Europäischer Rechtsprechungs-Identifikator (ECLI)

Der Europäische Urteilsidentifikator (European Case Law Identifier – ECLI) wurde entwickelt, um die korrekte und eindeutige Angabe von Fundstellen in Entscheidungen europäischer und nationaler Gerichte zu erleichtern. Ein Bestand von einheitlichen Metadaten wird dazu beitragen, die Funktionen zur Suche nach Fundstellen in der Rechtsprechung zu verbessern.

Vor Einführung des ECLI war das Auffinden von einschlägigen Urteilen mühsam und zeitaufwändig. Beispiel: Für die Erörterung eines rechtlichen Problems war ein bestimmtes Urteil des Obersten Gerichtshofs des Mitgliedstaats A von Interesse. Die Rechtssache wurde in verschiedenen nationalen und grenzüberschreitenden Urteilsdatenbanken registriert, jedoch in jeder Datenbank mit einem anderen Identifikator. Alle diese Identifikatoren mussten – wenn sie überhaupt bekannt waren – angegeben werden, damit der Leser der Fundstelle die Rechtssache in der von ihm bevorzugten Datenbank auffinden konnte. Unterschiedliche Regeln und Stilvorgaben für Fundstellenangaben erschwerten die Suche. Darüber hinaus musste der Leser in sämtlichen Datenbanken nachsehen, ob das Urteil des Obersten Gerichtshofs in zusammengefasster, übersetzter oder kommentierter Form verfügbar war. Mit dem ECLI-System reicht eine Suche über eine Suchschnittstelle mit nur einem Identifikator aus, um sämtliche Einträge des Urteils in allen teilnehmenden nationalen und grenzüberschreitenden Datenbanken zu finden.

Wenn der nationale Richter bei der Anwendung und Wahrung des EU-Rechts eine größere Rolle spielen soll, muss ihm der Zugang zu gerichtlichen Entscheidungen anderer Mitgliedstaaten erleichtert werden. Die Suche nach Urteilen aus anderen Mitgliedstaaten und nach Fundstellen wird durch die Unterschiede zwischen den nationalen Identifizierungssystemen für Gerichtsentscheidungen, den Regeln für Fundstellenangaben und den technischen Feldern mit den wesentlichen inhaltlichen Angaben zu einem Urteil erheblich behindert.

Um diese Unterschiede zu überwinden und den Zugang zu und das Auffinden von nationalen, ausländischen und europäischen Gerichtsurteilen zu erleichtern, hat der Rat der Europäischen Union die Mitgliedstaaten und EU-Institutionen aufgerufen, den Europäischen Urteilsidentifikator (ECLI) und einen Mindestbestand von einheitlichen Metadaten für die Rechtsprechung einzuführen.

Hauptmerkmale des ECLI

Der ECLI ist ein einheitlicher Identifikator, der für alle Gerichte der Mitgliedstaaten und der EU dasselbe erkennbare Format besitzt. Er muss die folgenden fünf Bestandteile enthalten:

das Kürzel „ECLI“, um den Identifikator als Europäischen Urteilsidentifikator kenntlich zu machen

den Ländercode

den Code des Gerichts, das das Urteil erlassen hat

das Jahr der Urteilsverkündung

eine Ordinalzahl mit bis zu 25 alphanumerischen Zeichen, deren Format jeder Mitgliedstaat selbst festlegt (Punkte sind erlaubt, aber keine anderen Satzzeichen).

Die Bestandteile werden durch einen Doppelpunkt voneinander getrennt. Beispiel für einen (nicht existierenden) ECLI:

ECLI:NL:HR:2009:384425 könnte die Entscheidung 384425 des Obersten Gerichtshofs („HR“) der Niederlande („NL“) aus dem Jahr 2009 bezeichnen.

Metadaten

Damit Urteile leichter zu verstehen und aufzufinden sind, muss jedes Dokument, das eine Gerichtsentscheidung enthält, mit einem Metadatensatz nach Maßgabe dieses Absatzes versehen sein. Diese Metadaten müssen nach den von der Dublin Core Metadata Initiative entwickelten Standards beschrieben sein.

Die Schlussfolgerungen des Rates zum ECLI enthalten eine Beschreibung der Metadaten, die verwendet werden können.

ECLI-Koordinator

Jeder Mitgliedstaat, der den ECLI verwendet, muss eine Regierungsstelle oder Justizeinrichtung als nationalen ECLI-Koordinator benennen. Der nationale ECLI-Koordinator ist zuständig für die Aufstellung der Liste der Codes für die beteiligten Gerichte, die Veröffentlichung einer Erläuterung zum Aufbau der Ordinalzahl und alle anderen für das Funktionieren des ECLI Systems relevanten Informationen. ECLI-Koordinator für die EU ist der Gerichtshof der Europäischen Union.

Jeder Mitgliedstaat entscheidet, ob und in welchem Umfang er das ECLI-System verwendet (ob es etwa rückwirkend für historische Aufzeichnungen angewandt werden soll, wie viele Gerichte daran teilnehmen – beispielsweise nur der Oberste Gerichtshof oder alle Gerichte – usw.).

Europäische und internationale Dimension

Durch Anklicken der EU-Flagge und der internationale Flagge auf der rechten Seite können Sie mehr über die Anwendung des ECLI durch den Gerichtshof der Europäischen Union oder das Europäische Patentamt erfahren.

Im Einklang mit den Schlussfolgerungen des Rates hat die Europäische Kommission eine mehrsprachige ECLI-Suchmaschine entwickelt, mit deren Hilfe Benutzer die Datenbanken derjenigen Stellen für die Veröffentlichung von Gerichtsentscheidungen nach Gerichtsentscheidungen abfragen können, die den ECLI-Standard eingeführt und der Kommission Zugang zu ihren Daten gewährt haben.

Ebenso steht unter https://e-justice.europa.eu/ecli/ eine ECLI-Aufschlüsselung zur Verfügung – für jeden nach diesem Pfad eingegebenen ECLI werden die entsprechenden ECLI-Metadaten (sofern verfügbar) angezeigt. Beispielsweise werden unter https://e-justice.europa.eu/ecli/ECLI:NL:HR:2016:764 direkt die Metadaten der Entscheidung ECLI:NL:HR:2016:764 angezeigt.

Seiten der Mitgliedstaaten

Auf den Seiten der Mitgliedstaaten finden Sie folgende Informationen:

ob der betreffende Mitgliedstaat den ECLI und Metadaten bereits eingeführt hat;

falls nicht, ob er dies vorhat;

falls ja, Angaben zu den Codes der beteiligten Gerichte, den Formatierungsregeln, den Metadaten usw.;

Angaben zum nationalen ECLI-Koordinator.

Für genauere Informationen zu dem gewünschten Land klicken Sie bitte auf dessen Flagge.

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - European Union

The Court of Justice of the European Union (ECLI-Coordinator@curia.europa.eu) is the ECLI coordinator for the Union jurisdictions.

Country code

The "country code" for the Court of Justice of the European Union to be used in the second element of the ECLI is: [EU]

Generation of ECLI

Components of the ECLI to identify decisions of the Court of Justice of the European Union:

ECLI abbreviation

Country code: EU

Court code:

C = Court of Justice

T = General Court

F = Civil Service Tribunal

Year when the decision was rendered (format YYYY)

Ordinal number composed of:

Serial number of the decision per jurisdiction per year

Examples:

ECLI:EU:C:1998:27 is the 27th document of the Court of Justice with an ECLI in 1998

ECLI:EU:T:2012:426 is the 426th document of the General Court with an ECLI in 2012

ECLI:EU:F:2010:80 is the 80th document of the Civil Service Tribunal with an ECLI in 2010

Related links

EUR-Lex

Curia

Last update: 28/09/2021

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - International

European Patent Office

The European Patent Office (EPO) offers inventors a uniform application procedure which enables them to seek patent protection in up to 40 European countries. Supervised by the Administrative Council, the Office is the executive arm of the European Patent Organisation.

Coordination of ECLI in the European Patent Office is carried out by Publication Department.

Postal address

Postfach 90

1031 Vienna

Austria

Address

Rennweg 12

1030 Vienna

Austria

Country code

The country code for the European Patent Office to be used in the second element of the ECLI is: [EP]

Generation of national ECLI

Components of the ECLI to identify decisions of the Boards of Appeal of the European Patent Office:

ECLI abbreviation

Country code: EP

Court code: BA (BA= Boards of Appeal of the European Patent Office)

Year when the decision was rendered (format YYYY)

Ordinal number composed of:

Decision case number (original case number without the slash). Composed of 7 digits --> 1 digit (type of decision) + 4 digits (ordinal number of the decision) + 2 digits (last two digits of the year of filing).

Codes for the type of decisions at the EPO:

D : Disciplinary Board of Appeal

G : Enlarged Board of Appeal

J : Legal Board of Appeal

T : Technical boards of appeal

W : decisions on protest cases

R : decisions on petitions for review

A dot

Date of the decision (format YYYYMMDD)

Example:

ECLI:EP:BA:2002:D000300.20020503

EP= European Patent Office

BA= Boards of Appeal of the European Patent Office

2002 - year in which the decision was rendered (example)

D000300= D0003/00 (decision case number)

20020503 = 2002.05.03 (date of the decision)

Use of the ECLI

The ECLI is used to uniquely identify decisions of the Boards of Appeal of the European Patent Office.

Search by ECLI is enabled via the EPO Board of Appeal decisions database (see link below)

Related links

EPO Board of Appeal decisions database

Case Law of the Boards of Appeal

European Patent Register

Last update: 20/05/2019

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Belgium

National ECLI Coordinator

The central services of the Federal Public Service Justice (SPF Justice – info@just.fgov.be) act as national coordinator for Belgium.

