



The Law Society

J06 HOW TO Find European Union Case Law

Case reference numbers

When first registered, cases are given reference numbers. Before 1989, these took the form number/year, e.g. **145/88** (1988 being the year of registration). From 1989, when the Court of First Instance was set up, Court of Justice cases have the prefix 'C' (*Cour de justice*) and Court of First Instance cases have the prefix 'T' (*Tribunal de première instance*), e.g. **C-386/00**, **T-201/95**. The Civil Service Tribunal, which heard its first case in March 2006, uses the prefix 'F' (*Tribunal de la fonction publique*).

Indexes

CLI Case Citor (1954-2008) is part of the Current Legal Information (CLI) database. It includes most EU cases, going back to the 1950s. Searchable by case number or name.

N.B. On this database the case number is in the case name field and the hyphen is omitted, e.g. C394/96.

Official Journal C Series

Summaries of judgments (but not opinions of the advocates general) are published in the OJ C about 2-3 months after the event. Notices are published when a case is first registered and also if it is removed from the register (i.e. dropped). Recent years are in the Law Society library at BAY 55. Older volumes are in the Common Room (ask staff). A microfiche edition of the series is in filing cabinet E (by BAY 46).

Internet

The *Curia* website (web address below) is the website of the European Court of Justice, Court of First Instance and Civil Service Tribunal. It contains:

- Transcripts from 17/06/97 onwards, updated daily (search form on home page).

- Numerical list of cases from 1953 onwards, with links to full text where available (under *Case-law - Numerical access*); searchable by party name using Edit-Find. Will say if the case is still to be heard ("pending") or has been dropped ("removed from the Register").

- Press releases (under *Press and Media - Press releases*)

- Schedules of future hearings (search form under *Case law - Judicial calendar*).

- The Courts' Rules of Procedure (under *Procedure* in the menu for each court)

EUR-Lex (web address below) contains European Court Reports from 1954 onwards. Use Simple Search to search by case number, ECR citation, party or key word; or use Case-law to browse recent cases or search by number. It also contains the Official Journal C series from 1998 onwards (for case summaries and court notices). Use Official Journal link to search chronologically, or Simple Search to search by OJ reference or names of parties, treating the latter as search terms.

BAILII (web address below) contains the full text of all cases from 1954 onwards. Searchable by party name, judgment date or keyword.

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Law Reports

European Court Reports: Reports of Cases Before the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance (1954 -) (ECR) are the official, full and authoritative reports. Part I for ECJ judgments and opinions; part II for CFI judgments. From 1994 onwards, staff cases appear in a separate series (see below).

N.B. It takes about 2 years for cases to appear in the English edition of the ECR.

European Court Reports: Reports of Staff Cases. The Law Society only holds 1994-2000 in print format. See Curia website (web address below) for recent staff cases.

All England Law Reports (European Cases) (1995 -) provides full reports of selected judgments and opinions. In the Law Society library at BAY 34. Also available on *LexisLibrary*.

Common Market Law Reports (1962 -) provides full reports of selected judgments and opinions. Covers relevant cases from national courts, ECJ and CFI. Held by the Law Society library at BAY 56.

Common Market Law Reports Anti-Trust Reports (1988 -) includes judgments and Commission decisions relating to competition law. Held by the Law Society library at BAY 56. Formerly known as the *CMLR Anti-Trust Supplement*. CMLR page references prefixed by "D" refer to this supplement.

European Community Cases contains reports of selected judgments and opinions. The Law Society library holds volumes covering 1989-2007, at CAR CELL 1A (ask staff).

European law reports : reports of cases in the United Kingdom and Ireland are selected UK and Irish court decisions relating to EU law. The Law Society library holds volumes covering 1997-2006 at CAR CELL 1B.

Useful websites

BAILII: <http://www.bailii.org>
Curia: http://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/j_6/
EUR-Lex: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm>

The Library, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL, DX 56 Lon/Chancery Ln

Library Enquiries: 0870 606 2511

Library Fax: 020 7831 1687

Library e-mail: library@lawsociety.org.uk

Library website: <http://www.lawsociety.org.uk/library>

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