

Public Access to European Documents¹

Michael Duero
Library - Documentation – Archives
European Court of Auditors
12, rue Alcide De Gasperi
L- 1615 Luxembourg
E-mail: duero@web.de

Abstract

One major impact of the EU accession from the Czech information professionals' point of view will be the entitlement to public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents. With a rising level of awareness and interest, and a growing need to consult the Institutions' documents, the citizens will direct their request primarily to their local information professionals, with the - somehow legitimate - expectation for guidance and help.

The paper gives a short overview of the Enlargement Communication Strategy in the Candidate Countries trying to improve access to information concerning the Institutions, and offers a closer look at the legal basis for access to documents. In this context Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 is considered a document of central importance and will be presented in detail. Changes introduced by the Regulation will be described and some case law from the European Court of Justice will be used to raise awareness of the Institutions' distinction between access to documents and access to information may be discussed.

1. Are we well informed?

There are many ways to approach the question of access to the documents of the European Institutions, or, more general, to European Information.

It might be considered common sense that for an understanding of the policies and resulting decisions on a national, and especially on a European level, it is essential to have some knowledge and understanding of the underlying procedures and administrative principles and structures. Especially as the European Commission admits that "the ordinary citizen is unlikely to appreciate too many distinctions being drawn between the European Institutions, and still less the different services of the Commission" (s. p.6; COM(2001)354). To nevertheless enable and encourage the development of this understanding of the European level, the availability and accessibility of information is and remains a precondition. One crucial element - and indicator - for the functioning of democracy is the participation of the European citizens in political processes, be it by voting in elections, or by contributing actively to the ongoing dialogue on European issues.

So one starting point of discussion on the field of European Information, which surprises or - to a certain extent - even alarms, is a discussion of the citizens' level of knowledge, or to be more precise the citizens' own estimations and feelings on how well they are informed in the field of European Information.

Based on the study "Perceptions of the European Union" and the EUROBAROMETER² series, distinctions may be drawn not only between different aspects of the EU (e.g. fields of action of the EU; its history; the Institutions), but also between the group of current Member States and group of Candidate Countries. In this context a closer look at the Czech Republic

may be of interest: From the “Perceptions of the European Union“ study it can be read that the Czech consider “the idea of Europe as a historical and cultural notion” and that they “naturally feel they should join” (all p.48).

Although the Czechs enjoy a “relatively wide-ranging” knowledge on the fields of action of the EU, many of them “feel they know only sparse facts”. The “knowledge on the origin of the EU is on the whole fairly good”, but “their knowledge is hazy” (all p.82) with regard to the European Institutions. Best known are the European Parliament and the European Central Bank. With regard to the other Institutions, e.g. the Commission, understanding is poor, or the Institutions are hardly known at all. The following table indicates that there is a relation between the level of knowledge about the particular Institution and the level of trust accorded it: A consistently high percentage of those asked, declined to answer (“don’t know”) the question.

Q: And, for each of them, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it?						
+ : tend to trust - : tend not to trust in %	Czech Republic		CC-13 Average		EU-15 Average	
	+	-	+	-	+	-
European Parliament	35	11	42	17	59	23
European Commission	28	9	35	14	53	24
Council of Ministers	19	10	27	12	45	25
Court of Justice	18	7	28	11	54	20
European Ombudsman	16	7	22	7	33	21
European Central Bank	28	12	30	15	49	23
European Court of Auditors	9	7	16	9	41	22
Committee of Regions	10	7	15	9	30	22
Social and Economic Committee	15	7	19	9	32	22
Percentage "don't know" not shown	(s. : CCEB 2002.2, Annex B.54)				(s.: EUROBAROMETER 58 Fig. 7.4a)	

One aspect of the lack of knowledge about the Institutions is that there “seems to be little perception that Institutions have a strong decision-making role”. The study states that the Czechs “know practically nothing about the decision-making process” (all p. 83).

