**Guide to Electronic Sources of International Law**

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**Introduction**

Several fundamental problems confront those seeking to find the sources of international law. First and foremost, at the conceptual level, there is no constitutional ‘machinery for the creation of rules of international law’ so that the notion of ‘formal sources’ is misleading (Crawford 2012, 20). Additionally there is the phenomenon of ‘fragmentation’ of international law (see e.g. Koskenniemi 2007; Shaw 2014, 46). What we can search for is evidence of ‘general consent of states [that] creates rules of general application’; sources that may provide such evidence are, for example, decisions of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), United Nations General Assembly resolutions and various ‘law-making’ multilateral treaties (Crawford 2012, 20). But these ‘sources and evidences’ are extensive, diffuse and decentralized. Even locating them is a challenge.

Although there is still no substitute for a fully equipped law library, this vast range of potentially relevant materials is increasingly accessible on the internet. This account of electronic sources conforms to the categories of Article 38(1) of the ICJ’s Statute (see Charlesworth, Chapter 8 of this volume), but adds some additional materials, not specifically identified in the Statute. These are: Section 5 which deals with ‘Other Sources’, such as UN Resolutions and ‘soft law’; and Section 6, listing ‘Guides, Encyclopaedias and Digests’ which are useful as starting points for searches on particular problems or topics.

Particular topics (e.g. human rights, environmental law, and specialised aspects therein) are sometimes viewed as generating independent bodies of law, but they are still part of the general corpus of public international law. Thus materials relevant to such topics are nested within several of the main categories here outlined. Researchers will need to adopt systematic strategies for tracking down required items: a good guide to formulating plans for such cross-referencing can be found in Hoffman and Rumsey (2012, chapter 9).

Tips for searching will be shown [within square brackets, in 10 point font, thus].

**1. International Conventions**

According to Article 38(1) of the ICJ Statute, international conventions are agreements ‘general or particular’ which establish ‘rules expressly recognised by the contesting states’. They take the form of written bilateral or multilateral treaties (agreements, conventions, protocols, covenants, etc) between states and/or international organisations.

A few general comments as to the location and arrangement of treaty materials should be made (for a useful guide, see Gardiner 1997; Gardiner 2008).

* Finding the complete and authentic text of a particular treaty may depend on correctly citing its full title, and its date and place of signature.
* There is no central register for the recording, publication and indexing of treaty texts or related, materials (in contrast to courts and other bodies such as the United Nations, European Union, etc).
* The public may have no right to access materials relating to a particular treaty and there is no rule of international law requiring a state to publish a treaty (on this point, see Aust, 2013, 303).
* There is no uniform source of current data on the parties to a particular treaty (i.e. no uniform source of ‘status lists’).
* The *travaux préparatoires* (i.e. preparatory work) for treaties may not be published, in full or at all.

**1.1 General Treaty Sources**

**1.1.1 *United Nations Treaty Collection* [UNTC]**

This is the most comprehensive treaty repository of image-based texts, which includes status information, reservations and declarations. Useful compilations on UN treaty procedures and terms are the Treaty Handbook[[2]](#footnote-2) and the Glossary.[[3]](#footnote-3) In addition, there is a Cumulative Index and a Handbook of Final Clauses. [Not possible to search by treaty citation, but there is a helpful guide].[[4]](#footnote-4)

The two most important databases in the UNTC are:

(a) *United Nations Treaty Series.* Comprises treaties registered or filed with the UN since 1946. Includes over 200,000 treaties and related subsequent actions. Also contains current status lists. [Use the ‘Advanced Search’ function. Beneath each link to a treaty text, there is a table with a variety of information on the circumstances of signature/ratification/accession by individual member states. UNTS registration number and date facilitate searching. Delays in translation into English and/or French mean that UNTS publication can be delayed, so for recent treaties, first try International Legal Materials].

UNTS also includes the *League of Nations Treaty Series*. [Much of the metadata (e.g. title, date, parties, etc.) are missing so use Full Text tab to search].

(b). *Status of Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary General.* Gives current status (signatures, ratifications, reservations, etc.) of over 560 multilateral treaties for which the UN is the depositary. There are also sections on Depositary Notifications and Certified True Copies. [In the Status Table, countries underlined are those which registered reservations, declarations, etc., at the time of signing or ratifying].

**1.1.2 *Consolidated Treaty Series***

Includes texts of bilateral and multilateral treaties concluded between 1648 and 1919 (some only in the vernacular). Comprises 231 volumes with Party Index and chronological list. Since 2014 accessible via OUP subscription service.

**1.1.3 *Council of Europe***

Produces the *Council of Europe Treaty Series*[[5]](#footnote-5) with over 200 treaties, including the European Convention of Human Rights. Timely posting of new protocols as well as status information on all treaties.

**1.1.4 *European Union***

The Europa website is a useful resource.[[6]](#footnote-6) Treaties and other documentation can also be found on the EURLex portal.[[7]](#footnote-7) N-Lex[[8]](#footnote-8) links to legislation in national databases of 24 member states. See guides from University of Exeter[[9]](#footnote-9) and American Society of International Law.[[10]](#footnote-10)

**1.1.5 *National Treaty Collections***

Many states publish their treaties ingovernment gazettes, journals or official treaty series. In the UK, treaties need to be enacted into law by Parliament to be effective domestically**.** They are then published as Command Papers (in pdf since 1999 on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office website).[[11]](#footnote-11) [Note: treaties that have come into force ‘on signature’ generally do not appear as Command Papers, and need to be sought in the UK Treaty Series (Aust 2013, 305)].

