

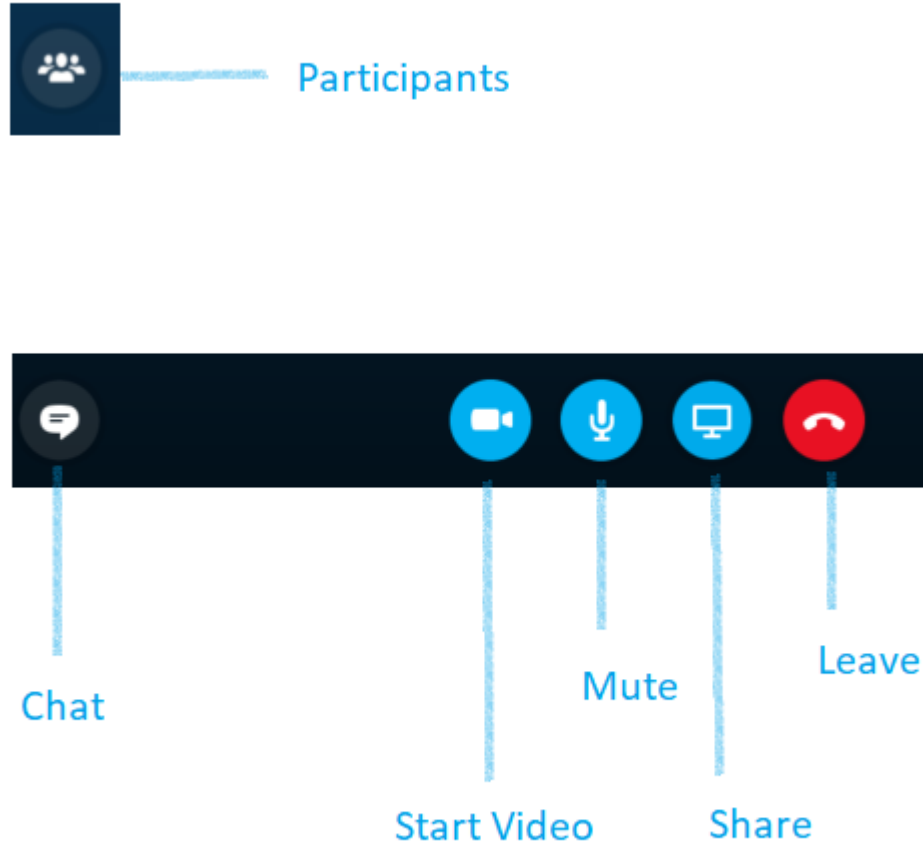


LEOS 3rd Community Webinar

22nd June 2021



Ground rules



AGENDA

1. Welcome – 10:00
2. State of play – 10:10
3. Further development of LEOS – implementing an open source approach – 10:40
4. Discussion – 11:10
5. Entering in the new era of the digital transformation – 11:40
6. Closing – 11:55

1. Welcome

By Thomas Gageik - Director DIGIT.B "Digital Business Solutions",
European Commission

2. State of Play

By Fernando Nubla and Alice Vasilescu (external consultant),
European Commission

About LEOS

Legislation Editing Open Software

Mission

"Make legislation drafting more efficient"

LEOS is designed to help those involved in drafting legislation, which is usually part of a complex process, by facilitating efficient online collaboration.

"Focus on the content not on the structure".

LEOS helps the drafters follow the rules and avoid mistakes.

Our journey

Our journey started under **ISA Programme** as **LEOS**.

Continued under **ISA² Programme** as **LegIT-2016.38 Legislation Interoperability Tools** from Q2/2016 planned up until Q3/2021.

Moving to the new **Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL)** as of 2021.

What we offer

- We deliver open source software that is inline with our mission and which is available for free under [European Union Public Licence](#).
- We foster the uptake of the solution, by providing supporting services to users e.g. training service, workshops etc.
- Last but not least, we support the growth of the open source community built around LEOS.