Country code

ECLI country code for Belgium: [BE]

Generation of national ECLI

ECLI indexation was activated in October 2017.

Case-law:

Court of Cassation,

Courts of Appeal,

Labour courts (*Cour du travail/Aarbeidshof*):

Courts of first instance

Commercial courts,

Labour tribunals (*Tribunal du travail/Arbeidsrechtbank*):

registered in the JUPORTAL public database of Belgian case-law, is also available via the ECLI search engine.

The ECLI number is composed of the following: ECLI:BE:[court code]:[year of the decision]:[serial number]

The ordinal number is in two parts, separated by a point:

'decision type' code:

ARR for judgments/rulings,

CONC for Public Ministry findings,

DEC for judicial decisions,

ORD for orders,

AVIS for opinions.

A serial number.

Until mid-November 2019, this serial number comprised the decision date format YYYYMMDD (year-month-day) followed by a point and a sequence number.

From mid-November 2019, the serial number of the judgments and findings of the Court of Cassation also contain information on the chamber where the case was heard. The serial number format is YYYYMMDD (year-month-day) followed by a point, the chamber code, another point and a sequence number.

The full ECLI of a conclusion of the Public Prosecutor's Office of the Court of Cassation for a case in which a judgment was delivered on 6 May 2010 is as follows: ECLI:BE:CASS:2010:CONC.20100506.5

For example, the full ECLI of a judgment of the Court of Cassation of 30 October 2020 is as follows: ECLI: BE: CASS: 2020: ARR.20201030.1N.4

If you are looking for a decision and you already know its ECLI number, you can access the specific page containing details of the decision directly using the following URL: https://juportal.be/content/<numéro ECLI>.

For example, you will find the detailed pages of the ECLI numbers given as an example at the following addresses:

https://juportal.be/content/ECLI:BE:CASS:2010:CONC.20100506.5

https://juportal.be/content/ECLI:BE:CASS:2020:ARR.20201030.1N.4

Court code:

Belgium has a large number of jurisdictional codes. The code list for Belgian courts can be found in the attached table (276 Kb) .

Belgium's judicial landscape was redesigned on 1 April 2014. The attached table shows the names of the courts before and after the reform of 1 April 2014.

Last update: 23/06/2022

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Bulgaria

National ECLI coordinator

The national ECLI coordinator is:

Supreme Judicial Council (SJC)

Ul. Ekzarh Yosif 12,

Sofia 1000,

Bulgaria

Web: http://www.vss.justice.bg vss@vss.justice.bg

Country code

The country code for Bulgaria is: BG

Creation of a national ECLI

An ECLI is generated for each court decision that is published on the central web-based interface for case law (https://legalacts.justice.bg/). The portal is maintained by the Bulgarian ECLI coordinator, the Supreme Judicial Council. The ECLI syntax is specified in Chapter Seven of Regulation No 4 of 16 March 2017 on keeping, storing and accessing the register of court documents.

The ECLI consists of the following components:

The abbreviation 'ECLI'

The country code 'BG'

The court code, consisting of two parts:

The type of court (2 capital letters):

'CC' designates the Constitutional Court

'SC' designates the Supreme Court of Cassation

'SA' designates the Supreme Administrative Court

'PA' designates the Specialised Criminal Court of Appeal

'PC' designates the Specialised Criminal Court

'MA' designates the Military Court of Appeal

'MC' designates Military Courts

'AP' designates Courts of Appeal

'AD' designates Administrative Courts

'DC' designates Provincial Courts

'RC' designates District Courts

Numerical court code (3 digits):

'000' is the number of the Constitutional Court

'001' is the number of the Supreme Court of Cassation

'002' is the number of the Supreme Administrative Court

The codes of all other courts are set out in Annex 9 to the Rules on Administration in Courts[1]

Examples:

'CC000' is the code of the Constitutional Court

'SC001' is the code of the Supreme Court of Cassation

'SA002' is the code of the Supreme Administrative Court

'AP500' is the code of the Plovdiv Court of Appeal

'DC530' is the code of the Plovdiv Provincial Court

'RC533' is the code of the Plovdiv District Court

Table 1 below lists the codes of all courts used in the third component of the ECLI.

Year of the court decision in the 'YYYY' format

Number of the court decision, consisting of four sub-components, the last of which is separated from the first three by a dot.

4 digits indicating the year of the case

2 digits indicating the code of the case type. These codes are specified in Article 80(2) of the Rules on Administration in Courts – see Table 2 below

5-digit number of the case for the relevant year

3-digit number of the court decision in the specific case

Example of an ECLI of a Bulgarian court decision

ECLI:BG:DC530:2017:20160100630.001

BG = Bulgaria

DC530 = Plovdiv Provincial Court

2017 = Year of court decision

20160100630.001 = First decision of the Plovdiv Provincial Court in a first-instance civil case with number 630 of 2016.

Related links

https://legalacts.justice.bg/ – Central web-based interface for the publication of case law

http://www.vks.bg/ – website of the Supreme Court of Cassation

http://www.sac.government.bg – website of the Supreme Administrative Court

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1 Court codes '000', '001' and '002' are not included in Annex No 9 to the Rules on Administration in Courts, as the rules do not concern the administration of the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court of Cassation and the Supreme Administrative Court.

Table 1 – Court codes

Code	Court
CC000	Constitutional Court
SC001	Supreme Court of Cassation
SA002	Supreme Administrative Court
AP100	Sofia Court of Appeal
PA101	Specialised Criminal Court of Appeal
PC105	Specialised Criminal Court
DC110	Sofia City Court
RC111	Sofia District Court
DC120	Blagoevgrad Provincial Court
RC121	Blagoevgrad District Court
RC122	Gotse Delchev District Court
RC123	Petrich District Court
RC124	Razlog District Court

RC125	Sandanski District Court
DC130	Vidin Provincial Court
RC131	Belogradchik District Court
RC132	Vidin District Court
RC133	Kula District Court
DC140	Vratsa Provincial Court
RC141	Byala Slatina District Court
RC142	Vratsa District Court
RC143	Knezha District Court
RC144	Kozloduy District Court
RC145	Mezdra District Court
RC146	Oryahovo District Court
DC150	Kyustendil Provincial Court
RC151	Dupnitsa District Court
RC152	Kyustendil District Court
DC160	Montana Provincial Court
RC161	Berkovitsa District Court
RC162	Lom District Court
RC163	Montana District Court
DC170	Pernik Provincial Court
RC171	Breznik District Court
RC172	Pernik District Court
RC173	Radomir District Court
RC174	Tran District Court
DC180	Sofia Provincial Court
RC181	Botevgrad District Court
RC182	Elin Pelin District Court
RC183	Etropole District Court
RC184	Ihtiman District Court
RC185	Kostinbrod District Court
RC186	Pirdop District Court
RC187	Samokov District Court
RC188	Svoge District Court
RC189	Slivnitsa District Court
AP200	Burgas Court of Appeal
DC210	Burgas Provincial Court
RC211	Aytos District Court
RC212	Burgas District Court
RC213	Karnobat District Court
RC214	Malko Tarnovo District Court
RC215	Nesebar District Court
RC216	Pomorie District Court
RC217	Sredets District Court
RC218	Tsarevo District Court
DC220	Sliven Provincial Court
RC221	Kotel District Court
RC222	Nova Zagora District Court
RC223	Sliven District Court
DC230	Yambol Provincial Court
RC231	Elhovo District Court
RC232	Topolovgrad District Court
RC233	Yambol District Court
AP300	Varna Court of Appeal
DC310	Varna Provincial Court
RC311	Varna District Court
RC312	Devnya District Court
RC313	Provadiya District Court
DC320	Dobrich Provincial Court
RC321	Balchik District Court
RC322	General Toshevo District Court

RC323	Dobrich District Court
RC324	Kavarna District Court
RC325	Tervel District Court
DC330	Razgrad Provincial Court
RC331	Isperih District Court
RC332	Kubrat District Court
RC333	Razgrad District Court
DC340	Silistra Provincial Court
RC341	Dulovo District Court
RC342	Silistra District Court
RC343	Tutrakan District Court
DC350	Targovishte Provincial Court
RC351	Omurtag District Court
RC352	Popovo District Court
RC353	Targovishte District Court
DC360	Shumen Provincial Court
RC361	Veliki Preslav District Court
RC362	Novi Pazar District Court
RC363	Shumen District Court
AP400	Veliko Tarnovo Court of Appeal
DC410	Veliko Tarnovo Provincial Court
RC411	Veliko Tarnovo District Court
RC412	Gorna Oryahovitsa District Court
RC413	Elena District Court
RC414	Pavlikeni District Court
RC415	Svishtov District Court
DC420	Gabrovo Provincial Court
RC421	Gabrovo District Court
RC422	Dryanovo District Court
RC423	Sevlievo District Court
RC424	Tryavna District Court
DC430	Lovech Provincial Court
RC431	Lovech District Court
RC432	Lukovit District Court
RC433	Teteven District Court
RC434	Troyan District Court
DC440	Pleven Provincial Court
RC441	Levski District Court
RC442	Nikopol District Court
RC443	Pleven District Court
RC444	Cherven Bryag District Court
DC450	Ruse Provincial Court
RC451	Byala District Court
RC452	Ruse District Court
AP500	Plovdiv Court of Appeal
DC510	Kardzhali Provincial Court
RC511	Ardino District Court
RC513	Krumovgrad District Court
RC514	Kardzhali District Court
RC515	Momchilgrad District Court
DC520	Pazardzhik Provincial Court
RC521	Velingrad District Court
RC522	Pazardzhik District Court
RC523	Panagyurishte District Court
RC524	Peshtera District Court
DC530	Plovdiv Provincial Court
RC531	Asenovrag District Court
RC532	Karlovo District Court
RC533	Plovdiv District Court
RC534	Parvomay District Court

