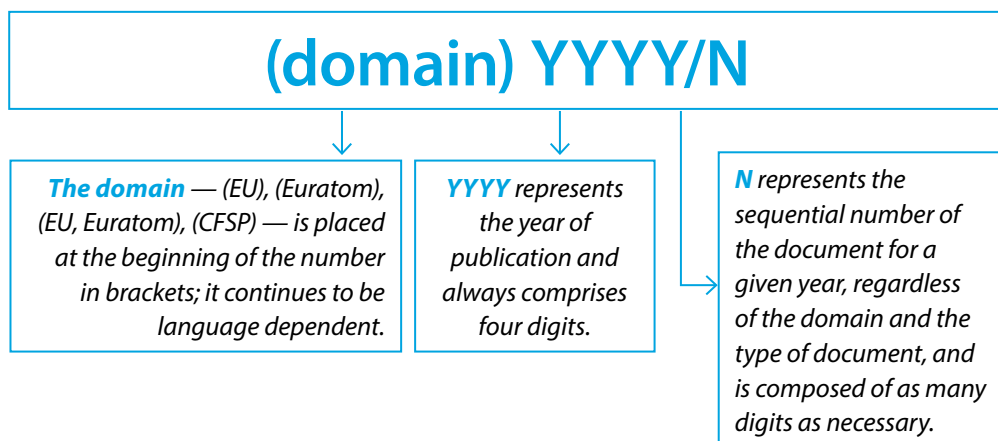


HARMONISING THE NUMBERING OF EU LEGAL ACTS

From 1 January 2015, the numbering of EU legal acts will change. A new method has been defined to assign numbers to documents published in the L (Legislation) series of the *Official Journal of the European Union* (OJ). According to this new method, which harmonises and simplifies the previous divergent practices, EU legal acts will bear unique, sequential numbers. This will facilitate access to EU law and also make it easier to identify and refer to legal acts.

From 1 January 2015 the Publications Office of the European Union will number documents published in the L series of the OJ in the following standardised way:



All the examples are based on fictitious data and used for illustration purposes only.

Examples

Regulation **(EU) 2015/1** of the European Parliament and of the Council ...

Directive **(EU) 2015/2** of the European Parliament and of the Council ...

Council Decision **(EU) 2015/3** ...

Council Decision **(CFSP) 2015/4** ...

Commission Delegated Regulation **(EU) 2015/5** ...

Commission Implementing Directive **(EU) 2015/6** ...

Decision **(EU) 2015/7** of the European Parliament ...

Decision **(EU, Euratom) 2015/8** of the European Parliament ...



The numbering and referencing of documents published before 1 January 2015 or in a series other than the L series of the OJ do not change.

The only element affected by the change is the number assigned by the Publications Office; other elements in the title remain unchanged.

CELEX numbers (document identifiers used in the EUR-Lex database) continue to be built in the same way, based on the components of the number assigned by the Publications Office. For more information on CELEX numbers, see <http://eurlex.europa.eu/content/help/faq/intro.html#top>.

Special cases

1. The new numbering does not apply to certain documents such as:

- international agreements and information on the date of their entry into force;
- corrigenda.

These documents remain unnumbered.

2. The following documents will have two numbers — a number assigned by the Publications Office at the moment of their publication in the OJ and a number previously assigned by the author:

- ECB legal acts and instruments, for example:
Decision (EU) 2015/33 of the European Central Bank ... (ECB/2015/1)
- Political and Security Committee decisions, for example:
Political and Security Committee Decision (CFSP) 2015/258 ... (EUBAM LIBYA/1/2015)

The number assigned by the Publications Office to the following documents will not contain the domain element and will be placed at the end of the title in square brackets:

- acts adopted by bodies created by international agreements, for example:
Decision No 2/2015 of the ACP–EU Committee of Ambassadors ... [2015/45]
- acts adopted within the framework of the European Economic Area (EEA), for example:
Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 58/2015 ... [2015/100]
- acts adopted within the framework of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), for example:
Decision of the EFTA Surveillance Authority No 02/10/COL ... [2015/101]
- regulations of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE), for example:
Regulation No 28 of the Economic Commission for Europe of the United Nations (UN/ECE) ... [2015/46]

For any questions concerning the numbering of EU legal acts please contact the EUR-Lex Helpdesk at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/contact.html>.

