LexisLibrary: finding EU and overseas material

Access
Lexis can be accessed on and off campus by going to the eLibrary section of the Library website, and then to A-Z Databases & Online Resources where it can be found via an A-Z list.

EU LAW

Treaties, Preparatory Documents and Legislation
To access this material, from the Lexis Home page click on the ‘Legislation’ tab. On the left-hand side of the Legislation search screen select International Legislation.

Treaties
To search for ‘EU Treaties’ select this option from the Sources drop-down list.

Next, click on Browse on the left-hand side of the page and click the ‘+’ buttons, to ‘drill down’ to the treaty you are looking for.

Directives, decisions and regulations
Within the International Legislation search screen, select ‘All subscribed European Sources’ from the Sources drop-down list.

- For directives, using the Search terms box, enter the number of the directive, e.g. 94/45/EC, and for regulations the number and year e.g. 3320/94

To find the document you require, use the Source name box within the Results screen to navigate to the correct source type.

Preparatory Documents
This part of the database includes proposals, reports, notices, communications and opinions of institutions within the EU (including the OJ C series). It is possible to either Search or Browse across these documents. Within International Legislation select ‘EU Materials’ from the Sources drop down box.
EU Case Law
To search for cases heard before the Court of Justice of the European Union and the General Court, select the Cases tab and then click on International Cases on the left hand side of the screen. Select ‘EU Cases’ from the Sources drop down box. If searching by party name use the Case name search box, if searching by case number e.g. C-158/07, use the Citation search box. For subject searches, use the Search terms box.

It is also possible to choose the Browse option from the left-hand side of the International Cases search screen. ‘Drill down’ until you reach document level and then select the case reference to view it in full. In the example below, clicking on CJEU 25.01.2016 C-622/15 below would retrieve the full-text opinion for this case.

US LAW
Legislation
To access US legislation, from the Lexis home page click on Sources at the top of the screen, and then on Browse Sources. Select the ‘United States’ from the Country drop-down list, and if you wish to access the US Code, Constitution, Federal Rules etc, select ‘US Federal All’ from the ‘All Regions’ drop-down list. Alternatively click on the name of a state to find material for that state.

Next, select Legislation (under Publication type), and for Federal material, it is then possible to either search USCS - the United States Code Service, or browse it (browsing is a good way of locating the Constitution) by selecting the Public Laws folder.

Cases
Select the Cases tab and then click on International Cases on the left-hand side of the screen. Select either: ‘Federal Court Cases, Combined’ or ‘Federal & State Court Cases, Combined’ and then search by party name using the Case name box.
To find a known article in an American journal:

From the Home page, click on Sources. This should take you through to the Find Sources screen. Enter the journal title into the Find a Source box on the right hand side of the screen, and click on <Go>.

A list of matching titles will appear, select the one you want by ‘checking’ the box next to its title, and then on <OK – Continue>. This will take you to the General Search screen.

To find your article, enter the author surname followed by one or two words from the title, linking the terms with an "and" - e.g. *persily and law and census*.

To read the full article, click on the article citation (blue link).

To search by subject
To search across a large number of journals at the same time, from the Lexis Home page, click on the Journals tab. On the left-hand of the search screen select International Journals.

From the Sources drop-down menu select ‘Law Reviews, CLE, Legal Journals & Periodicals, Combined’.

To find articles on a particular subject, enter your keyword(s). You can combine these in a variety of ways to refine your search. To make the most of connectors click on the Search tips link underneath the Search terms box.

OTHER OVERSEAS JURISDICTIONS
For some Commonwealth countries, cases & legislation can be accessed via the International Cases & International Legislation links. Alternatively, from the Lexis Home page - click on the Sources link, followed by Browse Sources. Select the country you wish to find information for from the drop-down list. Select the Publication Type and then the source(s) you wish to search across by ‘checking the box next to the title(s), and finally click on <OK – Continue> on the right of the screen. You will be taken to a search screen where you can carry out a keyword search.

Saving results
Once in the full text of a result, at the top of the screen you’re given the option to print, save or email your result. Alternatively, you can add the result to the My Documents folder. This allows you to wait until later in your session before you save, email or print a number of documents at the same time. (Please note that if you accidentally close Lexis before saving your results, they will not be there the next time you login.)