History / Background

The “Quasi-Federal” nature of Europe today.
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Two principal inter-governmental organizations for modern Europe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Council of Europe</td>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Strasbourg, France.</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Communities</td>
<td>1945</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Economic Community</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Union</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Brussels, Belgium.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Commission, Council of Ministers, Parliament).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Luxembourg (European Court of Justice).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
History / Background

Euler diagram of supranational European Bodies

Source: Wikimedia Commons, author “Wdcf.”
http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/84/Supranational_European_Bodies.png
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So, as an English librarian, which structures do I need to consider when looking for governmental and legal sources....?
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/
Eurostat Regional Yearbook

Government documents and statistics

www.coe.int/
### Fighting impunity

Cases of impunity for violations of human rights are unfortunately not uncommon in Council of Europe member states, particularly as regard those committed by police and prison officers, or those directed against human rights defenders. Allowing such wrongs to go unpunished demonstrates a lack of respect for human rights (often involving a human rights violation in its own right) and encourages repetition of those crimes, or perpetuation, and others, potentially further offenses, knowing they will be shielded from punishment.

Impunity endures the role of law. Furthermore, those who permit it are effectively condoning the crimes that are committed. It is therefore essential to eradicate impunity in the member states and encourage states outside Europe do the same.

Following an initiative of the Parliamentary Assembly, the Committee of Ministers invited the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) to study the feasibility of guidelines on the impunity.

The CDDH agreed to contribute to the drafting of such an instrument, considering that guidelines "would send a clear signal of Europe’s willingness to end impunity of human rights violations and would have a real added value, not only to member states of the Council of Europe but also beyond our continent."

Under the authority of the CDDH, the Committee of Experts on Impunity (DH-I) has met four times in order to draft the "Guidelines on the Eradication of Impunity for Serious Human Rights Violations". In preparing the draft, the Committee drew on inter alia, the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights, and the work of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT).

The draft guidelines have been adopted by the CDDH (DH-I(2010)12 Final) at its 71st meeting (2-5 November 2010) and the guidelines were adopted by the Committee of Ministers at their 111th meeting on 29 March 2011 (see table).

### DH-I Documents (Committee of Experts on Impunity)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Type</th>
<th>Document Reference</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on Eradicating Impunity for Serious Human Rights Violations as adopted by the Committee of Ministers at their 111th meeting (29 March 2011)</td>
<td>DH-I(2010)9Rev</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference tests for the Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on Eradicating Impunity for Serious Human Rights Violations, final version</td>
<td>DH-I(2010)12 Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on Eradicating Impunity for Serious Human Rights Violations as adopted by the CCEH at its 71st meeting (2-5 November 2010)</td>
<td>DH-I(2010)12 Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th meeting of the Committee of experts on Impunity (DH-I) 29-30 September 2020, Strasbourg</td>
<td>DH-I(2020)12 Final</td>
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Government documents and statistics

OPACS for locating European documents

http://copac.ac.uk/

http://explore.bl.uk/

Official Documents

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- Marine Fisheries Agency
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- Maritime and Coastguard Agency

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http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmhansrd.htm
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United Kingdom Government Documents – historical

http://www.british-history.ac.uk/
United Kingdom Government Documents – historical

BOPCRIS (University of Southampton)

http://www.southampton.ac.uk/library/ldu/projects.html
Government documents and statistics

http://data.gov.uk/data

Summary of Responses to Open Data Consultation

The Cabinet Office today published its Summary of Responses to the public consultation, Making Open Data Real. Naturally we want to be open and transparent as we take this exciting agenda forward and that is why we have published this summary along with the responses submitted. In 2012, the Government will set out its strategic vision for transparency and open data across the UK and a clear plan for implementation.

http://data.gov.uk/data
Government documents and statistics

http://data.gov.uk/data
http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/
Legal resources: Constitutional documents and legislation – European Union

Treaties: EUROPA
Legislation: EUR-Lex

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/
### InfoCuria - Case-law of the Court of Justice

**Links**
- Curia
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- EUR-Lex

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<th>All cases</th>
<th>Cases closed</th>
<th>Cases pending</th>
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<td>Court</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Court of Justice</td>
<td>General Court</td>
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<tr>
<td>Documents</td>
<td>All</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case number</td>
<td>(ex: C-17/05; 17/05)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name of the parties</td>
<td>Bosman</td>
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</table>

**Full URL**

Welcome to the official website of the Treaty Office

The Council of Europe’s official Treaty Office website is available in English, French, German, Italian and Russian through the links in its upper navigation banner.

The text of all Council of Europe treaties, their explanatory reports, the status of signatures and ratifications, the declarations and reservations made by States, as well as the notifications issued by the Treaty Office since 2005, are available on this website.

http://www.conventions.coe.int/?pg=/treaty/default_fr.asp&nd=&lg=en
Legal resources: Council of Europe – European Court of Human Rights – HUDOC database

http://www.echr.coe.int/ECHR/EN/hudoc
Legal resources: UK Legislation

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/
Legal resources: UK Case Law

http://www.bailii.org/
Some useful print resources and pathfinders:

http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/45291505

http://www.bl.uk/reshelp/index.html

http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/49942483
Questions?

Contact:  hsccarrier@valdosta.edu  http://mypages.valdosta.edu/hsccarrier/

Source: “Private Eye” magazine.  http://www.private-eye.co.uk/
Session Evaluation

http://tinyurl.com/grs-eval14

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