



The Library of the European Parliament

Seminar for EDC, 3-5 December 2013



The Library of the European Parliament

Seminar for EDC, 3-5 December 2013

who we are

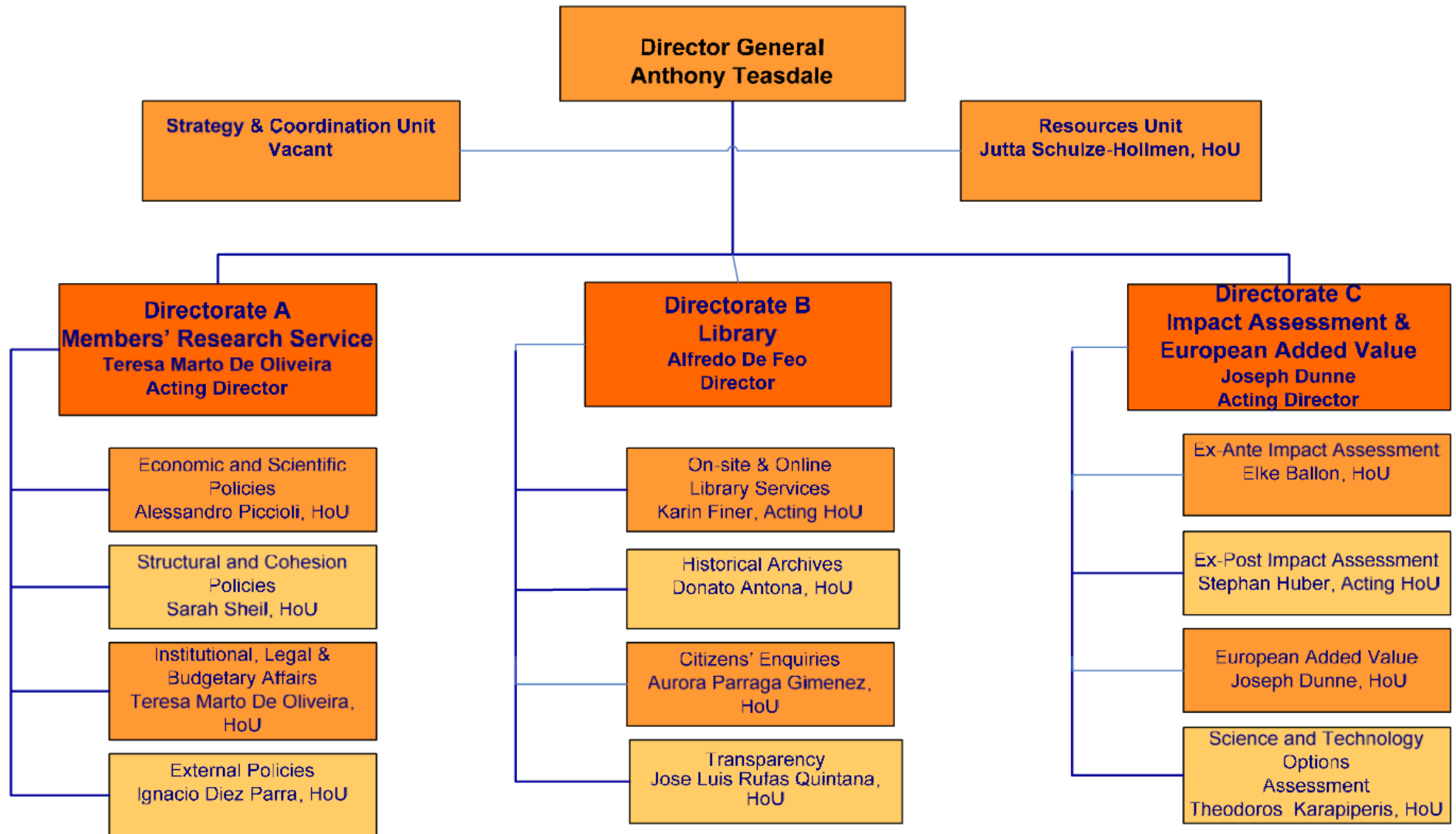
EPRS

130 colleagues:

- 40% Information Specialists
- 13% Information Officers
- 25% Research Analysts



Directorate-General for Parliamentary Research Services





how we work

our clients

"traditional" library work:

- 70.000 books & e-books
- 1.100 periodicals
- 70 databases
- answering requests
- proactive work

products

- Keysources and Navigators
- Briefings, Summaries
- Statistical spotlights
- we try to stay innovative

Legal Affairs

Locked collections: copyright and the future of research support [\[Edit\]](#)