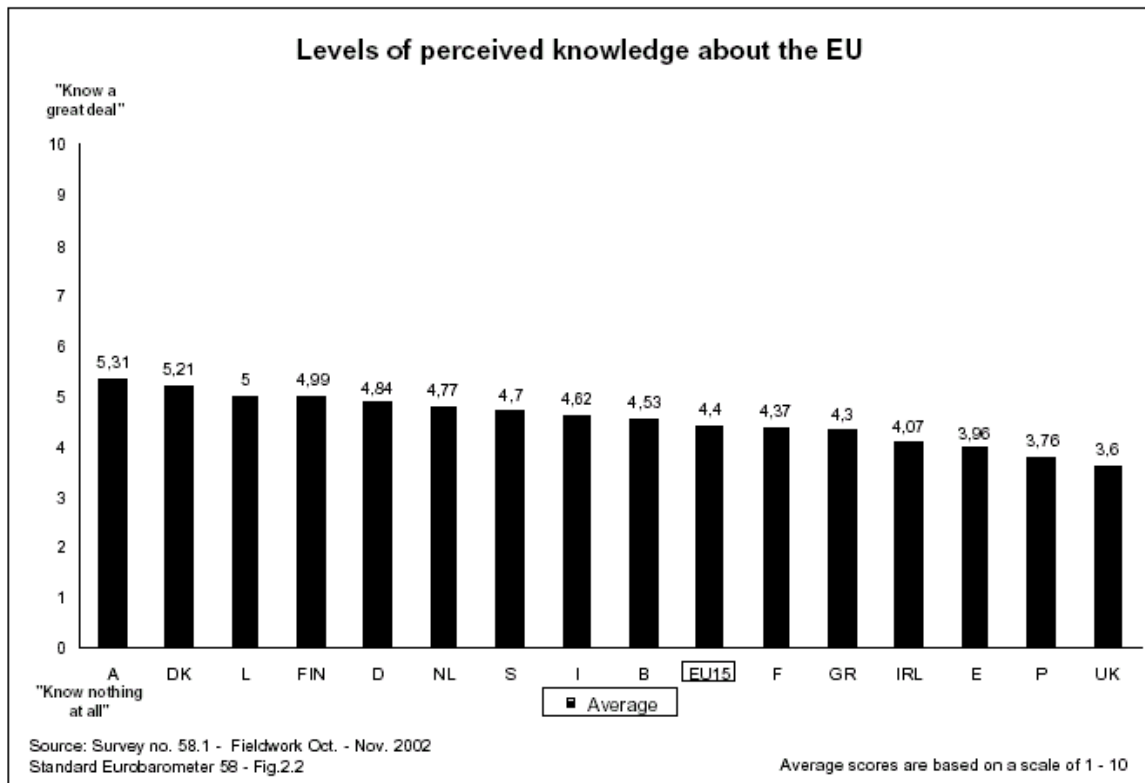
The comparison of the Czech results with those of the other Candidate Countries and Member States alters the perspective. In fact “it can be seen that [in the Candidate Countries] the degree of knowledge about the scope of the European Union’s activities is not less – in fact it is rather greater – than in the average Member State”.

And the “Knowledge of the Institutions is generally weak, though it is somewhat better in some [candidate] countries than in the average Member State” (p.12).

For the Member States “the lack of knowledge about the Institutions and the institutional system is startling”. The study sums up the results for the Member States by stating that “the degree of knowledge about what the European Union does varies greatly”. “It is generally weaker in the big countries of the EU than in the small ones: Germany and, especially, the UK being those where there is the greatest lack of knowledge” (all p. 11).

In addition to the actual level of knowledge, it is very much an individual’s own perception of their knowledge level, which influences their feeling towards European Information. The ongoing EUROBAROMETER polls include the question: "how much do you feel you know about the European Union, its policies, its Institutions". Respondents are asked to select from a card a number - on a scale from 1 to 10 - which best represents their perceived knowledge

about the European Union. The higher the number they select, the more they feel they know about the EU (s.2.2 in EUROBAROMETER 58).



Uncertainty arises due to a possible discrepancy between self-perceived knowledge and actual knowledge, which depends on how self-critical people are. Still “it is an important predictor of people’s general stance towards the Union. The analyses show that the more people feel they know about the European Union, the more likely it is that they support it” (s. EUROBAROMETER 58, p.18).

Concerning the self-perceived knowledge about the European Union in the Czech Republic an opinion poll conducted by TNS Factum states as follows³: “According to current poll findings, almost one half of the population (46 percent) felt they had insufficient information; one half (51 percent) thought that they did not have at their disposal crucial or important information”.

According to the answers given to the EUROBAROMETER⁴ question as to which topics, related to the EU, the Czechs would like to get more information, the most frequent answer given, other than the EURO (59%) was the European Institutions (58%).

The situation with regard to European Information in the Member States and in the Candidate Countries as discussed above is neither new nor surprising. The European Institutions have developed and implemented different policies and measures to aim at improving the distribution and perception of information on the fields of activities and on the Institutions themselves. Below a rough overview is given over the Communications Strategy for Enlargement⁵ (incl. Progress Report #10⁶) and the “New Framework for Co-operation on Activities concerning the Information and Communication Policy of the European Union”⁷.

