



# Promoting European Documentation Centers (EDCs) in Academic Institutions.

Workgroup: Best practices of EDCs fostering academic cooperation

Annual **General Meeting**  
Europe Direct Information Networks

Athens 8-10 Oct.2008



European Institute of Cyprus



EUROPE  
DIRECT

INFORMATION NETWORK

European Documentation Center



# European Documentation Centers (EDCs)

## Definition:

European Documentation Centers belongs to the network of information centers which were established by the European Union in 1963 to support study, teaching and research at university level. They contain official publications and documents of the institutions of the European Union.





## Services

- **Assistance to research**
- **Promoting awareness on issues related to the activities of the EU & developments in Europe in general**
- **Electronic access to EU Databases.**
- **Professional Guidance to EU information.**
- **Information provision through EU Documents in printed format.**
- **Depositories of the official Documents of the EU.**
- **Cooperation with other EU Information Centers.**





# Collections

- Books
- Official Publications of EU
- Periodicals/Series
  - Reports (Annual & General)
  - Documents ([Official Journal of the European Communities](#))
  - Official Newspapers
- CD-ROMS
- Electronic Databases
- Newsletters
- Maps



# Full EDCs Subject Categories

- [Agriculture and Fisheries](#)
- [Business and Economy](#)
- [Citizenship and Human Rights](#)
- [Consumer policy](#)
- [Culture](#)
- [Education, Training and Youth](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [Energy](#)
- [Enlargement](#)
- [Environment](#)
- [Euro](#)
- [External Relations](#)
- [Funding](#)
- [Government](#)
- [Information Society](#)
- [Internal Market](#)
- [Justice and Home Affairs](#)
- [Media](#)
- [Regional Policy](#)
- [Research and Development](#)
- [Social Policy](#)





# EDCs in Academic Institutions

## Aims to:

- Provide information and Data for Research
- Provide information related to EU matters from official EU resources.
- Familiarize the Academic Community with the EDCs' services
- Educate the Academic Community how to search, retrieve and evaluate the EU information.
- Update information to the Academic Community about the EU proceedings.





## What are the Universities' expectations from EDCs?

### ➤ **Research**

The ability to provide qualitative information about EU matters from official EU sources which reflect the interest of the Universities' research areas

### ➤ **Assistance**

The EDC's staff must be able to provide directional assistance to the users through the European Databases (search methods, retrieve results, evaluation of information,...). A virtual tour through EU Databases would be a useful tool for the users

### ➤ **Update**

Constant update with new acquisitions (publication lists) via webpage, emails, newsletters, articles and information leaflets.



## Why should a University follow the EDC's bibliography?

- The EDC's bibliographic material is directly related to the official information of each EU Institutions – provision of printed or digitized documents.
- Under the status of the official EU documentation they are likely to interest the Academic Community in various subjects e.g. environment, social-economic policy etc.







## The Description of the information provided by EDCs

### ➤ **Reliable**

The editorship of each information given to the public represents the opinions and/or positions of the EU Institutions

### ➤ **Flexible**

The EDCs documents provide additional information which might be useful for retrospective research (citations, titles of previous publications etc)

### ➤ **Updated**

The publication frequency varies as to the subject coverage of each document.

### ➤ **Specialization**

Specialized information can be located in official publications (Directives, Treaties, COM Documents, EU policies, ...)

### ➤ **Open Access**

Freely available to everyone in printed format and also accessible from the EU Databases in digitized format.

### ➤ **Available in multiple languages**

Useful for Academic Institutions hosting foreign students from various European countries.





## Ways to promote EDCs to Academic Institutions

- Direct Communication with the Academic Staff
- Regular meetings
- Training seminars
- Insertion of a list with the latest acquisitions at the website
- Email Alerts with the latest acquisitions





## Methods to promote EDCs to Academic Institutions

- The Academic staff should be aware of the EDCs' services
- The EDC's staff must constantly update the Academic Community regarding the existing and potential acquisitions in order to achieve an effective information flow.
- The EDC staff should be aware of the content of each course (syllabus) especially the ones dealing with European Studies in order to provide recommended readings to the students which might be useful to fulfill their educational needs.
- At this point the cooperation between the EDC and the Teaching staff is vital for the preparation of the most effective bibliography according to each course's educational and/or research needs.





# Implementation

In Cyprus there is only one EDC hosted by the European Institute of Cyprus (a non Academic Institution)

[www.eicy.eu](http://www.eicy.eu).

