

International & Foreign Law Research Resources
Legal Writing IV Equivalency

Spring 2009

International Law: Treaties

Treaty Materials – Finding Aids

- *U.S. Treaties in Force*
JX231 .U56 [Reference Desk]
<http://www.state.gov/s/l/treaty/treaties/2007/index.htm>
Allows the user to locate treaties to which the U.S. is currently a party. The online version is now updated throughout the year instead of only annually

- *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary General*
KZ171 .M86 [8th floor]
<http://treaties.un.org/Pages/ParticipationStatus.aspx>
Similar to the item above, although it covers all treaties deposited at the United Nations

- *Multilateral Treaty Calendar*
JX171 .W55 1998 [Reference Desk]
Christian L. Wiktor
A helpful resource for locating treaties that might not be covered by the above two sources, or that might be no longer in force

- *World Treaty Index, 1900–1980*
JX171 .R63 1983 [8th floor]
Peter H. Rohn
Similar to above

Treaties – Full Text

- *United Nations Treaty Collection*
<http://treaties.un.org/Pages/Home.aspx?lang=en>
The new database of treaties deposited with the United Nations, including those published in the *United Nations Treaty Series* (UNTS) and the *League of Nations Treaty Series* (LNTS)

- *United States Treaties and other International Acts Series* (“TIAS”)
JX235.9 .A32 [8th floor] **and**
United States Treaties and other International Agreements (“UST”)
JX231 .A34 [8th floor]

The official sources of treaties to which the United States is a party, but only since 1950; other sources need to be consulted for older treaties; for more complete runs of UST & TIAS, in PDF format, use the library's electronic subscription to HeinOnline

- *United States Statutes at Large*
KF50 .A3 V.1 [9th floor]
U.S. treaties reprinted until about 1948. Now available in PDF in HeinOnline.
- *Senate Treaty Documents*
<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/serialset/cdocuments/index.html>
Treaties not yet published in UST or TIAS can often be found here
- *International Legal Materials (ILM)*
JX68 .I5 [8th floor]
Also available in PDF format on HeinOnline
This is an “unofficial” source, but is often the first resource that contains the text of new or recent treaties in print
- LEXIS & Westlaw: Note that Lexis & Westlaw also both have extensive coverage of treaties

International Law: Generally

- *American Society of International Law Research Guides*
<http://www.asil.org/erghome.cfm>
A very well maintained and exceptional set of research guides on various topics of international law; lots of hyperlinks to authoritative Websites
- *Electronic Information System for International Law (EISIL)*
<http://www.eisil.org/>
EISIL is a search engine of international law resources that includes more than 1,500 selected sources organized into 13 subject groups and dozens of subcategories; easily find the basic documents and treaties on a variety of international law topics
- *GlobaLex*
<http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/>
Research guides for international, comparative, and foreign law; very helpful for learning how to do research in different areas of international law or in the foreign law of many jurisdictions
- *LLRX Comparative/Foreign Law Research Guides*
<http://www.llrx.com/category/1050>
Similar to the above

International Law: U.N. Resources

- *U.N. Documentation Centre*
<http://www.un.org/documents/>
Source for PDF images of the most important UN documents (such as all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions) from 1946-present.
- *Official Document System of the U.N.*
<http://documents.un.org/>
ODS covers all types of official United Nations documentation, beginning in 1993. Older UN documents are, however, added to the system on a daily basis. ODS also provides access to the resolutions of the General Assembly, Security Council, Economic and Social Council and the Trusteeship Council from 1946 onwards; thus ODS is more in depth than the UN Documentation Centre above, but does not go back as far for many documents
- *Yearbook of the United Nations*
<http://unyearbook.un.org/>
JX1977 .A37 Y4 [8th floor; most recent at Reference Desk]
A good source for finding information on what the UN did in a particular year on a particular topic; a good source for locating documents
- *International Court of Justice*
<http://www.icj-cij.org/>
Provides the full text of almost all of the ICJ's decisions (though only abstracts for some early cases); also provides briefs and other materials for many cases filed in the court

International Law: E.U. Resources

Executive Branch

- European Commission
http://europa.eu.int/comm/index_en.htm
Roughly analogous to the President & Cabinet, the European Commission is made up of a commissioner elected by and from each member state and proposes legislation and policy
- European Council
Made up of the presidents and prime ministers of each member; meets twice a year

- European Central Bank
<http://www.ecb.int>
Analogue to the U.S. Board of Governors and Federal Reserve System. Creates monetary policy and issues the Euro currency.

