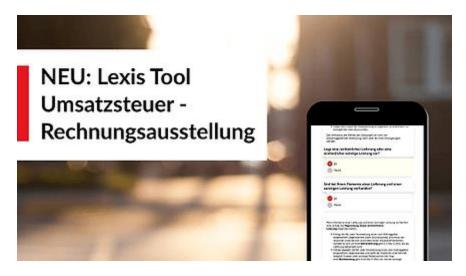
## ErbRechner



LexisNexis wished to develop an <u>inheritance calculator</u> which could reliable solve complicated inheritance entitlements under Austrian law.

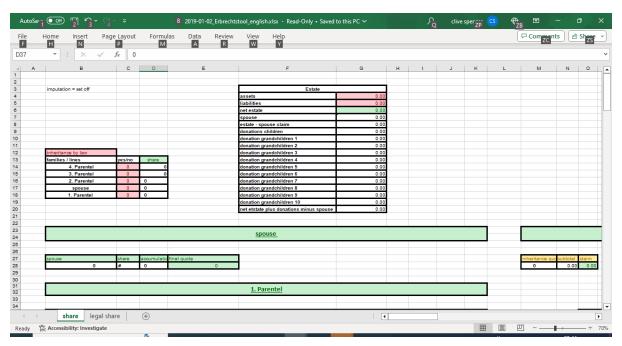
In 2019, LexisNexis Austria approached LPA about developing the back-end rule-based logic for such a tool.

LPA built a prototype in 10 days to prove that their approach was viable and then spent several weeks refining and testing the calculator and extending it to handle some of the more obscure cases. This included the definition of a suitable JSON structure to communicate the data between the front-end UI and the back-end calculator.

LexisNexis commissioned a contractor to develop an attractive front end for the web deployment.

ErbRechner was developed in under 10 weeks and made available on the LexisNexis website for over 4 years.

Dr.Matthias Brand, a leading expert in the logic of inheritance law, provided an Excel spreadsheet which calculated all inherited and compulsory parts due to entitled family members (quotas and amount).

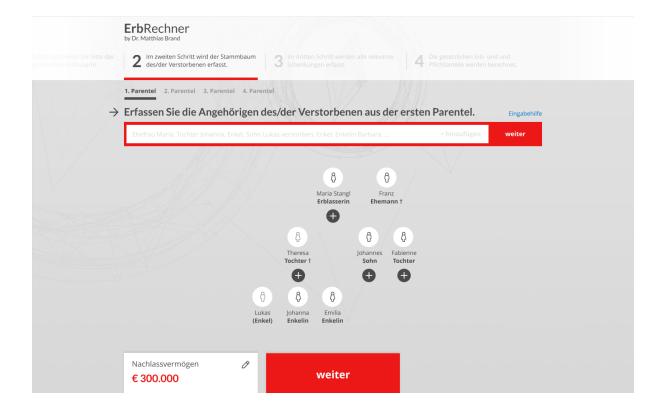


This served as a specification for LPA, along with the book of regulations in German and English.

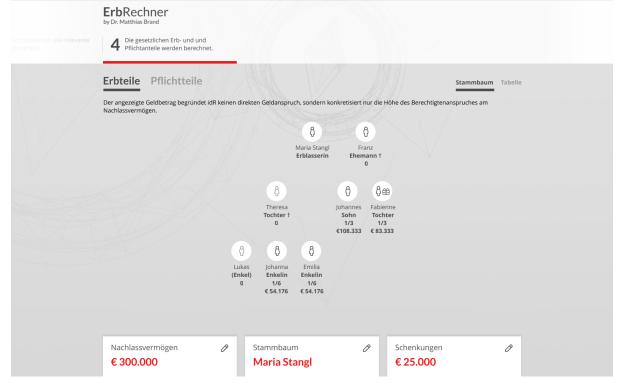
The calculations were often complicated, as the number of family members entitled to a portion theoretically was very large. It could include the spouse, parents and children as well as any number of siblings, grand-children, great grandchildren, nephews and nieces.

In the case where entitled inheritors had pre-deceased the deceased, then that could trigger another layer or two of exploration and calculation.

In the first step, the inheritance is recorded in the front end and split into assets and liabilities. These can be further defined into subcategories, such as cash, real estate or loans, tax debts, etc.



In the second step, the testator's family tree is recorded up to the fourth parentel using an innovative text input. Compared to a classic structure, text entry has the advantage that the family tree can be built much more quickly. The classic structure of attaching nodes using the plus symbols was also supported.

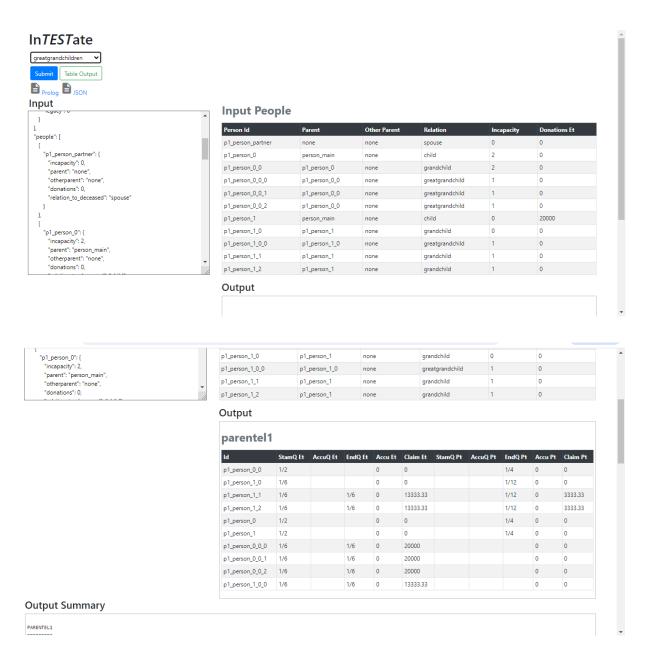


In the third step, gifts to the heirs are recorded again in the front end as these can potentially affect entitlements.

In the fourth step all the recorded data is passed to the backend calculations developed by LPA. The LPA Prolog based calculator was packaged up as a REST service which could be deployed both as a hosted service or installed on-prem inside the firewall.

A JSON representation was defined which could represent all the family members and this was used to connect the two.

To help develop and test the JSON, a test page was established with numerous test cases:



The back-end Prolog-based inheritance engine calculates the "family tree including inheritance rates and amounts" and returns the results to be displayed graphically.

The front end makes the advice and entitlements clear, so the future testator can see at a glance how his or her assets will be divided.

