



## Official Compilation (AS / RO / RU) and Revised Compilation (BS / RS / CS).

### Nature of data

The Revised Compilation records the status of the federal law as of 01.01.1948. On this basis, the Official Compilation updates the amendments to the federal law. The Revised Collection and the Official Collection are available online as PDF files on the Official Publications platform (<https://www.amtsdruckschriften.bar.admin.ch/start.do>).

### Data on opendata.swiss

The Swiss Federal Archives have digitised the Official Collection and the Revised Collection in the three national languages German, French and Italian. It has commissioned the IT company “sugar-cube” to prepare the digitised material as XML files and to produce a consolidated list of the legal classification in the form of CSV tables. These data are now available on opendata.swiss for the period 1948 to 2018 in accordance with the international standard for legal texts Akoma Ntoso (XML-AKN).

### Files

ZIP file	Title	Number of files	Status
FedLex_de_BS_1848-1947	Bereinigte Sammlung der Bundesgesetze und Verordnungen 1848-1947 (BS)	2799	06.11.2020
FedLex_de_AS_1948-2018	Amtliche Sammlung des Bundesrechts (AS)	41841	06.11.2020
FedLex_de_AS_Classification	Systematisches Verzeichnis der geltenden Erlasse	1	06.11.2020
FedLex_fr_RS_1848-1947	Recueil systématique des lois et ordonnances 1848-1947 (RS)	2734	06.11.2020
FedLex_fr_RO_1948-2018	Recueil officiel des lois fédérales (RO)	42003	06.11.2020
FedLex_fr_RO_Classification	Table systématique des textes législatifs en vigueur	1	06.11.2020
FedLex_it_CS_1848-1947	Collezione sistematica delle leggi e ordinanze federale 1848-1947 (CS)	2770	06.11.2020
FedLex_it_RU_1948_2018	Raccolta ufficiale delle leggi federali (RU)	41274	06.11.2020
FedLex_it_RU_Classification	Indice sistematico degli atti legislativi in vigore	1	06.11.2020

### Data quality

#### XML files

The XML files were generated in a largely automated process from the OCR text of the digital copies. The data is therefore not 100% error-free. However, the data is suitable for quantitative and statistical analyses.

Figures and some tables were saved as image files in png and svg formats.

## CSV files

### *Extracted variables*

Variable	Description
code	Index number of classification
sys	Place of reference in classification
part	Part: internal law (IN) / international law (EX)
chapter	Top level of classification
subchapter	Sub-level of classification
section	Sub-level of classification
subsection	Sub-level of classification
source	Organ of publication
volume	Volume or year of publication
page	First page of decree
valid_from	Date of adoption of a decree
valid_to	Date of expiry of a decree
fct	Nature of decree
refers_to	Reference to initial decree
id	id (compound of volume_page) for connection to decree as published in the Official and Revised Compilations
type	Type of decree
content	Designation of decree

The CSV files have been reconstructed from scanned documents. The extracted text content is therefore prone to OCR recognition errors. The data is given as is, and is subject to errors and misclassifications (e.g. fct, type).

Dates are not error-free, due to OCR and date format issues. They should be used with caution. For instance, when more than one date was found as a potential valid\_from date, the oldest one was used by default.

Index numbers of classification (variable "code") have deep structures (e.g. IN.172.221.152.1). Logically, the deeper a title code is, the more prone it is to error.

Titles of classification (chapter, subchapter, section, subsection) have been normalized to counter both OCR errors and syntactic variations. However, various title declinations have not been merged in order to keep their relevant historical evolution (e.g. « Relations économiques. Commerce et industrie » vs « Relations économiques. Commerce, industrie, arts et métiers ».)

## Connection between compilations and classification

The XML files of the Official and Revised Compilations can be connected to the legal classification by the variable "id" in the CSV tables. The variable "id" is a compound of the variables "source", "volume" and "page" (AS\_1967\_548 or BS\_4\_193).

A corresponding id can be constructed from the data of the XML files.

### XML files of Official Compilation

Construct id with the following elements:

- Acronym of organ of publication and year as extracted from file name
- First page of decree as extracted from XML-tag "actFirstPageNumber"

E.g. AS\_1967\_548

### XML files of Revised Compilation

Construct id with the following elements:

- Acronym of organ of publication as extracted from file name
- First page of decree as extracted from XML-tag "actFirstPageNumber"
- Volume (column (B)) derived from chapter (column (A)) according the following lists.

E.g. BS\_4\_193

Directories _1947_02 to _1947_29 = internal law (IN)	
(A)*	(B)*
1	1
2	1
3	1
4	2
5	3
6	3
7	3
8	4
9	4
10	4
11	5
12	6
13	7
14	8
15	8
16	9
17	10
18	10
19	10

Directories _1947_31 to _1947_51 = international law (EX)	
(A)*	(B)*
1	11
2	11
3	11
4	11
5	11
6	11
7	12
8	12
9	12
10	12
11	12
12	12
13	12
14	13
15	14
16	14
17	14
18	14

- \* (A) XML tag <publication, vol= ...> (representing main chapter of classification)  
 (B) Volume needed for constructing key to classification

### Quality issues

- For a few XML files the id does not provide a connection to the classification.
- In a few cases, where several short decrees are printed on the same page, the id is not unique.