2. The Candidate Countries: The Enlargement Communication Strategy

With regard to the importance of the enlargement process and the impact it will have on all citizens of the recent and future Member States, the European Commission has proposed an Enlargement Communication Strategy⁸. The overall budget foreseen for the implementation of the Strategy is € 150 million for the years 2000 to 2006⁹. The main objective is to explain to the citizens in the existing, and the then enlarged Union, the “reasons for enlargement, as well as the benefits it will bring and the challenges it poses”(s. Enlargement Communication Strategy, p.1)¹⁰.

In the Candidate Countries the first and key objective was to improve public knowledge and understanding of the European Union in general. In addition the strategy aims at explaining “the implications of accession for each country” and in particular “the link between the pace of preparations for membership and the progress of the negotiations” (s. Explaining Enlargement, p.4). The focus on more general issues and the raising of awareness for the history, the Institutions and the main policies of the European Union seemed appropriate for the initial phase. After the accession negotiations had progressed, the focus of the strategy changed. Nevertheless the progress report on the strategy delivered in March 2002 states that “despite the amount of information available, [...] many people in both present and future Member States still feel not well informed. This suggests that the targeting of information can be improved.” (Explaining Enlargement, p. 6). To adjust to the changing need for information on the way to accession, the focus was shifted away from general issues, to more pre-accession related issues (e.g. the ISPA and SAPARD programmes), became more specialised (e.g. on free movement on workers) and dealt with the consequences of membership. The strategy developed from a broad information campaign about the EU to an important third track in the enlargement strategy as a whole. The two main fields of activity relating to enlargement were the pre-accession assistance and the ongoing negotiations. The implementation of the strategy is based on the principles of decentralisation, flexibility and the widest possible use of synergies. The application of these principles, and the variety of measures, are illustrated by the following range of activities implemented within the Communication Strategy¹¹:

a. Information Centres

Those Centres function as the main public showcase of EU strategy in the Candidate Countries. The target group of the Information Centres is mainly made up of students, journalists and officials of the public service. In Prague a European Union Information Centre (EUIC) was established in October 1998, and by December 2002 the total number of visitors was 1355, of which 455 attended events hosted by the EUIC¹².

b. Internet

The development and maintenance of websites are accompanying measures provided by the Delegations of the European Commission. With a growing availability of Internet access the usage of these websites has increased. The site of the Prague Delegation, for example, received more than 27.000 visits in October 2001.

c. Regional Information Networks

To meet needs rising outside the capital cities, the EUICs have build up regional networks. In Prague the post of Regional Information Officer was introduced to deal with the regional work. In addition to existing structures, the co-operation between the European Documentation Centres (EDC), are integrated in the Regional Information Networks to make use of existing synergies. The same applies to the public libraries and to the “Team Europe”, which so far consists of ca 50 experts on European issues, who have provided 6 lectures in December 2002¹³.

d. Europe Days

A good example of decentralised events are the Europe Days, usually held on the 9th of May. In co-operation with local authorities or embassies of the Member States, the Delegations of the European Commission organise lectures and discussion on European issues, as well as events for children.

e. Publications

Traditional print publication are an appropriate means of reaching large audiences. Translations into local language of already existing leaflets on the European Union in general are supplemented by smaller facts sheets, tailored to the need of particular audiences¹⁴. In addition there is a role to be played by electronic publications. An example for an electronically distributed newsletter is the Czech language "Week in Europe", which is sent by email to 2000 recipients on a weekly basis.

f. Media Relations

It is important for the Delegations of the European Commission to co-operate with the media on the preparation of information as well as on the dissemination of information. One major aim of the Delegations is the establishment of a reliable partnership with the print media. Radio plays an important role, especially as it reaches remote areas. Television is the most important source of information on the European Union in the Member States¹⁵ as well as in the Candidate Countries¹⁶, and therefore requires special consideration.

g. Relations with Specific Groups

Examples for special relations developed towards certain groups include contacts to, and special efforts towards language minorities, the youth, the church, the elderly, farmers associations, students and the social partners.

h. Cultural Events

Film festivals, like the "Days of European Film" in Prague, are established in the cultural event calendars as the result of extensive co-operations of the embassies, the cultural institutes and the Delegations of the European Commission.

Keeping the immediate future and the upcoming referenda in the Candidate Countries in mind, the Strategy continuously narrows the focus onto specific target groups. Success in this process of defining the needs is sought by answering the question as to at whom a certain measure within the Strategy should be directed, what the important themes are and finally how to best pass on the message.

