



EU online information sources

-A need-to-know offer from the European Union.

The European Union offers a wealth of detailed online information, including online news and information sources regarding the environment.

The main entries are as follows:

EUROPA is the website of the European Union. It offers information on the policies administered by the EU under the powers devoted to it by the Treaties. Users can consult all aspects of legislation currently in force or under discussion and access the websites of each of the EU institutions.

On Europa can also be found:

EUR-Lex provides free access to European Union law in all 20 official languages. The Official Journal of the European Union can be consulted as well as the treaties, legislation, case-law and legislative proposals.

"Summaries of legislation" consists of about 2,500 fact sheets that summarise EU legislation in all policy areas, including **the environment**. The fact sheets are divided into 32 subject areas, which are the activities of the European Union. They cover not only existing measures but also follow-up on legislative proposals. Links to the full length text versions of Decisions, Directives, Regulations and Commission documents are provided, as well as links to other relevant websites. Among other resources and services, from Europa you can also access statistical information provided by **Eurostat** or go to **"Your Voice in Europe"** which is the European Commission's central access point to consultations, discussions and other tools that enable visitors to contribute to the European policy-making process.

The EU Press Room offers press releases and press packages from the European Institutions as well as links to other online resources relevant for media use.

The Europa Newsletter is issued every two weeks and is distributed free of charge by e-mail to subscribers. It features information on issues relating to the EU, new developments on EU websites and forthcoming EU events and activities.

This newsflash is issued by the EECN which is DG Environment's support structure for European Environmental Communication Networks.

Visit the web site of the EECN on:
http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/networks/index_en.htm to learn more about the activities of the networks and read newsflashes previously released.





The European Commission's Audiovisual Service is targeted toward broadcasters, news agencies and the written press. But it is also useful to others who seek to disseminate information on the activities carried out by the EU institutions. It offers a thematic online photo gallery as well as video and audio materials covering European news (live events, stock shots and finished programmes on EU subjects). The material is available on the internet for downloading or viewing (including live streaming).

The EU Bookshop provides online access to publications from all EU institutions. It allows users to search, download copies and/or order publications. Also worth mentioning is the **"Easy Reading corner"** featuring electronic versions of simple booklets on the European Union and the activities carried out, maps, posters and postcards. These products are published in the 20 official languages of the EU. Printed copies can be obtained from the many EU Info Points and Commission Representations free of charge.

Environmental information is available on all of the websites mentioned above, but is best accessed via the environment section of **"Activities of the European Union"**. Here, the visitor can find links to the relevant legislative summaries, documentation and legal texts on EUR-Lex. From here the European Commission's web pages maintained by **DG Environment** can also be accessed as well as the website of **the European Environment Agency**.

On the DG Environment's website information and documentation on the environmental policies and activities of the Commission can be found. Interesting resources include an online version of the newsletter **"Environment for Europeans"** which also offers users an option to subscribe. The EEA site hosts a wealth of environmental reports, indicators, maps and graphs.

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