



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO
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The European Documentation Centre of the University of Milan

History, activities and future perspectives

Study visit of EDCs from Romania
Milan University, 2011 September, 21st

Francesco Garza
Milan University EDC
Coordination Group of the Italian EDCs Network



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our EDC was founded in 1983 at the European Communities law Department of Political Science Faculty of Milan University

since 1996 the Centre has been part of the general services of the School of Political science and, since 1999, its scientific director has been Michele Tamburini, professor of European Union law



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a bit of history...

the early years: the main task was to collect the EU official documentation with the help of graduate volunteers

then the center was assigned its own space and a librarian who began to index the material and to allow the public access to the documents

finally, the EDC was given a permanent seat at the Political science Library



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2001-2003: renovation of the building in Via Conservatorio, that houses the Centre

→ resumption of the activities

over the years there has been an increase and a specialization of the offered services



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the organization:

the EDC is located on the 3rd floor of Political science Library. the office is open Monday to Friday, from 9 AM to 1 PM, for a total of twenty hours per week. the reading room (open shelf) is open as the library: Monday to Friday from 9 AM to 7 PM, and on Saturday from 8.30 to 11.30 AM



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the collections:

the EDC has over three thousand volumes and hundreds of periodicals. It primarily contains the EU official documentation, except for some legal handbooks and some editorial publications



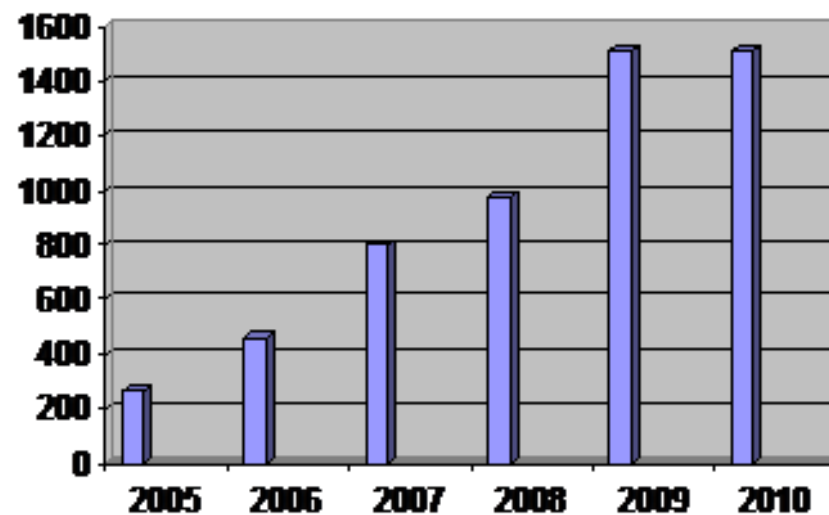
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the users:

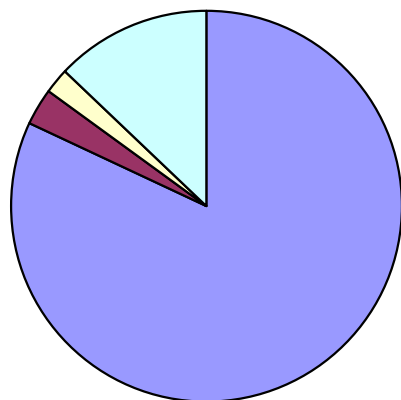
| EDC's USERS 2005-2010 | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 2005 | 265 |
| 2006 | 458 |
| 2007 | 801 |
| 2008 | 978 |
| 2009 | 1511 |
| 2010 | 1514 |





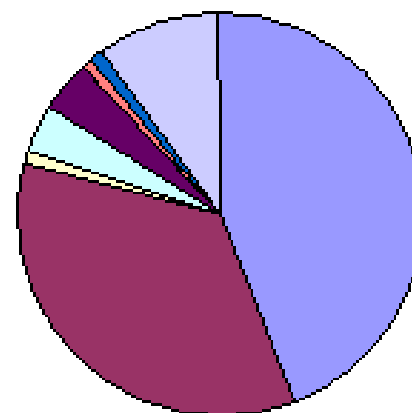
the users:

Users 2006-2010



| | |
|-------------|-----|
| Pol. Sc. | 82% |
| Other Univ. | 3% |
| Other Fac. | 2% |
| Others | 13% |