Of special interest are those groups who are specially effected by the outcome of the accession negotiations, as well as those, who consider themselves as "undecided" concerning the upcoming referendum. A series of CEORG public opinion research carried out from May 2002 to January 2003 illustrates, to what extent the size of this "undecided" group in the Czech Republic has been shrinking. In May 2002¹⁷ for example 21,8% answered that they were undecided with regard to their participation in the referendum, it was only 9,7% in November 2002¹⁸ and only 8,6% remained undecided in January 2003¹⁹. Without trying to link the changes directly to any particular measures, or the overall Enlargement Communication Strategy, it is evident that the figures have significantly changed. Continuous change seems to be an essential characteristic to the Communication Strategy for the Candidate Countries. Concerning the recent Member States the "Framework for Co-operation on Activities Concerning the Information and Communication Policy of the

European Union”²⁰ describes the most important measures in the field of European Information.

3. The Member States: Information and Communication Activities

The communication from the European Commission on “A New Framework for Co-operation on Activities Concerning the Information and Communication Policy of the European Union” offers in its annex “Ways, Means and Evaluation of Information and Communication Activities” an overview over the existing measures implemented by the European Institutions in the field of information and communication. As stated earlier, the EU-15’s citizens’ level of knowledge on the European Union can hardly be considered satisfying²¹. Nevertheless it becomes evident, that the Institutions are providing a rich variety of heterogeneous information, in addition it also becomes clear that the instruments and facilities provided for the distribution of this information are also very elaborate and tailored to the needs of specific customer groups. In this context the channels used by the Institutions²² to distribute information can be placed into three categories; those available to the general public (Europe Direct, Eurojus, Europe by Satellite, EUR-OP), those focusing on special target groups (Training for Journalists, Virtual Press Office, Visits) and those linked to special themes (PRINCE).

Special attention can be drawn in this context to the development of the EUROPA server by the European Commission.

In February 1995 the EUROPA site was launched with the basic aim of providing up-to-date information on recent events and developments. Following the development of Internet technology and the growth of the number of users and amount of information available, the EUROPA server provides information on all fields of activities and all European Institutions. In spring 2002 this portal for European issues includes 60 databases, more than 1,5 million documents and deals with 1,5 million visits per day. Daily updates with contributions from all Institutions and in all eleven official languages are a complex task, not only on a technical, but also on an administrative level.

For the development of databases and interfaces the collection of user requirements is crucial. One method of monitoring the use of the website and keeping the developers informed on the users’ needs is to conduct on-line surveys.

The most recent general survey²³ (dating back to the beginning of 2000) collected the data of 5721 users, who voluntarily participated in the survey.

Out of the 28 tables visualizing the results, only table 17 on the “type of information sought” will be mentioned in this context: With 61% “Current European Union news and affairs” is the most sought after category followed by official documents of the European Union (49%) and European legislation (47%).

These figures indicate that a majority of the users, who participated in the survey, were looking for documents from the decision-making processes or the legislative procedures of the European Institutions.

Another survey, carried out by the Delegation of the European Commission in Germany, points out that only 10% believed that the Treaties - the founding documents to the European Communities and the European Union - could be easily retrieved²⁴. This low opinion of the availability of very well known and essential documents would most likely be even lower, when it comes to the search for highly specialized, and maybe less important documents. On the other hand there is a growing need for consultation of documents from the European Institutions as a result of the growing impact the European Union has on all aspects of the citizens’ lives.

The availability of the World Wide Web gives weight to the idea, that the citizen should have easy and unlimited access to the huge amounts of data and documents already existing on

European issues. And as the number of documents produced by the European Institutions is rapidly and constantly growing, the question arises whether the Institutions themselves should be responsible for providing any information the citizen might request.

Within the general discussion on openness and transparency of the European Institutions, the idea of public access to their documents is definitely not a new one, but nevertheless one of growing importance.

4. Regulation 1049/2001

The first time public access to information (!) of the Institutions is officially mentioned in the context of achieving more transparency and openness, is within “Declaration No. 17 on the right of access to information”²⁵ annexed to the Maastricht Treaty. The Declaration is based on the consideration “that transparency of the decision making process strengthens the democratic nature of the Institutions and the public's confidence in the administration” and therefore recommends “that the Commission submit to the Council no later than 1993 a report on measures designed to improve public access to the information available to the Institutions”.

In December 1993 the Commission and the Council agreed upon a Code of Conduct²⁶ concerning the access to documents, followed by the adoption of a Commission²⁷ and a Council²⁸ Decision on the issue of access to documents of the particular Institution.