Latest analyses [Helmut Masson](#) posted on 04 December 2013

Article, by D. R. Jones Social Science Research Network (SSRN), 18.11.2014. You have to login (for free) to read the whole article "Researchers in institutions of higher education depend on access to the scholarly record, and academic libraries play a critical role in supporting this research. As academic collections shift to primarily electronic format, research support is in jeopardy. Copyright holders, through the use of licensing and contracts to control electronic works, limit or prohibit interlibrary loan and other means of research support. As predominantly digital library collections increase, libraries may find that they have locked collections. They will be unable to lend or to borrow. This article examines how increased reliance on e-collections impacts the ability of academic libraries to support research and explores and assesses various approaches to ensure research support. The article urges that libraries actively pursue agreements that reinforce their mission to support the creation, dissemination and preservation of knowledge. At the same time, libraries must be agents of change, serving as active participants in the transformation of the scholarly communication system." [More >>](#)

Classification : [HIGHER EDUCATION](#) | [LIBRARIES](#) | [INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY](#)

Countries :

Revision of lisbon Treaty seen by some as discriminatory to national system [\[Edit\]](#)

Latest analyses [Helmut Masson](#) posted on 04 December 2013

About

Committee: [Legal Affairs \(JURI\)](#)
Subject: [Legal & Institutional Affairs \(LEGA\)](#)
Managed by: [Helmut Masson](#) , [Irene Hennigan](#)

Categories

[Library Briefings](#)

[Library Keysources](#)

[Library Navigators](#)

[Library Summaries](#)

[Latest analyses](#)

[Library Alerts](#)

[Other](#)



Common European Sales Law



© rukanoga / Fotolia.

On 11th October 2011, the Commission published its proposal for a Regulation on an optional Common European Sales Law (CESL) see procedure [2011/0284\(COD\)](#). The Commission believes this

will help break down barriers to trade for both traders and consumers making it less costly and complicated to trade within the EU and provide consumers with a greater choice, lower prices and a higher level of protection. The purpose of the optional Common European Sales law is to offer a single set of rules for cross-border contracts in all 27 EU, which will exist alongside the current national regimes. This dossier presents a selection of material, including analysis on the content of the proposed Regulation, the issues of concern and stakeholder viewpoints and opinions.

For further information on European Contract Law please consult the Library Keysource on [Contract Law](#).

Overviews

[Common European Sales Law \(CESL\): commentary](#) / Schulze, Reiner, München: C. H. Beck [etc.], 2012, 780p.

This new work by one of Germany's most well-known and respected private law scholars, seeks to present a complete and coherent view of the subject from the perspective of the jurisdiction which has arguably had more responsibility than any other for influencing the shape and content of European contract law.

Workshops at the European Parliament

Workshop on proposal for a Common European Sales Law:

- Unfair contract terms, 31.05.2012
- Remedies, 19.06.2012
- Restitution and Prescription, 10.07.2012
- Interparliamentary Committee Meeting - Workshop - CESL: Taking stock after a year - 27 November 2012

Scroll down to find all publications, reports and documents on the Common European Sales law from the website of EP Policy Department C.

Special issue of the Common Market Law Review 50: 1-2, 2013

This special issue of the Common Market Law Review convenes contributions to the conference "A Law and Economics Approach to European Contract Law" held at the University of Chicago Law School at 27-28 April 2012. The contributors, both European and US scholars, examine various aspects of the Commission's Proposal for a Regulation on a Common European Sales Law from a law-and-economic viewpoint in the 18 articles included in this special issue.

Stakeholder views

[Common European sales law detailed appraisal by the EP Impact Assessment Unit of the European Commission's impact assessment](#) / European Parliament Impact Assessment Unit, Policy Dept. publication PE 494.447, 2013

This note analyses the Impact Assessment (IA) accompanying the Commission Proposal for a Regulation on a Common European Sales Law from a methodological point of view, without dealing with the substance of the proposal. In general, the IA seems to respect the methodological requirements the Commission has imposed upon itself in its Impact Assessment Guidelines. The problems to be addressed by the proposed legislation are clearly explained, related to the underlying problem drivers and logically presented. The set of



Combating unfair commercial practices

SUMMARY Consumers in the Internal Market cannot always count on an honest stance from all enterprises. Prior to the adoption of the [Unfair Commercial Practices Directive](#) ('UCPD') in 2005, regulation to deal with such practices was partly at national level, and partly harmonised at EU level.

The UCPD provides for full (maximum) harmonisation, which means that Member States are no longer allowed to introduce or maintain a higher level of consumer protection rules in this area of the law.

The UCPD contains a general ban on unfair practices, as well as specific rules addressing various types of such practices. Furthermore, a 'black list' of unfair practices is annexed to the Directive.

The UCPD seeks to protect the 'average EU consumer', taking into account practices addressed at specific groups of consumers, as well as the need for special protection of vulnerable persons such as children.

Not all Member States implemented the UCPD on time, and the regulatory techniques used in national legal systems vary to a significant degree.

Despite that, in its 2013 communication the Commission has expressed satisfaction with the effects of the UCPD. It sees opportunities to enhance its enforcement in closer cooperation with national authorities including through greater monitoring of their activity.



