Searching for EU documents

Workshop 3 April 2019
Why this workshop?

Set up for a structured search

- Search efficiently
- More relevant results
- Saving time

Support: European Documentation Centre(s)
1. Searchplan
2. EU institutions
3. Documents of the Commission
4. Databases
5. Searching
Searchplan

EU institution

Key words

Databases

Search Question

Document type

Selecting criteria

Search techniques

Track your search

Norma Fötsch, NSM Library Team

Radboud University
Overview EU institutions

Institutions and bodies

EU institutions and bodies in brief

- European Parliament
- European Council
- Council of the European Union
- European Commission
- Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU)
- European Central Bank (ECB)
- European Court of Auditors (ECA)
## Overview Documents of the Commission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Type of document</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>EC*</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>COM: Proposals and other acts adopted in the framework of a legislative procedure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>DC</td>
<td>COM: Other COM documents: communications, recommendations, reports, white papers, green papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EC and HR*</td>
<td>JC</td>
<td>JOIN: Joint proposals, communications, reports, white papers and green papers adopted by the Commission and the High Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EC or EC and HR</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>SWD: Staff and joint staff working documents (impact assessments, summaries of impact assessments, staff working papers). Staff working documents had the identifier SEC prior to 2012 (now used only for internal documents of the European Commission, which are not published on EUR-Lex). SWD documents are published in one language, apart from the summaries of impact assessments, which are published in all the official languages of the EU.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*EC: European Commission, HR: High Representative

A guide to tracing working documents
Databases for Documents of the Commission

- Directorate-General and Services:
  - Contact lists (departments and executive agencies)
  - "EU Whoiswho" (official directory of the EU)
- Blogs (Commissioners)
- The Commission at work: Work programmes, strategy and activity reports, press releases (1; 2)
- Electronic registers of documents:
  - Register of Commission documents (since 2001; Guide)
  - Comitology Register (since 2003); Comitology Procedure Reforms (2017)
  - Transparency Register (lobbying, interest representation and advocacy)
  - Register of expert groups and other similar entities
- Archived websites (since 1995)
- Relations with National Parliaments:
  - National Parliament opinions and Commission replies
  - Political dialogue: Annual reports on relations with national parliaments (since 2005)
  - Subsidiarity and proportionality - Annual reports on Better lawmaking (since 2001)

Overview of the 279 EU databases
Database check

- Publications of the Commission
- Strategy documents
- Register of documents of the Commission
# Website search

**Google advanced**

Site search: Limit results to those from a specific website. Example: site: ec.europa.eu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>eu policy compliance OR</th>
<th>site:ec.europa.eu</th>
<th>205.000 results (google.nl)</th>
<th>Tools periode 1 Jan 2019 – 28 March 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>filetype:pdf</td>
<td>193.000 results google.com</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>enforcement OR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>implementation OR</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>monitoring</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

186 results (google.nl)
190 results (google.com)
Think about your searchplan

Track your search

Additional: Register of documents and site search