DC540	Smolyan Provincial Court
RC541	Devin District Court
RC542	Zlatograd District Court
RC543	Madan District Court
RC544	Smolyan District Court
RC545	Chepelare District Court
DC550	Stara Zagora Provincial Court
RC551	Kazanlak District Court
RC552	Radnevo District Court
RC553	Stara Zagora District Court
RC554	Chirpan District Court
RC555	Galabovo District Court
DC560	Haskovo Provinicial Court
RC561	Dimitrovgrad District Court
RC562	Svilengrad District Court
RC563	Harmanli District Court
RC564	Haskovo District Court
RC565	Ivaylovgrad District Court
MA600	Military Court of Appeal
MC610	Sofia Military Court
MC620	Plovdiv Military Court
MC630	Varna Military Court (closed)*
MC640	Pleven Military Court (closed)*
MC650	Sliven Military Court
AD701	Sofia City Administrative Court
AD702	Sofia Province Administrative Court
AD703	Blagoevgrad Administrative Court
AD704	Burgas Administrative Court
AD705	Varna Administrative Court
AD706	Veliko Tarnovo Administrative Court
AD707	Vidin Administrative Court
AD708	Vratsa Administrative Court
AD709	Gabrovo Administrative Court
AD710	Dobrich Administrative Court
AD711	Kyustendil Administrative Court
AD712	Kardzhali Administrative Court
AD713	Lovech Administrative Court
AD714	Montana Administrative Court
AD715	Pazardzhik Administrative Court
AD716	Pernik Administrative Court
AD717	Pleven Administrative Court
AD718	Plovdiv Administrative Court
AD719	Razgrad Administrative Court
AD720	Ruse Administrative Court
AD721	Silistra Administrative Court
AD722	Sliven Administrative Court
AD723	Smolyan Administrative Court
AD724	Stara Zagora Administrative Court
AD725	Targovishte Administrative Court
AD726	Haskovo Administrative Court
AD727	Shumen Administrative Court
AD728	Yambol Administrative Court

** The Varna and Pleven Military Courts were closed in early 2014. However, these court codes are used in the ECLI of the court decisions published so far.*

Table 2 – Case type codes

Code	Case type
01	First-instance civil case
02	First-instance criminal case
03	Notarial case
04	Enforcement case

05	Second-instance civil case
06	Second-instance criminal case
07	Administrative case
08	Company case
09	Commercial case
10	Second-instance commercial case
11	Second-instance company case

Last update: 31/08/2021

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Czechia

National ECLI coordinator

Supreme Court (*Nejvyšší soud*)
Burešova 571/20, Brno - Veveří, postcode: 657 37
Czech Republic
Telephone: +420 541 593 111
Fax: +420 541 213 493
Data box ID: kccaa9t
Email: podatelna@nsoud.cz (please put 'ECLI' in the subject line)
web: https://nsoud.cz/
Contacts:
Petra Polišenská, Michal Ježek (from 1 August 2022)

Generation of national ECLI (ECLI syntax)

The ECLI identifier has been used in the Czech Republic since April 2012 to designate judgments of the Supreme Court (*Nejvyšší soud*) and since March 2014 to designate judgments of the Constitutional Court (*Ústavní soud*). The ECLI identifier is currently being implemented at high court and regional court levels. Judgments designated with the ECLI identifier are also searchable using the identifier on court websites (judgments of the Supreme Court at https://nsoud.cz/ and judgments of the Constitutional Court at http://nalus.usoud.cz/).

Country code

[CZ]: country code for the Czech Republic.

Court codes

[NS]: *Nejvyšší soud* (Supreme Court of the Czech Republic).
[US]: *Ústavní soud* (Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic).

Example of ECLI identifier for Czech court decisions

ECLI:CZ:NS:2012:[case number].1

[CZ] country code *(CZ for the Czech Republic);*
[NS]*is the code of the court that issued the judgment (NS for the Supreme Court - Nejvyšší soud);*
[2012] *indicates the year the judgment was rendered;*
[case number] *does not contain spaces or forward slashes; these are replaced by full stops;*
The number [1] *is* ***the ordinal number of a decision with the same case number.****. Inclusion of the ordinal number ensures that the same ECLI identifier is not used to designate more than one judgment from one court in the same year.*

Related links

https://nsoud.cz/
http://nalus.usoud.cz/

Last update: 28/04/2023

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Denmark

National ECLI coordinator

The Court Administration (Domstolsstyrelsen)
St. Kongensgade 1-2
1264 København K.
Tel: 70 10 33 22
post@domstolsstyrelsen.dk

Country code

The ECLI country code for Denmark is: [DK]

Generation of national ECLI

Information will be provided at a later stage.

Last update: 24/10/2019

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Germany

National ECLI coordinator

The designated ECLI coordinator for Germany is:

The Federal Office of Justice (*Bundesamt für Justiz*)
Unit VII 1
Adenauerallee 99-103
53113 Bonn
Germany
Tel.: +49 228 99410-5801
Email: kompetenzzentrum-ris@bfj.bund.de
https://www.bundesjustizamt.de

Introduction and spread of the ECLI in Germany

In Germany, the Federal Constitutional Court (*Bundesverfassungsgericht*), the Federal Court of Justice (*Bundesgerichtshof*), the Federal Administrative Court (*Bundesverwaltungsgericht*), the Federal Fiscal Court (*Bundesfinanzhof*), the Federal Labour Court (*Bundesarbeitsgericht*), the Federal Social Court (*Bundessozialgericht*) and the courts of the *Länder* have introduced the ECLI into their databases of decisions. An ECLI is allocated to all decisions published on their respective websites since the ECLI was introduced. For details, see:

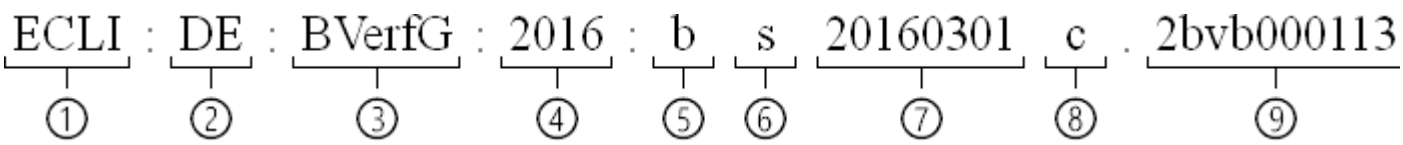
Federal Constitutional Court
http://www.bundesverfassungsgericht.de (there are plans to retroactively allocate ECLIs to all published decisions);
Federal Court of Justice
http://www.bundesgerichtshof.de (for decisions published on the website of the Federal Constitutional Court since 1 January 2016);
Federal Administrative Court
http://www.bundesverwaltungsgericht.de (for all decisions published on the website of the Federal Administrative Court);
Federal Fiscal Court
http://www.bundesfinanzhof.de (for decisions published on the website of the Federal Fiscal Court since 4 October 2016);
Federal Labour Court
http://www.bundesarbeitsgericht.de (for decisions dated after 1 January 2015);
Federal Social Court
http://www.bundessozialgericht.de (for decisions published on the website of the Federal Social Court since 1 January 2010);
courts of the *Länder*
http://www.justiz.de/onlinedienste/rechtsprechung/index.php.

You can also use the EU ECLI search engine to search for Federal Constitutional Court and Federal Administrative Court decisions to which an ECLI has been allocated.

Structure of ECLIs

General

ECLIs have five components. Each component is separated from the others by a colon. ECLIs allocated by Germany always start with ECLI () followed by DE for Germany (). The third component, known as the court code (), shows which court took the decision (e.g. BVerfG for the Federal Constitutional Court). The fourth component () indicates the year in which the decision was taken and consists of a four-digit sequence (in the format yyyy, e.g. 2016).



The courts generate the final component, known as the ordinal number (and upwards), according to their own individual rules. The court codes and ordinal numbers used by each court are explained separately below.

Details for individual courts

Federal Constitutional Court

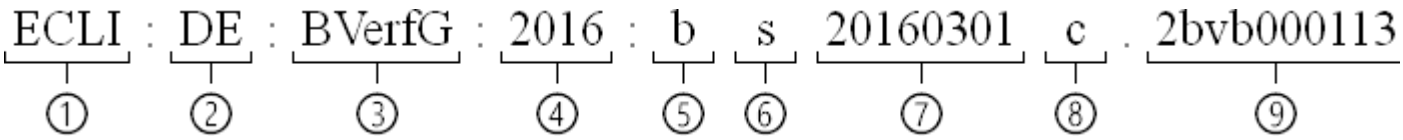
The court code () is always BVerfG. The ordinal number consists of parts to . The second-last and last parts are separated by a point. The exact components of the ordinal number are explained in detail below.

Type of procedure:

b	Finding that one or more parties have acted unconstitutionally
c	Appeal against a ruling in an electoral dispute
e	Dispute resolution proceedings between constitutional bodies
f	Abstract judicial review
g	Federal Government / *Länder* disputes
h	Other disputes between the Federal Government and the *Länder*
k	Disputes concerning the constitution of a *Land*
l	Substantive judicial review
m	Review of international law as Federal law
n	Interpretation of the Basic Law following referral by the constitutional court of a *Land*
p	Decisions on other matters referred to it by Federal Act
q	Interim measures
r	Constitutional complaints
up	Full-court decisions
vb	Complaints regarding judicial delay

Abbreviations for court formations: k for decisions of a Chamber or s for decisions of a Senate (division) (not for full-court cases or complaints regarding delay; in these cases, the court formation is implicitly indicated by the abbreviations up and vb).