The Amsterdam Treaty, signed in October 1997, introduced Article 255 (former Article 191a), which reads in Paragraph 1 as follows: “any citizen of the Union [...] shall have a right of access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents”.

The general principles and limits of this right are at that stage to be determined by the Council within two years after the entering into force of the Treaty of Amsterdam, i.e. two years after the 1st of May 1999, following the co-decision procedure. The first step of this procedure was the drafting of a proposal²⁹ by the Commission. The Council adopted a compromise³⁰ as a result of the co-decision procedure on the 29th of May 2001. As the next step the “Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents” was signed on the 30th and published³¹ on the 31st of May and entered into force on the 3rd of June and has been applicable since the 3rd of December 2001. Within the six months between the entry into force of the Regulation and its applicability, the Institutions were to adjust their internal rules³² to the new principles and limitations to the access of documents.

The Regulation brings some important improvements:

- For the first time there is a common set of rules for the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council.
- The Regulation covers third party documents held by the Institutions (Art. 4.4, 4.5).
- The scope of the Regulation covers all documents drawn up or received by the Institution (Art.2 & 3).
- For reasons of effectiveness all Institutions concerned have to provide a publicly available register of documents to be operational by 3rd of June 2002.
- The deadline for reply to applications for access is reduced to 15 working days.
- The exceptions set out in Art. 4.1-4.3 are applicable only unless there is an overriding public interest in disclosure.
- If only parts of a document are covered by an exception, partial release is possible (Art. 4.6)

In addition the Regulation provides the following definition of “document” (Art.3a):

“document shall mean any content whatever its medium (written on paper or stored in electronic form or as a sound, visual or audiovisual recording) concerning a matter relating to the policies, activities and decisions falling within the Institution's sphere of responsibility”.

Together with the requirement for an application to be made “in a sufficiently precise manner

to enable the Institution to identify the document” (Art.6.1), this raises questions on the distinction between “document” and “information”.

On the national level in the Czech Republic “Act No. 106/1999 Coll. On Free Access to Information” is applicable. This act distinguishes between “published information” and “supporting information”, but requires in Section 14 (3a) that an application needs to be reviewed. If the application is considered incomprehensible, i.e. not clearly indicating what information is being requested, the entity under obligation shall clarify the application. Because in Section 14(3a) does not refer to “published information”, it is not evident, whether applications with general requests for information, i.e. without a clear document reference, would be covered by the act and oblige the entity, to whom the request was made.

General requests for information on European issues should be addressed to one of the contact points mentioned above (and described in COM(2001)354 final). The expertise and experience available there should provide the applicant with the reference to relevant documents (including maybe immediate access to those documents) or even contact details on where to turn to proceed with the request.

“Information” in this context can rather be defined as “(the result of) the process of transfer of knowledge [...], as far as this increase or change in knowledge [...] influences the actions of the recipient”³³.

On the basis of these rather contrary definitions it might be helpful to examine some cases before the Court of Justice, respectively the Court of First Instance, which deal with access to documents³⁴.

5. Information and Documents in Case Law

The Order of the Court of First Instance T-106/99 referring to the Decision 94/40/ECSC, EC, Euratom, clearly distinguishes between a “document” and “information”: “In that respect, it is necessary, for the purposes of applying Decision 94/40, to maintain a distinction between the concept of a document and that of information. None of the provisions in Decision 94/40 or the code of conduct annexed to it, deal with the right of access to information; the right concerned relates exclusively to documents“ (Case T-106/99, Paragraph35).

The case C-353/99 P „Council of the European Union v. Heidi Hautala“ deals with partial access to documents. Even the opinion of Advocat-General Léger contains an interesting aspect, especially since the opinion was given in July 2001, i.e. after the publication of the Regulation on public access to documents. Léger explains that “the distinction between documents and information seems to me to be purely formal“ (Opinion of Advocate General Léger, Paragraph92) and continues: ”It is necessary, therefore, to interpret the concept of the right of access to documents as a right of access to the information contained in the documents.” (Opinion of Advocate General Léger, Paragraph 94).

This position sees the document not only as a limited and in its completeness uniquely identifiable information entity, which is the basis of all administrative action and basically of the working procedures and principles of the Institutions. The right of access to information contained in a document is considered to be included in the right of access to the document, although it can reach in practice far beyond it.

The judgment of the Court in this case C-353/99 P states that “the Council is obliged to examine whether partial access should be granted to the information not covered by the exceptions” (Case C-353/99 Paragraph 31).

