**UK Legislation Citation Mark-up Examples**

Legislation in the UK is published on [www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) . Before publishing the data is run through various routines to identify and mark-up citations (code for some of these processes will be made public in the next few months). Depending on the data and its history the mark-up in different versions is more complete than others.

Looking at an example from the Explanatory Note to The Pensions Act 2014 (Commencement No.8) Order 2016 (UKSI 2016/203) <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2016/203/note/made> . The first sentence reads:

This is the eighth Commencement Order made under the [Pensions Act 2014 (c.19)](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/2014/19).

The base format for UK legislation is XML (see <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2016/203/note/made/data.xml>) and the underlying mark-up for this citation is currently:

<Citation id="**c00001**" URI="**http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/2014/19**" Number="**0019**" Year="**2014**" Class="**UnitedKingdomPublicGeneralAct**">2014 (c.19)</Citation>

This serialises the identifying features of the cited document and provides an (ELI) URI to the Work (not an Expression or Manifestation). In this case there is enough information in the citation to identify the document being cited but not enough to identify the date of the original document or the date of the version being referred to (legislation is amended over time) and we can’t determine jurisdiction as it may be UK (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) or only England. Here we can infer that the language of the document is English although this isn’t always the case for UK citations, e.g. if Welsh legislation is cited it may referring to the English language version or Welsh version or both. The document type is inferred from the title and format of the document number. The document year is inferred from the title although it’s not always true for older legislation that the year in the title is the same as the numbering series year.

If you navigate to the URI the legislation.g-ov.uk webserver essentially acts as a resolver to decide if it can return a Manifestation based on the Work URI submitted. (It returns the HTML for the current revised version of the document if it has it, if not the next best version available.) It’s important to note that here we are citing our own content and we decide on the mark-up, the URI scheme and have control over the resolution.

Below I’ve tried to reproduce this in the proposed standard, although I’m not certain I have this right? I’m not sure how to add the URI property even though it would be useful to include since I know what it is?

// frames

// FRBR levels

// feature

// hierarchy of equivalent values

{

"source": {

"work": {

"document number": [

[19],

] ,

"document title": [

[“Pensions Act 2014”],

]

}

},

"interpretation": {

"work": {

"document type": [

["UKPGA"]

],

"language": [

["en", "eng" "English"]

],

"document year": [

[2014],

],

}

}

}

A second example of UK Citation mark-up:

The first sentence of the first paragraph of schedule 1 to The Medicines (Products for Human Use) (Fees) Regulations 2016 (UKSI 2016/190) <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2016/190/schedule/1/paragraph/1/made> reads:

“the 2001 Directive” means Directive [2001/83/EC](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/european/directive/2001/0083) of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Community code relating to medicinal products for human use;

The XML mark-up (available at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2016/190/schedule/1/paragraph/1/made/data.xml> ) is:

<Citation id="**c00023**" Class="**EuropeanUnionDirective**" URI="**http://www.legislation.gov.uk/european/directive/2001/0083**" Number="**83**" Year="**2001**">2001/83/<Acronym Expansion="**European Community**">EC</Acronym></Citation>

In this example the document cited is EU legislation which is not content that we hold on the [www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) website. The mark-up is similar to the previous example and again a URI is present however on navigation of this URI the UK webserver again behaves like a resolver to parse the URI content and convert it to the URI for the content on EUR-Lex, this is less reliable in terms of getting you to the right document (especially for anything irregular), it can change and we are not familiar with all the nuances of the legislation type or the implementation. If we were not in the position to create our own resolution service we would be even less accurate – either our citations couldn’t resolve, we’d have to use EUR-Lex URIs directly or rely on someone else to create a resolver following their requirements.

Again I’ve tried to convert this citation to the new standard. As we don’t hold this content and I’m less familiar with it there may be less I can infer and it may not be the same as someone else marking-up a reference to the same document (even the same reference) – I think the standard needs to be ok with accommodating this variation.

// frames

// FRBR levels

// feature

// hierarchy of equivalent values

{

"source": {

"work": {

"document number": [

[83],

] ,

"document year": [

[2001],

],

"document type": [

["Directive"],

],

"document author": [

["European Parliament"],

],

"document author": [

["Council of the European Union"],

]

}

}

}