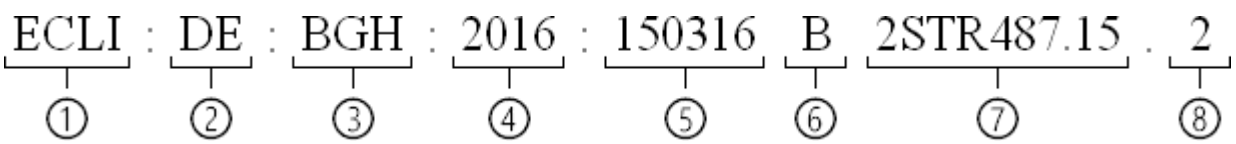
Exact date of decision in the format yyyymmdd.
Optional: an additional distinguishing character (assigned in alphabetical order from a to z). This is used when decisions are handed down by the same court with the same date and file reference (e.g. same date and file reference given for the extension of an interim order and the decision on the substance of the case). A distinguishing character is only added if it is necessary to prevent the allocation of ambiguous ECLIs.
Main file reference (consisting of the division identifier, the register reference, the entry number and the year of entry in the format yy). There are no spaces between the division identifier and the register reference, nor between the register reference and the entry number. The slash between the entry number and the year of entry is also omitted from the ECLI. The entry number is always shown as a four-digit number in an ECLI. If necessary, leading zeros are inserted before the entry number. The last two digits therefore always represent the year of entry.
Example:
The ECLI for the decision of the Second Division of the Federal Constitutional Court of 1 March 2016 with file reference 2 BvB 1/13 is:



The additional character c indicates that this is the fourth decision with an otherwise identical ECLI.

Federal Court of Justice

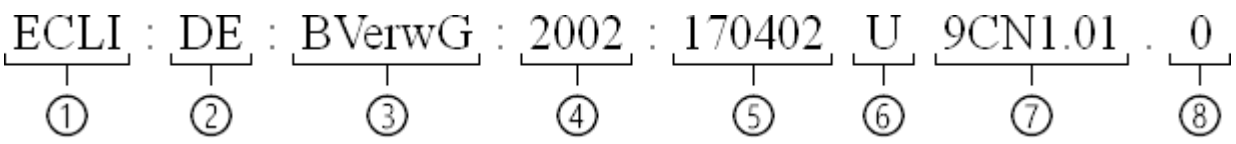
The court code () is always BGH. The ordinal number consists of parts to . Parts and are separated by a point. The exact components of the ordinal number are explained in detail below.
Exact date of decision in the format ddmmyy.
Abbreviation for the type of decision (U for judgment (*Urteil*), B for ruling (*Beschluss*), V for order (*Verfügung*), S for other).
Main file reference (consisting of the division identifier, the register reference, the entry number and the year of entry in the format yy). There are no spaces between the division identifier and the register reference, nor between the register reference and the entry number. The slash between the entry number and the year of entry is replaced with a point.
An additional distinguishing character (assigned consecutively from 0 to 9) is always used when several decisions of the same type are handed down with the same date and file reference.
Example:
The ECLI for the ruling of the Second Criminal Division of the Federal Court of Justice of 15 March 2016 with file reference 2 StR 487/15 is:



The additional character 2 indicates that this is the third decision with an otherwise identical ECLI.

Federal Administrative Court

The court code () is always BVerwG. The ordinal number consists of parts to . Parts and are separated by a point unless the file reference suffix D (judicial protection in the event of excessively long legal proceedings) has been assigned, in which case there is no point between the file reference () and the additional distinguishing character (). The exact components of the ordinal number are explained in detail below.
Exact date of decision in the format ddmmyy.
Abbreviation for the type of decision (U for judgment (*Urteil*), B for ruling (*Beschluss*), G for order (*Gerichtsbescheid*)).
Main file reference (consisting of the division identifier, the register reference, the entry number and the year of entry in the format yy). There are no spaces between the division identifier and the register reference, nor between the register reference and the entry number. Older file references have a slash between the entry number and the year of entry; in ECLIs, this slash is replaced with a point.
An additional distinguishing character (assigned consecutively from 0 to 9) is always used when several decisions of the same type are handed down with the same date and file reference.
Example:
The ECLI for the judgment of the Ninth Division of the Federal Administrative Court of 17 April 2002 with file reference 9 CN 1/01 is:



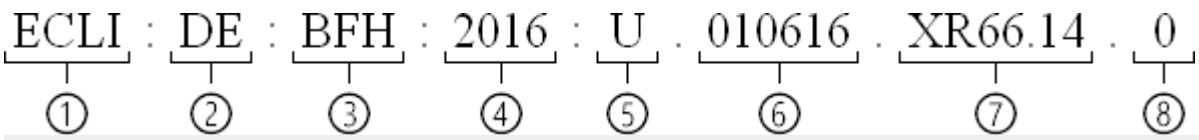
Federal Fiscal Court

The court code () is always BFH. The ordinal number consists of parts to . Each part is separated from the others by a point. The exact components of the ordinal number are explained in detail below.
Abbreviation for the type of decision:

VE	Request to the Court of Justice of the EU for a preliminary ruling
VV	Submission to the Federal Constitutional Court
BA	Ruling in proceedings for interim measures: application for suspension of enforcement [A1] and appeal against a decision to suspend enforcement [A2]
B	Ruling, except where BA is to be assigned
U	Judgment, legally binding court order, interlocutory order, etc.

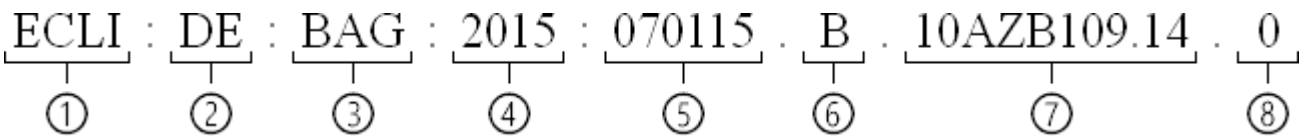
Exact date of decision in the format ddmmyy.

Main file reference (consisting of the division identifier, the register reference, the entry number and the year of entry in the format yy). There are no spaces between the division identifier and the register reference, nor between the register reference and the entry number. The slash between the entry number and the year of entry is replaced with a point.
An additional distinguishing character (assigned consecutively from 0 to 9) is always used when several decisions of the same type are handed down with the same date and file reference.
Example:
The ECLI for the judgment of the Tenth Division of the Federal Fiscal Court of 1 June 2016 with file reference X R 66/14 is:



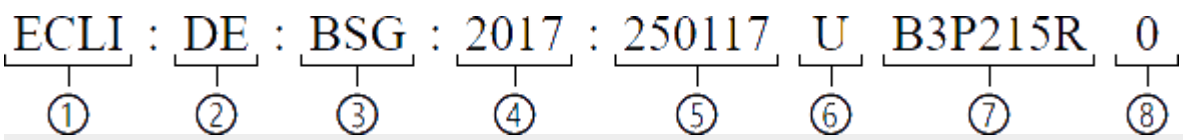
Federal Labour Court

The court code () is always BAG. The ordinal number consists of parts to . Each part is separated from the others by a point. The exact components of the ordinal number are explained in detail below.
Exact date of decision in the format ddmmyy.
Abbreviation for the type of decision (U for judgment (*Urteil*), B for ruling (*Beschluss*)).
Main file reference (consisting of the division identifier, the register reference, the entry number and the year of entry in the format yy). There are no spaces between the division identifier and the register reference, nor between the register reference and the entry number. The slash between the entry number and the year of entry is replaced with a point.
An additional distinguishing character (assigned consecutively from 0 to 9) is always used when several decisions of the same type are handed down with the same date and file reference.
Example:
The ECLI for the judgment of the Tenth Division of the Federal Labour Court of 7 January 2015 with file reference 10 AZB 109/14 is:



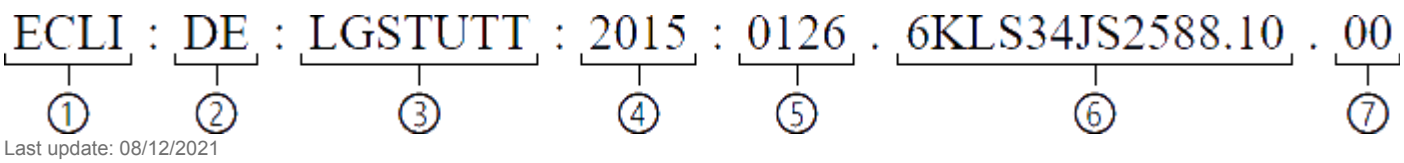
Federal Social Court

The court code () is always BSG. The ordinal number consists of parts to . The parts are not separated in any way. The exact components of the ordinal number are explained in detail below.
Exact date of decision in the format ddmmyy.
Abbreviation for the type of decision (U for judgment (*Urteil*), B for ruling (*Beschluss*)).
Main file reference (consisting of B for Federal Social Court, the division identifier, the field identifier, the number of the entry in the relevant field and the associated register, the year of entry in the format yy and the register reference). Non-alphanumeric components of the file reference are omitted.
An additional distinguishing character (assigned consecutively from 0 to 9) is always used when several decisions of the same type are handed down with the same date and file reference.
Example:
The ECLI for the judgment of the Third Division of the Federal Social Court of 25 January 2017 with file reference B 3 P 2/15 R is:



Courts of the *Länder*

The admissible court codes () are listed in the attached table (52 KB) de. The ordinal number consists of parts to . Each part is separated from the others by a point. The exact components of the ordinal number are explained in detail below.
Exact date of decision in the format mmdd.
File reference (or file references, if there are multiple file references) of up to 17 characters, beginning with the first character of the main file reference. If there is a point after the 17th character, this point is omitted. Umlauts are replaced (ä = AE, ö = OE, ü = UE) and non-alphanumeric characters such as spaces or slashes are omitted. If numbers or letters would be displayed next to each other, they are separated by a point (e.g. 9 C 1023/12 becomes 9C1023.12).
An additional two-digit distinguishing code (assigned consecutively from 00 to 99) is always used when several decisions of the same type are handed down with the same date and file reference.
Example:
The ECLI for the decision of the Sixth Grand Chamber for Economic Offences of Stuttgart Regional Court of 26 January 2015 with file reference 6 KLs 34 Js 2588/10 is:



Last update: 08/12/2021

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Estonia

Since 2018 it has been possible to search Estonian case law that has been published and is in force by using ECLI, the European Case Law Identifier. It is easier and quicker to find Estonian case law using the identifier. The adoption of the ECLI also supports the implementation of open data policies. The ECLI has also been added to the metadata page for case law, which opens in the search results.

