Finding legal journal articles

There is no ‘one-stop shop’ when it comes to finding journal articles. An article may be available in Westlaw UK, in Lexis Library, in another database or directly from the publisher website. If you don’t find the article you need in the first place you look, try somewhere else.

The screenshots below will show you the ways to can find journal articles. We’ll look for this article:


There are two ways you can search for journal articles – by article title or journal title. By article title tends to be the easiest, so start with that.

DISCOVER/Westlaw UK/Lexis Library

The online resources above all enable you to search for an article by title.

- DISCOVER

DISCOVER is a search engine which searches multiple databases, saving you time and searching resources you may not have considered. It does not search Westlaw UK or Lexis Library.

Access DISCOVER from the library home page at https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/library/

As you’re undertaking a simple search, just paste the title of the article into the search box on the library home page and click the green Search button:

If DISCOVER finds your article, you’ll see it in the results list:

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Sometimes you may see an article listed more than once; this just means that it is available in more than one place. Click on one of the green buttons and follow a link to the full-text.

If you don’t find the article, try the same search in Westlaw UK and Lexis Library. Always select the tab denoting the type of information you are looking for; click on the Journals tab at the top of the home screen, then enter the article title and click Search:

- **Westlaw UK Journals search**

- **Lexis Library Journals search:**

If you still have no luck, then you need to find out which journal the article is published in. Go back to the article reference:


What journal does the abbreviation ‘CMLRev’ refer to? You may know that it refers to the Common Market Law Review, but if you don’t, then use the **Cardiff Index to Legal Abbreviations** to find out which journal it is:

Go to [http://www.legalabbrevs.cardiff.ac.uk/](http://www.legalabbrevs.cardiff.ac.uk/) and enter the abbreviation:
So you know the article is published in the Common Market Law Review. Go back to the library home page at https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/library/

Try the eJournals button to see if the journal is available online anywhere:

Search for the journal title:
If the journal is listed, click on the + sign next to Full Text Access to find the link to the journal. There may be more than one link if the journal is available from more than one place:

![Search Results](image)

If you still don’t find the journal, it may be that we don’t have access online and it is only available in print. Go back to the library home page at [https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/library/](https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/library/) and select the Library Catalogue button:

![Library Catalogue](image)

Try a Title search, enter the journal title and choose to limit your search to Journals and eJournals which will search for print and online:

![Search the Library Catalogue](image)

The library catalogue will show you if the journal is available in print or online or both:
If you want to use the printed journal, click on the first link to open up the catalogue record for the print journal which shows you the years available and the location:

![Common Market Law Review (Print) Catalogue Record](image1)

Older issues of the print journals may be in the off-site store; click on the link to request that the journal is retrieved for you if you need a volume from off-site. Click on ‘View additional copies or search for a specific volume/copy’ to see the all the available print issues. Note the location and class number so you know where to look in the library.

If you want to use the online version, click on the second link in the results list and you’ll see the catalogue record for the online version of the journal, with a link to follow:

![Common Market Law Review (Online) Catalogue Record](image2)

If you still don’t find the article, then it may not be available. If an article is on a reading list, then we should have it available either in print or online.

There are ways in which we can try to get articles which we don’t have access to for you. See this FAQ entry [http://libanswers.liverpool.ac.uk/faq/49726](http://libanswers.liverpool.ac.uk/faq/49726) for more information.

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