

# Including uAPI header files

Sometimes, it is useful to include header files and C example codes in order to describe the userspace API and to generate cross-references between the code and the documentation. Adding cross-references for userspace API files has an additional vantage: Sphinx will generate warnings if a symbol is not found at the documentation. That helps to keep the uAPI documentation in sync with the Kernel changes. The `.ref: parse_headers.pl <parse_headers>` provide a way to generate such cross-references. It has to be called via Makefile, while building the documentation. Please see [Documentation/userspace-api/media/Makefile](#) for an example about how to use it inside the Kernel tree.

**System Message: ERROR/3** (D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\linux-master\Documentation\doc-guide\ (linux-master) (Documentation) (doc-guide)parse-headers.rst, line 5); *backlink*

Unknown interpreted text role "ref".

## parse\_headers.pl

### NAME

parse\_headers.pl - parse a C file, in order to identify functions, structs, enums and defines and create cross-references to a Sphinx book.

### SYNOPSIS

**parse\_headers.pl** [**<options>**] **<C\_FILE>** **<OUT\_FILE>** [**<EXCEPTIONS\_FILE>**]

Where **<options>** can be: **--debug**, **--help** or **--usage**.

### OPTIONS

#### **--debug**

Put the script in verbose mode, useful for debugging.

#### **--usage**

Prints a brief help message and exits.

#### **--help**

Prints a more detailed help message and exits.

### DESCRIPTION

Convert a C header or source file (**C\_FILE**), into a ReStructured Text included via `..parsed-literal` block with cross-references for the documentation files that describe the API. It accepts an optional **EXCEPTIONS\_FILE** with describes what elements will be either ignored or be pointed to a non-default reference.

The output is written at the (**OUT\_FILE**).

It is capable of identifying defines, functions, structs, typedefs, enums and enum symbols and create cross-references for all of them. It is also capable of distinguish `#define` used for specifying a Linux ioctl.

The **EXCEPTIONS\_FILE** contain two types of statements: **ignore** or **replace**.

The syntax for the **ignore** tag is:

**ignore** **type** **name**

The **ignore** means that it won't generate cross references for a **name** symbol of type **type**.

The syntax for the **replace** tag is:

**replace** **type** **name** **new\_value**

The **replace** means that it will generate cross references for a **name** symbol of type **type**, but, instead of using the default replacement rule, it will use **new\_value**.

For both statements, **type** can be either one of the following:

#### **ioctl**

The **ignore** or **replace** statement will apply to **ioctl** definitions like:

```
#define VIDIOC_DBG_S_REGISTER_IOW('V', 79, struct v4l2_dbg_register)
```

## **define**

The ignore or replace statement will apply to any other #define found at C\_FILE.

## **typedef**

The ignore or replace statement will apply to typedef statements at C\_FILE.

## **struct**

The ignore or replace statement will apply to the name of struct statements at C\_FILE.

## **enum**

The ignore or replace statement will apply to the name of enum statements at C\_FILE.

## **symbol**

The ignore or replace statement will apply to the name of enum value at C\_FILE.

For replace statements, **new\_value** will automatically use :c.type: references for **typedef**, **enum** and **struct** types. It will use ref: for **ioctl**, **define** and **symbol** types. The type of reference can also be explicitly defined at the replace statement.

## **EXAMPLES**

ignore define \_VIDEODEV2\_H

Ignore a #define \_VIDEODEV2\_H at the C\_FILE.

ignore symbol PRIVATE

On a struct like:

```
enum foo { BAR1, BAR2, PRIVATE };
```

It won't generate cross-references for **PRIVATE**.

replace symbol BAR1 :c.type: `foo` replace symbol BAR2 :c.type: `foo`

On a struct like:

```
enum foo { BAR1, BAR2, PRIVATE };
```

It will make the BAR1 and BAR2 enum symbols to cross reference the foo symbol at the C domain.

## **BUGS**

Report bugs to Mauro Carvalho Chehab <[mchehab@kernel.org](mailto:mchehab@kernel.org)>

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