The ECLI has been added to all Supreme Court and county and district court case law since the second half of 2016.

Published case law has been given an ECLI since the second half of 2016, and the number is made up of five components separated by a colon (for example ECLI:EE:RK:2016:1.16.2798.84).

ECLI – European Case Law Identifier; EE – country identifier; RK – court identifier; 2016 – year of publication; 1.16.2798.84 – (e.g. 1-16-2798/84) in the number of the court case, the symbols '-' and '/' are replaced by dots and the sequential control number '84' is added at the end.

The ECLI number can also be used as a URL and searches can be performed using the following logic (where '*kohtulahendid*' means 'case law'):

…/kohtulahendid/ecli/ECLI:EE – all case law with an ECLI

…/kohtulahendid/ecli/ECLI:EE:RK:2016 – all Supreme Court case law in 2016

…/kohtulahendid/ecli/ECLI:EE:RK:2016:1.16.2798.84 – a specific Supreme Court judgment

The court identifiers are as follows:

RK – Supreme Court

TLRK – Tallinn District Court

TRRK – Tartu District Court

TLHK – Tallinn Administrative Court

TRHK –Tartu Administrative Court

HMK – Harju County Court

PMK – Pärnu County Court

TMK – Tartu County Court

VMK – Viru County Court

Last update: 07/12/2021

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Ireland

National ECLI coordinator

The national ECLI coordinator is the Department of Justice.

Country code

The country code for Ireland is: [IE]

Generation of national ECLI

It is currently not possible to build an ECLI based on existing publicly available information. The exact form of the ECLI is still under consideration and has not been finalised.

Last update: 18/01/2024

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Greece

Greece currently participates in the ECLI system, with the Council of State (Symvoúlio tis Epikrateías).

There is no unified electronic database containing all domestic court rulings.

There are several electronic case law databases on the web, relating to:

the Hellenic Supreme Court (Areíos Págos), containing only its own case law

the Council of State, containing administrative court rulings

the Piraeus Administrative Court of First Instance (Protodikeío Peiraiós), containing only its own case law.

There are also private subscription databases.

For example:

that of the Athens Bar Association (Dikigorikós Sýllogos Athinón)

that of the company Intracom Services (private)

Last update: 12/03/2024

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Spain

National ECLI coordinator

The National ECLI coordinator is CENDOJ (*CENTRO DE DOCUMENTACION JUDICIAL*), the Centre for Judicial Documentation, a technical body in Spain's General Council of the Judiciary: cendoj.ecli@cgpj.es.

Country code

The code for Spain is: [ES]

Creation of the national ECLI

The ECLI was introduced in Spain in November 2012.

This was possible because, since the start of the ECLI Project on 27 October 2011, case law in Spain already had a national identifier, called the ROJ (*Repositorio Oficial de Jurisprudencia*) - the Official Case Law Repository, which identifies the decisions handed down by all the Spanish courts, from the Courts of First Instance to the Supreme Court.
Through the website https://www.poderjudicial.es, we offer all citizens open access to the decisions handed down by all the Spanish courts, consisting of a total of 5 600 000 judgments, a number which increases every year. Judges/Senior Judges, Prosecutors and Court Clerks have access in a restricted environment with additional information and hyperlinks to the case law of the Constitutional Court (*Tribunal Constitucional*), the European Court of Justice, as well as national and international legislation and doctrine: https://www.poderjudicial.es.
We currently maintain the ROJ national identifier - the Cendoj ID - as the official body for the dissemination of Spanish case law, and the ECLI at European level. On the e-justice portal, we therefore have, as of 2014, 2 500 000 decisions of the Supreme Court (*Tribunal Supremo*), the National High Court (*Audiencia Nacional*), the High Courts of Justice (*Tribunales Superiores de Justicia*) and Provincial Courts (*Audiencias Provinciales*), as well as a selection of judgments from the Courts of First Instance (*Primera Instancia*) that are of legal interest or have social impact. The number of decisions increases every day as they are uploaded into the system. The ECLI integration process was successfully completed in Spain, and we are currently a partner in the BO-ECLI project.
The ECLIs in Spain consist of the following fields:
'ECLI';
The country code: 'ES'
The court code: an acronym to indicate the court in which the judgment was given. – see the section 'ECLI court codes';
The year of the decision;
A serial number, which in the case of Spain is the sequential number of the ROJ national identifier. This means that once a judgment has been assigned its ROJ, it is possible to automatically assign to it its corresponding ECLI.
Furthermore, in the case of Orders (*Autos*), the letter 'A' is added to the end of the sequential number.
EXAMPLES:
Where the ROJ is: the national case-law identifier.
1) *Judgment of the National High Court of 30 May 2014. Criminal Court, with ROJ SAN 2389/2014
The corresponding ECLI will be:
ECLI:ES:AN:2014:2389
2) *Judgment of the High Court of Justice of 15 April 2011. Appeals Chamber of Burgos, Autonomous Community of Castile-Leon, with ROJ: STSJ CL 782 /2011
The corresponding ECLI will be:
ECLI:ES:TSJCL:2011:782
Order of the National High Court Chamber for Criminal Matters of 29 October 2015, with ROJ: ANN 199/2015
The corresponding ECLI will be:
ECLI:ES:AN:2015:199A

ECLI court codes:

In Spain, the court code for the ECLI is represented using the acronym of the court that issued the judgment and which corresponds with that used in the judgment's ROJ national identifier.

ACRONYM	NAME
---	---
TS	Supreme Court
AN	National High Court
TSJAND	High Court of Justice of Andalusia
TSJAR	High Court of Justice of Aragon
TSJAS	High Court of Justice of Asturias
TSJBAL	High Court of Justice of the Balearic Islands
TSJICAN	High Court of Justice of the Canary Islands
TSJCANT	High Court of Justice of Cantabria
TSJCL	High Court of Justice of Castile-Leon
TSJ CLM	High Court of Justice of Castile-La Mancha
TSJCAT	High Court of Justice of Catalonia
TSJCV	High Court of Justice of the Community of Valencia
TSJEXT	High Court of Justice of Extremadura
TSJGAL	High Court of Justice of Galicia
TSJLR	High Court of Justice of Rioja
TSJMAD	High Court of Justice of Madrid
TSJMU	High Court of Justice of Murcia
TSJNAV	High Court of Justice of Navarre
TSJPV	High Court of Justice of the Basque Country
TSJCE	High Court of Justice of Ceuta
TSJML	High Court of Justice of Melilla
APVI	Provincial Court of Alava
APAB	Provincial Court of Albacete
APA	Provincial Court of Alicante
APAL	Provincial Court of Almeria
APAV	Provincial Court of Avila

APBA	Provincial Court of Badajoz
APIB	Provincial Court of the Balearic Islands
APB	Provincial Court of Barcelona
APBU	Provincial Court of Burgos
APCC	Provincial Court of Caceres
APCA	Provincial Court of Cadiz
APCS	Provincial Court of Castellon
APCR	Provincial Court of Ciudad Real
APCO	Provincial Court of Cordoba
APC	Provincial Court of A Coruña
APCU	Provincial Court of Cuenca
APGI	Provincial Court of Girona
APGR	Provincial Court of Granada
APGU	Provincial Court of Guadalajara
APSS	Provincial Court of Guipuzcoa
APH	Provincial Court of Huelva
APHU	Provincial Court of Huesca
APJ	Provincial Court of Jaen
APLE	Provincial Court of Leon
APL	Provincial Court of Lleida
APLO	Provincial Court of Rioja
APLU	Provincial Court of Lugo
APM	Provincial Court of Madrid
APMA	Provincial Court of Malaga
APMU	Provincial Court of Murcia
APNA	Provincial Court of Navarre
APOU	Provincial Court of Ourense
APO	Provincial Court of Asturias
APP	Provincial Court of Palencia
APGC	Provincial Court of Las Palmas
APPO	Provincial Court of Pontevedra
APSA	Provincial Court of Salamanca
APTF	Provincial Court of Santa Cruz de Tenerife
APS	Provincial Court of Cantabria
APSG	Provincial Court of Segovia
APSE	Provincial Court of Seville
APSO	Provincial Court of Soria
APT	Provincial Court of Tarragona
APTE	Provincial Court of Teruel
APTO	Provincial Court of Toledo
APV	Provincial Court of Valencia
APVA	Provincial Court of Valladolid
APBI	Provincial Court of Vizcaya
APZA	Provincial Court of Zamora
APZ	Provincial Court of Zaragoza
APCE	Provincial Court of Ceuta
APML	Provincial Court of Melilla
JPII	Court of First Instance and Local Criminal Court
JPI	Court of First Instance
JI	Local Criminal Court
JSO	Social Affairs Court
JCA	Administrative Appeals Court
JM	Commercial Court
JVM	Court for Violence against Women
JP	Criminal Court
JVP	Court with special duties in the matter of criminal sentences
JME	Juvenile Court
JF	Family Court

Last update: 26/02/2024

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - France

National ECLI Coordinator

The Office of Legal and Administrative Information (*Direction de l'information légale et administrative* (DILA)) has been designated as the national ECLI coordinator for France by the General Secretariat of the Government.

