

# e-Domec

Introduction to Document & Records Management

Update: 5/12/2021

es humaines té

developpement personnel

### **General introduction**



### Intended for staff of the Commission:

- » Newcomers
- » Global overview of the document management policy
- » To facilitate communication and collaboration among colleagues

# **Ensure quality of service**







- Guaranteed access to information
- Independence & coherence
- Facilitating "Telework"
- Obligations are fullfilled

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HR B3

### **Program**



- 1. Basic notions to understand the work environment
  - 1.1. Organisation based on business continuity
  - 1.2. Definitions: Chef de file, Case, File, Document, ...
- 2. Legal rules and tools to work well at EC
  - 2.1. Legal basis
  - 2.2. HAN: IT tools
- 3. In practice: work done within a unit
  - 3.1. Creation of an official file
  - 3.2. Capture and filing of documents
  - 3.3. Closure of files
  - 3.4. Afterwards ...: intermediate and historical records
- 4. More information
  - 4.1. Stakeholders
  - 4.2. Complementary courses

# **Teaching goals**



#### **General:**

 General vision on the practice of records and files management within the Commission

### **Specific:**

- Knowing the rules and the tools
- Making collaboration between staff and units easier
- Understanding one's responsibilities in the management of documents and files





### Now it is your turn!

### Let's get to know each other!



When did you join the Commission?

DG / Unit?

Function?







1 e-Domec :
 Basic concepts to understand your work environment

### **For the Commission**



### **Needs and obligations**

Facilitate exchange and sharing of information

Acces to documents and files Provide evidence of the actions and decisions taken

**Protect information** 

Fullfill legal and regulatory obligations

Accountability (internal and external audit)

Preserve the memory of the Commission

Preserve information

e-Domec!
RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

### For staff



Retrieve useful information in a swift manner

Producer
User of information

Daily tasks and activities

**Ensure the trustworthiness of information** 

Share information and ensure a good quality of service and business continuity

Manage documents and files

Be able to organise work independently and be able to « Telework »

Know whom to turn to for help

### e-Domec



#### e-Domec:

Archivage électronique et administration des documents à la Commission européenne

Electronic Archiving and Document Management in the European Commission

Adopted in 2002 Revised in 2020

#### **Policy**

- Normative framework
- Obligations
- Common procedures

#### **Practice**

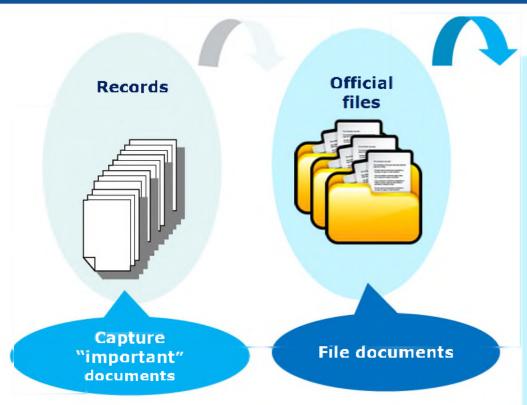
- Working methods
- Contact persons

#### Tools

- Documentary tools
- IT-tools
- Digital environment

## **Basic document management**





#### Filing plan:

- 01. Institution Commission
- 02. Future of the Union and institutional questions
- 03. The Community economic and social area
- 04. Citizenship and quality of life
- 05. International Relations
- 06. Financing of Community activities and the management of financial resources
- 07. Community law
- 08. Press, communication and publications
- 09. Policy Strategy and coordination per DG
- 10. Administration
- 12. External action Common Foreign and Security Policy
- 15. Activities of the Delegations and Offices of the European Union in Third Countries and to International Organisations

Organisation of files

SHARE - RETRIEVE - USE - PRESERVE

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### A record at the Commission





All content received or formally drawn up

Concerning a matter related to the Commissions policies, activities and decisions made within the boundaries of its official duties

Irrespective of form and medium (paper, digital, sound recording, visual, audiovisual)

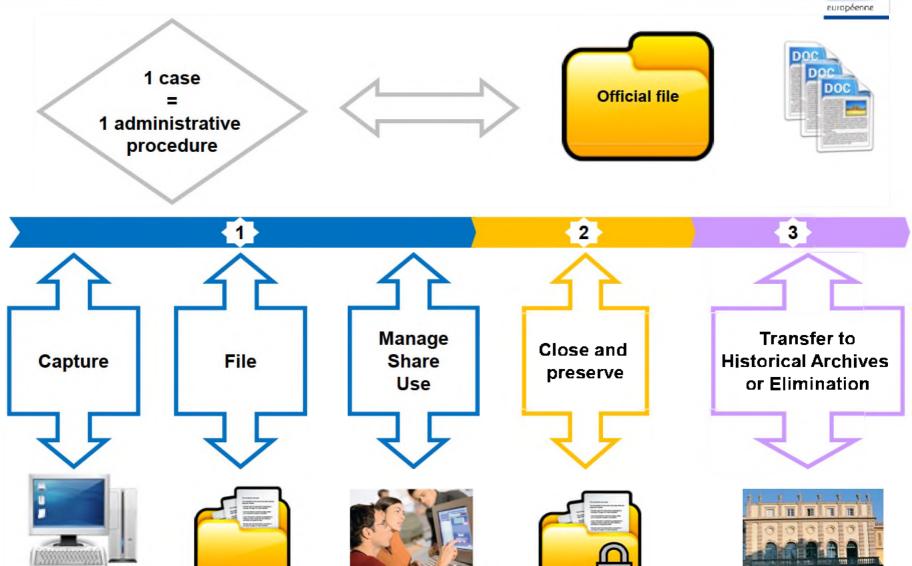
 Commission decision of 6.7.2020 on records management and archives

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# **Fundamental operations**

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### **Case: definition**





- A set of administrative actions
- taken within the boundaries of a specific procedure
- with a clear start and end

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### 1 case = 1 official file



Aim to have a complete overview and to follow the progress in a case

« Chef de file » Lead department Unit responsible for follow-up of a case

1 case = 1 official digital file



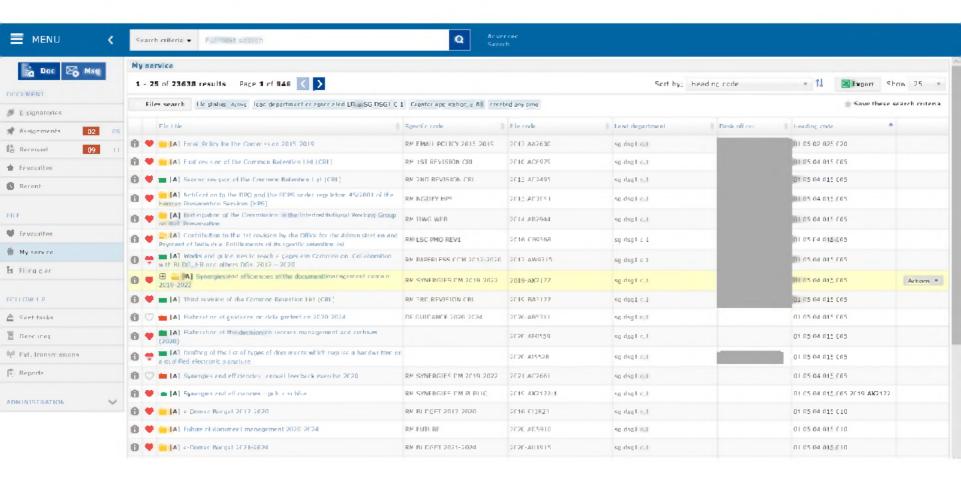
**Accountability** 

Ensure business continuity and transfer of knowledge

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### **Ares: Files list**





e-Damec: Introduction

# Filing plan





- [A] (01) Institution Commission
- H [A] (03) The Community economic and social area
- □ [A] (04) Citizenship and quality of life
  - (04.02) Environment
  - [A] (04.03) Education and culture
  - □ IA (04.04) Health and Consumer protection
    - [A] (04.04.01) Consumer Policy
    - ☑ ☑ [A] (04.04.02) Public Health
    - [A] (04.04.03) Food safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health
  - (04.10) Area of freedom, security and justice 2010-
- → International Relations