From ISA² to DIGITAL



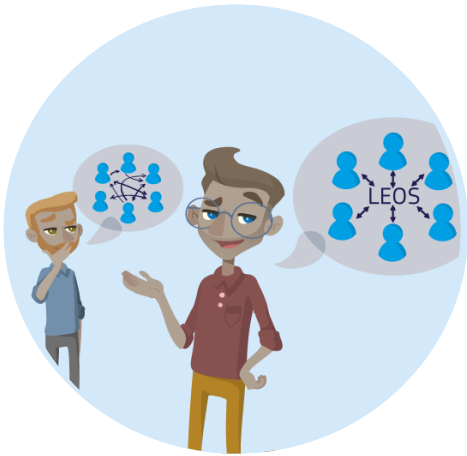
- **Common Service Platform**

Cross domain reusable tools

- **Interoperability Knowledge and Support Centre**

Innovative Public Services and GovTech

Status



Pilots

6 real proposals
being drafted with
LEOS.



@European Commission

DG TAXUD – first
real proposal*.



@Council

Work on the DG
TAXUD proposal



Rollout

From 2022, LEOS as
default drafting tool for
Ordinary Legislative
Proposals at EC

LEOS Pilot 3.1.0

September



Edition view

- New search and replace
- New Spellchecker
- Tables support improved
- Comparison algorithm improved

Technical improvements

Dependencies update

Bug fixes

AKN4EU Utils

- New module, centralising utils around AKN4EU.

Configuration

- Templates configuration improvements. Support for your own AKN format.
- New AKN elements and rules

Services

- New services for the integration with other systems.
- New push services for the integration with other systems.

Annotations

- Justification of suggestions.
- Accept/Reject/Delete all or selected annotations.
- UI improvements.



European
Commission

What is on our pipeline in 2021

- Fork and merge of an Act
- Amending Acts (modifications to existing legislation), in collaboration with Spain
- Drafting improvements based on the real pilots
- AKN4EU utils
 - API for metadata update
- Migration of Annotations from AngularJS to Angular
- Any contribution from the LEOS Community!