Country code

The country code for France is: [FR]

Generation of national ECLI

The French supreme courts covered by the ECLI system are:
the Constitutional Council (*le Conseil constitutionnel*);
the Court of Cassation (*la Cour de cassation*);
the Council of State (*le Conseil d'Etat*).
ECLIs are made up of five components, the first two of which are constants for a Member State:
ECLI:FR:{Court_code}:{year when decision was rendered}:{ordinal number}
Each of the three courts has adopted a court code and rules for creating an ordinal number.
The year in which the decision was handed down is always made up of four numerical characters (in the format YYYY, for example 2012).

1. The Constitutional Council

The court code is always CC.
The generic form of an ECLI is therefore:
ECLI:FR:CC:{year of decision}:{ordinal number}
The ordinal number is in two parts, separated by a full stop:
the serial number within each type of decision (which starts again at 1 every year);
the type of decision (DC, QPC, AN… see list of types).
For example:
the ECLI for the decision of Friday 27 July 2012 No 2012-270 QPC would be ECLI:FR:CC:2012:2012.270.QPC.

2. The Court of Cassation

The court code is always CCASS.
The generic form of an ECLI is therefore:
ECLI:FR:CCASS:{year of decision}:{ordinal number}
The ordinal number is made up of two elements, written without a break:
The ECLI code for the division of the court (two alphanumerical characters as laid down in the table below):

AP	*Assemblée plénière* (Full Court)
AV	*Avis* (Opinion)
C1	*Première chambre civile* (First Civil Division)
C2	*Deuxième chambre civile* (Second Civil Division)
C3	*Troisième chambre civile* (Third Civil Division)
CO	*Chambre commerciale* (Commercial Division)
CR	*Chambre criminelle* (Criminal Division)
MI	*Chambre mixte* (Joint Bench)
OR	*Ordonnance du premier président* (Order of the President)
SO	*Chambre sociale* (Social Division)

The code is based on the use of an internal administration number, which itself has eight characters:
a one-character code identifying the division of the court;
two digits for the year of the decision;
a five-digit serial number running within that year for the division of the court in question.
Example: the appeal number of the judgment of the Court of Cassation, Criminal Division, of 27 February 2013, is 12-81.063 and the administration number is C1300710. The first part of the ordinal number of this judgment will be CR, for the Criminal Division.
The last five digits of the administration number.
In our example, the second part of the ordinal number will be 00710. Altogether, the ECLI of the judgment handed down by the Criminal Division of the Court of Cassation on 27 February 2013, under the appeal number 12-81063, will be ECLI:FR:CCASS:2013:CR00710.

3. The Council of State

The Council of State uses a court code which identifies the type of division of the court: the root CE is followed without a break by a number of letters as shown below:

Assemblée (Assembly of Presiding Judges)	CEASS
Ordonnance (Order)	CEORD
Section du contentieux (Disputes Division)	CESEC
Sous-section jugeant seule (Subdivision ruling alone)	CESJS
Sous-sections réunies (Subdivisions sitting together)	CESSR
Chambre jugeant seule (Chamber ruling alone)	CECHS
Chambres réunies (Chambers sitting together)	CECHR

The code CE is not used on its own.
The generic form is therefore:
ECLI:FR:CE…:{year of the decision}:{ordinal number}
The ordinal number is also made up of two parts, separated by a full stop:
the application number of the decision;
the date of the delivery of the decision, in the format YYYYMMDD.
For example:
the ECLI of Council of State decision No 355099 of 1 March 2013, delivered by the third and eighth subdivisions sitting together, would be: ECLI:FR:CESSR:2013:355099.20130301
Last update: 04/08/2020
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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Croatia

On 18 January 2017 the Republic of Croatia started to apply the European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) to court decisions in the database of case law which is kept at the Supreme Court of the Republic of Croatia (*Vrhovni sud Republike Hrvatske*), and which could previously be consulted only on the Supreme Court's website. The fact that all publicly available court decisions are given an ECLI means that they are publicly available through the search engine of the European e-Justice Portal – ESE EEJP. This makes it easy for citizens and legal practitioners from other EU Member States to search the database for decisions of Croatian courts, and for Croatian citizens and legal practitioners to consult decisions of courts of other Member States.
Last update: 26/04/2021
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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Italy

National ECLI Coordinator

The national ECLI coordinator has not yet been appointed. For the time being the Ministry of Justice's DirectorateGeneral for Automated Information Systems (DGSIA) is acting as coordinator.

Country code

The country code for Italy is: [IT].

Generation of national ECLI

As part of the current pilot phase activities, a proposal for the introduction of ECLI is being drawn up. More particularly, rules are being drawn up on the composition of the ordinal number for case-law documents, as stipulated in the ECLI standard, using a set of accessible metadata in order to guarantee that each identification number is unique.
Last update: 13/10/2020
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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Cyprus

National ECLI coordinator

The national ECLI coordinator is the Department of Legal Publications - email: publicationsc@sc.judicial.gov.cy

Country code

The country code for Cyprus is: [CY]

Generation of national ECLI

The exact format of the ECLI is still under consideration and is yet to be decided.
Last update: 11/03/2024
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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Latvia

National ECLI coordinator

The National ECLI coordinator is the Courts Administration (*Tiesu administrācija*).
Contact e-mail: pasts@ta.gov.lv

Country code

The country code of Latvia is: [LV]

Generation of national ECLI

In Latvia, ECLI was introduced in September 2017. ECLI is attributed to all court rulings registered in the Court Information System, except for rulings adopted in the form of resolutions and decisions by investigating judges. Publicly available rulings are published on the website https://www.elieta.lv/web/.

Structure of the elements in the Latvian *ECLI* code

ECLI:**LV**:**AAAAAAA**:**BBBB**:**CCDD.E12345678.90.FF**, where
ECLI is an invariable designation of the European Case Law Identifier;
LV is an invariable country code: international code of the Republic of Latvia;
AAAAAAA court code;
BBBB year of the ruling;
CCDD.E12345678.90 consecutive number of the ruling, where
CC two digits of the month the ruling was adopted;

DD two digits of the day the ruling was adopted;
E12345678 case number or, where there is no case number, the archive number or file number of the application;
90 sequential number of the ruling within the case or in the context of examining a claim, if there is no case number;
FF type of ruling (RS (assignments sitting), L (decision), S (judgment), BL (incidental ruling).
For example: Ruling ECLI:LV:RAT:2016:1201.C28087609.1.S (where ECLI stands for the European Case Law Identifier, LV is the international code of the Republic of Latvia, RAT is the code of the regional court of Riga (*Rīgas apgabaltiesa*), 2016 is the year of the ruling, 1201 is the date of the ruling (1 December), C28087609 is the case number in accordance with the procedure set out in this chapter; 1 is the sequential number of the ruling, and S means the type of ruling is a judgment).

Court codes of Latvian courts

Court code	Title
AT	Supreme Court (*Augstākā Tiesa*)
KUAT	Kurzeme Regional Court (*Kurzemes apgabaltiesa*)
LAAT	Latgale Regional Court (*Latgales apgabaltiesa*)
RAT	Riga Regional Court (*Rīgas apgabaltiesa*)
VAT	Vidzeme Regional Court (*Vidzemes apgabaltiesa*)
ZAT	Zemgale Regional Court (*Zemgales apgabaltiesa*)
ADRJJTN	District Administrative Court (*Administratīvā rajona ties*a), Jelgava Courthouse (*Jelgavas tiesu nams*)
ADRJLTN	District Administrative Court (*Administratīvā rajona tiesa*), Liepāja Courthouse (*Liepājas tiesu nams*)
ADRJRTN	District Administrative Court (*Administratīvā rajona tiesa*), Rēzekne Courthouse (*Rēzeknes tiesu nams*)
ADRJRIT	District Administrative Court (*Administratīvā rajona tiesa*), Riga Courthouse (*Rīgas tiesu nams*)
ADRJVTN	District Administrative Court (*Administratīvā rajona tiesa*), Valmiera Courthouse (*Valmieras tiesu nams*)
AIRT	Aizkraukle District Court (*Aizkraukles rajona tiesa*)
ALRT	Alūksne District Court (*Alūksnes rajona tiesa*)
BSRT	Bauska District Court (*Bauskas rajona tiesa*)
CERT	Cēsis District Court (*Cēsu rajona tiesa*)
DAUT	Daugavpils City Court (*Daugavpils tiesa*)
DORT	Dobele District Court (*Dobeles rajona tiesa*)
GURT	Gulbene District Court (*Gulbenes rajona tiesa*)
JELT	Jelgava City Court (*Jelgavas tiesa*)
JERT	Jēkabpils District Court (Jēkabpils rajona tiesa)
KURT	Kuldīga District Court (*Kuldīgas rajona tiesa*)
LIET	Liepāja City Court (*Liepājas tiesa*)
LIRT	Limbaži District Court (*Limbažu rajona tiesa*)
MART	Madona District Court (*Madonas rajona tiesa*)
OGRT	Ogre District Court (*Ogres rajona tiesa*)
REZT	Rēzekne City Court (*Rēzeknes tiesa*)
RPT	Riga City Court (*Rīgas pilsētas tiesa*)
RLPT	City of Riga Latgale District Court (*Rīgas pilsētas Latgales priekšpilsētas tiesa*)
RVPT	City of Riga Vidzeme District Court (*Rīgas pilsētas Vidzemes priekšpilsētas tiesa*)
RZRT	City of Riga Northern District Court (*Rīgas pilsētas Ziemeļu rajona tiesa*)
RIRT	Riga District Court (*Rīgas rajona tiesa*)
SART	Saldus District Court (*Saldus rajona tiesa*)
SIRT	Sigulda City Court (*Siguldas tiesa*)
TART	Talsi District Court (*Talsu rajona tiesa*)
TURT	Tukums District Court (*Tukuma rajona tiesa*)
VART	Valka District Court (*Valkas rajona tiesa*)
VLRT	Valmiera District Court (*Valmieras rajona tiesa*)
VENT	Ventspils City Court (*Ventspils tiesa*)
ELT	Economic Court (*Ekonomisko Lietu Tiesas*)

Last update: 08/09/2023

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Lithuania

National ECLI coordinator

The national ECLI coordinator is the National Courts Administration, L.Sapiegos gatvė 15, LT-10312 Vilnius, Lithuania. Phone: +370 5 266 29 81, e-mail: info@teismai.lt.

