The CELEX number in EUR-Lex

What is it?

Most documents in EUR-Lex – irrespective of language – have a unique CELEX number.

How does it help me?

It helps you search faster. You can quickly identify the document type without opening it. This is handy when you're checking a document's metadata, either in the search results or in the "Document information" tab.

Here we have:
The CELEX number of the EU Water Framework Directive

What are its constituent parts?

It has 4 components:

32000L0060

Sector	Year	Doc type	Document number
1 digit or 1 letter	4 digits	1 or 2 letters	4 digits*

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 changing the sector changes the document type

32000L0060
> original directive

72000L0060
> national transposition measures (incorporating the provisions into national law)

02000L0060
> consolidated versions of this directive

EUR-Lex falls 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 **Doc types (descriptors)** by sector:

Sector 3: Legislation
L Directives
R Regulations
D Decisions

Sector 5:
Preparatory acts and working documents
PC 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.)
JC JOIN documents (adopted jointly by the Commission and the High Representative)

Sector 6: Case-Law
CJ Judgments by the Court of Justice
CC Opinions of the advocate-general
CO Orders of the Court of Justice

Some documents, such as treaties, national transposition measures or national case law, have a slightly different CELEX structure.

*Most document numbers have 4 digits (may be based on the official number, internal number, date of publication, etc.).

For the full list of document types and for more info on the CELEX number see the EUR-Lex website (http://eur-lex.europa.eu)