Lex functionality is not available for these sites.



#### EU law

- > Treaties
- Legal acts
- Consolidated texts
- International agreements
- Preparatory documents
- EFTA documents
- Lawmaking procedures
- Summaries of EU legislation
- > Browse by EU institutions
- Browse by EuroVoc

#### EU case-law

- Case-law
- Reports of cases
- Directory of case-law

#### Information

- Themes in focus
- EUR-Lex developments
- Statistics
- > ELI register
- EU budget online

## 3.2 Glossaries and translations



[InterActive Terminology for Europe](#) (IATE) is a multilingual term database used for translations within the European institutions.

It consists of a search engine for expressions and phrases used in all areas of European Union activity. It requires rather professional knowledge of the target language in order to be used properly. It is a very useful tool for professional translators while not being wholly suitable for the general public, judicial authorities or legal professionals. The translations of expressions and phrases are entered by the translators themselves to create new references or supplement existing ones. Suggestions for translations are provided for several, but not all, official languages of the European Union.

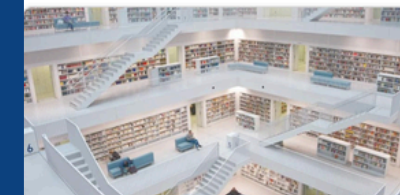
Through IATE, the Comparative Multilingual Legal Vocabulary (VJM) can be found. VJM is a collection of multilingual terminological data entries found in multiple domestic legal systems (24 languages and 30 legal systems), resulting from comprehensive research work on comparative law undertaken by the lawyer-linguists of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

The VJM's terminological data entries have very detailed information such as definitions (adapted to each legal system), notes on comparative law, legal references (legislation, case law and academic legal writing from national, EU and international legal systems), the different designations of a concept (in the same language and sometimes different depending on the legal system), a clear indication of the origin of a term (functional equivalent or formulation — circumlocution), warning notes (legal false friends, risk of confusion, obsolete terms), concept trees allowing to see the semantic relationships between concepts at a glance, etc.

## EU Vocabularies

The [EU Vocabularies website](#) provides access to vocabularies managed by the EU institutions and bodies. This includes controlled vocabularies, schemes, ontologies, data models, etc. As part of the EU open data initiative, the EU Vocabularies site offers free public access to all of its content. This thesaurus exists in 23 official languages of the European Union.

### > About EU Vocabularies



#### Reference data catalogue

Browse the catalogue of reference datasets published by the Publications Office



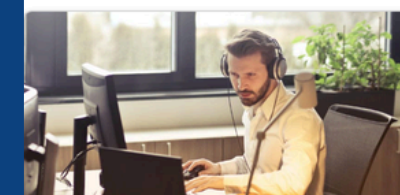
#### Online tools and applications

Discover online solutions to edit, disseminate and interact with your reference data



#### Recent releases and planning

Explore the latest publication of vocabularies and models



#### Support services

Gain access to support services and the semantic technologies helpdesk



#### Corporate reference data

Follow the development of corporate reference data



#### Learning resources

Get started with tutorials and videos

Hyperlinks are included in all content of this page



# 4. Information Resources

## Family matters and inheritance

- Inheritance
- Divorce and legal separation
- Property in marriage and civil partnerships
- Parental responsibility - child custody and contact rights
- Moving/settling abroad with children
- Parental child abduction
- Family maintenance
- Cross-border placement of a child including foster family
- Children of Ukraine – Civil Judicial Cooperation

## Money and monetary claims

- European payment order
- Court fees concerning European Payment Order procedure
- Small claims
- Court fees concerning Small Claims procedure
- Insolvency and bankruptcy
- Securing assets during a claim in EU countries

## Court procedures

- Civil cases
- Criminal cases
- Digitalisation Regulation - Member State notifications
- Videoconferencing
- Judicial auctions

## Taking legal action

- Online forms
- Mediation
- Legal aid
- Where and how
- Legal systems - EU and national
- My e-Justice space
- European Judicial Atlas in civil matters

## Your Rights

- Defendants (criminal proceedings)
- Victims of crime
- Fundamental rights
- Public documents
- Cross- border use of electronic public documents
- Protection of vulnerable adults
- Rights of minors in court proceedings
- Access to justice in environmental matters

## Legislation and case-law

- EU Law
- National legislation
- International law
- Publication of official announcements
- Glossaries and translations
- EU case law
- European Case Law Identifier (ECLI)
- European Case Law Identifier Search Engine
- Freedom of movement and other Union citizens' rights
- National case law
- Interational case law

## Registers - Business, insolvency and land

- Business registers – search for a company in the EU
- Business registers in EU countries
- Land registers - EU level
- Land registers in EU countries
- Bankruptcy and insolvency registers
- Beneficial ownership registers interconnection system (BORIS)
- Bankruptcy and insolvency registers - search for insolvent debtors in the EU

## Find a legal professional

- Types of legal professions
- Lawyers
- Notaries
- Legal translators and interpreters
- Find an expert
- Forensic experts
- Mediators

## Training, judicial networks and agencies

- Training of justice professionals (European Training Platform)
- European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters
- European Judicial Network in criminal matters
- EuroJust
- European Law Institute
- EuroPris



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