Country code

The country code for Lithuania is [LT].

Generation of national ECLI

The ECLI is not yet in use in Lithuania.

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Luxembourg

Luxembourg is currently looking into the possibility of implementing the European Case Law Identifier (ECLI).

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Hungary

In Hungary at present there are no plans for the introduction of ECLI.

Last update: 07/04/2017

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Malta

National ECLI coordinator

The national ECLI coordinator is Courts of Malta (courts.csa@courtservices.mt).

Country code

The country code for Malta is: [MT]

Generation of national ECLI

In Malta the ECLI number cannot be built from the case judgment details available to the public user. It is automatically generated at the time the judgment is entered in the court system.

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Netherlands

National ECLI coordinator

The national ECLI coordinator is the Council for the Judiciary (*Raad voor de rechtspraak*). You can contact the coordinator at the following email address: kennissystemen@rechtspraak.nl

Country code

The country code for the Netherlands is: [NL]

Generation of national ECLIs

The ECLI was introduced in the Netherlands on 28 June 2013. An ECLI can be allocated to:

all judicial decisions published on the website of the Council for the Judiciary:

all disciplinary decisions published on the official website (on the joint disciplinary website);

all judicial decisions not published on the websites under (a) and (b) but published in magazines or databases, and judicial decisions published commercially as 'open access'. Magazine editors or database managers who wish to register their decisions can do so via the above email address;

all judicial decisions kept in an internal database of the Council for the Judiciary.

Regardless of whether the decision itself is published on one of the two websites referred to above, all Dutch ECLIs, together with at least the name of the body that delivered the decision, the date of the decision and the case number, can be found on rechtspraak.nl.

Where known, publication references are also given for any reports of the decision in journals or databases. Dutch ECLIs are made up of the following:

'ECLI';

country code 'NL';

court code (see under the heading 'ECLI court codes' (*Gerechtscode*);

year of the decision;

a serial number. There are two possible formats.

Before 28 June 2013, virtually all decisions published in the Netherlands were given a country case number (*Landelijk Jurisprudentie Nummer*, LJN). This LJN always consisted of two letters and four figures, e.g.: 'AB1234'. For reasons of consistency, this LJN has been included as the fifth part of the ECLI code. As of 28 June 2013, LJNs are no longer allocated. All decisions given an ECLI after that date have an ascending serial number consisting solely of figures. This may also be the case for decisions issued before 28 June 2013.

The most important court codes

The Netherlands has a large number of law courts. The codes of the most important Dutch courts are listed in the table below.

Highest Courts	
HR	*Hoge Raad* (Supreme Court)
PHR	*Parket bij de Hoge Raad* (Supreme Court Public Prosecutor's Office) (Advocate-General)

RVS	*Raad van State* (Council of State)
CRVB	*Centrale Raad van Beroep* (Court of last instance in social security matters)
CBB	*College van Beroep voor het bedrijfsleven* (Administrative court of last instance in matters of trade and industry)
Courts of Appeal (*Appelgerechten*)	
GHAMS	*Gerechtshof Amsterdam*
GHARL	*Gerechtshof Arnhem-Leeuwarden*
GHDHA	*Gerechtshof Den Haag*
GHSHE	*Gerechtshof 's-Hertogenbosch*
District courts (*Rechtbanken*)	
RBAMS	*Rechtbank Amsterdam*
RBDHA	*Rechtbank Den Haag*
RBGEL	*Rechtbank Gelderland*
RBLIM	*Rechtbank Limburg*
RBMNE	*Rechtbank Midden-Nederland*
RBNHO	*Rechtbank Noord-Holland*
RBNNE	*Rechtbank Noord-Nederland*
RBOBR	*Rechtbank Oost-Brabant*
RBOVE	*Rechtbank Overijssel*
RBROT	*Rechtbank Rotterdam*
RBZWB	*Rechtbank Zeeland-West-Brabant*

All court codes

A full list of Dutch court codes, in alphabetical order, is available here. Bodies no longer in existence are indicated as 'abolished' (*opgeheven*).

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Austria

National ECLI coordinator

Federal Ministry of Digital and Economic Affairs [Bundesministerium für Digitalisierung und Wirtschaftsstandort]
Digitales und E-Government - Programm- und Projektmanagement (Abt. III/5) [e-Government - Programme and project management (Department I/5)]
Stubenring 1
A-1010 Vienna
Helmut Weichsel
Tel.: (+43 1) 53115/204211
Fax: (+43 1) 53109/204211
E-Mail: helmut.weichsel@bmdw.gv.at

Country code

ECLI country code for Austria: [AT]

Generation of national ECLI

An ECLI is assigned when decisions of the following courts and authorities are published on the internet.
Constitutional Court [*Verfassungsgerichtshof*]
Supreme Court [*Oberster Gerichtshof*] and other courts
Federal Administrative Court [*Bundesverwaltungsgericht*]
Federal Fiscal Court [*Bundesfinanzgericht*]
Regional Administrative Courts [*Landesverwaltungsgerichte*]
Data Protection Authority [*Datenschutzbehörde*]

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Poland

For the time being Poland does not have any plans concerning implementation of the European Case Law Identifier.

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Portugal

National ECLI Coordinator

Address: Rua Duque de Palmela No 23, 1250-097 Lisbon – Portugal
Telephone: +351 213 220 020
Fax: +351 213 474 09 918

Email: csm@csm.org.pt
Website: https://www.csm.org.pt/

Country code

The country code for Portugal is: [PT].

Generation of national ECLI

Portugal's introduction of the European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) was completed in November 2018, as part of a project co-financed by the European Union through the Justice Programme 2014-2020 of the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers (DG JUST). This was a joint initiative of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary (*Conselho Superior da Magistratura*) and the Institute for Financial and Estate Management of Judicial Services (*Instituto de Gestão Financeira e Equipamentos da Justiça*).
The ECLI currently covers judgments of the higher courts:
The Supreme Court of Justice (*Supremo Tribunal de Justiça*)
The Coimbra Court of Appeal (*Tribunal da Relação de Coimbra*)
The Évora Court of Appeal (*Tribunal da Relação de Évora*)
The Guimarães Court of Appeal (*Tribunal da Relação de Guimarães*)
The Lisbon Court of Appeal (*Tribunal da Relação de Lisboa*)
The Porto Court of Appeal (*Tribunal da Relação do Porto*)
The website https://jurisprudencia.csm.org.pt/ provides access to a new search engine for national case-law using the ECLI.
The ECLI in Portugal is made up the following components:
'**ECLI**';
The country code: '**PT**';
The court code: '**STJ**', '**TRL**', '**TRP**', '**TRC**', '**TRE**' or '**TRG**' (the ECLI is currently available to identify judgments of the Supreme Court of Justice and the appeal courts of Lisbon, Porto, Coimbra, Évora and Guimarães);
The year of the judgment;
A serial number, which in Portugal's case, is based on the case number (plus occasionally two identifying characters used for the distribution of cases in the higher courts).
Each component is separated by a colon.
Example of a Portuguese ECLI:
The identifier **ECLI:PT:TRC:2017:198.15.3GCACB.C1**, corresponds to a judgment handed down in Portugal (PT), by the Coimbra Court of Appeal (TRC), in 2017, in case No 198/15.3GCACB.
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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Romania

National ECLI coordinator

The Ministry of Justice is the national ECLI coordinator – dti@just.ro

Country Code

The Country Code for Romania is [RO]

Generation of national ECLI

ECLI was introduced in Romanian courts at the end of 2015.
The ECLI is automatically assigned, using the electronic case management system (ECRIS), to judgments handed down since 2007 by the courts (High Court of Cassation and Justice, appeal courts, tribunals and district courts). For judgments handed down after 15 December 2015, ECLI also appears in paper format.
At the moment there is no online database of national case law base connected to the ECLI search engine within the e-Justice Portal. However, there is a database in which all judgments handed down by Romanian courts in 2010 are taken from the ECRIS system and published in anonymised form - ROLII, currently under development.
In Romania the ECLI code consists of:
'ECLI';
country code 'RO';
court code - a list of court codes can be found here (256 Kb) ro;
the year of the judgment;
an ordinal number, consisting of the internal number of the corresponding electronic register in the ECRIS system (unique to the court) and the judgment number as granted in the court decision register (unique to the register).
Example:
The ECLI code assigned to a judgment delivered by District Court of Bucharest 4 could look like this: ECLI:RO:JDS4B:2017:001.004053, where 'JDS4B' is the court code, '2017' – the year of the judgment, '001' – the internal number of the corresponding electronic register in the ECRIS system and '004053' is the judgment number.
Last update: 07/12/2021
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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Slovenia

National ECLI coordinator

The national ECLI coordinator for Slovenia is:
Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia
Registry Department,

Tavčarjeva 9,
SI-1000 Ljubljana
Slovenia
Contact email: ecli.vsrs@sodisce.si
Contact person: Gregor Strojin

Country code

The country code for Slovenia is: [SI]

Generation of national ECLI

On 1 October 2011, Slovenia introduced an ECLI as an integral part of all existing documents published in the case law databases of its courts. All new documents which are entered into case-law databases also receive an ECLI. An ECLI will also be included in all new judicial decisions in the near future.
All ECLIs are created automatically on the basis of the existing data.
All known private publishers of case law documents have been informed about the ECLI, and most of them have already assigned an ECLI to published documents.