   International
- [A] (06) Financing of Community activities and the management of financial resources.
- [A] (07) Community law
- <u>■ [A] (08) Press, communication and publications</u>
- <u>⋈</u> [A] (09) Policy Strategy and coordination per DG
- [A] (10) Administration
- [a] [A] (11) Decentralised Agencies and Bodies
- [A] (12) External Action Common Foreign and security Policy
- 🖼 🌄 [A] (15) Activities of the Delegations and Offices of the European Union in Third Countries and to International Organisations

Thematic tree view (competences / duties)

Headings identified by a title and a numeric code

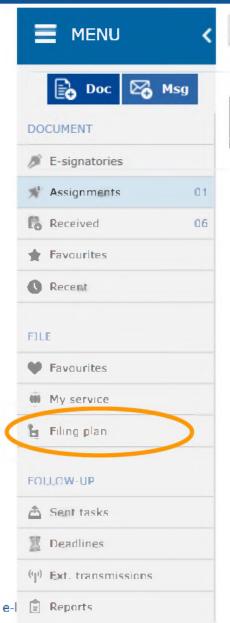
Multi-level from general to specific

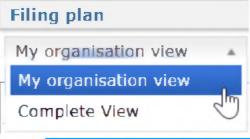
Objective: intellectual arrangement of files in function of the different competence domains / duties

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## **Ares: Access to Filing Plan**







#### First level of Filing Plan

- 01. Institution Commission, Composition & mandate of EC...
- **02.** Future of the Union and institutional questions
- 03. The Community economic and social area
- 04. Citizenship and quality of life
- 05. International Relations
- 06. Financing of Community activities and the management of financial resources
- 07. Community law
- OB. Press, communication and publications
- 09. Policy Strategy and coordination
- 10. Administration
- 12. External action Common Foreign and Security Policy
- 15. Activities of the Delegations and Offices of the European Union

### Different actors at the Commission



**Commission Level** 

Information
Management
Steering
Board

General policy

E-Domec team (SG)

Corporate policy implementation

**DIGIT** 

IT-tools

Historical Archives Service (OIB)

Archives management

In every DG's / Units

**DMO** Document Management Officer

> Responsible for document management in the DG

Team of the

Organisation of document management in each DG DMO correspondent

Organisation of document management in the unit

Every staff member

Head of Unit Administrator Assistant Secretary

DPC

Data Protection Coordinator LSO: Local Security Officer

LISO: Local Informatics Security

Officer

**RCO:** Registry Control Officers

**IRM** 

Informatics correspondent in each DG

**DPO**: Data protection Officer (Commission) **EDPS**: European Data Protection Service

(inter-institutional)

**HR DS**: Security Directorate



- 2 - Rules and tools to work better together

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# e-Domec: legal and regulatory rules



#### **Fundamental texts:**

- Commission Decision 2002/47/CE, CECA, Euratom: Provisions on document management
- Commission Decision 2004/563/CE:
   Provisions on electronic and digitized documents (DOCELEC)
- Revision in 2020: Commission Decision of 06/07/2020 on records management and archives (C(2020) 4482 final)

### Implementing rules:

**Reference text:** Implementing rules on Decision C(2020)4482 on records management and archives - SEC(2020)800

- Capture and registration
- Filing and records management
- Validity of digitised content and digital procedures
- Information security
- Preservation, transfer and destruction

Common retention list (CRL): SEC (2019) 900/2

Definition of the retention period and conditions for files

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## **Fundamental obligations**



#### Protection of personal data:

Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the **Union institutions**, **bodies**, **offices and agencies** and on the free movement of such data

#### Financial regulation:

Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (budget & financial management, accounting, public procurement and grant allocation, responsibilities of authorising officer, accounting officer, internal auditor, external audit and discharge procedure)

#### Security dispositions:

Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 et 2015/444: Implementation of a coporate security system in the areas of activity of the Commission that require a certain level of confidentiality and establishment of the conditions for exchanging EU classified information

#### Public access to documents:

Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents and Decision C(2001) 3714: regulation laying down the general principles and limits governing the right of access to documents held by the Commission (drawn up or reeived by it and in its possession)

# Regulation on the opening of archives after 30 years:

Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 354/83 of 1 February 1983 concerning the opening to the public of the historical archives of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community

#### Code of good administrative behaviour:

Annex to the Commission's Rules of Procedure (C(2000) 3614): Principles that form the basis for the relations between the Commission and the public : administrative conduct based on lawfulness, non-discrimination, proportionality of measures taken with the aim pursued, and consistency.

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# IT-Tools: HAN: Hermes – Ares – NomCom













### **Technical platform**

**Integrated system** for documents and files management

**Harmonisation** of records management applications across the Commission

**Simplification** of working practices within the DGs through the automation of certain tasks

Storage of **records** in a shared database (**central repository** or shared repository).

Strict security and access management

# **HAN: organisation**



Hermes Repository Services (HRS)

Integration of all applications at EC and local levels into HERMES-system

Commission applications Local **HERMES** applications Dépât ARES électronique cammun NOMCOM

**HERMES**: storage of registered documents in a central repository to all DGs.

#### NOMCOM Nomenclature Commune

Tool for managing the filing plan and the list of files of the EC, the EA, and the EEAS ARES
Advanced Records
System

Registration of documents and e-mail

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## Registration tools



#### **General register**

Ares

#### **Specific registers**

#### @Decide:

Consultation, e-Greffe

- ABAC Contracts
- •THEMIS : CHAP, EU PILOT, NIF
- Basil3

# Applications equivalent to a register

#### 

- Mips
- Poetry
- EU Learn
- Webdor
- Presto
- ...