The widening of the scope of the right on access to documents leads to practical questions for the Institutions, which are not only facing a growing workload because of the increase of the numbers of applications for access. As the procedure resulting out of the Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 results in complex decisions and distinctions with regard to which part of a

particular document may be disclosed, the feasibility of this administrative process as such may be questioned. The granting of partial access may lead to conflicts with the principle of good administration, e.g. where an onerous workload might lead to a negative decision. When the judgment of the Court C-41/00 P cites the intentions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 as “to guarantee that the administration enjoys greater legitimacy and is more effective” (Case C-41/00 Paragraph 39), however the improvement in effectiveness remains to be shown over time. Maybe the reports, which the Institutions are obliged to deliver in accordance with Article 17 of the Regulation will contribute to further improvement. Until then the following contact details are available for applications for access to documents from the Institutions bound by the Regulation:

- European Commission (Secretariat -General) sg-acc-doc@cec.eu.int
- European Parliament (Register) register@europarl.eu.int
- Council of the European Union (Secretariat -General) access@consilium.eu.int

The larger question, as to whether general inquiries should be answered by the particular Institution on the basis of an obligation arising from the Regulation - and in conformity with the above given definition of information - remains unclear. The different information services and networks provided by the Institutions definitely cover many information needs, the problem with this variety of contact points might just be, that an additional question arises: where do I turn to with my request for information? An answer to that question as such will hardly be found in a Commission, Parliament or Council document.

6. Bibliography

2001/840/EC: COUNCIL DECISION of 29 November 2001 amending the Council's Rules of Procedure
OJ L313 (2001) p.40
http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2001/l_313/l_31320011130en00400043.pdf last visited 10.4.2003

2001/937/EC, ECSC, Euratom: COMMISSION DECISION of 5 December 2001 amending its rules of procedure (notified under document number C(2001) 3714)
OJ L345 (2001) p.94
http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2001/l_345/l_34520011229en00940098.pdf last visited 10.4.2003S

93/730/EG: Code of Conduct concerning the public access to Council and Commission documents
OJ L340(1993) p. 41
http://europa.eu.int/smartapi/cgi/sga_doc?smartapi!celexapi!prod!CELEXnumdoc&lg=en&numdoc=31993X0730&model=guichett last visited 10.4.2003

93/731/EC: Council Decision of 20 December 1993 on public access to Council documents
OJ L340 (1993) p.43
http://europa.eu.int/smartapi/cgi/sga_doc?smartapi!celexapi!prod!CELEXnumdoc&lg=en&numdoc=31993D0731&model=guichett last visited 10.4.2003

94/90/ECSC, EC, Euratom: Commission Decision of 8 February 1994 on public access to Commission documents
OJ L46(1994) p.58
http://europa.eu.int/smartapi/cgi/sga_doc?smartapi!celexapi!prod!CELEXnumdoc&lg=en&numdoc=31994D0090&model=guichett last visited 10.4.2003

Attitudes toward EU Membership in the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland
Central European Opinion Research Group: Brussels, 2002 [December]
http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/opinion/ceorg_111202.pdf last visited: 10.4.2003
Attitudes toward EU Membership in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Russian Federation
Central European Opinion Research Group: Brussels, 2002 [May]
http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/opinion/ceorg_may_survey.pdf last visited: 10.4.2003

Case C-353/99 P (61999J0353)

Judgment of the Court of 6 December 2001.

Council of the European Union v Heidi Hautala.

http://europa.eu.int/smartapi/cgi/sga_doc?smartapi!celexplus!prod!CELEXnumdoc&lg=en&numdoc=61999J0353 last visited 10.4.2003

Case C-41/00 P (61999J0353)

Judgment of the Court of 6 March 2003

Interporc vs Commission.

<http://www.curia.eu.int/jurisp/cgi-bin/form.pl?lang=en&Submit=Submit&docrequire=alldocs&numaff=c-41%2F00&datefs=&datefe=&nomusuel=&domaine=&mots=&resmax=100> last visited 10.4.2003

Case T-106/99 (61999B0106)

Order of the Court of First Instance (Third Chamber) of 27 October 1999.

Karl L. Meyer v Commission of the European Communities.

