European Documentation Centre (EDC)

Function and tasks

The European Documentation Centre (EDC) is part of a worldwide information network, set up by the European Commission since the early 1960s. Today there are more than 350 documentation centres in EU Member States. Furthermore, EDCs called “EUi Centres” were established in Candidate and other countries all over the world. The purpose of the network is to support academic study and research on European integration. The EDC is also open to the interested public.

In 1965 the University of Mannheim signed a convention establishing the European Documentation Centre. In 2003 the centre was integrated into the University Library. The Mannheim EDC is now one of 41 EDCs in Germany. It is working as a comprehensive documentation centre covering all EU policy areas.

Extensive information services on EU matters are available online, including the EDC online catalogue (EDC library stock) and more than 54,000 electronic documents. In addition, the Mannheim EDC is involved in different projects such as “ArchiDok – Archiving of EU online Documents”, initiated due to the immense number of e-documents scattered across various EU websites for only a short period.

EDC collection

Information about all EU policy areas

- Official documents (Official Journal, Documents of the Commission and the European Parliament, Opinions of the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, et.al.)
- Other publications of EU Institutions and Agencies (reports, studies and others)
- Statistics of the Statistical Office of the EC (Eurostat)
- Reference books
- Journals and magazines
- Videos
- Posters and maps
- Secondary literature about EU policies
- Take away brochures on current EU issues and campaigns

EDC Collection – Subject headings

01 Institutional questions
02 Customs union / Trade policy
03 Agriculture, silviculture and fisheries
04 Employment and labour policies
05 Social policy
06 Law and procedures
07 Transport
08 Competition and undertakings
09 Finance
10 Economic and consumer policy
11 External relations
12 Energy
13 Regional policy
14 Environment
15 Scientific and technical research
16 Information, education and culture
17 Statistics
18 Dictionaries and bibliographies
Access to EDC services

- **Access to the EDC database:**
  - Printed publications and electronic media (PDF, CD-ROM, Video)
  - Direct access to more than 55,000 full text documents

- **Access via the library OPAC:**
  - Location: „BB A5, EDZ“:
  - Series, periodicals and journals
  - Publications of the EU institutions (since 2004)
  - Secondary literature (2002-2016)
  - Access to the EU Bookshop

- **EDC website:**
  - Structured information about EU policies both in German and English
  - Access to more than 260 EU databases (bibliographic, full text and statistical information)
  - eLearning tutorial for the Press Releases database and EUR-Lex
  - and much more!

- **For further questions:**
  - Please feel free to call us or contact us by e-mail

Opening hours:
Mon - Fri 08.00 to 21.30
Sat, Sun, holidays 10.00 to 21.30
Personal consultation: on appointment

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