LEOS starts as a project to help on the digitalization

Entering in the new era of the digital transformation

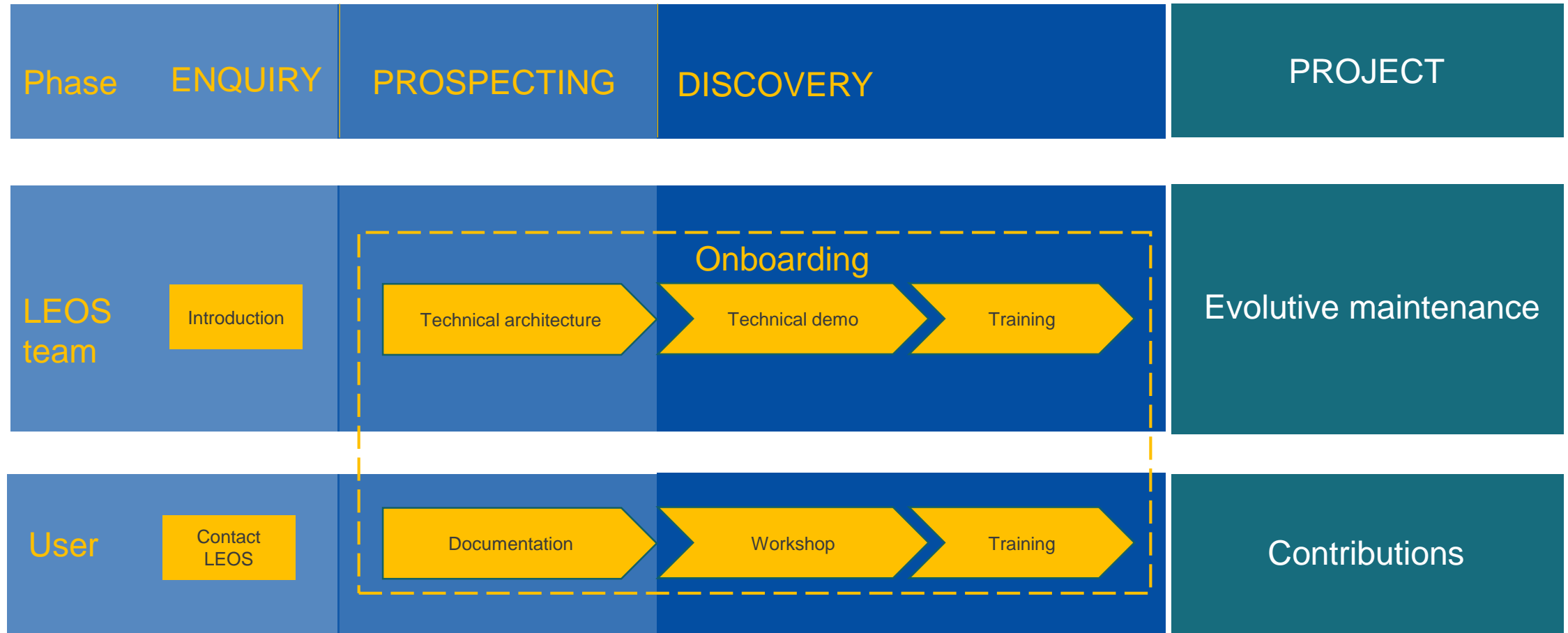
New ecosystem of tools

Explore new ways of legislation drafting

Community evolution



Onboarding



Growing community

User from Spain: LEOS will help us make the drafting of legal texts more efficient



Interview with Carlos Fernandez, Project Manager at Ministry of the Presidency, Relations with the Parliament and Democratic Memory, Spain

LEOS is a software tool helping those involved in drafting legislation, which is usually a complex process requiring efficient online collaboration. Comments, suggestions, version control, co-edition, everything is possible with LEOS. The software was released as open source and has developed a growing community around. One of the active community members and a user of LEOS is Carlos Fernandez from the Spanish Ministry of the Presidency, Relations with the Parliament and Democratic Memory.

Can you tell us a bit about yourself and the ministry?

My institution is, among other things, responsible for the quality of drafting legal texts generated by Spanish government and relations with the Parliament and the Senate. In our department, we manage all information systems used to fulfil these responsibilities, and LEOS will help us make the drafting of legal texts more efficient.

As a project manager of LEOS in Spain, I am responsible for the organisation of the necessary resources. I ensure that everybody involved in the project can contribute with their specific skills to define and develop the requirements for LEOS in our administration.

How did you find out about LEOS?

At the ministry, we needed a tool to support the activities of our office responsible for the quality of drafting legal texts.

We searched for open source tools used in the European Union and LEOS arose as the best option.

LEOS as an educational tool for public administrators



Dr. Fotis Fitsilis, Head of the Department for Scientific Documentation and Supervision, Scientific Service of the Hellenic Parliament

Legislation Editing Open Software (LEOS) is a free software tool that facilitates the editing/reviewing of legislative texts and generates legislation produced in an interoperable format. Dr. Fotis Fitsilis, member of the Scientific Service in the Hellenic Parliament, used LEOS to educate the future generations of public officials.

Legislative drafting is guided by principles and tradition, but the digital dimension is rapidly gaining significance. Legislatures, lawmakers and legal professionals gradually discover legal informatics as a scientific field capable of producing tools and services that have the potential to offer substantial assistance in the law making process.

The [Hellenic National School of Public Administration and Local Government](#) was among the first at a global scale to identify the need to educate the future generations of public officials in legal informatics patterns and tools. A legislative drafting laboratory was developed and the pilot course with ten students of the 'digital policy' special section took place in Spring/Summer term 2020. The Lab was based on a detailed, modular and hence reusable curriculum and was supported by a comprehensive manual exclusively developed for the purpose.

[Dr. Fotis Fitsilis](#), member of the Scientific Service in the [Hellenic Parliament](#) and team leader of the [Hellenic OCR Team](#), a crowdsourcing initiative for the processing and analysis of parliamentary data, designed and led the laboratory. Teaching included, among others, introduction to legislative drafting and discussion of legal informatics principles.