Legislative Branch

- Council of the European Union
<http://ue.eu.int/en/summ.htm>
Members are ministers from member states; works in tandem with the parliament; analogue to the U.S. Senate
- European Parliament
<http://www.europarl.eu.int>
Directly elected by member state citizens and proportionally to the member states' populations. Although somewhat analogous to U.S. House, does not have same degree of power as the Council of the European Union.
- Committee of the Regions
<http://www.cor.europa.eu/>
A committee composed of lower-level officials from member states (local, municipal, regional) that issues opinions on legislation affecting regional or local interests.
- Economic and Social Committee
http://www.eesc.europa.eu/index_en.asp
Issues opinions on legislation affecting economic and social issues.

Judicial Branch

- European Court of Justice
<http://curia.europa.eu/en/transitpage.htm>
The "supreme court" of the EU.
- Court of First Instance
Despite it's name, really an intermediate appellate court, though it sometimes sits as a trial court.

Other Resources

- *A Good Overview to Researching European Union Law:*
Duncan E. Alford, "European Union Legal Materials: A Guide for Infrequent Users," 97 Law Library J. 49 (2005), available at
http://www.aallnet.org/products/pub_llj_v97n01/2005-03.pdf

- *Official Journal of the European Communities*
JN15 .A3 (Legislation)
JN15 .I6 (Index)
JN15 .O36 (Information & Notices)
JN15 .O37 (Special Edition)
JN15 .S85 (Supplement)
JN15 .S851 (Supplement, Special Edition)
JN15 .S86 (CD-ROM)
JN32 .O36 (Debates of Euro. Parliament)
[8th floor, except CD-ROM at Reference]
Official source of EU documents, but most are now available online below
- *EUR-LEX*
<http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/en/index.htm>
Online access to the Official Journal and other documents of the European Community.
- *Reports of Cases before the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance*
KJE5461 .C68 [8th floor]
<http://curia.eu.int/en/content/juris/index.htm>

Foreign Law

- *CLEA: Collection of Laws for Electronic Access*
<http://www.wipo.int/clea/en/>
World Intellectual Property Organization's database of foreign IP laws
- *Constitutions of Dependencies and Territories*
K3157 .E5 C66 [8th floor]
- *Constitutions of the Countries of the World*
K3157 .A2 C66 [8th floor]
- *EcoLex*
<http://www.ecolex.org/start.php>
A database collecting environmental legislation, case law, and literature from around the world, operated jointly by FAO, IUCN, and UNEP.
- *Foreign law: current sources of codes and basic legislation in jurisdictions of the world*
<http://library.kentlaw.edu/eresources/index.htm>
Provides an overview of the legal history and legal structure of virtually every country of the world and provides citations and bibliographies for each country's legislation, regulations, and case law, and is hyperlinked to official online sources where available

- *Governments on the World Wide Web*
<http://www.gksoft.com/govt/en/>
A source for locating official government Websites
- *Institute of Global Law*
http://www.ucl.ac.uk/laws/global_law/
Includes translations of some foreign case law & statutes
- *International Constitutional Law*
<http://www.oefre.unibe.ch/law/icl/index.html>
A source for the constitutions of many nations
- *Law Library of Congress: Guide to Law Online, Nations of the World*
<http://www.loc.gov/law/guide/nations.html>
Provides online access to legal sources from a variety of countries
- *Legal Information Institutes*
World Legal Information Institute: <http://www.worldlii.org/>
A collection of Websites that provide free access to case law, legislation, regulations, and in some cases secondary legal materials, such as law review articles, for hundreds of jurisdictions around the world
- *Legal Systems of the World*
K48 .L44 2002 [Reference Desk]
Herbert M. Kritzer, ed.
Comprehensive 4-volume set describing the legal systems of each country of the world, as well as U.S. states, Canadian provinces, multinational court systems, etc.
- *NATLEX*
http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.home
An International Labour Organization database of national labor, social security, and human rights legislation.

Legal Periodicals

Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals

Searchable index of articles in foreign legal periodicals; available via the Library's electronic resources collection: <http://library.kentlaw.edu/eresources/index.htm>