

Law of the European Union Subject Advice

Library and Learning Support provides an extensive collection of online and print resources. Our print collections are held at The Sir Michael Cobham Library at Talbot Campus (TC) and the Bournemouth House Library (BH) on the Lansdowne Campus. The Library i-Floor at the Executive Business Centre (EBC) is available to accredited Business School staff and students.

Searching for Information:

To start your research, login to myBU here
<http://mybu.bournemouth.ac.uk/> where you can:

- access the Academic Skills tab on myBU for advice and guidance about university study skills;
- access your reading lists within 'My Units' on the Home tab;
- use the dictionaries and encyclopaedias for definitions and background information (access via the 'Reference Works' link on the Library tab);
- use our Library Catalogue to search for books and journals;
- for a more focussed search on a selected database, use the 'Databases' link on the Library tab.

You can also access Library resources via the Library website www.bournemouth.ac.uk/library. This guide refers to links on the myBU Library tab. If you require help with navigating the Library website, just contact us.

Subject Advice Services:

We offer help and advice on information resources when you are researching for your assignments or dissertation. You can drop into the Library, make an appointment with your Subject Librarian, or use our online services.

- Ask for help at the Subject Advice Desk;
- Use the online Chat Enquiry Service for a one-to-one discussion with our Library staff;
- Phone our dedicated help line +44 (0) 1202 965959;

- Follow our blogs: Library and Learning Support News, Research Support, Subject Librarians' Blogs. All available via the myBU Library tab;
- E-mail your Subject Support Librarian, Melissa Bowden to make an appointment, at bslibteam@bournemouth.ac.uk.

Resources for your subject:

Background on EU law

European Union law materials can be divided into two broad categories: primary and secondary.

1. Primary materials comprise primary and secondary sources of EU law and the case law of the European Court of Justice.

Primary sources of law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Treaty on European Union; • The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; • The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union; • General principles established by the European Court of Justice
Secondary sources of law	Regulations, Directives, Decisions, Recommendations and Opinions
Case law	Judgments of the European Court of Justice

Law of the European Union

2. **Secondary materials** have two main functions:

Finding tools	These help you locate legal materials, e.g. the <i>European Current Law Monthly Digest</i> and <i>Yearbook</i>
Commentary	These provide discussion of primary materials, e.g. journal articles

Abbreviations

Some legal materials (law reports and law journals) are often referred to using standard abbreviations, e.g. the law report series *European Court Reports* is abbreviated to 'ECR'. You can check legal abbreviations using the following:

- Cardiff Index to Legal Abbreviations
<http://www.legalabbrevs.cardiff.ac.uk/>
- Raistrick D, *Index to Legal Citations and Abbreviations* (3rd edn, Sweet & Maxwell 2008).

Further Reading

You can find further guidance on doing legal research in the following books:

- Clinch P, *Using a Law Library* (2nd edn, Blackstone 2001);
- Holborn G, *Butterworths Legal Research Guide* (2nd edn, Butterworths 2001);
- Knowles J, *Effective Legal Research* (2nd edn, Sweet & Maxwell 2009).

Online Resources

Online resources, such as law databases, provide access to the most up to date legal information. The library is no longer updating some print law resources where online versions are available.

- **JustCite:**
Use to search across the content of all major law databases simultaneously.
- **HUDOC**
Includes decisions, Committee, Chamber and Grand-Chamber judgments and advisory

opinions of the European Court of Human Rights, Commission reports and resolutions of the Committee of Ministers.

- **Lawtel EU**
Includes Treaties, adopted and proposed legislation, case law of the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance, merger decisions and daily updates for current awareness.
- **Westlaw**
Includes Treaties, adopted and proposed legislation, case law of the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance, parliamentary questions, information and notices from the Official Journal C series, plus selected journals on EU law.

Off campus access

You will require your University login details to access our online databases when you are off campus.

Primary Sources of Law - Treaties

Treaties are primary sources of law, setting out the overall objectives of the European Union.