# Integration Hermes

#### **@Gestdem**

- **Basis** (if integrated with Hermes)
- CRIS
- CASE@EC
- eGrants
- eSubmission
- eExperts
- PPMT
- ASSMAL2
- ...
- > A document must only be registered once, in the appropriate register
- List of applications integrated with Hermes:
  <a href="http://www.cc.cec/wikis/pages/viewpage.action?spaceKey=HRS&title=5.+Clien">http://www.cc.cec/wikis/pages/viewpage.action?spaceKey=HRS&title=5.+Clien</a>
  t+applications

# Ares: tracking tool for official files





- **®Work in « paperless » mode**
- e-Signataire : document management cycle (workflow) and hierarchical validation
- **@Automatic tracking of tasks**

**Preserve** 

- **Ounique registration of every record**
- **OStorage of records on a shared Commission server**
- Respect of preservation obligations

Retrieve

- Tile every record in an official file
- @Search by using the metadata of documents / files + « Fulltext »

•Guarantee

- Management of profiles and delegations (continuity of service)
- Management of access rights (documents EU RESTREINT / sensitive non-classified)

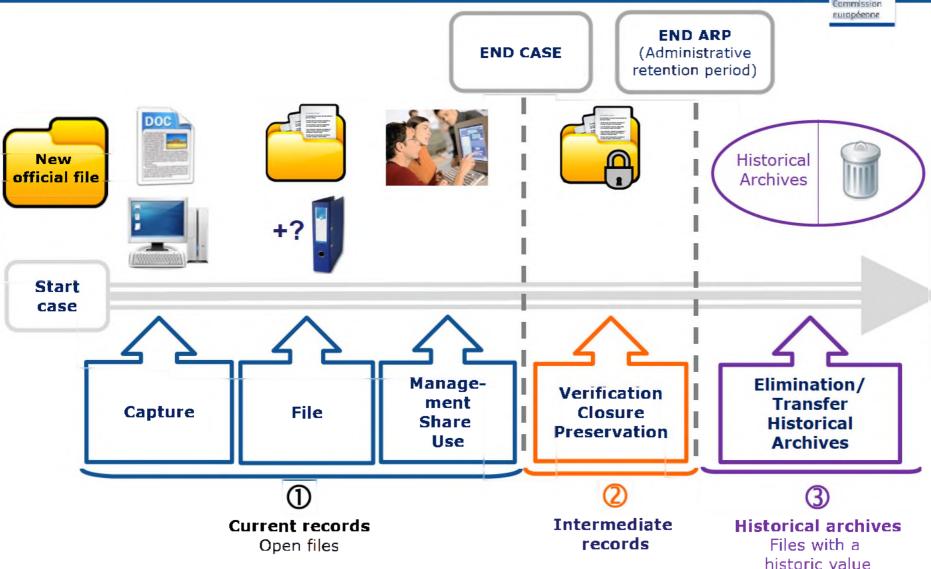


# - 3 The daily work in your unit

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# **Administrative lifecycle of files**





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# Shared competences and responsibilities



### Administrative responsibility



Chef de file (Lead Department) = Head of unit / File manager



- New case
- What needs to be captured
- Where to file documents
- Closed case
- Verify appraisal operations and transfer of files

## **Technical responsibility**



Secretariat / DMO Correspondent /
DMO Team /
Archives service /
File manager



- Create a new file
- How to capture
- How to file
- Close a file in Nomcom
- Preparing files for transfer

### Collaboration

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# Questions you need to ask in your unit







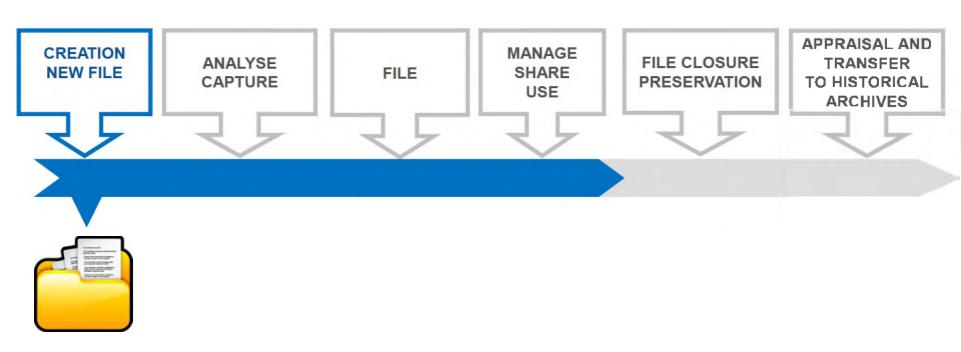




- How is a new official file created?
- Why capture documents?
- What documents have to be registered?
- Who registers / saves?
- Which registration tools are used?
- Why file documents
- Who files documents?
- What are the files of which we are « chef de file » (lead departement)?
- Are the files complete?
- How can I find the necessary information in a swift manner?
- How long do we need to preserve documents / files?
- Do we need to keep the paper documents?
- What are our obligations and responsabilities?
- Who can I talk to when I have a question?
- · ...???

# **Administrative lifecycle**





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# When to open a new file?





- When a new case starts: based on the needs of the file manager
- At the end of the year for cases with a repetitive nature (serial files)

#### or

When a record can't be filed in an already existing file

# Typology of files



### Official file



- Created in NomCom
- Available in Ares
- Managed by the service « Chef de file » (Lead department)
- Needs to be complete and trustworthy
- Can be controlled and audited
- Verified before closure and preserved within the intermediate records
- Eventually transferred to the historical archives

### Working file

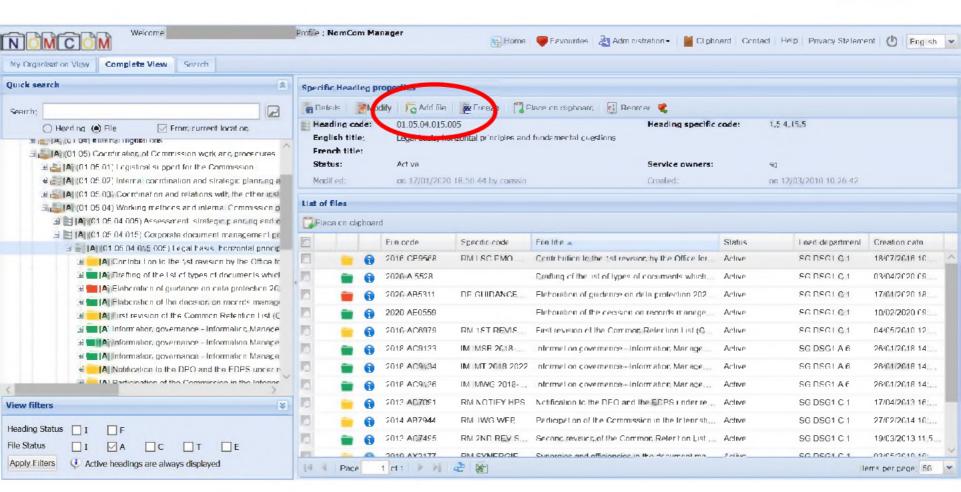


- Shared drives, collaboration spaces, folders in Outlook, ...
- Created freely
- No legal value
- Can be destroyed at any time
- Generally destroyed at the closure of the official file
- No transfer to the intermediate records nor the historical archives

