



ANNEX 1 KOEL SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

‘Knowledge Online on European Legislation’ (KOEL) is an information system part of the Knowledge Management Strategy in DG FISMA. The tool is used to centralise and increase knowledge on legislation, particularly regarding the DG's acquis, pre-planning, aggregation and follow-up of the adoption processes of implementing and delegated acts (tertiary legislation), legal and reporting obligations and others.

It was initially developed in 2009 as a system to allow citizens and Member States to ask questions and receive answers on internal market legislation. Further developments were done in 2015 in order to incorporate features to allow a decentralised management of the status of adoption of tertiary legislation, as well as the management of the acquis of DG FISMA.

From that point onwards, KOEL has evolved with diverse functionalities aimed at expanding the users' knowledge about different aspects of legislation, sharing information by default and maintaining this knowledge and information up to date. These functionalities include the management of legal and reporting obligations, the possibility to attach documents and comments to provisions of legal acts and the automatic exchange of information from and to other information systems such as Decide, RegDel, Ares and Eur-Lex.

KOEL helps users to share information in a more efficient and safer way, as well as reducing the time invested in tasks that could easily be automatized. An example of these are the Excel files used to have an overview of the legislative acquis across a DG, to manage legal and reporting obligations, or to follow-up on the adoption process of tertiary legislation. Those Excel files rely on cumbersome manual updates and have several drawbacks, such as: risks of leaks of sensitive information; difficulty or non-traceability of modifications; risks of duplication of data in multiple, unrelated files; and lack of guarantees that the information is up-to-date. Also, the Excel files could easily get corrupted.

KOEL, conversely, offers features to trace legal and reporting obligations in basic acts and the tertiary legislation stemming from them, in a database that is safe, authenticated, reliable, and backed-up every hour. Automatic updates from Decide, RegDel and Eur-Lex, help maintaining the accuracy and relevance of the data, so it can be used to build reports, send notifications and track the state-of-play of different procedures, among other information.

Also, the data in KOEL can be used to produce information and knowledge for other information systems. Some examples of these are: the list of the acquis is used to build the inventory of legislative acts which is sent yearly to SG and the draft delegated and implementing acts produced by the regulatory agencies, which can automatically be exchanged with the RegDel database.

Also, KOEL allows a diverse range of features oriented to knowledge management on legislation. Some of these are: the ability to produce commented versions of the legislative texts; the exchange of information with inter-institutional databases, such as RegDel and the automatic detection and import of relevant case-law.

KOEL is a “one-stop shop” for knowledge on legislation, where both users and managers can find all the data relating to their DG's acquis.

Finally, the use of KOEL potentially introduces great benefit to the policy process of any DG by reducing the burden on communication and coordination units and reducing the risk of publishing information that is either wrong or outdated, as well as avoiding the risk of leaks of sensitive information.