© Danijel Voglar / Fotolia

In this briefing:

- Background
- Unfair Commercial Practices Directive
- Implementation and enforcement
- Evaluation
- Further reading

Background

Unfair commercial practices

Not all businesses behave fairly towards consumers. Unfair commercial practices, such as providing misleading information, exerting pressure or behaving aggressively are a problem not only for consumers but also for those other undertakings which do operate fairly.

EU Member States (MS) have attempted to combat such practices in their national laws, especially in competition and contract law. However, this has resulted in the emergence of divergent standards which, in practice, amount to barriers both for consumers (who do not know what kind of protection they can count on in another MS) and for undertakings (which need to adapt their commercial practices to every MS). For example, Luxembourg banned doorstep selling and Sweden completely banned advertisements addressed to minors.¹

In order to remove such obstacles to the functioning of the internal market, the EU legislature had both to deregulate (on the national level) and re-regulate (at EU level) prohibitions of unfair commercial practices.²

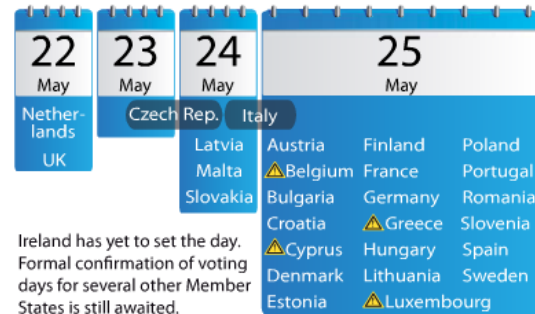
Consumer protection before the UCPD

Prior to the adoption of the [Unfair Commercial Practices Directive](#) (UCPD) in 2005, the EU protected consumers against unfair commercial practices only through a sectoral approach.³ Thus it addressed the issue of unfair practices either with regard to specific types of contracts (e.g. timesharing



2014 European elections: national rules

Election day



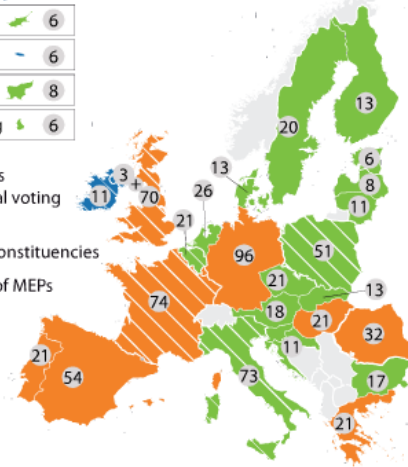
Ireland has yet to set the day.
Formal confirmation of voting days for several other Member States is still awaited.

▲ Compulsory voting

Voting system and number of MEPs

Cyprus	6
Malta	6
Slovenia	8
Luxembourg	6

- Closed lists
- Preferential voting
- STV
- Multiple constituencies
- 96 Number of MEPs



Voting from abroad

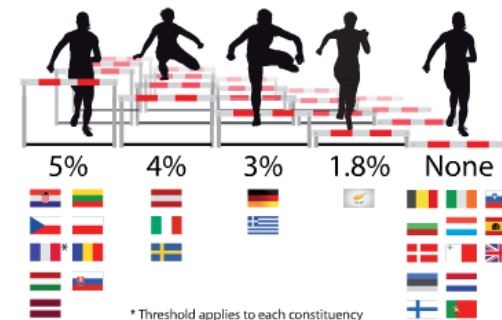
Austria	By post
Belgium	By post
Bulgaria	Embassy
Croatia	Embassy
Cyprus	Embassy
Czech Republic	Embassy
Denmark	By post
Estonia	By post
Finland	Embassy
France	By post
Germany	By post
Greece	Embassy
Hungary	Embassy
Ireland	NOT POSSIBLE
Italy	Embassy
Latvia	By post
Lithuania	Embassy
Luxembourg	By post
Malta	NOT POSSIBLE
Netherlands	By post
Poland	Embassy
Portugal	By post
Romania	Embassy
Slovakia	NOT POSSIBLE
Slovenia	By post
Spain	By post
Sweden	By post
United Kingdom	By post

- By post
- Embassy
- Proxy
- E-voting

Minimum age of candidates



Electoral threshold



* Threshold applies to each constituency



important projects in recent years

marketing

- knowing our clients
- making ourselves known

"new concept"

- getting closer to our clients
- creating value for the MEPs
- increasing the accessibility



our future

- becoming a fully' fledged EPRS
- re-thinking our work & staying innovative
- 2014 elections
- technological progress





The Library of the European Parliament

Seminar for EDC, 3-5 December 2013

where to find our products



<http://www.europarl.europa.eu>



<https://www.facebook.com/LibraryOfTheEuropeanParliament>



<http://libraryeuroparl.wordpress.com/>



<https://twitter.com/EuroparlLibrary>



The Library of the European Parliament

Seminar for EDC, 3-5 December 2013