<http://www.statewatch.org/docbin/caselaw/cfit106-99.html> last visited 10.4.2003

CCEB – Report Number 2002.2 [Candidate Countries EUROBAROMETER]

Public Opinion in the Countries Applying for European Union Membership: Report Number 2002.2 / by the Gallup Organization, Hungary

European Commission, 2002 [December]

http://europa.eu.int/comm/public_opinion/archives/cceb/2002/cceb_2002_en.pdf last visited: 10.4.2003

CCEB – Report Number 2002.2: Annexes [Candidate Countries EUROBAROMETER]

Public Opinion in the Countries Applying for European Union Membership: Annexes to Report Number 2002.2 / by the Gallup Organization, Hungary

European Commission, 2002 [December]

http://europa.eu.int/comm/public_opinion/archives/cceb/2002/cceb_2002_ann.pdf last visited: 10.4.2003

Communication Strategy for Enlargement: s. SEC(2000)737

The Communication Strategy for Enlargement: Progress Report #10 [December 2002] / European Commission [DG Enlargement]

http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/communication/pdf/report_december_2002.pdf last visited 10.4.2003

Consolidated Treaties: Consolidated Versions of the Treaty on the European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications, 1997

Enlargement Poll Monitor: Gallup Europe: Czech Republic

Attitudes towards EU accession in the Czech public

(Face to face survey on quota sample, between 7 and 12 March 2003, by TNS Factum, commissioned by the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

http://www.gallup-europe.be/epm/epm_czechrepublic.htm last visited: 10.4.2003

EU Accession Referenda: High Participation, Growing Support in Poland and the Czech Republic, Decrease of Hungarian Support

Central European Opinion Research Group: Brussels, 2003 [January]

http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/opinion/ceorg_300103.pdf last visited: 10.4.2003

The Euro and beyond: Germans on the Euro, enlargement, and the dialog on Europe's future; Survey carried out for the European Commission's Representation in Germany

Brussels: European Opinion Research Group, 2001

(EUROBAROMETER 2001 – Special Edition)

<http://www.eu-kommission.de/pdf/dokumente/Bericht%20EB%2055.0%20final.pdf> last visited: 10.4.2003

EUROBAROMETER: public opinion in the European Union; Report Number 58 / European Commission

Brussels: DG Press and Communication, 2003

http://europa.eu.int/comm/public_opinion/archives/eb/eb58/eb58_en.pdf last visited 10.4.2003

COM(2000)30: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents

OJ C177E(2000) p.70

<http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2000/ce177/ce17720000627en00700073.pdf> last visited 10.4.2003

COM(2001)299: Amended proposal for a
REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL regarding public access to
European Parliament, Council and Commission documents
OJ C240E(2001) p. 165

http://www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/pdf/2001/en_501PC0299.pdf last visited 10.4.2003

COM(2001)354: Communication from the Commission to the Council, European Parliament, Economic and
Social Committee, the Committee for the Regions on a New Framework for Co-operation on Activities
Concerning the Information and Communication Policy of the European Union

http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/cnc/2001/com2001_0354en01.pdf last visited 10.4.2003

EUROPA: the European Union On-Line, <http://europa.eu.int/> last visited 10.4.2003

CELEX

http://europa.eu.int/celex/htm/celex_en.htm

Enterprise - Euro Info Centers

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/networks/eic/eic.html>

European Consumer Centers (Euroguichet)

http://europa.eu.int/comm/consumers/policy/euroguichets/index_en.html

EUR-Lex - The portal to European Union law

<http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/index.html>

Europe at your fingertips

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/relays/index_en.htm

IPE (Info Point Europa)

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/relays/pdf/ipe%20lists/ipe_en.pdf

European Documentation Centers

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/relays/edc/index_en.htm

Rural Information Carrefours

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/relays/carrefours/index_en.htm

Info-Points Europe

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/relays/ipe/index_en.htm

National Information Centers on Europe

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/relays/centres/index_en.htm

Team Europe Speakers

http://europa.eu.int/comm/relays/teameurope/index_en.htm

Perceptions of the European Union: A Qualitative Study of the Public's Attitudes to and Expectations of the
European Union in the 15 Member States and the 9 Candidate Countries; General Report/ Study by OPTEM
S.A.R.L.

European Commission, June 2001

http://europa.eu.int/comm/governance/areas/studies/optem-report_en.pdf last visited: 10.4.2003

Regulation (EC) 1049/2001 of 30 May 2001, OJ L 145 of 31/05/2001 p.43.

REGULATION (EC) No 1049/2001 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 30
May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents
OJ L 145 of 31/05/2001 p.43.

http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2001/l_145/l_14520010531en00430048.pdf last visited 10.4.2003

SEC(2000)737

Communication Strategy for Enlargement /European Commission

http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/communication/pdf/sec_737_2000_en.pdf last visited: 10.4.2003

Treaty on European Union - Declaration on the right of access to information

Official Journal C 191 , 29/07/1992 p. 0101

http://europa.eu.int/smartapi/cgi/sga_doc?smartapi!celexapi!prod!CELEXnumdoc&lg=EN&numdoc=11992M/A/FI/DCL/17&model=guichett last visited 10.4.2003

¹ Der Beitrag gibt ausschließlich die persönliche Auffassung des Verfassers wieder.