The use of XML for the generation of structured legal documents was explained as well as recent developments in ontologies and data schemes. In this regard, the [European Interoperability Framework](#) was shown, followed by a detailed analysis of the [European Legislation Identifier](#) and the Akoma Ntoso standard. A series of case studies displaying such systems at the European Union level and in the United States Congress was also presented.

Testing EditT, the European Commission instance of LEOS



Interview with Milagros Calvo Vergez (DG TAXUD) and Veerle Cumps (Secretariat-General) by Commission en direct (CEND), the Commission's internal online magazine

EditT, the European Commission instance of **LEOS** that will replace LegisWrite, was recently tested in Directorate-General for Taxation and Custom Union (DG TAXUD). CEND and LEOS team spoke to one of its first users, policy officer **Milagros Calvo Vergez** (DG TAXUD), and to **Veerle Cumps** (Secretariat-General), who supported and guided all the Directorate-Generals (DGs) involved in this test phase.

DG TAXUD tested EditT, the new legislative editor, first. Why was that?

MCV: I had gone to the first presentations and trainings by the Secretariat-General, which leads this project, and I was convinced that EditT - with its many user-friendly features - would be a very useful tool for us. In DG TAXUD we were just about to start drafting a legislative proposal, so the timing couldn't have been better! That's why I suggested it to my hierarchy and started the ball rolling...

What are your first impressions of EditT?

MCV: It's really a great tool for collaboration. It compiles all the comments for you, from all those involved. In our case we had the Legal Service, the editing unit of Directorate-General for Translation and the services in many other DGs - 18 DGs in total. There were around 600 annotations we had to go through, imagine wading through all the separate answers by the different DGs and collecting those annotations from a whole series of Word documents! I think our project had just about the right complexity to test the system.

VC: Actually, we had hoped for even more comments by the DGs, but I think DG TAXUD had prepared their project too well (laughs). It was my role to guide the DGs during the interservice consultation phase in Decide, a workflow tool supporting the Commission [decision-making process](#) from planning to adoption - which is now interoperable with EditT. As the two systems communicate with each other, the lead DG working on the legislative proposal gets all the observations, comments and suggestions posted through 'Decide Consultation' in one place, in EditT.