Print Source	Description
Official Journal of the European Communities: Legislation (L series)	Official source for EU legislation 1952-88 (microfiche) 1989-1997 (store)
N Foster, <i>Blackstone's EU Treaties & Legislation</i> (current edition)	341.2422/BLA
Treaties Establishing the European Communities, as amended by subsequent Treaties	341.2422026/GRE
Treaty Establishing the European Economic Community	341.2422026/GRE
The Rome, Maastricht and Amsterdam Treaties; Comparative Texts	341.2422026/EUR
Treaty of Rome and Treaty of Maastricht	341.2422026/HUN
Treaty on European Union (Maastricht Treaty)	341.2422026/COU

Online Source	Description
Official Journal: L Series	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm
EUR-Lex	The founding Treaties, amending Treaties, accession Treaties, plus other Treaties and protocols http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm
Lawtel EU Westlaw	EU treaties

Secondary Sources of Law

There are five types of secondary sources of law:

- **Regulations:** have general application. They are binding in their entirety and directly applicable in all Member States;
- **Directives:** binding on Member States as to the result to be achieved; however, national authorities are free to choose how to achieve such results within the framework of their own legal order;
- **Decisions:** may have general application or have a specific addressee, such as a Member State or a legal or natural person. They are binding in their entirety; a decision which specifies those to whom it is addressed to shall be binding only on them;
- **Recommendations and Opinions:** are soft law instruments and have no binding force.

Print Source	Description
Official Journal of the European Communities: Legislation (L series)	Official source for EU legislation 1952-88 (microfiche) 1989-1997 (store)
N Foster, <i>Blackstone's EU Treaties & Legislation</i> (current edition)	341.2422/BLA

Online Source	Description
Official Journal: L series	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm
Directory of Community Legislation in Force	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm
Lawtel EU	Regulations, Directives, Decisions,

Westlaw	Recommendations and Opinions
OEIL: European Parliament – The Legislative Observatory	Monitors the legislative decision-making process in the EU. http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/

Proposed Legislation

'COM docs' include proposed legislation, communications and reports.

Print Source	Description
Official Journal of the European Communities: Information and Notices (C series)	Official sources for EU draft legislation, official announcements and information on activities - 1989-1996 (store)

Online Source	Description
Official Journal: C series	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm
Lawtel EU Westlaw	Proposed legislation
Pre-Lex	Monitors the status of legislation in preparation. http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/apcnet.cfm?CL=en

Case Law

The Court of Justice of the European Communities comprises three courts: the Court of Justice, the Court of First Instance and the Civil Service Tribunal.

The reports of cases decided by these courts are published in the *European Court Reports*. Court of Justice cases (prefixed with the letter 'C') are published in volume I and Court of First Instance cases (prefixed with the letter 'T') are published in volume II. Civil Service Tribunal cases are prefixed with the letter 'F'.

Law of the European Union

Print Source	Description
European Court Reports 1954-	Cases decided by the Court of Justice, the Court of First Instance and the Civil Service Tribunal
Official Journal: C series	The first indication that a case is being brought is a summary in the OJ: C series, 1989-1996 (store)

Online Source	Description
European Court of Justice	http://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo2_7045/
Press releases	Daily summary of judgments and opinions of the Court, 1996- http://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo2_16799
Official Journal: C series	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm
Eur-Lex	http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm
Lawtel EU	Case law
Westlaw	

European Human Rights Law

The Council of Europe was founded in 1949 and currently has 47 member countries. It was set up to promote democracy and protect human rights and the rule of law in Europe.

The Council's main achievement is the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (better known as the European Convention on Human Rights) which was adopted in 1950 and came into force in 1953. The Convention was incorporated into UK law by the Human Rights Act 1998.

The Convention provided for the creation of two institutions: the European Commission of Human Rights (1954) and the European Court of Human Rights (1959). In 1998, those institutions were abolished and a new full-time, permanent European Court of Human Rights was established.

Legislation

Source	Description
P Wallington, <i>Blackstone's Statutes on Public Law and Human Rights</i> (current edition)	342.41/BLA. Print source
European Convention on Human Rights and additional protocols	http://www.echr.coe.int/EC/HR/EN/Header/Basic+Texts/The+Convention+and+additional+protocols/The+European+Convention+on+Human+Rights/
Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union	http://www.europarl.europa.eu/charter/default_en.htm

Case Law

Source	Description
European Human Rights Reports 1979-	Print law report series. Available online from Westlaw
HUDOC	Free database containing case law of the European Convention on Human Rights
Pending cases from the European Court of Human Rights	List of cases currently lodged before the Court. http://www.echr.coe.int/ECHR/EN/Header/Pending+Cases/Pending+cases/Calendar+of+scheduled+hearings/

Secondary Materials – Books

Often the best way to approach a legal question is to start with secondary sources, such as books. They can provide an overview of a legal topic and plus they may identify key cases and legislation. However, law books date quickly, so you need to make sure you are using the most current edition.