-
- ² Public opinion surveys, regularly conducted by the Directorate-General Press and Communication (Opinion Polls) of the European Commission. For details, s. http://europa.eu.int/comm/public_opinion/ last visited 10.4.2003
- ³ s. Enlargement Poll Monitor: TNS Factum opinion poll, conducted between 7 and 12 March 2003, s. http://www.gallup-europe.be/epm/epm_czechrepublic.htm last visited 10.4.2003
- ⁴ s. CCEB Report Number 2002.2, Annex B.88
- ⁵ s. SEC(2000)737: Communication Strategy for Enlargement http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/communication/pdf/sec_737_2000_en.pdf last visited 10.4.2003
- ⁶ s. Communication Strategy for Enlargement: Progress Report # 10[December 2002] http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/communication/pdf/report_december_2002.pdf last visited 10.4.2003
- ⁷ s. COM(2001)354
- ⁸ s. SEC(2000)737: Communication Strategy for Enlargement, http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/communication/pdf/sec_737_2000_en.pdf last visited 10.4.2003; additional information on the Website: Enlargement: The communication strategy for enlargement; <http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/communication/index.htm> last visited 10.4.2003
- ⁹ For details on the legal basis for the implementation s. Explaining Enlargement, p.5
- ¹⁰ For this paper the focus concerning the Enlargement Communication Strategy is on the Candidate Countries only.
- ¹¹ The list of measures is a summary of the description in Explaining Enlargement, pp. 11-16.
- ¹² s. The Communication Strategy for Enlargement: Progress Report #10, under: Czech Republic>Information Centre; http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/communication/pdf/report_december_2002.pdf last visited 10.4.2003
- ¹³ s. The Communication Strategy for Enlargement: Progress Report #10, under: Czech Republic>Team Europe; http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/communication/pdf/report_december_2002.pdf last visited 10.4.2003
- ¹⁴ For a list of publications in Czech, please s. Explaining Enlargement, pp. 33-34.
- ¹⁵ s. Fig. 2.4, p. 23; Standard EUROBAROMETER 58: "Which sources do people use when they look for information about the EU?" EU15: 69% Television.
- ¹⁶ s. Table 5.7; CCEB Report Number 2002.2, Annex B.86: Preferred Methods of Receiving Information about the European Union: CC-13 /average: 77% Television, Czech Republic: 70% Television.
- ¹⁷ s. Table 1; Attitudes towards EU membership in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and the Russian Federation; http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/opinion/ceorg_may_survey.pdf last visited 10.4.2003
- ¹⁸ s. Table 1; Attitudes towards EU membership in the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland; http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/opinion/ceorg_111202.pdf last visited 10.4.2003
- ¹⁹ s. Table 1; EU Accession Referenda: High Participation, Growing Support in Poland and in the Czech Republic, Decrease Hungarian Support; http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/opinion/ceorg_300103.pdf last visited 10.4.2003
- ²⁰ s. COM(2001)354
- ²¹ s. p.12, Perceptions of the European Union; http://europa.eu.int/comm/governance/areas/studies/optem-report_en.pdf last visited: 10.4.2003.
- ²² For further reading: s. EUROPA server (references under 6. Bibliography: EUROPA)
- ²³ s. Results of the EUROPA on-line survey, http://europa.eu.int/survey/feb-mar00/results/survey_en.htm last visited 10.4.2003
- ²⁴ s. p. 64 in: The Euro and beyond; <http://www.eu-kommission.de/pdf/dokumente/Bericht%20EB%2055.0%20final.pdf> last visited: 10.4.2003
- ²⁵ s. Treaty on European Union - Declaration on the right of access to information annexed to the Final Act of the Treaty on European Union (7. February 1992)
- ²⁶ s. 93/730/EC
- ²⁷ s. 94/40/EGCCS, EC, Euratom
- ²⁸ s. 93/731/EC
- ²⁹ s. COM(2000)30
- ³⁰ s. COM(2001)299
- ³¹ s. COM(2001)1049
- ³² s. 2001/937/EC,ECCS,Euratom and s. 2001/840/EC
- ³³ s. Faculty for Information Science, Saarbrücken; http://is.uni-sb.de/info/profil/index_e.php last visited 10.4.2003
- ³⁴ As there is so far no case law available on Regulation (EC)No.1049/2001, the analysis focuses on the previous Decisions by the Council and the Commission.