

# 1. Introduction

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This document provides the preliminary requirements specification for developing an ontology for the EUR-Lex Legal Analysis Methodology.

## 1.1. Context

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EUR-Lex legal analysis methodology (LAM) presents and describes the use of metadata elements that are relevant for the legal and documentary analysis of the EUR-Lex website's content.

The metadata elements employed in LAM are taken from the Common Data Model (CDM) of the CELLAR repository of the Publications Office.

CELLAR is an electronic database which contains the documents and their related metadata diffused on one of the websites of the Publications Office. The CDM is an ontology that describes the concepts and relationships (properties/elements) that can exist for the data stored in the CELLAR.

LAM documentation contains descriptions of classes of legal documents and a selection of metadata suitable for describing each document class. LAM aims at facilitating the understanding and the use of relevant CDM properties.

LAM gives some basic Definition for the metadata elements, determines their cardinality and lists the related properties. It also gives some methodological rules concerning the use of the elements in different contexts during the legal analysis. It also describes which kind of data has to be used when filling in the metadata elements. If a metadata element has to be completed with a value coming from a controlled vocabulary, it is indicated. If there is no indication, it means that the metadata element can be filled in with free text.

## 1.2. Purpose

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This document aims at analysing and formulating the requirements of the LAM team regarding the data model mainly and potential future applications. It also provides an approach for transposing the LAM from a plain text documentation into structured data with semi-formal and formal underpinning.

The benefit of having the LAM represented in a structured form is enabling automation of multiple processes, such as document classification, metadata validation, metadata enrichment, which currently are performed manually by the OP staff or by external contractors. Such an automation can lead to significant reductions of cost and reduce the time needed for performing these processes.

This document does not intend to provide a detailed functional specification for every envisaged element but rather provide a general direction and describe the path for reaching different business and technical objectives. The main concern, at this stage is to describe how a LAM ontology can be created starting from the current state of affairs presented elsewhere in this document.

## 1.3. Document Conventions

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Application profile - ...

LAM model ...

LA team, LA sector - OP C2 003

Model ...

Ontology ...