The Library Catalogue contains details of our print collection and provides access to electronic books. Select the 'Look for book or journal' link on the myBU Library tab. Search the Catalogue for authors, titles or using subject terms. Results indicate the campus location of printed books and a shelf mark (found on the spine label).

To find a specific title, ensure you have the complete shelf mark including letters after the numbers. If QR or F&S precede the shelf mark, it is part of our reference collection which must remain in the Library and cannot be loaned.

Some shelf marks relevant for this area are:	
European Union law	341.2411
European human rights law	341.48094

Secondary Materials – Encyclopaedias

Halsbury’s Laws is the major legal encyclopaedia and a good starting point for legal research. It provides a summary of the main points of an area of law and it identifies important case law and legislation for that topic. *Halsbury’s Laws* is available in print in the Library, but for the most up to date information, you should consult the online version available through Lexis Library.

Secondary Materials – Dictionaries

Law dictionaries are specialist works of reference that record the meanings of words and phrases, as defined by case law or legislation. The definitions may also include references to relevant primary materials.

You can find general reference materials for law (such as law dictionaries) in the **Legal Research** section. This is shelved at the beginning of the law collection – the items have white tape around their spines. These materials cannot be borrowed.

In addition, selected law dictionaries are available online. Select the ‘Look for book or journal’ link on the myBU Library tab. Search for the keywords ‘law dictionary’ and select ‘e-books’.

Secondary Materials – Journals

Law journals are a valuable source of comment and criticism on legal topics. Sometimes they are the only place where details of a case have been published. In addition, they are useful for keeping up to date on legal news and developments.

In the law collection, you can find current issues of print law journals on display and back issues of print law journals shelved alphabetically by title.

Electronic journals are accessible via the ‘E-journals’ link on the myBU Library tab and many are available on the Library Catalogue. Search for journal titles such as those listed below. For advice on finding information, go to the Academic Skills tab on myBU.

Title	Print	Online
Common Market Law Review	1963-	e-journals
European Business Law Review	1992-2009	e-journals
European Competition Law Review		Westlaw
European Human Rights Law Review		Westlaw
European Intellectual Property Review	1998-	Westlaw
European Journal of Law and Economics	1997-	Westlaw
European Law Review	1976-	Westlaw

Journal indexes are useful starting points to help you locate details (‘abstracts’) of journal articles on your area of research.

Title	Description
Legal Journals Index (on Westlaw)	Covers over 800 UK and EU legal journals, only c.70 journals are available in full text. Coverage from 1986-
Articles Index (on Lawtel)	Provides abstracts from 70+ UK and EU law journals and legal supplements of broadsheet newspapers. None of the articles are available in full text
European Current Law Monthly Digest 1992-	Print. Summarises the content of new books and journal articles

Newspapers

Major UK and international newspapers may be viewed online on Factiva and Press Display (accessible via the myBU Library tab ‘Newspapers’ link). The Times and Financial Times are available in print format in The Sir Michael Cobham Library.

TV and Radio Programmes via BoB: Box of Broadcasts

Access BoB via the myBU Library tab; you need to register to use this service and will receive a password. You can request TV and radio programmes up to seven days in advance or broadcast in the previous seven days. This service is available off-campus, but not available outside the United Kingdom. Requested programmes will play in your web browser.

Professional Awareness

Notes

You are encouraged at BU to develop appropriate academic and professional knowledge and skills to enhance your employability. The Professional Awareness webpages (accessible via the 'Further Information' section on myBU Library tab) provide links to professional associations and associated publications which will support your learning.

Many of the associations and publications include job vacancies, blogs, alerting services (via RSS feeds and e-newsletters for example) and details of other organisations.

Referencing:

Access the Library's **Citing References: Law** guide (which includes how to reference EU law) on the myBU Academic Skills tab. Referencing is a way of demonstrating that you have read around your subject. Each time you use someone else's ideas or words it is essential that you acknowledge this in your work by citing the source in your text and having a bibliography at the end of your work.

Citing your references enables the reader to refer to the original source themselves. This reduces the risk of your being accused of plagiarism - the act of presenting the ideas or discoveries of someone else as your own. More information is available on the myBU Academic Skills tab.

Contact Details:

Bournemouth House Library

19 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth BH1 3LH UK
For information and subject advice:
Tel: +44 (0) 1202 965959.

The Sir Michael Cobham Library

Talbot Campus, Fern Barrow, Poole, BH12 5BB, UK
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