

Problem Statement

- X Lawyers must cite relevant **ECLI case law** in **legal advice letters**.
- X Inconsistent metadata and **keywords** weaken search quality.
- X Existing tools make finding the right cases **slow** and **frustrating**.

Solution



Terminology

- European Case Law Identifier (ECLI)**: uniform identifier for judicial decisions
Legal Advice Letter: provides concise, practical guidance to support informed decisions.

Persona

Background

25 y.o. recent law graduate
Tech savvy but small previous experience
Working in a high stress environment.
Lots of expectations and deadlines

Maggie

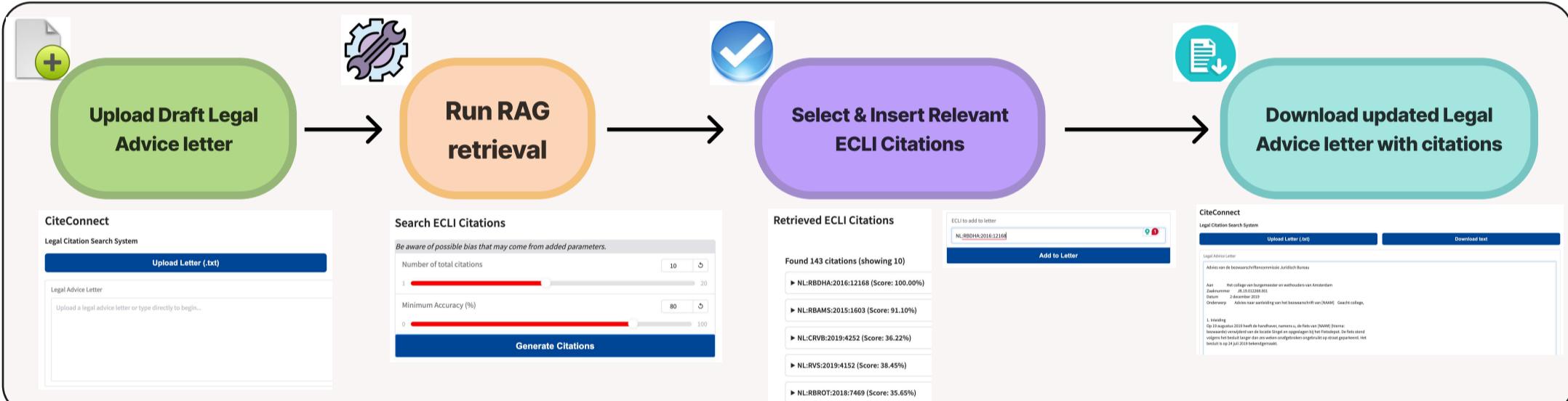
Motivation & Frustrations

Looking for a support system that saves her time and introduces new perspectives
Current citation system is old and time-wasting