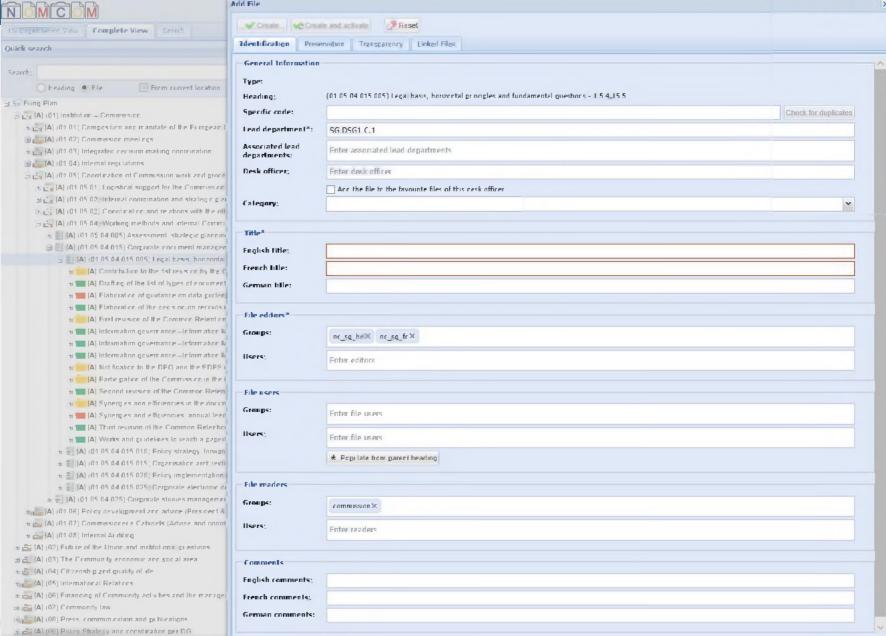
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# Creation of a file in NomCom (1)





# Creation of a file in NomCom (2)





### A well chosen title





#### Fundamental element

Allows the identification of the file during its lifecycle, included when it is transferred to the Historical Archives Service

#### Essential characteristics:

- ➤ **Informative**: gives information on the case handled without the need to review the files documents in the file
- Clear: can be read without looking at the item in the filing plan it is attached to
- Unambiguous: does not contain abbreviations, acronyms or jargon
- Accessible: the title needs to be in English and French

## Action file / Serial file



## **Action file**



- Unique case
- Duration a priori unknown
- Procedure for closure needs to be clearly determined



Title contains: Subject + Action

Example:
 10th European Development Fund
 African Peace Facility

## Serial file



- Repetitive case
- Duration is linked to a calender year or a budget cycle
- Always progresses according to the same procedure



Title contains: **Subject + Covered period** 

 Example: Relations with the Council (2020)

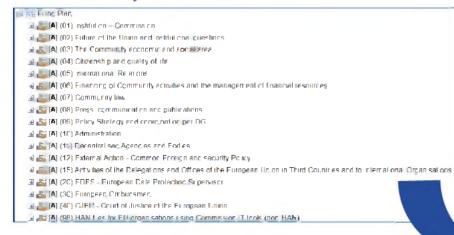
## Choose the heading of the filing plan



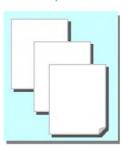
Headings of the filing plan: tasks undertaken by the Directorates general or related units

File: group of records concerning one action (case) as part of the Commission's activities

Captured documents







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## Consultation of the list of files



## Daily working tool

To have the list of official files

To know who is « Chef de file » (Lead department)

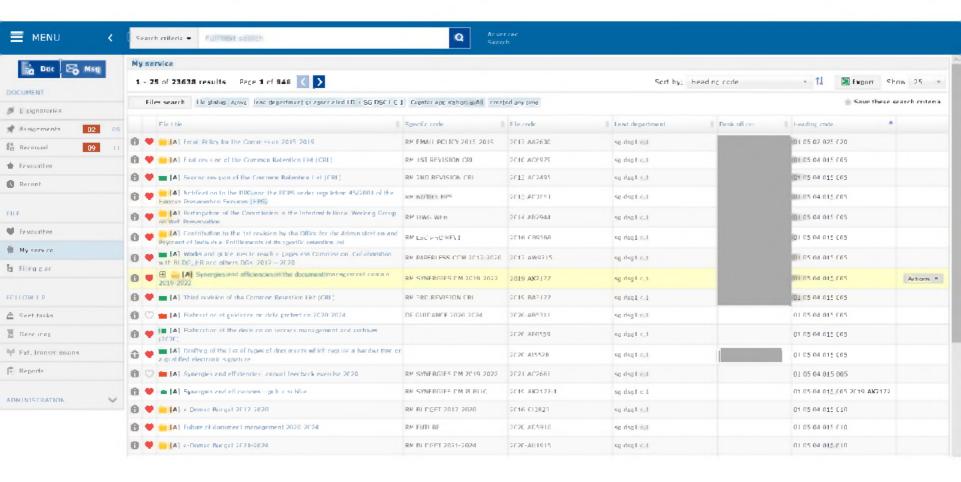
File documents in the matching file

Facilitates search and access to files and documents

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## Ares: Files list (1)



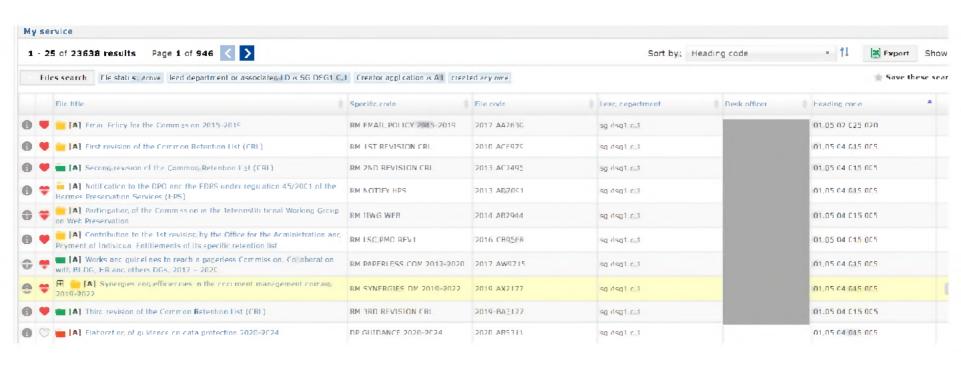


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## Ares: Files list (2)





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# Visibility of files

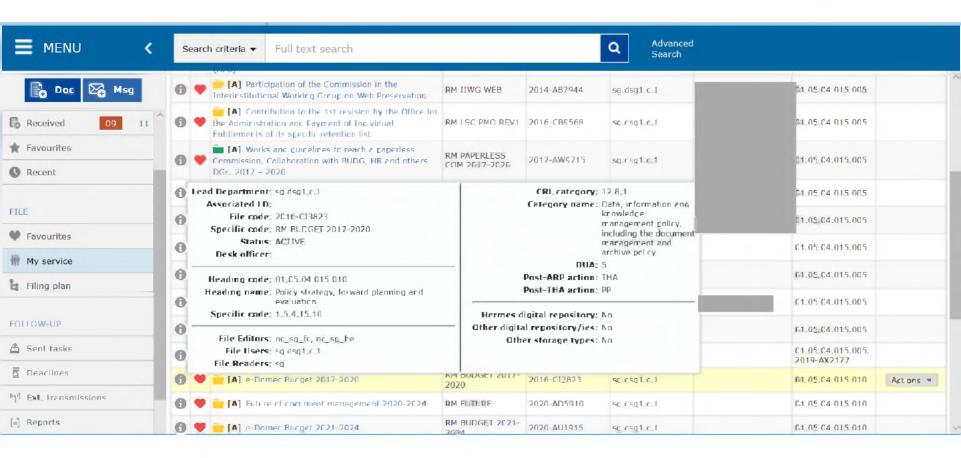


on.	Type of file	File readers/ File users	Label
	All	Hermes_group	File with visibility open to all HAN users
	Institution	Commission or an institution (ex: OMBU)	File with visibility Institution
	DG/ Service	At least one DG/service/agency (ex: TAXUD, ERCEA)	File with visibility DG/ Service <sup>[1]</sup>
	Limited	Administrative entity below the DG/service (ex: TAXUD.R.3; ERCEA.A.2) <sup>[2]</sup>	File with limited visibility
	PMO (beneficiary) file	This icon colour does not reflect the file security but refers to the specific type chosen when creating the file.	Specific file (PMO only)