## **Steps for Organizing the Network between EDCs and Universities:**

- **Creation of a coordination group (EDC Staff).**
- **Communication and visualization of activities and other supporting tools (meetings, annual reports, promotional leaflets, website, ...)**
- **Public relations and meetings with Academics (brief about the EDC services)**
- **training seminars in order to help the Academic community adjust with the EDC services in practice (search, retrieve, evaluate and promote information about EU)**
- **Organization of joint projects**





# Promoting our role in the Academic Institutions

## Our principles:

- An EDC should be visible not only to the hosting Institution but also in all educational institutions (e.g. Universities) of its region.
- We realize that the Academic world is a much more demanding community due to the strict rules of the information given in the research area.
- The information related to EU matters is particularly applicable in all kinds of studies and should be provided upon an in-depth analysis.





# EDCs and Academic Institutions

EDCs



Universities



## Connectors

EDC Staff

Faculty

Training Seminars

Regular orientations

Joint Projects

Constant updates/alerts

Communication policy





# During the training seminars...

- Detailed presentation of the EDC's electronic catalogue.
- Collections (Monographs, Journals, CD-ROMS,...)
- Access and use of EU Databases
- Correlation between the Academic's information needs and the EDC's services.
- Joint activities and projects between EDCs with other relays such as Europe Direct.

Target groups: Students, Academics, researchers and general public





# EDC's Electronic Catalogue

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF CYPRUS  
Library / European Documentation Center  
ABEKT Z39.50-1995: Search-Retrieval Results

[Search](#) [Scan Term](#) [Marked Records](#) [Search History](#) [Database Selection](#) [Help](#)

► Database: (  Main Catalogue )

[Simple Search](#) [Medium Search](#) [Advanced Search](#)

**Search Term** Enter the search term

Any  Title  Author  Subject heading

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## Results and available options

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF CYPRUS  
Library / European Documentation Center  
ABEKT Z39.50-1995: Search-Retrieval Results

Search Results | Search | Scan Term | Marked Records | Search History | Database Selection | Help

► Database: ( [i](#) Main Catalogue (16) )  
► Query: ( Any="eurobarometer" )  
► Total Hits Found: ( 16 )

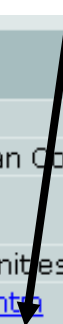
► New Set: 1-10  [Previous 10 Records](#)

► Mark All | Clear All **Bibliographic Data**

<input type="checkbox"/> Hit 11	Serial Language materials, printed	Main Catalogue
<b>Record Identifier:</b> 007415		
<b>Title:</b> Eurobarometer : Public opinion in the European Union / European Commission		
<b>Author:</b> COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES European Commission		
<b>Published:</b> Brussels : Office for official publications of the European Communities, 2001		
<b>Electronic Location and Access:</b> <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/eb/eb55/eb55_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/eb/eb55/eb55_en.htm</a> <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm</a>		
Tagged Display      Brief Labeled Display ✓      Full Labeled Display		

Hit 12      Serial  
Language materials, printed      Main Catalogue

Electronic location from which the users can access the EU Database and see the Document's digitized format (full text)





EUROBAROMETER

## Eurobarometer surveys

### Eurobarometer Interactive Search System

This section of the website gives you access to the search tool for our Trends questions database.

Standard EB  
Special EB  
CCEB  
Flash EB

### Qualitative studies

The qualitative studies provide an in-depth study of the motivations, the feelings and the reactions of selected social groups towards a given subject or concept...

### Archives

Standard reports, former central and eastern Eurobarometer, continuous tracking surveys ...

## Standard Eurobarometer 55

Fieldwork: April-May 2001  
Publication: October 2001

Issue No.

### Highlights

Report	Format	Language
<a href="#">Report</a> (text and graphs)	[541 kb]	en
<a href="#">Annexes</a>	[826 kb]	en

Report	Format	Language
<a href="#">German version</a>	[651 kb]	de

Downloadable formats





## Room for Improvement

- Feedback from Users (questionnaires to students, electronic post via the website)
- Evaluation of the EDC's services by the faculty, based on the progress made in various studies and/or researches.
- Internal evaluation through Performance Management and Quality Control
- Cooperation with other information Centers and support form other relays (Europe Direct, Team Europe, ...)
- Good and effective communication with all Academic Institutions
- Joint Projects





# Thank you for your attention!



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