

JUDICIAL TRAINING:

the right skills to embrace
the digitalisation of justice

26, 27 & 28 April 2023



European
Commission

The European e-Justice Portal

Yoana NIKOLOVA, DG JUST
Yoana.Nikolova@ec.europa.eu
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European e-Justice Portal – key facts

- Destined at citizens, businesses, legal practitioners and judiciary
- Operational since 2010, gradually built upon
- Co-owned by the Member States
- Available in 23 languages
- 30.000 static information pages (more than 150 topics) + 15 dynamic functionalities
- Integrated Judicial ATLAS and EJN civil websites



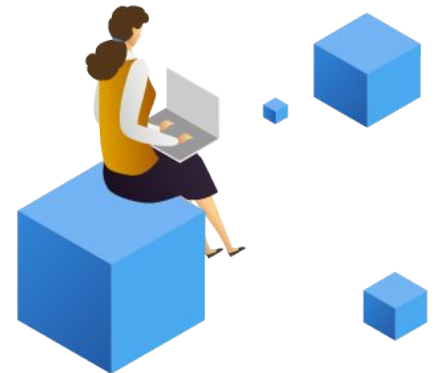
The European e-Justice Portal aims at...

- Being a one-stop shop at EU level for justice matters
- Re-using and linking to existing information
- Serving diverse stakeholders
- EU-level electronic services (e.g. interconnecting existing national justice applications and registers/databases)

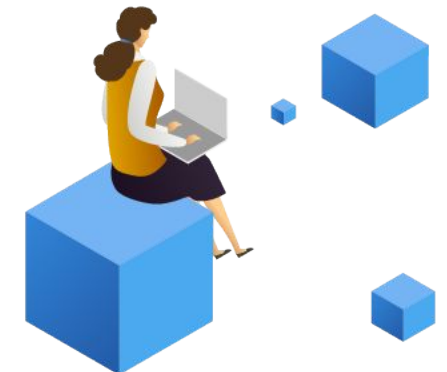
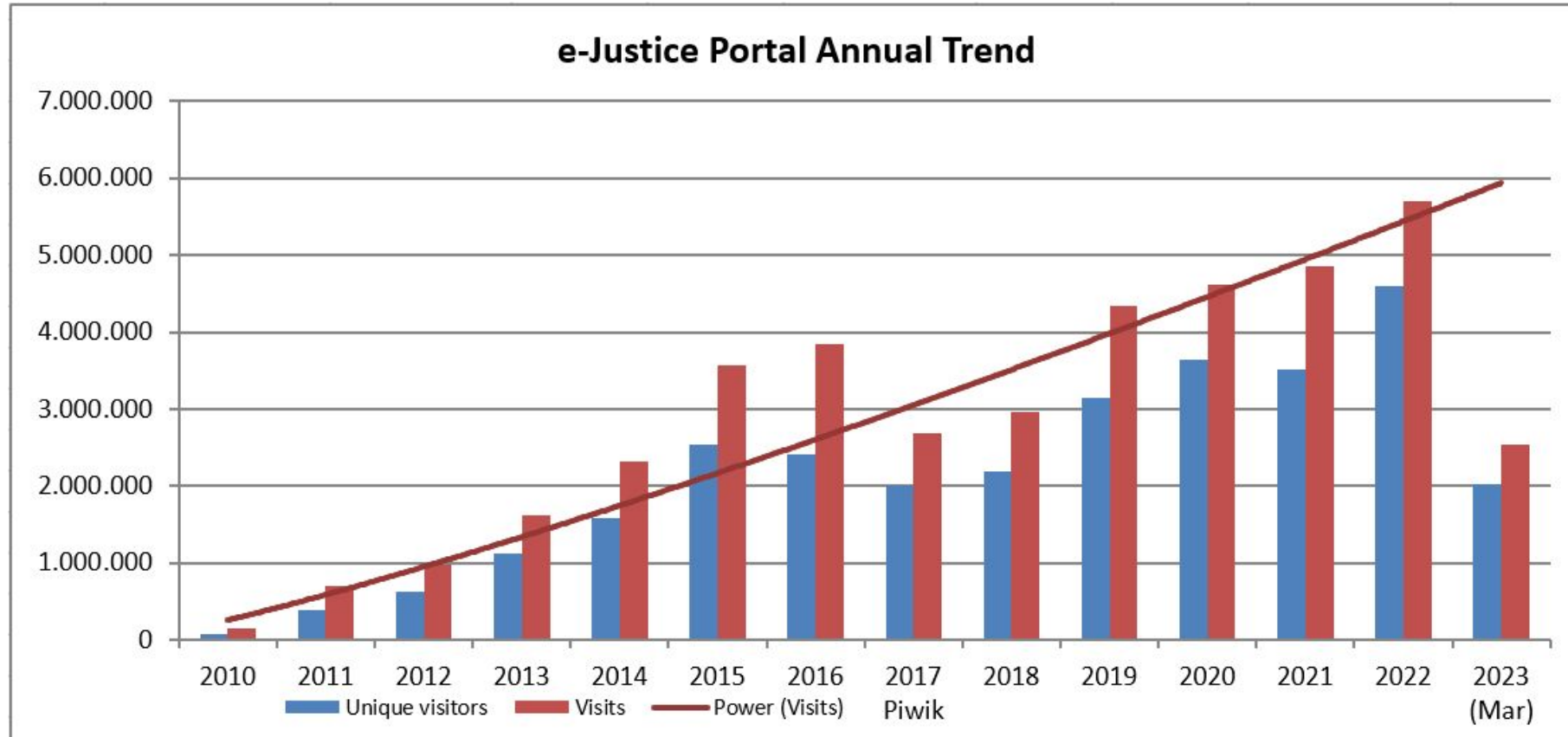


