

## THE HISTORICAL ARCHIVES SERVICE

The Historical Archives service of the European Commission is a central service involved in the whole administrative life-cycle of records and files produced by Cabinets / General Directorates / Services/Delegations/Agencies. More specifically:

- Public access, according to existing regulations, to records and files of the European Commission which are of historical, legal or informative value (Historical Archives).
- Transfer to the central archives repository and management of records and files which are no longer of current administrative use (intermediate archives), together with search and lending facilities.
- Contribution to the update and application of procedures and rules for the modern management of records and files.

## ACCESS

The opening of the historical archives files follows the 30-years rule, in accordance with the Regulation (EC, EURATOM) n° 1700/2003, amending the existing Regulation n° 354/1983.

Exceptions are in line with the principles and limits laid down in the Regulation (EC) n°1049/2001 concerning the public access to documents of European Parliament, Council and Commission, and the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data as established in the Regulation (EC) n° 45/2001.

- On-line inventories and finding aids:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/historical\\_archives/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/historical_archives/index_en.htm)
- Access to records younger than thirty years:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/access\\_records/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/access_records/index_en.htm)

## PUBLICATIONS

- *Guide Opening of the Historical Archives of the European Communities to the public*, Luxembourg, OPOCE, 1983
- Spierenburg, Dirk, et Poidevin, Raymond, *History of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community*, Brussels, 1993 - London, 1994 (EN, FR)
- *Archives in the European Union: Report by the Group of Experts on the coordination of archives*, Luxembourg, 1994 ("Black book"; DA, DE, ES, FR, EL, IT, NL, PT, FI, SV)
- *Report on Archives in the Enlarged European Union*, Brussels, 2005 (EN)



## FONDS

- European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), High Authority (1952 - July 1967).
- European Economic Community (EEC) and European Atomic Energy Community (EAEC; EURATOM), Commissions (1958 - July 1967).
- Commission of the European Communities/European Commission (since July 1967).
- Special collections of records of former Presidents, Members and senior officials.
- Collections:
  - Minutes: ECSC High Authority (1952-1967) – EEC, EURATOM, EC Commission (1958 - ).
  - Speeches by Members, officials of the Commission and other leading personalities (1952 - ).
  - Studies carried out for Commission departments and collected at the Historical Archives (1961 - ).

## ARCHIS PLUS

The database ARCHIS Plus, on the EUROPA server, contains information about records and files open to the public according to the 30-years rule.

- [http://ec.europa.eu/historical\\_archives/](http://ec.europa.eu/historical_archives/)

## CONSULTATION – READING ROOM

Records and files are available on microfilm at the research room. The digital scanning of records and files is in preparation.

Please contact us prior to your visit at [oit-archis-base@ec.europa.eu](mailto:oit-archis-base@ec.europa.eu) to make all the necessary arrangements.

## REPRODUCTION OF RECORDS

Microfiches and photocopies available on request at charges set in accordance with existing rules.

- *Guide to the archives of Member States' Foreign Ministries and European Union institutions*. Third revised and enlarged edition, Luxembourg, 2005 ("Blue guide"; EN,FR)

- *INSAR, European Archives News*: Newsletter on exchange of archival information: Member States and Institutions of the European Union, with thematic supplements (1996 - )

- *The European Commission 1958-1972. History and memories of an institution*, Brussels, 2007 (EN, FR, DE, IT, NL)