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## **Ares: File properties**

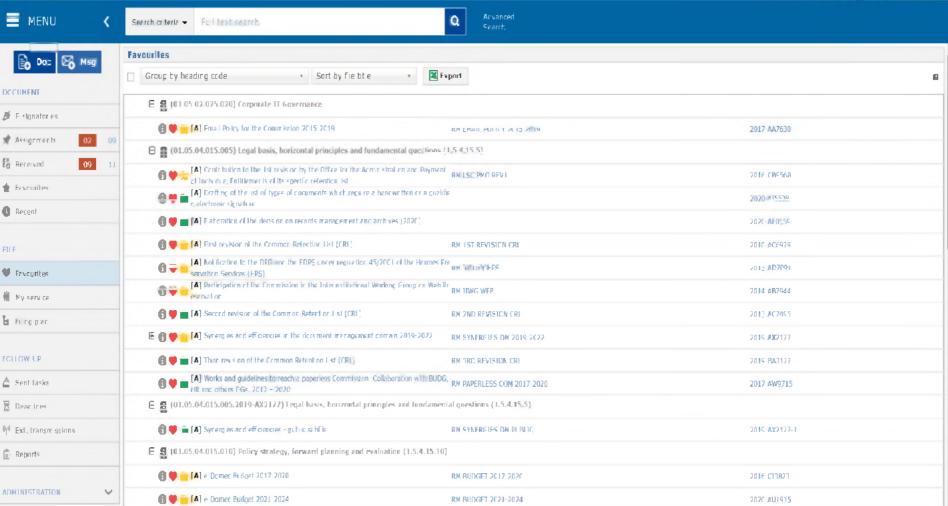




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## **Ares: Favorite files**





### Role of the desk officer





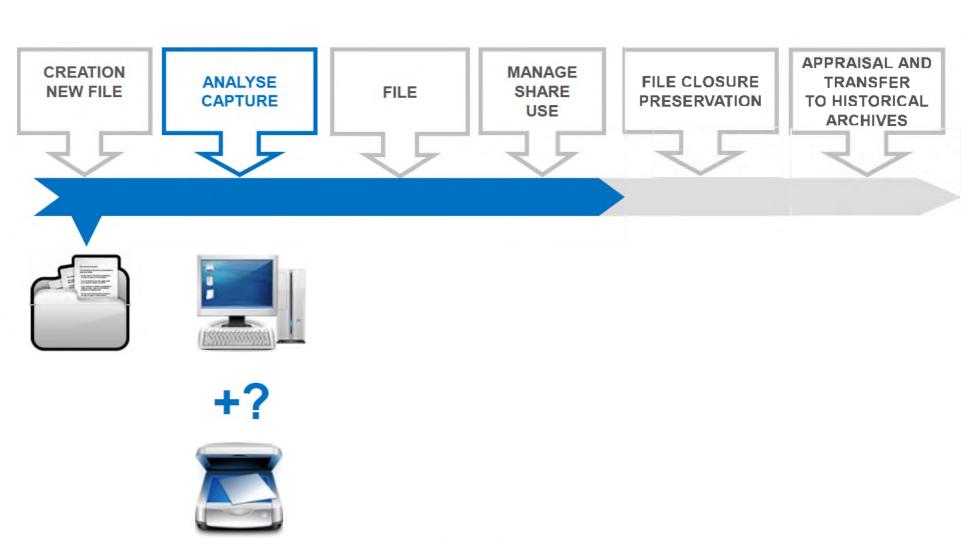


#### An essential role:

- Asks the unit's DMO correspondent to create a new official file when a new case is started
- Indicates wether the file is an action file or a serial file
- Suggests a title for the file
- Chooses the heading of the filing plan to which the file will be attached
- Adds the file to his/her list of Favorite files

## **Administrative cycle**





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## **Documents to capture**



Information useful for understanding a case or interesting for other colleagues / services



As evidence

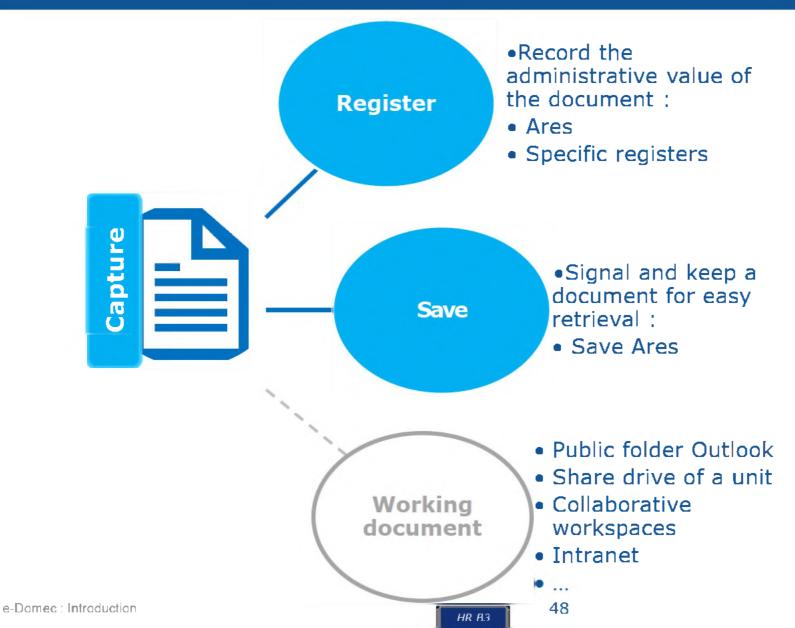
#### **Capture**

Enter a document in a records management system to keep and share it

Compliance with regulatory framework

## Capture = Register / Save





## Register?



Identify the document

Track the document to retrieve it

Register

=

Certifying the administrative value of the document

Certify the transmission and the reception

Manage effectively

## Document to be registered



# Documents with evidential value

Documents that are binding for the Institution

- Documents responding to a legal or financial obligation
- Documents sent to external partners
- Documents received requiring formal action of the Institution
- Internal documents (decisions, minutes) that are the basis for an action done in name of the Institution



- Registration needed -

## **Working documents**

Documents useful for the task but not indispensable for the understanding of the case

- External documentation
- Non validated working documents
- Preparatory documents (non validated versions)
- Copies