But does not aim at...

- Replacing existing national IT solutions
- Centralising or duplicating information

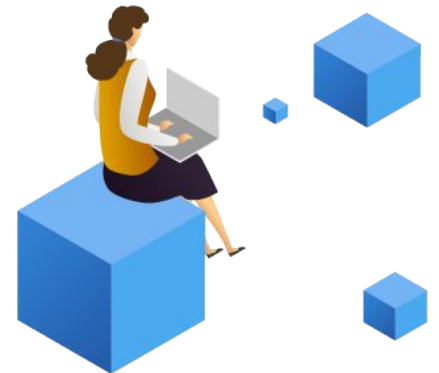


Statistics



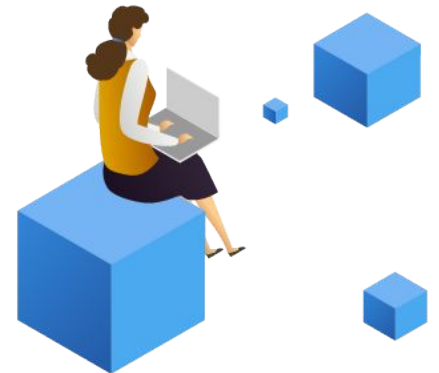
Major dynamic functionalities

- Interconnected business registers (BRIS)
- Interconnected insolvency registers (IRI)
- Interconnection of Land Registers
- Dynamic (online) forms
- Find a lawyer
- Find a notary
- Case Law search engine (ECLI Search Engine)
- Competent Court Database
- Consumer Law Database
- Fundamental Rights Interactive Wizard and CharterClick
- European Training Platform



Next steps

- “My e-Justice Space”
- Find a Bailiff

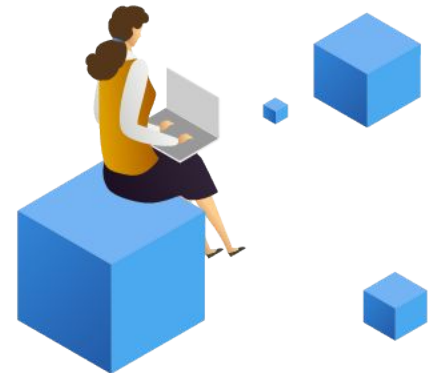


The ECLI standard and the ECLI Search Engine



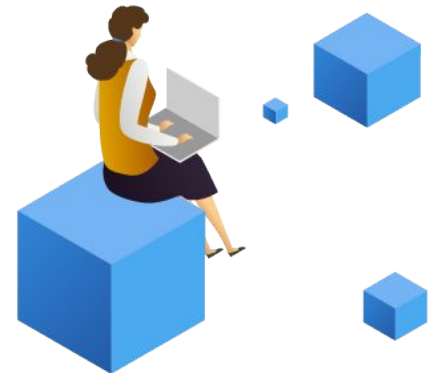
Access to case law in a cross-border context - challenges

- Differences regarding national practices: publication rules, accessibility, quality checks, (pseudo) anonymisation, etc.
- No uniform identifier – different national practices
- No common set of metadata – critical for technical interoperability
- Diverse classification schemes (e.g. area of law)
- Language-limited



