



European Commission

DG Enterprise and Industry

# The importance for SMEs of access to e-Business legal information

*Enrique de ARESTI GUTIERREZ*  
*Administrator*  
*DG Enterprise and Industry D.4*  
*ICT for Competitiveness and Innovation*



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## e-Business Regulatory system (1)

3 levels of regulation:

- International
- EU
- National



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## e-Business Regulatory system (2)

5 different sources of regulation in each level:

- International treaties and legislation
- Case law
- Administrative practice
- Technical standards
- Self-regulatory codes of conduct



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## Importance

### of e-Business legal information

- In B2C contracts, the national law of the habitual residence of the consumer applies.
- Therefore, an enterprise doing business in the European Internal Market, needs to be aware the national regulatory system of all Member States where it operates.



## Generalist EU legal databases

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### **Eur-Lex:**

- Community legislation and case law (full text).
- National Legislation implementing Community legislation (titles).

### **N-Lex:**

- Common interface to National legislation in 23 Member States



## Commission e-Business thematic pages (1)

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- Electronic Commerce Directive
- Payment services:
- Services Directive
- Electronic public procurement
- Intellectual property:



## Commission e-Business thematic pages (2)

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- Dispute prevention: Unfair practices in B2B, Codes of Conduct
- Dispute resolution: Judicial and Alternative systems.
- Consumer protection
- Value Added Tax (VAT)



## Commission e-Business thematic pages (3)

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- Personal data protection (privacy and spam)
- Fight against cybercrime
- Protection of minors in the Internet
- .eu Top Level Domain
- Competition policy



## Commission e-Business thematic pages (4)

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- Electronic authentication
- Electronic signatures
- Interoperability of e-Government services
- ICT Standardization
- Electronic Market Places



## Most interesting topics for enterprises

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- How to set up a shop in the Internet
- Security for payments and personal data (spam)
- VAT and e-Invoicing
- B2B and B2C contracts (withdrawal, guarantee for the conformity)
- Alternative dispute resolution



## DG ENTR help to Lexelerator

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- Provision of links to Europa webpages
- Provision of an instantaneous information feed from its own webpages (RSS)



## Good luck to Lexelerator!

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- An easy to use information tool is needed by EU SMEs
- We wish to Lexelerator a lot of success!



## Further Information

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DG ENTR/D4 web site:

<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/ict>

E-mail: [entr-ict-for-comp-and-innovation@ec.europa.eu](mailto:entr-ict-for-comp-and-innovation@ec.europa.eu)