Users categories



| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1st lev. St. | 44% |
| 2nd lev. St. | 35% |
| Grad. | 1% |
| Other St. | 4% |
| Prof. | 4% |
| Research. | 1% |
| Professional persons | 1% |
| Others | 10% |



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the staff

EDC scientific director: Prof. Michele Tamburini

EDC manager: Dr. Mario Di Bono

EDC librarian: Dr. Francesco Garza

(who is also part of the national coordination group of the Italian EDCs)

the EDC can also rely on the help of five student co-workers, who support the librarian job



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the services

- **free consultation of the EU official documentation**
- **loan service**
- **reference service (by mail or phone as well)**
- **interlibrary loan**
- **courses for students**
- **organization of events concerning European Union**



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for some years the European Commission has been asking the EDCs to assume a more dynamic role. rather than just preservation and dissemination of the EU documentation (whose online availability is increasing) the centers should provide specialized reference services supporting teaching and research and organizing events and study sessions on European issues, in order to increase awareness about EU and reduce the gap between institutions and citizens



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the activities:

in this context, the Milan University EDC has organized, in the last years, various activities. some of them are among the own tasks of the EDC:

- **training for users**
- **Europe Day**
- **e-journal database**
- **specialized bibliographies**
- **brochures**
- **bulk orders**



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training for users:

every year: course for students on the EU databases

**3 times a year, in
collaboration with the
Department of
International Studies:
courses for graduating
students: introduction to
the EDC, its services and
to the EU databases**



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Europe Day:

May 9th: set up of a stand at the School to promote the European documentation. free distribution of documentary material and gadgets

specialized bibliographies:

creation of specialized bibliographies, at university professors request (human rights, media and European citizenship)



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brochures:

**on some occasions we
have prepared for students
some brochures on
anniversaries or events:**

**Europe Day, Schuman
Declaration, The fifty years of
the European Parliament, The
European elections and The
Berlin Wall 20 years after the
fall.**

bulk orders:

**as privileged users, we can
order on-line, to EU
bookshop, large quantities of
some European publications,
and we use this facility to
offer our users a lot of free
publications (books, posters,
brochures).**



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e-journal database:

our EDC takes part in a national project: the EU e-journal database, together with other three EDCs, coordinated by the EDC of Sassari, that makes available to all, for free, the electronic journals of the European institutions. Every three months, the database is tested to verify the efficiency of the link



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The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying <http://www.cdeita.it/periodici/>. The page content includes the Europe Direct logo, the title "Rete italiana dei Centri di Documentazione Europea (CDE)", and a navigation menu with items like "I CDE", "Documentazione dell'UE", "Periodici elettronici", "Banche dati", "Finanziamenti", "Eventi in Italia sull'UE", and "Novità". Below this, there is a "Login" link and a section titled "Periodici elettronici" with an "Aiuto" link. The search interface features several filters: "Liste alfabetiche" with a dropdown menu set to "A-Z", "Istituzione/Ente" with a dropdown menu set to "Tutti", and "ISSN" with an empty text input field. At the bottom, there are two columns of checkboxes for subject categories: "Agricoltura, silvicoltura, pesca", "Ambiente", "Concorrenza e impresa", "Diritto e questioni giuridiche", "Energia", "Ricerca scientifica e tecnica", "Statistiche generali", "Statistiche: agricoltura, silvicoltura e pesca", "Statistiche: ambiente ed energia", and "Statistiche: commercio estero". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including EUDORA, Microsoft PowerPoint, and Internet Explorer, along with the system clock showing 13:30.

<http://www.cdeita.it/periodici/>



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other activities have been "invented" to meet the objective of the European Commission to improve knowledge on the EU:

- **visits to the EC Representation**
- **meetings with European consuls and ambassadors**
- **conferences**
- **wiki**



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visits to the EU Representations:

in recent years, we have organized visits to the European Commission Representation in Milan and to the Italian Information Office of the European Parliament, for students of European Union Law.

so students were able to meet the directors of the two Representations and discuss the most topical EU issues



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meetings with European diplomats:

since 2008 we have organized meetings with diplomats from the countries that hold the Presidency of the European Union, to increase knowledge of the dynamics that bind the EU and its member States and to provide more information on European policies

