

**Questionnaire on the organisation and operation
of Official Gazettes in the EU**

**(23a) Answers by the Finnish Ministry of
Justice**

I. Organisational data

FI		<u>1. Identification and contact person(s)</u>
1.1	Organisation:	Oikeusministeriö / Justitieministeriet Ministry of Justice, Finland
1.3	Address :	PO BOX 25, FI-00023 GOVERNMENT, FINLAND
1.5	Internet :	http://www.om.fi
FI		<u>2. Data on the organisation and its overall tasks</u>
2.1	Form and nature:	- part of a ministry the Department of Central Administration in the Ministry of Justice is responsible for the publishing of the Statutes of Finland (Official Gazette)
2.2	Legal basis for publishing:	- a specific law

		Laki valtioneuvostosta 175/2003 / Lag om statsrådet 175/2003 Valtioneuvoston asetus oikeusministeriöstä 543/2003 / Statsrådets förordning om justitieministeriet 543/2003	
		the Government Act 175/2003 Government Decree on the Ministry of Justice 543/2003	
2.3	Year of the found.:	1892	
2.4	Legal basis for co-operation:	- law	
		Laki Suomen säädöskokoelmasta 188/2000 Lag om Finlands författningssamling 188/2000	
		Act on the Statutes of Finland 188/2000	
		(1) The Statutes of Finland series exists for the publication of statutes. (2) The series has a separate part (Treaty Series) for the publication of treaties and other corresponding instruments containing international obligations binding on Finland. (3) Also orders, decisions and communications may be published in The Statutes of Finland and the Treaty Series, as further provided in this Act. (4) Separate provisions apply to the norm collections of Ministries and other State authorities.	
2.5	Main tasks of the organisation		
2.5.1	Publ. of laws/regulations:	- laws and regulations - treaties and internal agreements - consolidated law - databases - parliamentary documents - court decisions - individual measures - collective agreements - legal literature	mandatory mandatory not mandatory not mandatory not mandatory not mandatory mandatory not mandatory
2.5.2	Operation of	FINLEX databases at http://www.finlex.fi (all databases)	

	databases	available free-of-charge) : 1) legislation (original versions and consolidated versions) - legally mandatory 2) treaties and international agreements - legally mandatory 3) case law (Supreme Court, Supreme Administrative Court, Courts of Appeal, Administrative Courts, Labour Court, Market Court, Insurance Court) - legally not mandatory 4) secondary legislation (orders of government agencies) - legally mandatory 5) collective agreements - legally mandatory 6) government bills (proposals for new legislation) - legally not mandatory
2.5.3	Others (e.g. forms ...)	
2.6	What language(s) is/are used	Finnish, Swedish, Sami, English, German, French
		Finnish and Swedish
2.7	Activities of public or private companies	
2.7.1	Subcontracts in isolated cases for	
2.7.2	Contracts for instit. or regular work	- printing - online publishing
2.8	Other off. gazettes	Yes, the Official Journal of public notices and announcements (in Finnish Virallinen lehti), based on the Act on the Official Journal 268/1931. A separate booklet on public procurement is published as a part of Official Gazette. The Official Journal is available online at http://www.credita.fi
2.9	Annual budget (global) of the organisation	
2.10	Do you have in-house	- printing facilities - online publishing facilities
		Yes, for small-scale printing and online publishing
2.11	How much of the following work is	

	subcontracted	
	pre-press	80
	printing	100
	dissemination	100
2.12	How is the head of the organ. appointed	The head of the organisation, the Minister of Justice and the Permanent Secretary are appointed by the President of Finland.
2.13	Number of staff of the organ.	350
2.14	Which services are offered by the organ.	- reading room - information on documents - administrative and legal service

II. Details concerning the publication of legislation and of calls for tender

(public procurement)

A. Publication of legislation

FI		<u>3. Publications procedures</u>
3.1	Official Gazette:	
3.1.1	Full title of the official gazette:	Suomen säädöskokoelma Finlands författningssamling Abbreviations: SädK, FörfS
		Statutes of Finland
3.1.2	Contents:	(1) The Statutes of Finland series exists for the publication of statutes. (2) The series has a separate part (Treaty Series) for the publication of treaties and other corresponding instruments containing international obligations binding on Finland.

