

GUIDE SERIES 6 – INTERNATIONAL LAW



Guide #6B - HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH

This guide is intended to provide researchers with a starting place to find basic documents, treatises, and articles in the field of International Human Rights. The research guide will focus on sources in international human rights resources available in English. This guide will list both print and electronic sources. This list is by no means exhaustive.

GENERAL SOURCES

The following are general sources that will provide you with an overview of international human rights.

Buergenthal, Thomas. *International Human Rights in a Nutshell*. St. Paul, MN: West Co., 3rd ed., 2002. (K3240.4 .B84 2002, Open Reserve).

Donnelly, Jack. *International human rights*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2nd ed., 1998. (JC571 .D753 1998, Law Stacks).

Lawson, Edward, compiler. *Encyclopedia of human rights*. Washington, DC: Taylor & Francis, 2nd ed., 1996. (JC571 .E67 1996, Open Reserve).

Research Sources

The following books and articles are recommended as sources on how to begin your research in international human rights.

Jacques, Lyonette Louis and Weissbrodt, David. "Bibliography for research on international human rights law," 13 Hamline L. Rev. 673 (1990) (Law Periodicals) Also available on the Internet: www1.umn.edu/humanrts/bibliog/BIBLIO.htm

Newman, Frank C. and Weissbrodt, David. *Selected international human rights instruments and bibliography for research on international human rights law*. Cincinnati, OH: Anderson Pub.Co., 1996. (K3240.4 .N39 1996, Law Stacks).

O'Connor, Linda Karr. "International and Foreign Legal Research: Tips, Tricks," 28 Cornell Int'l L.J. 417 (1995) (Law Periodicals).

Rehberg, Jeanne and Popa, Radu D. *Accidental tourist on the new frontier : an introductory guide to global legal research*. Littleton, CO: F.B. Rothman, 1998. (K85 .A27 1998, Law Stacks).

Tobin, Jack (John J.) and Jennifer Green. *Guide to human rights research*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Law School, Human Rights Program, 1994. (K3236 .T62 1994, Law Stacks).

Basic Instruments

International human rights law is treaty-based. Locating and reading the appropriate treaty or instrument is necessary to doing thorough research. Below is a list of books in the Golden Gate University Law Library that contain many of the treaties and documents important in doing research in this area. Do not forget to search *International Legal Materials (ILM)* located in Law Periodicals. *ILM* reprints significant documents in international law. In addition, to help you locate treaties, use Law Library Research Guide # 6A on how to locate treaties.

Aldredsson, Gudmundur and Melander, Goran. *The Raoul Wallenberg Institute compilation of human rights instruments*. The Hague; Boston, MA: M. Nijhoff Pub., 1997. (K3238 .R36 1997 Law Stacks).

Brownlie, Ian. *Basic documents on human rights*. Oxford (England), Clarendon Press; NY: Oxford University Press, 4th ed., 2002. (K3238.A1 B76 1992 Law Stacks).

Buergenthal, Thomas and Sohn, Louis B. *Basic Documents on international protection of human rights*. Indianapolis, IN: Bobbs-Merrill, 1973. (JC575 .B38 Law Stacks).

International human rights instruments of the United Nations, 1948 – 1982. Pleasantville, NY, UNIFO Pub., 1983. (K3238 .I57 1983 Law Stacks).

Langley, Winston E., editor. *Human rights: sixty major global instruments introduced, reprinted, and indexed*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 1992. (K3238 .H859 1992 Law Stacks).

Lillich, Richard B. *International human rights instruments: a compilation of treaties, agreements and declarations of especial interest to the United States*. Buffalo, NY: W.S. Hein Co, 2nd ed., 1990 (K3238.A1 I536 1990 Law Stacks).

Lockwood, Carol Elizabeth, editor. *The international human rights of women: instruments of change*. Washington, DC: American Bar Association, Section of International Law and Practice, 1998. (K644.A35 I568 1998 Law Stacks).

Newman, Frank and Weissbrodt, David. *Selected international human rights instruments*. Cincinnati, OH: Anderson Pub. Co., 1990. With 2001 supplement. (K3240.4 .N39 1990, Law Stacks).

United Nations Treaty Database. Available from Law Library web site at http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary/virtual/online_resources. Click on "United Nations Treaty Collection." (If you are accessing this service from off-campus, you will need to enter your GGU ID number to gain access.)

Varenes, Fernande de, editor. *Asia-Pacific human rights documents and resources*. The Hague; Boston, MA: M. Nijhoff Pub., 1998 (KM572.A35 A84 1998 Law Stacks).

Microfiche

The Law Library holds the League of Nations Treaty Series, the U.N. Treaty Series, Hein's U.S. Treaty Series, and U.N. Documents and Publications in microfiche. Please access the index and materials in the Lower Level, Room B-2. We also have the *U.N. Yearbook* from 1946-2000 on CD-ROM. Ask at the Reference Desk for this item.

Cases

Cases are often difficult to find. *ILM*, mentioned above, is one of the best sources in which to find major human rights cases. Also, the Internet is an excellent source of case decisions in this area. See the Internet section below.

The following sources contain human rights cases:

European Commission of Human Rights. *Collection of Decisions. Recueil de decisions*. Strasbourg: European Commission of Human Rights. Vols. 35-40. (JC585 .C694, Law Stacks).

Nash, Susan, and Mark Furse, editors. *Essential human rights cases, 2nd ed.* Bristol: Jordan Pub., 2002. (KJE 5131 .E87 2002 Law Stacks).