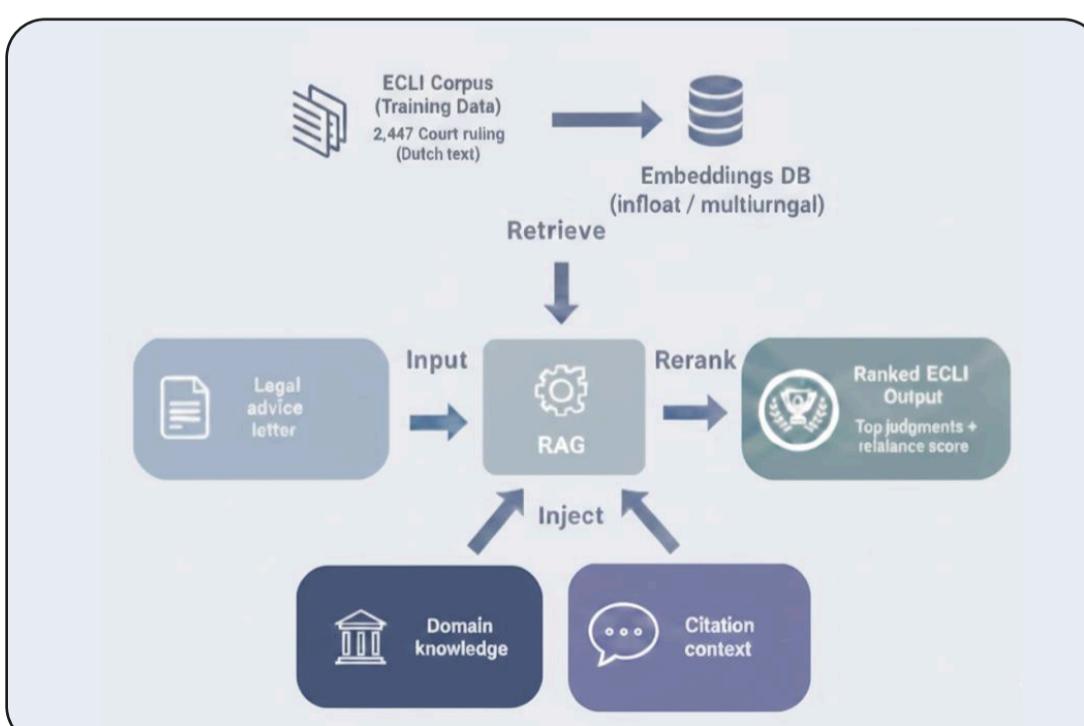
Key App Features

- **RAG**-based citation suggestions with: **summary** · **verdict** · **law** · **date** · **link** · **relevance score**
- **Sorted results**
- **Import & export**: upload draft letter, add citations, download updated version
- Personalization through configurable retrieval and ranking **parameters**.
- Help / guidance buttons for onboarding and **support**

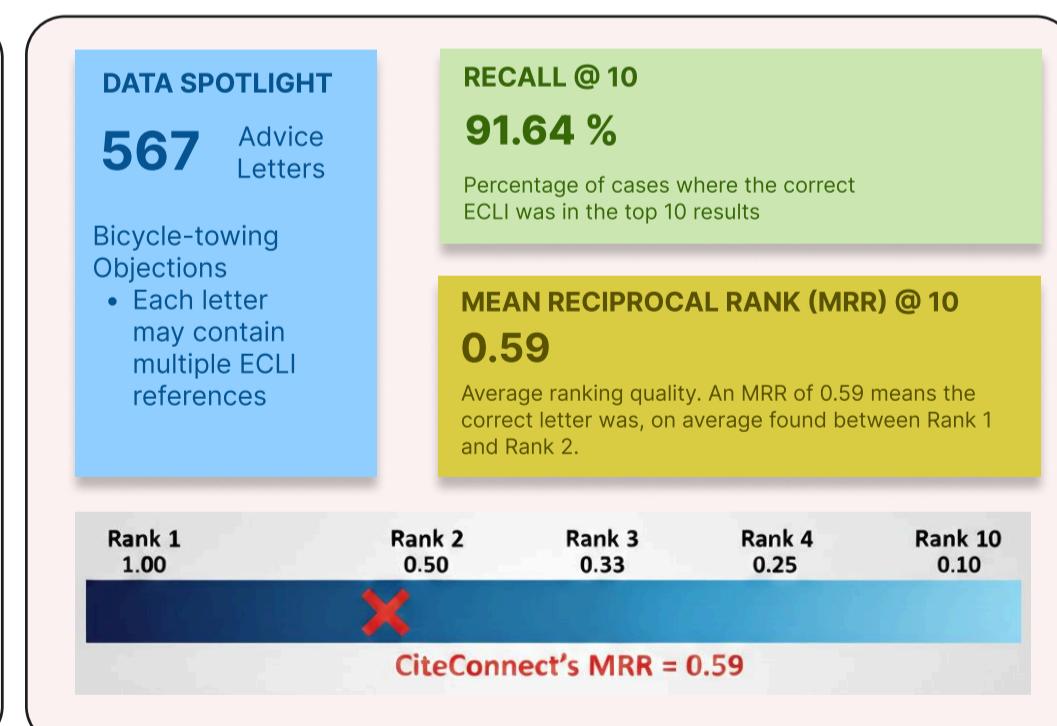
User Flow



Backend



Evaluation



Conclusion

- Built a legal **RAG system** to support legal advice
- Uses **multilingual hybrid dense-lexical retrieval** with reranking
- Adds **issue awareness, citation context, and popularity** to boost relevance

Limitations

- Dutch legal domain:** model choices are constrained by the language setting.
Evaluation scope: experiments focus on a single municipal use case.

Future Work

- Summarization-based prompting:** initial experiments showed limited gains, motivating further investigation.
Domain generalization: extend the system to other legal domains.
Dutch LLM integration: usage of Dutch-specific legal language models.
Generation refinement and explainability: improve advice-letter generation for clarity and faithfulness; provide brief legal justifications for retrieved ECLIs

Acknowledgements

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