



## **BODLEIAN LAW LIBRARY**

### **A GUIDE TO THE EUROPEAN DOCUMENTATION CENTRE [EDC] IN THE BODLEIAN LAW LIBRARY**

#### **About the European Documentation Centre**

European Document Centres are neutral collections of official publications of the European Union (EU), open to the public, and usually housed in academic libraries throughout the EU. EDC status entitles the host library to receive one copy free of charge of most significant publications and documents of the EU. There are over 40 EDCs in the UK. The Bodleian Library has been an EDC since 1963.

The EDC is on the lower floor of the Bodleian Law Library, next to the Freshfields IT Room.

#### **The EDC collection**

The EDC contains the official publications of the European Union:

#### **Legislation and law reports**<sup>1</sup>

Treaties, regulations, directives, decisions  
 Proposals for new legislation  
 Documents generated during the legislative process  
 European Parliament debates – now only on-line  
 The case law of the European Court of Justice

#### **Reports**

Commission reports on all aspects of the EU  
 Council reports on institutional matters  
 European Parliament reports

#### **Statistics**

General statistics; economy and finance  
 Population and social conditions  
 Energy and industry  
 Agriculture, forestry and fishery  
 Foreign trade  
 Services and transport  
 Environment; miscellaneous

#### **Journals**

Journals and newsletters are filed at the end of each subject division.

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<sup>1</sup> Much of this material is also available in the Euro Comm section of the Bodleian Law Library, which is a strong collection on the law of the European Union. It is arranged in the same way as the Bodleian Law Library collection, and situated on the lower floor immediately adjacent to the EDC.

## **The EDC classification scheme**

EDC/EF	European Foundation for the Improvement of Living & Working Conditions
EC/Bib	Bibliographic works
EC/0	European Union General (includes enlargement publications)
EC/0(T)	Treaties
EC/01	European Coal and Steel Community
EC/02	European Economic Community
EC/03	European Atomic Energy Community
EC/1	Commission
EC/2	Council
EC/3	European Parliament
EC/4	Court of Justice
EC/5	Economic and Social Committee
EC/6	European Investment Bank now European Central Bank
EC/7	Committee of the Regions
EC/8	European Monetary Institute
EC/9	European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products
EC/A	General economic affairs
EC/AL	Regional policy
EC/B	Financial and monetary affairs
EC/C	Industry (including business, enterprise and consumer policy)
EC/CL	Energy
EC/CM	Coal and steel
EC/D	Agriculture and food
EC/E	Competition ( <i>until 1978 only; see EC/F after that date</i> )
EC/F	Trade, customs, internal market, competition
EC/G	External affairs and development
EC/H	Social affairs (includes publications on women)
EC/HA	Labour and employment, migration, trade unions, wages
EC/HB	Social welfare (including housing, health and safety)
EC/HC	European Agency for Safety and Health at Work
EC/HD	Education (including industrial training)
EC/HL	Population
EC/HN	Environment
EC/J	Law ( <i>see also <b>Euro Comm</b></i> )
EC/K	Transport
EC/L	Tourism
EC/T	Science and technology, information science and patents

Within each section, you will find books and pamphlets first, by year of publication e.g. EC/HA 1989(1), then periodicals and series e.g. EC/A per.3.

The small reference collection contains bibliographical guides and books about the EU. It can be found at the end of the main collection, and is arranged in the following order:

EDC/EC.1	General works and guides
EDC/EC.2-5	Bibliographies and indexes
EDC/EC.6	European Parliament
EDC/EC.8	European Communities
EDC/EC.9	Single European Market
EDC/EC per.1-	Journals

## **Finding material**

For general information on the EU and for access to recent documents, use the links from the EU's own server Europa: <http://europa.eu/> . The internet is often the quickest and most effective tool for accessing current EU publications, as more and more material is made available in full text online. However, Europa can be difficult to navigate, and so you may find it easier to carry out an internet search using a search engine, such as Google. There is also a Google search box <http://searcheuropa.eu/> set up by EU4Journalists (<http://eu4journalists.eu/>) that you can use to search the 28 million pages Europa.

If you find internet references to documents, without full text availability online, use OLIS <http://www.lib.ox.ac.uk/olis/> or SOLO <http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk> to locate paper copies of items received in the EDC since 1988; pre-1988 material can be accessed via a card title catalogue in the EDC.

If you are searching for older material, you may find indexing methods within individual publications such as the *Official Journal (O.J)* poor. Many important items appear in issues of periodicals, which are not indexed separately. If you are looking for something in the *Official Journal* try using a database first, to get an *O.J.* reference.

General subject access, using statistics, and answering broad policy questions using the EDC publications can be difficult. The classification system, which is different from that used in the Bodleian Law Library, is listed on the end of the shelves in the EDC, and on page 2 of this guide. Although the EDC is broadly arranged by subject, the multi-disciplinary approach may make browsing unsuccessful. If you have any problems in finding material, please ask - it is likely to save you a lot of time.

## **Further EDC material**

There is a small collection of reference material in the EDC by the seating area, which is mainly bibliographical. It contains some good handbooks and directories, e.g. *Vacher's European Companion* (shelved at *EDC/EC.8.8*), books on the Single Market and the European Parliament.

Other materials about the EU, including text books and legal periodicals, are kept in the **Euro Comm** section of the Bodleian Law Library, and elsewhere in the Bodleian Libraries. You can identify them via the online catalogue OLIS, and most (with the exception of open access materials in other Reading Rooms) may be ordered to the Bodleian Law Library.

The following resources may help you to identify and trace further relevant material.

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|----------------|--|----------------------|
| Davies, E (ed) | <b><i>Eurojargon: a dictionary of European Union acronyms, abbreviations and terminology.</i></b> 7 <sup>th</sup> ed.  | Euro Comm 450 R178a7 |
| Jeffries, J    | <b><i>A guide to the official publications of the European Communities.</i></b> Covers the period up to the end of 1979.   | EDC / EC.1.2         |
| Thomson, I     | <b><i>The documentation of the European Communities: a guide.</i></b> This continues coverage to early 1988.   | EDC / EC.1.5         |
| Overy, P.      | <b><i>European information: a guide to official sources.</i></b> Published 2005. There is an up-to-date online version available via the members' area of the European Information Association website <a href="http://www.eia.org.uk/">http://www.eia.org.uk/</a> Please ask the staff (email <a href="mailto:edc@bodleian.ox.ac.uk">edc@bodleian.ox.ac.uk</a> ) if you wish to consult it. | Euro Comm 400 O96a   |

### **Further information**

For information about printed, web and electronic sources of EU law, please see the Bodleian Law Library guides ***Guide to the European Union collection*** and ***Electronic sources of EU law***. There are also guides to EU competition law and case law resources: ***EU competition law resources in the Bodleian Law Library*** and ***Sources of European Union case law***.

Refer to our web site for useful links:

<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/law/collections/edc>

### **Further assistance**

You may ask any member of the Library's staff for help, or send an email to [edc@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:edc@bodleian.ox.ac.uk), or telephone the Academic Services Librarian on (2)71464. This is a complex collection; if you cannot find what you are looking for, **please ask** for help.

Bodleian Law Library

Email [law.library@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:law.library@bodleian.ox.ac.uk)

Web <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/law>

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