- No registration needed -

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## **Documents to capture**





### Formally drawn up or received

ы

Likely to require an action, a followup or a reply by a service

+

- » Contains information that is substantial, not short-lived
- Effective testimony of the activity performed



#### Tip = Document useful for :

- Audit
- Legal disputes
- Transmission
- Access requests



- Register the document
- File the document



#### Save and file

End

= keeps the document in an official repository

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## Registration of e-mails: Areslook







#### Important e-mails have to be registered

- Areslook : simple and effective tool to register emails from Outlook
- Systematically installed on all work stations
- Possibility to capture received and sent e-mails
- Converts the email and its attachments to PDF
- Transmission to external correspondents
- Respects the e-Domec rules

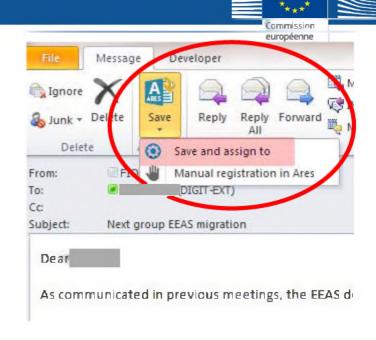
## Use of Areslook (1)

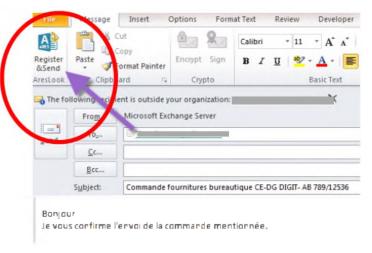
#### Received E-mails:

- Registration can be by all users
- 2 options :
  - "Save and Assign to": capture the email in Ares and assign the registration task to someone else
  - "Manuel registration in Ares": capture in Ares and complete the registration yourself

#### Outgoing e-mails:

- Registration is only possible for "Advanced profile" in Ares
- Outgoing e-mails adressed tot external recipients :
  - Possibility to use the « External transmission" function in Ares



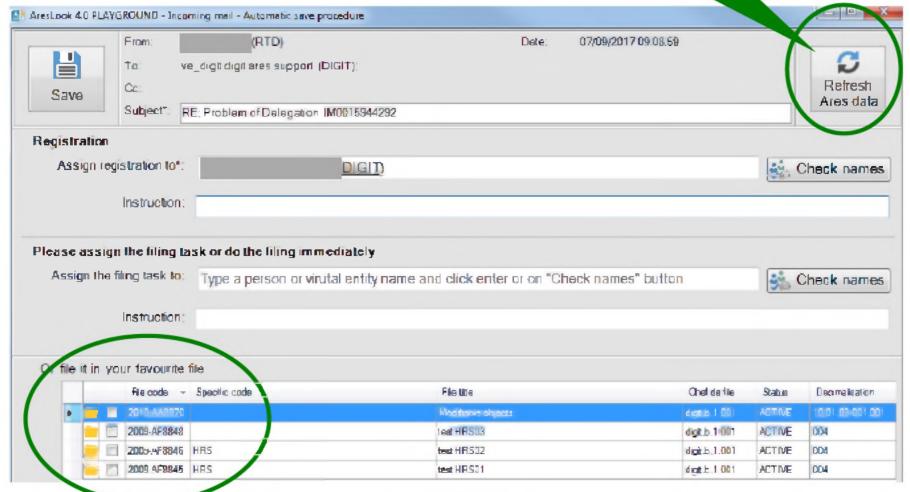


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## Areslook: Save and assign to



# Import favorite files



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## Use of Areslook (2)



Register With Areslook

Important e-mails exchanged with the exterior



MSG function in Ares

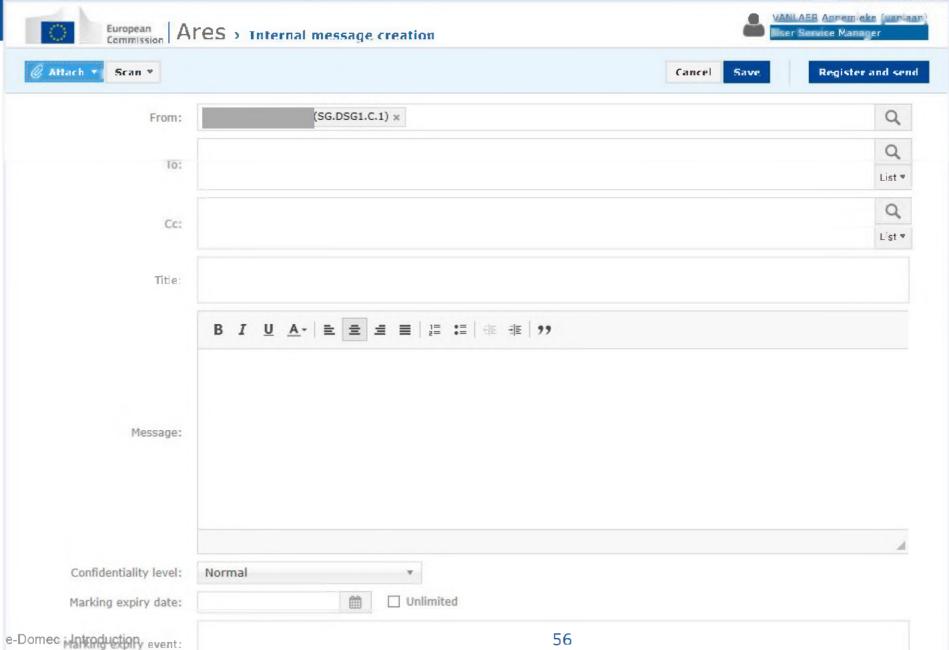
- Internal e-mail with specific content
- OUsed to send a registered document (transmission via Ares
- Possible to add a marking to sensitive e-mail
- On double notification Ares +
   Outlook

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## MSG: Internal message





### Learn to write clear emails





#### Do not forget: E-mails need to be well drafted!

- 1. Clear identification of the signing author
- 2. Clear identification of the main recipient
- 3. One, and only one, subject is treated
- 4. A single clearly described subject
- Absolutely forbidden to send a sensitive e-mail using Outlook
- List of attached files in the body of the message (name of the file and title of the concerned documents)
- Indication if any original paper documents will be sent afterwards

## Registration: do not forget







Note for the file (Ares)

Decisions taken are not present in other documents

Register

Simple summary of documents already registered and filed or Progress note

- Save and file
- Meeting minutes/ mission reports (Ares)

Written to trace important information

Minutes of meetings with lobbyists

Minutes of informal contacts (Note for the file)