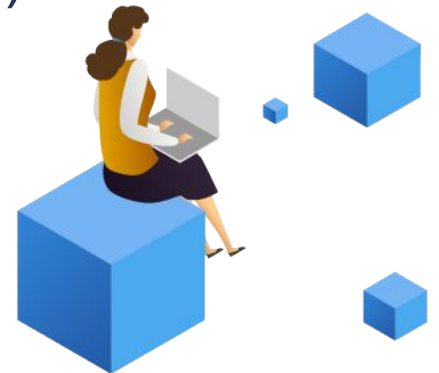
ECLI: Brief history

- Established further to Council Conclusions of 2011, defines:
 - A common, univocal identifier for case law decisions
 - Standardizes a set of mandatory and optional metadata elements
- Tasks the Commission to establish a Search Engine for ECLI decisions on the e-Justice Portal
- Provides a standard allowing building technically interoperable solutions
- ECLI is a voluntary scheme – the first step is a political/organisational decision to adopt the standard
- So far the CJEU, the ECHR, the EPO and about 17-20 MS have adopted ECLI at various levels



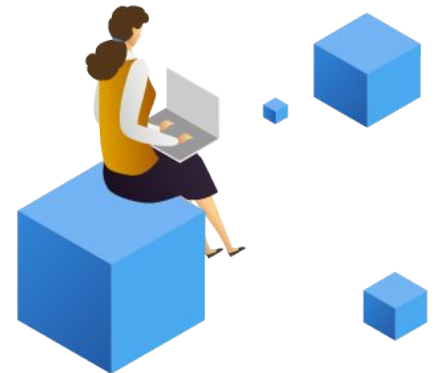
ECLI: The identifier

- An example: the 1982 CILFIT decision of the ECJ - Judgment of the Court of 6 October 1982, Case 283/81
- ECLI:EU:C:1982:335
 - ECLI -> Self-identifier (I am an ECLI)
 - EU -> The country or institutional code
 - C -> The assigned court code
 - 1982 -> The year of the judgment/decision
 - 335 -> The ordinal number of the decision (flexible approach)
- Adopters are free to maintain their existing identifiers, but the ECLI establishes a uniform one



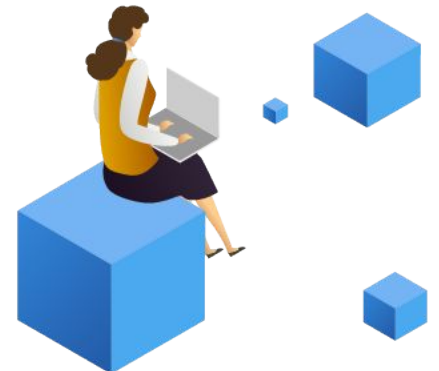
ECLI: The metadata

- A standardised set of metadata is the backbone of technical interoperability
- Defined in the Council Conclusions – mandatory and optional – for example the name of the issuing court, the date of the decision, the field of law, title, abstract...
- Type of decision and field of law allow for a shared classification scheme (however imperfect)
- References – high potential, but underutilized at present



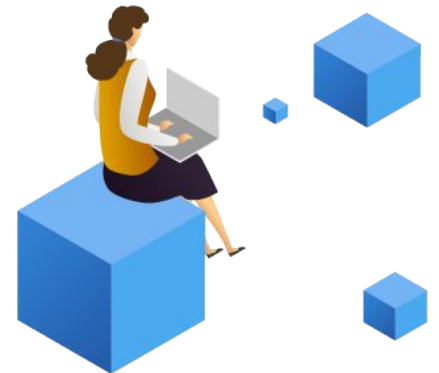
The ECLI Search Engine (ECLI SE)

- Live on the e-Justice Portal since May 2016
- Currently access to 12.5+ million decisions from: CJEU, EPO, BE, BG, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FR, HR, IT, CY, LV, NL, PT, SI and FI – more are joining
- Not a database (no local storage) - decisions are searchable on both the ECLI metadata and the full texts of the decisions
- Commission is neither responsible, nor modifies the information provided
- A direct resolver, e.g. <https://e-justice.europa.eu/ecli/ECLI:EU:C:1982:335>



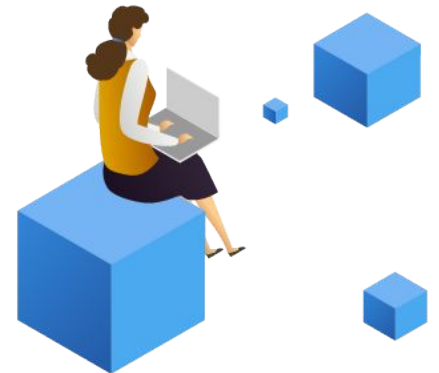
Outstanding challenges

- Free text search is language limited
- Different implementers have different approaches to classification of their decisions – e.g. w.r.t. to the field of law
- Some optional but important, metadata is often not available in national databases – e.g. references



ECLI Search Engine: Next steps

- Extend/Enhance coverage – EU co-funding offered
- Implement support for the new ECLI XL standard (adopted in 2019)
- Integrate with eTranslation (machine translations)
- Visual representation of ECLI references



**THANK
YOU**
for your participation!

European e-Justice Portal
<https://e-justice.europa.eu/>