Court codes:

VSRS: Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia (Vrhovno sodišče Republike Slovenije)
USRS: Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia (Ustavno sodišče Republike Slovenije)
VSCE: Higher Court in Celje (Višje sodišče v Celju)
VSKP: Higher Court in Koper (Višje sodišče v Kopru)
VSLJ: Higher Court in Ljubljana (Višje sodišče v Ljubljani)
VSMB: Higher Court in Maribor (Višje sodišče v Mariboru)
UPRS: Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia (Upravno sodišče Republike Slovenije)
VDSS: Higher Labour and Social Court (Višje delovno in socialno sodišče)
Note: Court codes consist of four letters. The list of participating courts currently only applies to appellate courts, the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia, whose decisions are already published in national case law databases. Other courts and institutions will be added in the near future.

Year of decision:

The year in which the decision was issued is used (YYYY entry).

Reference number:

The regular ordinal number (hereinafter: RON), e.g. II Ips 123/2005) of a particular court (datafield: Odločba (=decision)) is used as the basis for the formation of the ECLI ordinal number (hereinafter: EON).
Other words (e.g. Sodba, Sklep, etc.) which may be part of the field Odločba are not considered part of RON and are to be omitted/deleted in the formation of EON.
The year, which is a part of RON, remains part of the new EON.
As regular ordinal numbers include signs such as dashes, slashes or empty spaces, each one of these is to be replaced by a period sign within the ECLI format (e.g. II Ips 123/2005 becomes II.Ips.123.2005; I K 123456/2010 becomes I.K.123456.2010, etc.).
The general rules for EON are subject to the exceptions defined in special cases below.

Special cases:

A: Where one joint decision lists two or more RONs, only the first RON is used for the formation of the ECLI. '.A' is to be added at the end of EON in such cases. Other RONs can be accessed through document metadata.
Example:
Sodba II Ips 49/2008 and II Ips 28/2011
then the ECLI is:
ECLI:SI:VSRS:2008:II.IPS.49.2008.A

B: Where a decision uses only one RON which is similar to a number of other decisions with different RONs, the others have not been added to the case law databases. The first RON is used for the creation of the ECLI, and the others are mentioned as 'same as' in the metadata. The remaining RONs are used to create ECLIs which are listed in the database as relating to similar decisions.
Example:
Sodba VIII Ips 432/2009, same as VIII Ips 50/2009 and VIII Ips 448/2009, VIII Ips 28/2009
then ECLI is:
ECLI:SI:VSRS:2009:VIII.IPS.432.2009,
same as:
ECLI:SI:VSRS:2009:VIII.IPS.50.2009
ECLI:SI:VSRS:2009:VIII.IPS.448.2009
ECLI:SI:VSRS:2009:VIII.IPS.28.2009
Users searching for any of these ECLIs will be directed to the same document.

C: In the past there were instances where RON of the same court could be duplicated, because the institution operated at different branches and did not have a centralized case management system (e.g. UPRS). The exact branch is identified in the metadata of a document. In such cases a '.letter' combination representing the branch is to be added at the end of EON, based on the following classification:
Celje: **.C**
Ljubljana: **.L**
Nova Gorica: **.G**
Maribor: **.M**

D: Some penal (criminal law) documents in the SOVS database of the Supreme Court use two RONs in the field 'Odločba'. The first uses the ordinal number (in the form -NN), while the other is included in brackets ( ). The reason for this is a double registration of cases during a transition phase for the introduction of a computerised criminal case management system.

In these cases only the first RON is used for the creation of the ECLI, to which the ordinal number of the case is added after the year. The other RON mentioned in brackets is discarded and does not form part of the ECLI.
Example:
Sodba I Ips 3248/2009-39 (I Ips 10/2010)
then the ECLI is:
ECLI:SI:VSRS:2009:I.IPS.3248.2009.39

E: In some cases several documents of the same court use the same RON, for example interim measures and final decisions. In these cases, a number is added for the purpose of EON creation. The first decision (according to date of issue) does not have a numerical addendum. The next one receives addendum '.1', the subsequent one '.2', etc. Addenda are assigned automatically based on the date when the document was issued.
Example:
Sklep G 6/2011 (note: duplicated in a number of documents)
then the ECLIs are:
ECLI:SI:VSRS:2011:G.6.2011
ECLI:SI:VSRS:2011:G.6.2011.1
ECLI:SI:VSRS:2011:G.6.2011.2
etc.

Related links

Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia (Vrhovno sodišče RS)
Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia (Ustavno sodišče RS)
Case law (Sodna praksa)
Case law (permission from the Supreme Court is required to use the application programming interface (API))
Case law of the Constitutional Court (Sodna praksa Ustavnega sodišča RS)

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Slovakia

National ECLI coordinator

The national ECLI coordinator is the Informatics and Project Management Section of the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic – e-mail: ecli@justice.sk

Country code

The country code for the Slovak Republic is: [SK]

Generation of national ECLI code

An ECLI code is generated when a judgment is delivered. Only judgments delivered after 25 July 2011 are given an ECLI number. If a judgment delivered before 25 July 2011 is appealed after 25 July 2011, this and all other judgments in that file are also given an ECLI code.
Example of an ECLI code for the Slovak Republic:
ECLI:SK:OSBA1:2011:0123456789.123
OSBA1 = abbreviation for the court
2011 = year
0123456789 = IČS (file identification number)
123 = serial number of judgment in the file

Last update: 27/02/2023

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Finland

Finland will use the European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) in all case law databases in Finlex, the national legal databank.

National ECLI coordinator

The national ECLI coordinator is Aki Hietanen at the Finnish Ministry of Justice. E-mail address: finlex@om.fi.

Country code

The country code for Finland is [FI].

Generation of the national ECLI

Finland will use the European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) in all case law databases in Finlex, the national legal databank. Use of the identifier was initially tested on the case law databases of the Finnish Supreme Court (*korkein oikeus*) and the Supreme Administrative Court (*korkein hallinto-oikeus*). The identifier will also be used in the databases of the Courts of Appeal (*hovioikeudet*), the administrative courts (*hallinto-oikeudet*) and the special courts (*erityistuomioistuimet*). In 2017, metadata in the judgments will be enriched with ECLI metadata. Metadata from the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative are already being used in Finlex's case law databases.
The ECLI is also used in Finlex's case law literature database, which contains references to court decisions from Finnish legal literature since 1926. Case law consists of judgments of, among others, the Finnish Supreme Court, the Supreme Administrative Court, the Courts of Appeal, the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Generation of the national ECLI

Supreme Court: ECLI:FI:KKO:2017:21
Supreme Administrative Court: ECLI:FI:KKO:2017:63
- for case summaries: ECLI:FI:KHO:2010:T3764
Courts of Appeal:
Helsinki Court of Appeal (*Helsingin hovioikeus*) – ECLI:FI:HELHO:2011:5
Eastern Finland Court of Appeal (*Itä-Suomen hovioikeus*) – ECLI:FI:ISHO:2011:4

Kouvola Court of Appeal (*Kouvolan hovioikeus*) – ECLI:FI:KOUHO:2009:3
Rovaniemi Court of Appeal (*Rovaniemen hovioikeus*) – ECLI:FI:RHO:2010:8
Turku Court of Appeal (*Turun hovioikeus*) – ECLI:FI:THO:2011:2
Vaasa Court of Appeal (*Vaasan hovioikeus*) – ECLI:FI:VHO:2011:7
Administrative courts:
Helsinki Administrative Court (*Helsingin hallinto-oikeus*) – ECLI:FI:HELHAO:2011:11.0378.255
Hämeenlinna Administrative Court (*Hämeenlinnan hallinto-oikeus*) – ECLI:FI:HAMHAO:2011:11.0378.255
Kouvola Administrative Court (*Kouvolan hallinto-oikeus*) – ECLI:FI:KOUHAO:2011:11.0379.25
Kuopio Administrative Court (*Kuopion hallinto-oikeus*) – ECLI:FI:KUOHAO:2011:11.0377.25
Oulu Administrative Court (*Oulun hallinto-oikeus*) – ECLI:FI:OULHAO:2011:11.0375.25
Rovaniemi Administrative Court (*Rovaniemen hallinto-oikeus*) – ECLI:FI:ROVHAO:2011:11.0373.25
Turku Administrative Court (*Turun hallinto-oikeus*) – ECLI:FI:TURHAO:2011:11.0293.15
Vaasa Administrative Court (*Vaasan hallinto-oikeus*) – ECLI:FI:VAAHAO:2011:11.0371.25
Åland Islands Administrative Court (*Ahvenanmaan hallinto-oikeus*) – ECLI:FI:AALHAO:2011:11.0372.25
Insurance Court (*Vakuutusoikeus*) – ECLI:FI:VAKO:2016:3003
Labour Court (*Työtuomioistuin*) – ECLI:FI:TT:2016:128
Market Court (*Markkinaoikeus*) – ECLI:FI:MAO:2010:595

Related links

Finlex – the national regulatory databank

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Sweden

Sweden is not yet in a position to implement ECLI.

Last update: 05/12/2023

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - England and Wales

While no final decision on whether to implement the European Case Law Identifier has yet been made, the United Kingdom is considering options.

Last update: 30/01/2017

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Northern Ireland

While no final decision on whether to implement the European Case Law Identifier has yet been made, the United Kingdom is considering options.

Last update: 29/08/2018

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European Case Law Identifier (ECLI) - Scotland

While no final decision on whether to implement the European Case Law Identifier has yet been made, the United Kingdom is considering options.

Last update: 04/05/2020

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