From Information to Knowledge
On Line Access to Legal Information

Following-up European Initiatives and Projects Enhancing Access to Legal Information via the Internet

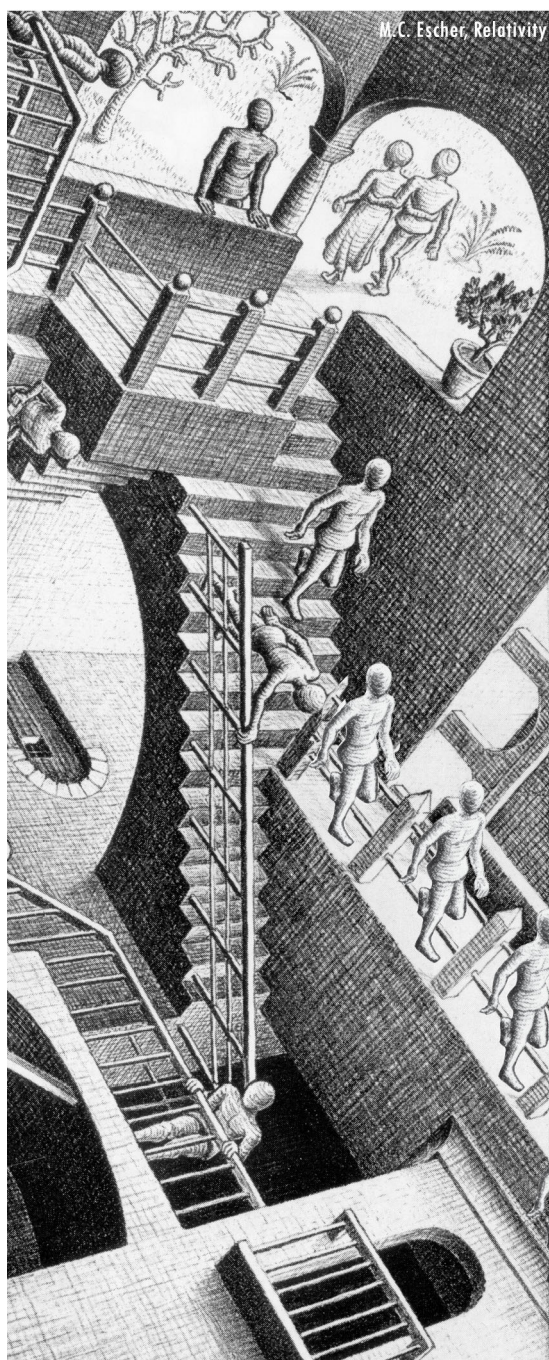Florence - Palagio di Parte Guelfa - Sala Brunelleschi

6th May 2011

The dissemination of legal information contributes to the rule of law and to the overall ideals of democracy. Accessing legal information produces a lot of benefits, such as certainty of the law, the creation of conditions necessary to the equality and fairness of a legal system, while improving the functioning of democratic institutions.

The rapid explosion of electronic information on the Internet is an unquestionable reality, as well as its enormous impact on research, business and every social activity. However this electronic transformation has its drawbacks; in fact navigating through such an amount of information sources, often unstructured, may make people waste their time and miss their expectations.

Nowadays legal research is facing a serious problem: the abundance of electronic legal information makes it very difficult to organize such resources in a way that they can be consulted with confidence, checked and cited as valuable sources. There is a gap between collecting 'documents' and achieving 'information'.

Within this context the Workshop aims at bringing together on the same table theories, methodologies and experiences focusing on the realization of tools allowing access to European legal information via the Internet (conceived as legal information of the European Union as well as of the EU countries) and on the relevance that this implies in relation with the exercise of the rights of citizenship of EU citizens.

M.C. Escher, Relativity

P R O G R A M

9.00-9.15 - Opening, Introductory remarks

9.15-11.00 - First session

Chair: Pascale Berteloot

Giovanni Sartor (European University Institute), *Access to legislation in the semantic web*

Cedric Chailloux (Publications Office of the European Union EUR-Lex Unit), *The new EUR-Lex: improvement and redesign*

Carol Tullo (The National Archives – Information Policy and Services - UK), *Online access to UK legislation: strategy and structure*

Filippo Donati (University of Florence), *Access to legal information in the European Union*

Coffee break

11.20-13.40 - Second session

Chair: Maria Angela Biasiotti

G. Boella, L. Humphreys, P. Rossi, L. van der Torre
Eunomos, a legal document management system based on legislative XML and ontologies

K.E. Pedersen, *Experiences with "Lex Dania Live"*

B. Bassi, *Automatic classification of documents for the Library of the Italian Chamber of Deputies*

M. Karakullukcu, *Proper treatment of gaps in legal data and in electronic legal research*

M. van Opijnen, *European Case-law identifier: a short history and the broad outlook*

G. Damele, M. Dogliani, A. Mostropaolo, F. Pallante
D.P. Radicioni, *On legal argumentation tecniques: towards a systematic approach*

D. Bourcier, M. Fernández-Barrera, *Challenges regarding legal metadata: IP licensing and management of different cognitive levels in the Web 2.0*

G. Peruginelli, D. Tiscornia, G. Greenleaf, A. Mowbray
P. Chung, *A comprehensive free access legal information system for Europe*

R. Caso, P. Guarda, V. Moscon, *Open Access to legal scholarship and Open Archives: towards a better future?*

Program Committee: Maria Angela Biasiotti, Sebastiano Faro, Marina Pietrangelo