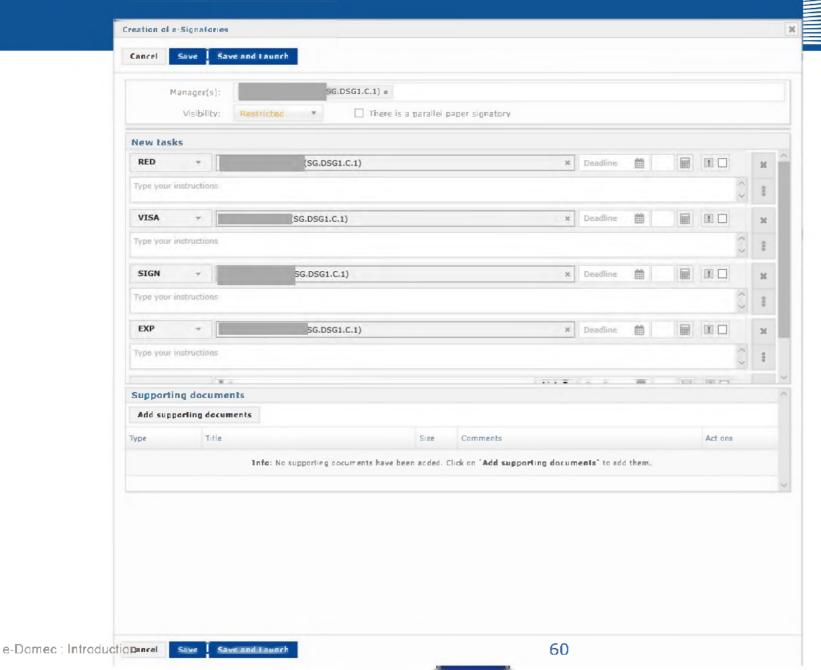
- Hand over (Ares)
- Mission reports (Ares)
- Briefings (Basis)

# **Ares: registration**



European Commission	nemieke (vanlaan) Nanager	
<b>⊘</b> Attach ▼ Scan ▼	Cancel Save Req	ister and send
Fram:		Q
To:		Q List ▼
Cc:		Q List ▼
Document date:		
Title:		
Confidentiality level:	Normal	
Marking expiry date:	□ Unlimited	
Marking expiry event:		
	➤ Show additional information	
File immediately:	File document	
Assign the filing task to:	Name Instructions	
Cancel Save Re-	eqister and send	

# Ares : e-Signataire

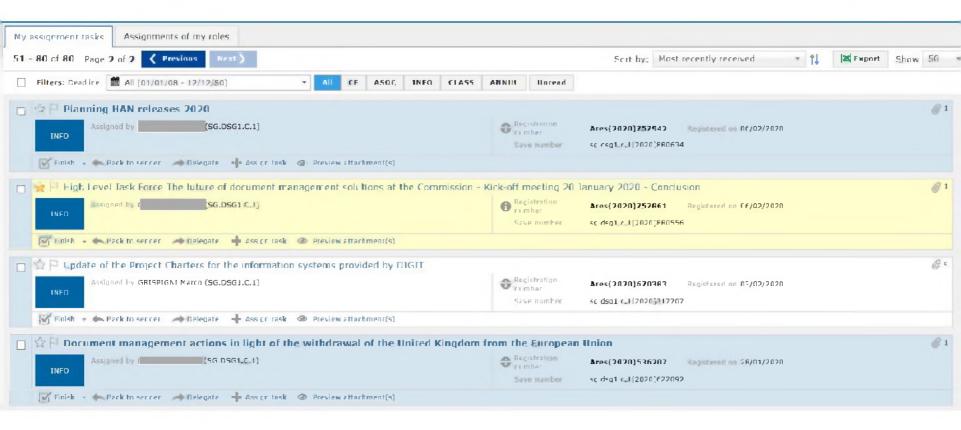


Commission

européenne

## Ares: follow-up of tasks

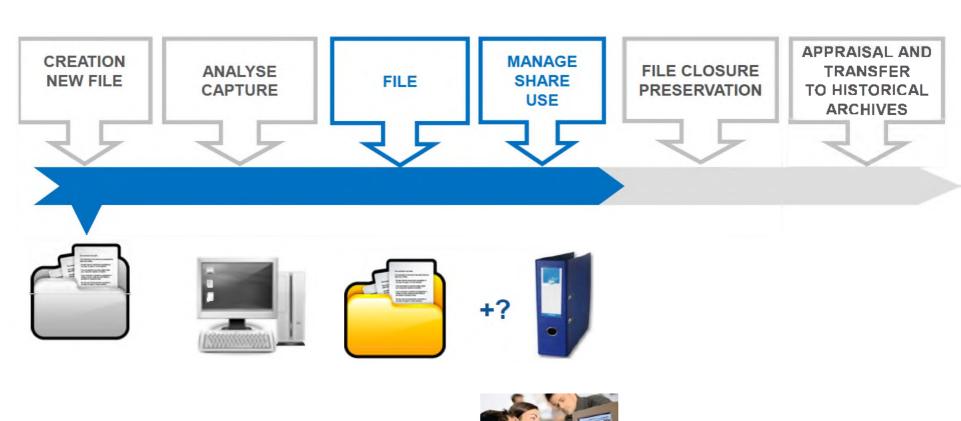




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# **Administrative cycle**



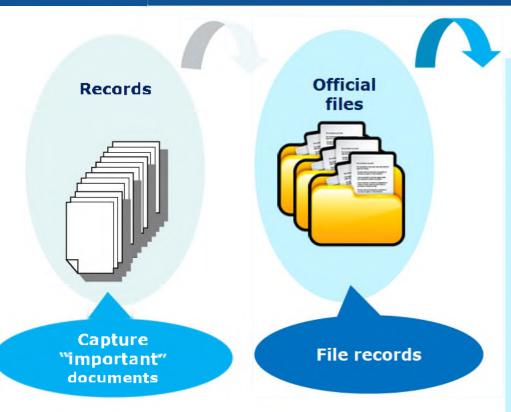


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## **Filing**





#### Filing plan:

- 01. Institution Commission
- 02. Future of the Union and institutional questions
- 03. The Community economic and social area
- 04. Citizenship and quality of life
- 05. International Relations
- 06. Financing of Community activities and the management of financial resources
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- 15. Activities of the Delegations and Offices of the European Union in Third Countries and to International Organisations

Organisation of files



**SHARE - RETRIEVE - USE - PRESERVE** 

## Why file?





#### Complete and reliable files permit:

- quick and easy retrieval of useful information
- easier collaboration
- accountability
- easier mobility

Each registered document needs to be filed in an official file

The official file is the real working instrument

## Filing documents





Registered / saved document

Define

 Choose one or more themes/subjects the document could be filed under

Search

 Search in the list of official files for the file or files it should be filed in

File

•File the document in one or more files

Store?

