



EUR-Lex

Access to European Union law

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About ELI

What is ELI?

The **European Legislation Identifier (ELI)** is a system to make legislation available online in a standardised format, so that it can be accessed, exchanged and reused across borders. This initiative, taken jointly by EU countries and institutions, is enshrined in the [Council Conclusions](#) of 6 November 2017 on the European Legislation Identifier (2017/C 441/05). * ELI is based on a voluntary agreement between the EU countries. It includes technical specifications on:

- **web identifiers** (URIs) for **legal information**
- **metadata** specifying how to describe **legal information**
- a specific language for **exchanging legislation in machine-readable formats**

ELI is funded under [Action "Facilitating the exchange of legislation data in Europe"](#), which falls under the Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations ([ISA²](#)) Programme.

* *The [Council conclusions](#) of 6 November 2017 on the European Legislation Identifier are built on an initial version of the [Council Conclusions published on 26 October 2012 \(2012/C 325/02\)](#).*

Discover ELI, the European Legislation Identifier

Video 1 - Introduction to the European Legislation Identifier



Video 2 - The 3 pillars of ELI



Video 3 - Getting started with ELI



Video 4 - ELI and schema data




Video 5 - ELI-DL for Draft Legislation



ELI Governance

ELI is governed by a task force comprising representatives of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg (chair), Norway, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, the United Kingdom and the EU Publications Office.

Governance rules of the European Legislation Identifier Task Force (ELI TF) and processes to changes to ELI specifications. 

ELI leaflet



ELI's advantages

ELI has the following advantages:

- **Better-quality, more reliable legislation data**

ELI helps improve the quality and reliability of legal information online through the use of persistent identifiers and structured metadata.

- **Greater interoperability**

ELI encourages interoperability among information systems by structuring legislation in a standardised way, while taking account of the specific features of different legal systems.

- **Better access to legislation**

Thanks to search engine optimisation, ELI makes it easier to locate legal data, which can thus be more widely used.

- **It promotes the development of new services**

Making legislation available in a structured way helps develop value-added services.

- **Cost savings**

ELI makes information flows more effective and shortens the time taken to publish legislation.

- **It promotes transparency**

By improving access to legal information, ELI makes it easier to follow up work done by governments, and promotes greater accountability.

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