Ramcharan, B.G., editor. *The Principle of legality in international human rights institutions : selected legal opinions*. The Hague; Boston, MA: M. Nijhoff Publishers, 1997. (K3239.23 .P75 1997 Law Stacks).

PERIODICAL SOURCES

Periodical Indexes

An effective way to locate articles is to use a periodical index. These indices access many periodicals at once. The Law Library subscribes to many of the periodicals indexed, but not all. After compiling a list of cites, check the online catalog to see if the Law Library subscribes to the periodicals. If the library does not subscribe to a periodical, you can request that item be obtained through interlibrary loan. To request an interlibrary loan, consult a librarian.

Hard Copy Indexes:

Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals. (Law Periodicals)

Index to Legal Periodicals. (Law Periodicals)

Electronic Indexes:

Hein Online: http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary/virtual/online_resources. (If you are accessing this service from off-campus, you will need to enter your student ID number to gain access.)

Hein Online offers access to International and non-U.S. law journals, the Treaties and Agreements Library, and the European Center For Minority Issues.

LegalTrac. (Access from http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary/virtual/online_resources. If you are accessing this service from off-campus, you will need to enter your student ID number to gain access.)

Lexis: You can search all the law reviews by going into the Law Review (LAWREV) library and by selecting the Law Reviews Combined (ALLREV) database. You can also reduce the number of periodicals you search by going into the International Law (INTLAW) library and selecting the International Law Review (INTLR) database.

Westlaw: You can search the law reviews in the Journals and Law Reviews combined (JLR) database. In addition, you can limit your search to only international law journals by researching in the International Law – International Reviews, Texts, and Bar Journals (INT-TP) database.

Legal Periodicals

Listed are some examples of legal periodicals that would be of interest for human rights research. This list is by no means exhaustive, but rather gives an idea of what is available in the library. All of the titles owned by Golden Gate University Law Library are located in Law Periodicals, on the lower level.

American Journal of International Law
International Legal Materials
Human Rights Quarterly
Human Rights Law Journal
Columbia Human Rights Law Review
Harvard Human Rights Law Journal

The Law Library has also compiled a listing of International and Comparative law journals held by GGU, Boalt Hall, Hastings, and USF. This may be accessed at <http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary/specialcollections/intlawjournals>.

INTERNET RESOURCES

The Internet abounds with information on international human rights. Listed below are some of the many worthwhile sites that can be found. Several of the web pages are guides to researching international human rights on the Internet and are valuable sources for finding quality information on the topic. Start by visiting the Law Library's page at www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary/virtual/intlegal.

Research Guides

American Society of International Law (ASIL), *ASIL guide to electronic resources for human rights*. www.asil.org/resource/home.htm

Derechos Human Rights. *Concise guide to human rights on the Internet*. derechos.org/human-rights/manual.htm

Guide to Human Rights Research. Harvard University. <http://www.law.harvard.edu/library/research/topics/index.html#IK>

United Nations Dag Hammarskjold Library. *United Nations Documentation: Research Guide on Human Rights*. www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide/spechr.htm

Major Human Rights Documents

Listed below are the sites to several of the more important international human rights documents. This list is not complete, but will provide you with primary sources links most often used in human rights.

Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/instree/e1cedaw.htm>

Council of Europe. <http://www.coe.int/>

Protocol No. 11 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, restructuring the control machinery established thereby
CETS No.: 155

<http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/Commun/QueVoulezVous.asp?NT=155&CM=7&DF=22/10/04&CL=ENG>

Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief

<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/instree/d4deidrb.htm>

European Convention on Human Rights <http://conventions.coe.int/>

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. scm.oas.org/Reference/english/english.htm

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights <http://www.corteidh.or.cr/>

Universal Islamic Declaration of Human Rights <http://www.alhewar.com/ISLAMDECL.html>

International Bill of Human Rights www1.umn.edu/humanrts/instree/auob.htm

International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination
www1.umn.edu/humanrts/instree/d1cerd.htm

International Government Organizations

International Labour Organization (ILO). <http://www.ilo.org/> includes: International Labour Standards and Human Rights

Organization of American States. <http://www.oas.org>

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. <http://www.ohchr.org/english/>

Universal Declaration of Human Rights www1.umn.edu/humanrts/instree/b1udhr.htm

Cour Internationale de Justice / International Court of Justice <http://www.icj-cij.org/>
ICJ official web site; includes Statute, judgments, advisory opinions, orders, press communiques/releases

Courts and Cases

The sites listed below provide human rights decisions and information about the courts, commissions, and committees.

European Court of Human Rights. <http://www.echr.coe.int/>

Inter-American Court of Human Rights. (In both English and Spanish)
<http://www.corteidh.or.cr/>

International Criminal Court <http://www.un.org/law/icc/index.html>

International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia <http://www.icty.org/>

International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda <http://ictt.org/>

Other Relevant Web Sites

There are numerous organizations, associations and universities with an interest in human rights. The sites listed here a small selection of the many organizations represented on the Internet.

Amnesty International <http://www.amnesty.org/>

Derechos Human Rights <http://www.derechos.org>

Human Rights First (formerly: Lawyers Committee for Human Rights)
<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/>

Human Rights Internet <http://www.hri.ca/>

Human Rights Watch <http://www.hrw.org>

Project Diana: Online Human Rights Archive at Yale <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/default.asp>

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library <http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/>

For Further Information Consult a Librarian

GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY

LAW LIBRARY
2009 – 2010

<http://www.ggu.edu/lawlibrary>