

The CELEX number on EUR-Lex

What is it?

Most documents on EUR-Lex – irrespective of language – have a unique identifier known as a CELEX number.

Why is it useful?

Celex numbers help you search faster. You can quickly identify document types without opening them. This is especially useful when viewing metadata in search results or in the 'Document information' tab.

Example:
The CELEX number of the EU Water Framework Directive

What is its structure?

A CELEX number consists of four parts:

3 2000 L 0060

Sector	Year	Document type	Document number
1 digit or 1 letter	4 digits	1–3 letters	usually 4–6 digits (*)
EUR-Lex is divided into 12 sectors :			
1: Treaties			
2: International agreements			
3: Legislation			
4: Complementary legislation			
5: Preparatory acts and working documents			
6: Case-law			
7: National transposition measures			
8: References to national case-law concerning EU law			
9: Parliamentary questions			
0: Consolidated acts			
C: Other documents published in the Official Journal C series			
E: EFTA documents			
Examples of document types (descriptors) by sector:			
Sector 3: Legislation			
L directives			
R regulations			
D decisions			
Sector 5: Preparatory acts and working documents			
PC European Commission legislative proposals (COM documents), etc.			
DC other COM documents (green/white papers, communications, reports, etc.)			
SC/SWD documents (staff working documents, impact assessments, etc.)			
DMA/DSA competition-related documents (e.g. communications related to the Digital Markets Act)			
Sector 6: Case-law			
CJ judgments by the Court of Justice			
CC opinions of the advocate-general			
CO orders of the Court of Justice			

Directive 2000/60/EC of the European parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy



See how the first digit (sector) changes depending on the document type.

32000L0060

> original directive

02000L0060

> consolidated versions of this directive

72000L0060

> national transposition measures (incorporating the provisions into national law)



Some CELEX numbers (e.g. treaties, national transposition measures) follow a slightly different structure.

(*) Most document numbers are 4 digits (may be based on the official or internal number), but some may have 5 or 6 depending on the Official Journal number or internal references.



Learn more

For the complete list of document types and more information about CELEX numbers visit the EUR-Lex website (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu>).



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