3.1.3	Address (URL):	www.finlex.fi/lains	
3.2	Organisation of the exchange:	- executive authority / electronic - legislative authority / electronic	
3.3	Is electronic transmission part an integrated and seamless workflow:	no	
3.4	Techniques based on XML or SGML:	yes	
	If yes, does a programmar exist	in the form of DTD	
3.5	Binding deadlines for publishing legislation:	yes	
FI		<u>4. Details of the publication procedures for legislation</u>	
4.1	The legal basis for publication of legislation:	Suomen perustuslaki (731/1999), 79. pykälä Finlands grundlag (731/1999), 79. paragraf Laki Suomen säädöskokoelmasta 188/2000 Lag om Finlands författningssamling 188/2000	
		Constitution of Finland (731/1999), Section 79 - the text of the constitution is available at http://www.finlex.fi/pdf/saadkaan/E9990731.PDF Act on the Statutes of Finland 188/2000 - the text of the Act is available at http://www.finlex.fi/pdf/saadkaan/E0000188.PDF	
4.2	Year of establishment of the official gazette:	1860	
4.3	How is publication of	- from the State budget	- paper - online

	legislation financed:		(database/web)
		- a combination	
4.4	On what medium(a) is legislation legally binding:	- paper	
		<p>According to the Act on the Statutes of Finland (section 12):</p> <p>Section 12 — Format of publication</p> <p>(1) The Statutes of Finland and the Treaty Series shall be published as printed bulletins.</p> <p>(2) In addition, The Statutes of Finland and the Treaty Series shall be kept available to the public on an information network free of charge; they may also be published in record formats other than that referred to in paragraph (1).</p>	
4.5	Problems, if legislation is (in future) legally binding in electr. form:	- technical difficulties (images, tables, etc.) - no problems	
4.6	On what media and from when onwards is legislation offered to end-users:	- on paper from 1860 - via online (database/web) from 1734	
4.7	Availability of the online edition of legislation:		
4.7.1	In which format and from when onwards is legislation offered to end-users:	- on paper from 1734 - PDF from 1995 - HTML from 1734	
4.7.2	Can the online edition	yes	

	be downloaded?:		
4.8	On what financial terms is legislation offered to end-users:	- free of charge	- online (database/web
		- at cost	- paper
4.9	Electr. formats, legislation is offered to the private sector for further processing and commercial use:	- PDF - HTML	
4.10	Is legislation available to all private sector companies under the same conditions:	yes	
4.11	What price is charged to the private sector for the electr. version of leg. for further processing and comm. use:	- free of charge	
4.12	Copyright status of legislation in your country:	- no copyright protection claimed for the information itself (content)	
		copyright protection only for the consolidated texts of acts and decrees	
4.13	Copyright	- no copyright protection for the lay-out/format	

	status of the official gazette lay-out/format in your country:	
4.14	The owner of the content of legislation, if published by a private company:	- the competent State body

B. Calls for tender (public procurement)

FI		<u>5. Details of the publication procedures for calls for tender</u>
5.0	Competent organisation(s):	Edita Publishing Ltd (http://www.edita.fi and http://www.credita.fi) is responsible for the publishing of public tenders
5.1	Organisation of the exchange of information on what medium(a) is legislation legally binding:	
5.2	Binding deadlines for publishing this information:	no
5.3	The legal basis for publication of public tenders:	
5.4	How is publication of calls for tender financed:	
5.5	On what medium(a) is the information on public tenders deemed authentic:	
5.6	On what media is the information on	

	publ. tenders offered to end-users:	
5.7	On what financial terms is the information on public tenders offered to end-users:	
5.8	Electr. formats of the public tenders, which are offered to the private sector for further processing and commercial use:	
5.9	What price is charged to the private sector for the electr. version of the public tenders for further processing and comm. use:	
5.10	Copyright status of this information in your country:	
5.11	Copyright status of the official gazette layout/format for this information in your country:	
5.12	The owner of the content of calls for tender, if published by a private company:	

III. Future developments and strategies

FI		<u>6. Anticipated changes and other plans or discussed issues</u>
6.1	Changes in your country in short (1-2 years) or medium term (3-5 years):	<p>On what other media will the information be legally binding (authentic) in future? There is ongoing discussion on the authentication of the electronic version of the Official Gazette and on the utilization of electronic signature</p> <p>In what other formats will the electronic information on legislation be offered to end-users in future? There are plans concerning the publishing of acts in XML format and various word-processing formats (rtf, MS word, etc.)</p>
6.2	Other plans or discussed issues:	

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