So we hosted:

the Consul of France, the Deputy Ambassador of Sweden, the Consul of Spain, the Consul of Belgium, the Ambassador of Hungary, and the Consul of Poland



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conferences:
every year, the Italian EDCs network realizes a joint project to contribute to the study and research on European issues. In this context, our EDC has organized some conferences and seminars

2007

**the study meeting: 1957-2007:
50th years after the Treaties
of Rome: the perspectives of
the European unification**

2007

**the exhibition:
20 years of Erasmus**

2009

**the Round Table: Towards the construction of a
multicultural Europe: the contribution of law**



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Wiki:

2010: twelve EDCs collaborated on the realization of the WikiCDE, the online guide to the European Union, prepared for students and young researchers but also for a wider audience. the guide uses the Wikipedia format, and is proposed as a nimble tool, updated and user friendly, very appreciated by the younger generations



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il wiki dei CDE italiani
europe direct
www.wikicde.it/mediawiki

voce visualizza sorgente cronologia

Pagina principale

abCDEuropa

La Wiki Guida dei CDE italiani

Questa guida online, strutturata in forma di wiki, è un progetto della Rete dei CDE italiani finalizzato a far conoscere al pubblico specifico dei Centri di documentazione europea le informazioni relative alle opportunità che l'Unione europea offre attraverso le sue reti di informazione

- L'Indice della Guida
- Cosa è un wiki
- Perché questo wiki
- Destinatari della Guida
- Il Gruppo di lavoro
- Obiettivi della Guida

Obiettivo del progetto è, attraverso l'utilizzo di una piattaforma aperta e collaborativa, mettere a valore le competenze dei documentalisti dei Centri di documentazione europea italiani per offrire un servizio semplice e di utilizzo immediato per una prima scoperta delle risorse offerte dai CDE.

Il formato Wikipedia, ottenuto attraverso il CMS Mediawiki presenta numerosi vantaggi, tra i quali la possibilità di offrire ai nostri utenti un ambiente di navigazione familiare, intuitivo e continuamente aggiornato dai documentalisti

Inoltre, il formato-wiki permette ai curatori del progetto un interscambio ed una redazione collettiva dei testi, facilitando il lavoro di gruppo e di squadra.

Questa immagine rappresenta il nostro lavoro "di squadra"

100%

<http://www.wikicde.it/mediawiki/>



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other initiatives:

- **EDCs national meeting**
- **lessons on Europe**
- **Speque**
- **Congress of Italian librarians**
- **European Court of Justice**
- **Festival of Europe**
- **Europe in Bicocca**



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Lesson on Europe:

for two years, at the request of some teachers, Prof. Tamburini, EDC scientific director, has held to high school students a lesson on Europe

EDCs national meeting:

May 2010: Our EDC hosted, for the first time, the National Meeting of the Italian EDCs (that has required an intensive organizational work: locations booking, search for speakers, catering service, preparation of informative and documentary material, advertisement)



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2010

Specque:

we collaborated on the Specque project, the largest French-speaking EP simulation, organized by Canadian and European students interested in international and European issues. In addition to advertising the initiative, the EDC hosted the selections for UNIMI Specque delegation and provided documentary material

Congress of Italian librarians:

we presented the Wiki project of the Italian EDCs Network, at Milan National Convention of Italian librarians, with the participation of four EDCs (including ours), the Director of the EC Representation in Milan and an official of the European Commission's Central Library



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European Court of Justice:

April 2011: seven EDCs (including ours) took part in the specialized training course on documentation and functioning of the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg. (visit to the Court, to the ECJ's Library and to the EU Publications Office)

Festival of Europe:

May 2011: our EDC took part in the Festival of Europe in Florence. For five days the city became a laboratory of the European Union's communication to the citizens and a showcase of the activities of the EU and its Member States



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Europe in Bicocca:

May 2011: we took part in "Europe in Bicocca: what can Europe do for young people?", an initiative organized by the European Commission Representation in Milan, the Office of the European Parliament and the University of Milan-Bicocca, on the occasion of the Europe Day (discussions and meetings on the perspectives of growth and employment for young people in the context of the global economic crisis)

future initiatives:

on a local level: english lecture on EU Eastern Partnership, conference on youth mobility in Europe

on a national level: guide to the wiki of the EDCs Italian Network



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**thanks for
your attention**

