🚀 So what's different?

openlaws takes legal information systems beyond closed and static databases to an open and interactive level.

The rule of law is fundamental to all democratic states. The sheer growth of legal documents and their complexity make access to legal information burdensome.

The Internet has made it a lot easier to search for legislation, case law and legal literature. There are growing numbers of online commercial and government databases to consult online.

Today, Web technologies allow users to collaborate with each other, creating and sharing content. Personalized search and group profiles enable users to cater content to their needs.

openlaws will take advantage of these new technologies in order to provide better access to legal information.

ℹ️ About openlaws

openlaws helps you find legal information more easily, organize it the way you want and share it with others.

Together with you we create a network of legislation, case law, legal literature and legal experts - both on a national and a European level - leading to better access to legal information.

The openlaws Internet platform is based on open data, open innovation and open source software. This means that openlaws integrates legal communities and IT communities in the design and in the operation of the system.

🧪 EU Project

openlaws is an EU project which is co-financed by the EU/DG Justice under action grant JUST/2013/JCIV/AG. The following organisations participate in the project:

- University of Amsterdam
- Salzburg University of Applied Sciences
- University of Sussex
- London School of Economics
- Alpenite srl
- BY WASS GmbH

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openlaws

legislation

case law

literature

community
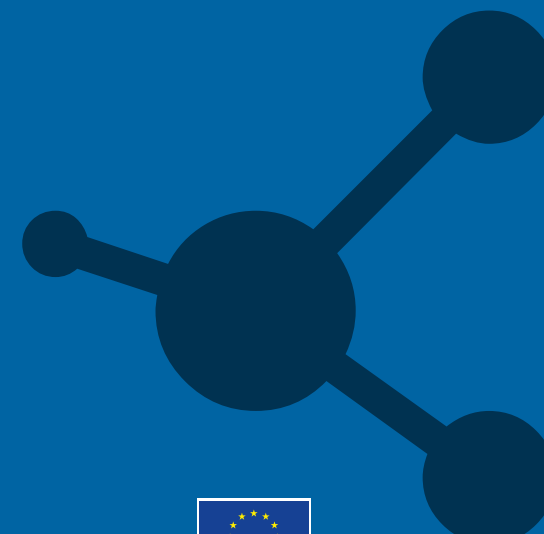
Search

openlaws makes it possible to search multiple databases at once.

You will be able to find legislation, case law, legal literature and legal experts. Relations between these elements will be visualized.

openlaws starts with connecting EUR-Lex and databases from the UK, the Netherlands and Austria. Our ambition is to provide access to legal databases from all EU Member States, including yours.

Organize

With openlaws it is easy to organize any legal content you find.

For example, you will be able to create personal folders with all the material that is necessary for your research or for the case you are currently working on.

You will also be notified whenever there is an update in one of your personal folders or when there are new search results for keywords that you have specified before.

Share

openlaws allows you to collaborate with colleagues and the legal community.

It will be possible to share folders either in a closed group with your colleagues or with the general public – it is up to you to decide.

Rather than printing and carrying cases and papers, check on your mobile or laptop, forward them electronically and save time and effort.

Legislation

There is an enormous amount of legislation within the EU and its member states.

openlaws integrates EUR-Lex and national databases. You can create links between national legislation and cases, making it easier to identify implementing laws of EU instruments across member states.

You may even uncover previously unknown anomalies between EU legislation and national law.

Literature

openlaws provides an extensive overview about legal literature.

Lawyers and other legal experts can use openlaws to share their knowledge and commentary. This includes blog posts, papers, journal articles and academic outputs.

Share your expertise with a select group or all of the legal community on your terms. Publishers can contact the openlaws team for more information.

Case Law

There is a growing demand to find case law from other member states.

The European Court of Justice interprets EU law to make sure it is applied in the same way in all the EU countries. Knowledge of judgments at a European level is crucial to understand local laws.

openlaws creates links between related cases and references to the underlying legislation.

Community

openlaws brings the legal community together.

Whether you are a lawyer, a judge, a notary, a civil servant, a legal scholar, a law student, a business person or an interested citizen - openlaws will make it easier to find the right experts and to work with them.

Together we can make law more accessible and easier to understand.

JOIN THE OPENLAWS COMMUNITY

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openlaws

open data
open innovation
open source software