•If necessary, indicate the file code on the paper original to be preserved and place it in the paper file

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## How to make filing easier







#### Quality of the file title

Meaning of the document title

#### Crucial role of the desk officer:

- Asks the DMO correspondent to create a file
- Knows what files the unit manages
- Ensures that every captured documents is filed in the right file
- Indicates to the person responsible for filing in which file the document needs to be filed (or files the document directly in the right file)
- Accesses his / her documents using the favorite files option

# Digital preservation and / or paper?



Implementation of e-Commission where electronic is the default (C(2020) 4482, art. 4)

First set of document types that must only be preserved in their electronic form (SEC (2020) 800, chapitre V.2)

#### In certain cases:

Obligation to preserve the paper originals or documents that can't be digitized

Store these documents in a paper file that is an addition to the electronic file

e-Domec : Introduction 67

## Filing and storing



#### **REGISTRATION**











Official electronic file





- Originals with legal value
- « Classified » documents
- Documents that can't be digitized

#### **STORING**

Additional official paper file

# Use of the unit's shared drive / Collaborative workspaces









### Only a working environment

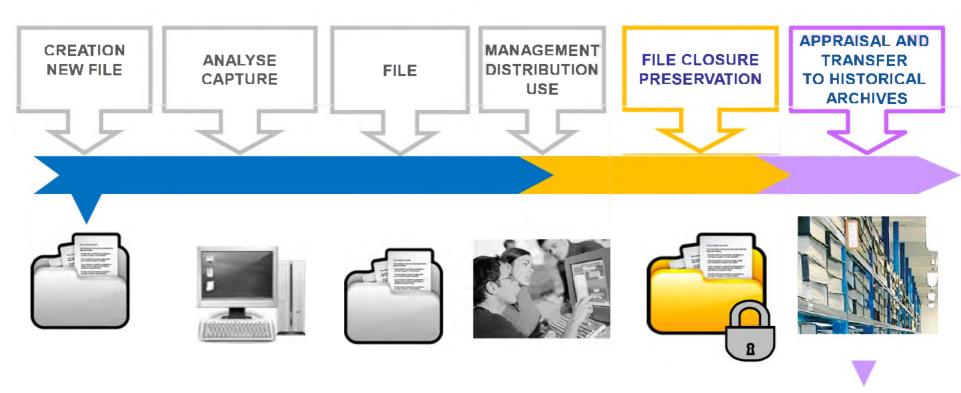
Allows storage and sharing of electronic information that has no legal value

**Suggestion**: organise according to a (simplified) filing plan

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## **Administrative cycle**





e-Domec : Introduction 7

## **Obligation: file closure**





#### Files to close?

Every official file has to be closed at some point

#### When?

All the actions triggered by the case are finished and no further documents to be created or added to the file

#### How?

Closure implies a check of the file content

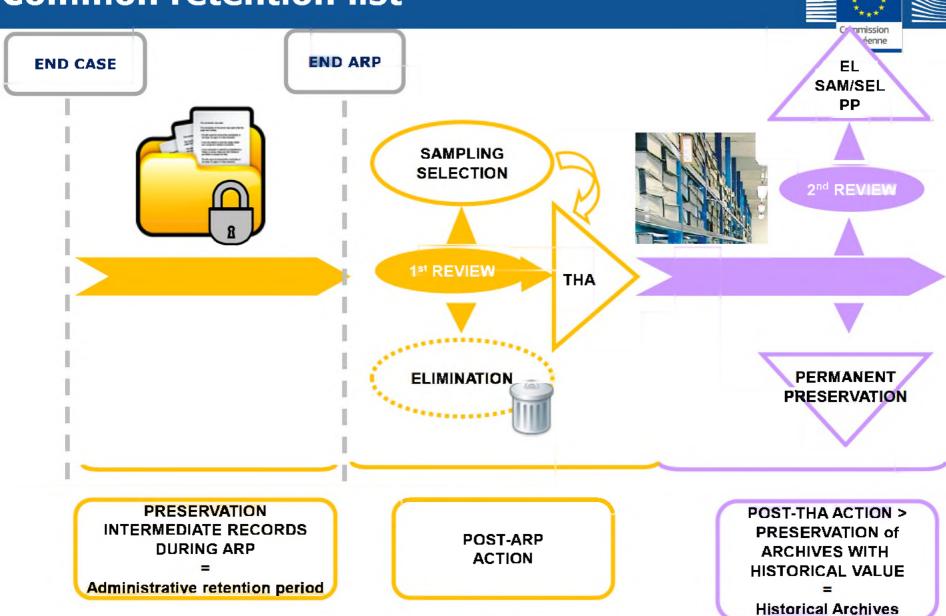
#### Consequences of the closure?

A closed file can no longer be modified

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# Applying the CRL: <u>Common retention list</u>

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# e-Domec Summary and conclusion

## Who does what within the unit?



#### Desk officer

#### **MONITORING OF THE FILE:**

- Asks the DMO correspondent to create new files
- Suggests a title and chooses the heading in the filing plan
- Demands the closure of the file when the case is finished

## **CAPTURE:**

- Transmits or signals all document to be registered / saved (including important e-mails)
- Verifies regularly that the official file is complete

### FILING:

- Ensures all registered documents are filed in the correct file
- Places or indicates the personin charge of arrangement in which file a document must be placed

## **DMO** correspondent

#### ORGANISATION:

- Adapts the implementation to the specificities of the unit
- · Educates / informs
- Verifies conformity to the rules
- Alerts head of unit in case of problems

#### FILE MANAGEMENT:

- Creates the new official electronic files
- Establishes the storage plan: rules of preservation of physical official files
- Closes files: sends a list of potentially closable files once a year
- Organises the management of the Intermediate records and files

#### **COORDINATION:**

 Participates in meetings of the DMO correspondents

#### Secretariat

### **CAPTURE:**

- Registers / saves documents in the correct records management system
- Organise the administrative follow-up (e-signatory)
- · Links documents

#### FILING:

 FILES the registered documents in the appropriate official file

#### SEARCH:

 Searches for documents and files in the correct systems

#### ORGANISATION:

- Instructs / alerts the DMO correspondent and the head of unit in case of problems
- Educational mission: informs the desk officer on unit's practical way of working

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## Chef de file?



Head of unit

Person responsible for a given decision

Service or unit responsible for a case's follow-up

## A record?



Information on paper

A set of information

A collection of organised information

# Capture information as a record?



Digitize a document

**Duplicate a document** 

Enter a document in a records management system in order to preserve and share it

# **Registration?**



Enables document storage

Enables swift and easy document retrieval

Provides evidence of the administrative value of a document drawn up or received by a service during its activities

# A record to register?



- Can be on any medium (paper, electronic, ...)
- Has a link with the Commission's policies, activities and decisions
- Contains important information = useful for the activity

## An official file?



Content in a folder on the shared drive

Content of a binder

- Collection of documents about the same case that is organised in a coherent manner
  - = official electronic file (NomCom / Ares)
  - + Additional official paper file (?)

# Filing?



Store documents in an orderly fashion in a binder

Organise all documents when the case has ended

Add all documents related to the same case to an official electronic file

## Closure?



- Check that the file is complete
- Preserve the file in the Intermediate records

Transfer the file to the Historical Archives

## If you want or need to know more ...



## In your unit/service

- DMO correspondent : reference person :
  - Manages the file list of the unit
  - Information and advice concerning e-Domec
  - Link between the unit and the DMO

## At central level in your DG:

- DMO (Document Management Officer)
  - Adapts and implements the system of document and files management within the DG
  - Educates, informs, assists staff
  - Implements tools for control and follow-up

## **Intranet site of your DG**

**Intranet site: e-Domec** 

## **Additional courses**



## **Specific e-Domec courses:**

- > e-Domec SECR: secretaries
- e-Domec DMO-CAD-CDMO:
  - DMO (Document management Officer)
  - DMO Team
  - DMO correspondents in the units
- > e-Domec CTT: Preservation Appraisal Transfer
- > e-Domec Chef de file: Heads of unit and Desk officers



# Thank you for participating!