



COMPARATIVE MULTILINGUAL LEGAL VOCABULARY

A structured collection of terminological data records

Did you know that the term “parental responsibility” refers to two different concepts in the law of the United Kingdom and in European Union law, and that the term “guardianship” evokes one of those concepts in Irish law?

Did you know that the French terms *interdiction de retour* and *interdiction d'entrée* refer to the same concept in two different legal systems?

For information in your language and for your legal system, visit the interinstitutional terminological database IATE ([InterActive Terminology for Europe](#)). IATE also offers reliable terminological data records in all EU languages, including the collection “Comparative Multilingual Legal Vocabulary” created by the lawyer-linguists of the Directorate General for Multilingualism of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

This collection (24 languages and 30 EU legal systems), which reflects comprehensive research on comparative law, contains approx. 650 multilingual terminological data records (20 000 terms) pertaining to the domains of [family law](#), [immigration law](#) and, in the near future, criminal law.



For more information, contact us: terminologie@curia.europa.eu

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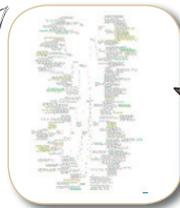
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Content of a terminological data record

Concept tree

Allows you to see at a glance a structured set of concepts belonging to a domain.



Domain, semantic relations

Definition

A concise statement on the meaning of the concept (essential and distinctive characteristics).

Domain	Family law
Broader	3537657
Narrower	3537785 , 3537799 , 3537501 , 3537502 management of children's property
Related	3537793 , 3537593 , 3537658 parental responsibility

Definition All the rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his property. **[UK_EAW] [IE]**

Definition Ref. Children Act 1989 Section 3 [opsi.gov.uk](#) [12.08.2014]

Source Legal system(s)

Different designations of a concept

Terms which designate a concept in a univocal way (spelling variants, synonyms, etc.).

Terminological references, indicator of term reliability (national, EU and international law).

A context that illustrates the term in its linguistic environment.

Origin of the reference (type: legislation, case-law, academic legal writing + legal system) or origin of the term (formulation created when the concept does not exist, borrowed term, etc.).

Term	guardianship
Reliability	4 (Very reliable)
Term Ref.	O'R. (W.) v. H. (E.) [1996] IESC 4 (23rd July, 1996), British and Irish Legal Information Institute (BAILII), bailii.org [12.08.2014]
Context	" Guardianship means the rights and duties of parents in respect of the upbringing of their children. A guardian has the right to make all major decisions affecting the child's upbringing, including choice of school, medical treatment, religious matters, health requirements and decisions about leaving the country. Guardians are responsible for the welfare of the child. Welfare includes the moral, intellectual and physical wellbeing of the child and where there is property held on behalf of the child, it includes the proper administration of such property."
Context Ref.	The Courts Service of Ireland, "Guardianship", courts.ie [12.08.2014]
Term Note	Origin of the reference: Case law IE
Date	26/10/2017
Term	parental responsibility
Reliability	4 (Very reliable)
Term Ref.	(1) Children Act 1989 Section 3 opsi.gov.uk / (2) Children Scotland Act 1995 Section 1 opsi.gov.uk [20.01.2010]
Context	(1) 1989 Act: " parental responsibility means all the rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and his property." (2) 1995 Act: "A parent has in relation to his child the responsibility — (a) to safeguard and promote the child's health, development and welfare; (b) to provide, in a manner appropriate to the stage of development of the child— (i) direction; (ii) guidance, to the child; (c) if the child is not living with the parent, to maintain personal relations and direct contact with the child on a regular basis; and (d) to act as the child's legal representative, but only in so far as compliance with this section is practicable and in the interests of the child."
Context Ref.	(1) Children Act 1989 Section 3 opsi.gov.uk / (2) Children Scotland Act 1995 Section 1 opsi.gov.uk [30.05.2011]
Term Note	Origin of the reference: Legislation UK_England and Wales; UK_Scotland
Date	Creation date (CuriaTerm): 20/01/2010 Modification date (CuriaTerm): 30/05/2011 Validation date (CuriaTerm): 18/07/2011 26/10/2017

Various notes

- Comparison of laws;
- Existence or absence of a legal concept;
- National specificities;
- Warnings to avoid confusion (neighbouring concepts, false friends);
- Evolution of a concept and existence of obsolete terms;
- Term usage or term evaluation (preferred or not approved);
- Existence of different terms in the same language, which designate the same concept in different legal systems;
- Presence of a polysemous term that designates two different concepts in the same language or in different languages;
- etc.

Note UK legal systems: Compare fiche 3537793 'parental responsibility' as defined in Council Regulation (EC) No 2201/2003 concerning jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in matrimonial matters and the matters of parental responsibility [32003R2201/EN](#) Art 2(7): "parental responsibility" shall mean all rights and duties relating to the person or the property of a child which are given to a natural or legal person by judgment, by operation of law or by an agreement having legal effect. The term shall include rights of custody and rights of access.' The content of the two concepts is substantially if not wholly the same, to the extent that when legal persons or persons other than the parents have parental responsibility, they act in loco parentis ; but the emphasis in this concept is on the rights and obligations of individuals as parents. UK local authorities can acquire parental responsibility if a care order or emergency protection order is made (eg Children Act 1989 Section 33(3)) but the parental responsibility of the parents is not thereby terminated: parental responsibility is shared.

Irish legal system: Rights and duties of parents in respect of the upbringing of their children. (Source: The Courts Service of Ireland, "**Guardianship**", [www.courts.ie/Courts...](#)). "Guardianship" is the term used in the Irish system for parental responsibility. When the term "parental responsibility" is used in Irish case law it is to refer to the concept in Regulation No. 2201/2003 (CJUE:3537793). The term "parental Authority" was used in the Public Assistance Act, 1939 ([www.irishstatutebook...](#)). This was different to the FR concept autorité parentale and was to be vested in local authorities (in the case of orphans, deserted children, etc.). This legislation was repealed in 1975. Nowadays, the term "parental authority" is used in Irish law to mean the concept in the 1996 Hague Convention. Note, do not confuse with the concept designated by the same term "guardianship" in England and Wales (CJUE:3537536 - FR: "tutelle").