DigitALL Public conference

Home Agenda Speakers

Workshop

Key enablers of digital-ready policymaking: multidisciplinary teams & tools

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM


Parallel Stage

Workshop

Interoperability

Information

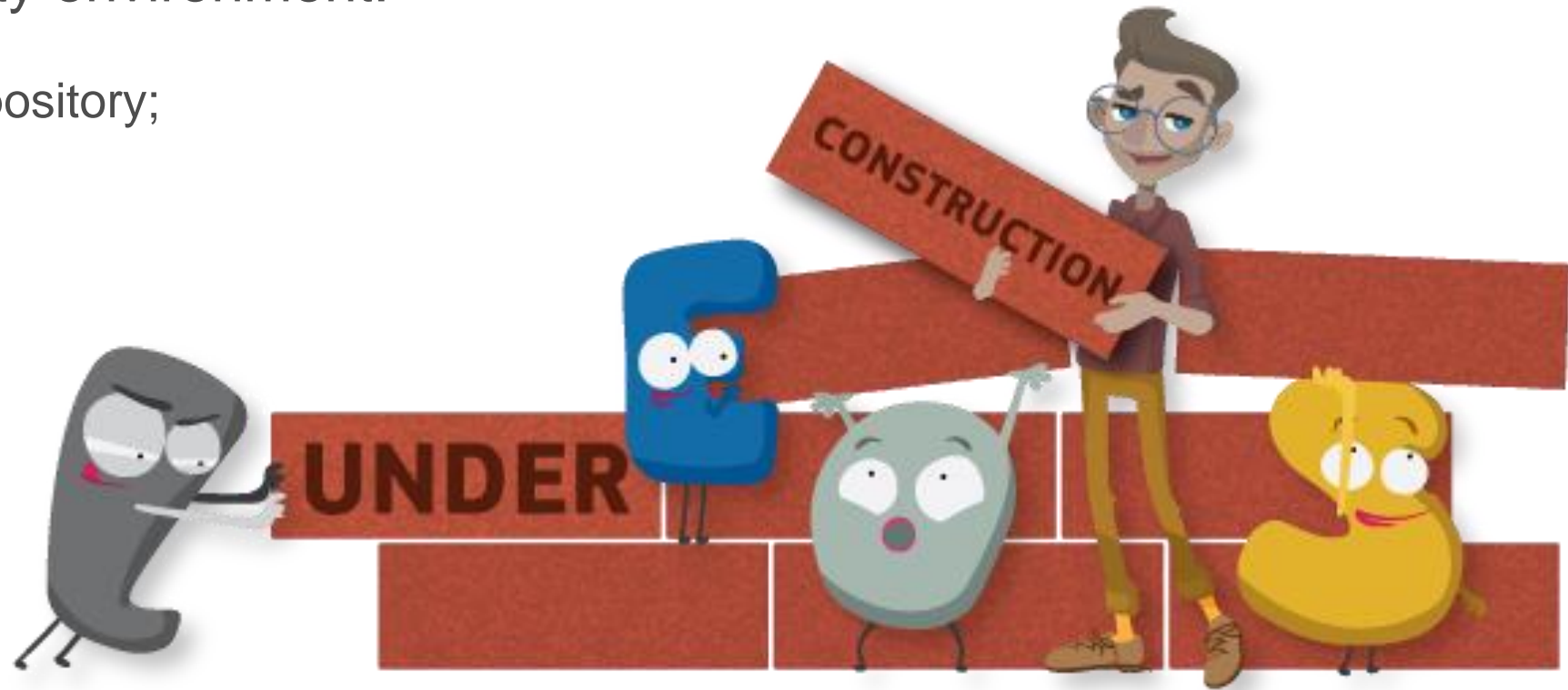
Speakers

 European Commission

Source: https://ec.europa.eu/isa2/blog_en

For the future

- Improved community environment:
 - Integrated code repository;
 - Issue tracker;
 - Other.



3. Further development of LEOS – implementing an open source approach

Open Source strategy adopted in the EC.

By Gijs Hillenius - European Commission

Spain sharing their reuse and collaboration journey

By Carlos Fernández Cubero - Ministry of the Presidency, Relations with the Parliament and Democratic Memory - Spain

4. Discussion

Moderated by Willy Van Puymbroeck, (ASN) European Commission

Assumptions

- Legal drafting - sufficiently specific, sufficiently generic
- Right time – genuine interest
- Embrace Open Source - pooling
- Long term commitment

LEOS@Scale – an open source flagship project



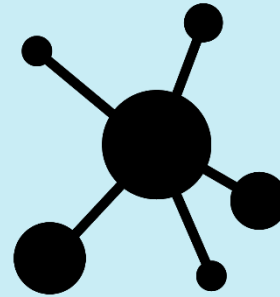
Vision

an agile
partnership



Strategy

a beacon for
open source



Organisation

project and
community office



Governance

way of working

Open discussion about:

A

Contribute code

- Preconditions
- incentives
- and roadblocks

Score: 23,6

B

Desired **functionalities**
and possible cases
for the **use of LEOS**

Score: 37,4

C

Opportunities,
synergies and
complementary work

Score: 38

Proceedings

Contribute/engage with us –
now or in writing

Address any or all of the
questions
– raise additional issues as
you see fit

Next steps – inter alia



Regular Community Meetings



Targeted Workshops on Specific Topics



Decision on Engagement Platform



Bi-laterals/multi-laterals to ‘solidify’ partnerships



Envision ‘Augmented LEOS’

5. Entering in the new era of the digital transformation

By Prof. Monica Palmirani, University of Bologna, CIRSfid-ALMA AI – Italy.

6. Closing

by Willy Van Puymbroeck, (ASN) European Commission

Thank you



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