The FCO *UK Treaties Online*[[12]](#footnote-12) provides access to over 14,000 UK treaties, from 1832 till present. It includes pdf versions of original maps. It also includes some translations of treaties from original languages. [Place of signature can be useful for finding treaties, e.g. ‘Trianon’ produces the 1920 *Treaty of Peace between the Allied and Associated Powers and Hungary and Protocol and Declaration*].

Recent materials on US treaties can be found on the US State Department’s website, on the Treaty Affairs page.[[13]](#footnote-13) Lexis,[[14]](#footnote-14) Westlaw,[[15]](#footnote-15) HeinOnline[[16]](#footnote-16) are useful. For a general overview of US treaty collections see Hoffman and Rumsey (2008, 82-97) and Pratter (2008, 423-32).

If a particular treaty in the UNTC or a national treaty collection cannot be found, websites or sponsoring international organisations should be consulted, while foreign ministries may also be able to provide data, particularly status information. The FLARE Index to Treaties (see below) may also be useful.

**1.1.6 *Treaty Portals, Sources and Guides***

**EISIL**[[17]](#footnote-17) is an open database of annotated links to authenticated primary and other materials.

**Minnesota Human Rights Library**[[18]](#footnote-18) is an open database of treaties and other documents related to human rights.

**Avalon**[[19]](#footnote-19) contains documents in the fields of Law, History, Economics, Politics, Diplomacy, Government. Includes some treaties.

**International Legal Materials**[[20]](#footnote-20) **(ILM)** prints selected current international and foreign documentation including selected treaties and cases. More current than UNTS (but much less comprehensive

**Scholarly Treaty Guides**[[21]](#footnote-21) are mainly by law librarians.

**1.1.7 *Indexes***

**FLARE Index to Treaties:**[[22]](#footnote-22)Details of over 1,500 multilateral treaties from 1856 to the present. [Also directs users to **original** sources of older treaties when only the text of later, amended versions is available on a depository website.] Treaties selected from *Multilateral Treaties: index and current status*, compiled and annotated by Bowman and Harris (1992), as well as *ILM*.

***World Treaty Index*:[[23]](#footnote-23)** Documents bi-and multilateral treaties entered into during 20th Century. Not full text, but citation data allow statistical analysis of treaty topics etc. Contains >69,000 treaty citations.

**1.2 Specific Areas**

International and regional organizations publish treaties for which they are depositaries, e.g. the International Labour Organisation in the area of labour law or the International Committee of the Red Cross for humanitarian law. If such organisations do not carry the original text, consult one of the older print collections (e.g. Martens[[24]](#footnote-24) or British and Foreign State Papers[[25]](#footnote-25)). [Older treaty series may be located through the *FLARE Index*].

**1.3 Treaty Interpretation**

Animportant aspect of treaty interpretation is the preparatory material(*travaux préparatoires*) which includes ‘written material such as successive drafts of the treaty, conference records, explanatory statements by an expert consultant at a codification conference, interpretative statements by the chairman of a drafting committee and ILC Commentaries’ (Aust 218 - 219). Useful starting points include the comprehensive review by Pratter,[[26]](#footnote-26) and—for the legislative history of many UN instruments—the International Law Commission.[[27]](#footnote-27)

**2. International Custom**

Customary international law is extracted from state practice informed by *opinio juris.* Sources include diplomatic correspondence, policy statements, official manuals, state legislation, international and national decisions (Crawford 2012, 24). Shaw draws attention to General Assembly resolutions, the work of the International Law Commission, treaties and other general practice of international organisations (Shaw 2014, 58). A useful guide is produced by the University of California, Berkeley Law Library.[[28]](#footnote-28)

**2.1** **Foreign Ministry Websites**

Such websites provide information on states’ foreign policy and positions on specific issues. The FCO has manuals on diplomatic law (e.g. Consular Services[[29]](#footnote-29) [Click ‘Policies, Do key word search for “consular”. This leads you to “Supporting British nationals overseas”]. The US State Department produces Guidelines[[30]](#footnote-30) and its online ‘*Digest of International Law*’ supplements the print *Digest of United States Practice in International Law[[31]](#footnote-31)*. For sites worldwide see US Institute of Peace.[[32]](#footnote-32)

**2.2 State Legislation**

**2.2.1 UK** ***House of Commons Parliamentary Papers***[[33]](#footnote-33)

Database of over 200,000 sessional papers from 1715 to the present, with supplementary material such as journals and private acts, published by the House of Commons and—from 1688 to 1834—the House of Lords.

**2.2.2 *FLAG Foreign Law Guide***[[34]](#footnote-34)

Internet gateway providing descriptions of primary materials from foreign jurisdictions held in UK libraries. Includes holdings for obscure jurisdictions with no official government websites.

**2.2.3 *Foreign Law Guide***[[35]](#footnote-35)

Subscription database compiled at University of California, Berkeley. Includes materials from 189 jurisdictionsand scholarly accounts of constitutional legal histories and comments on legislative and judicial systems. Also cites English translations or digests of particular laws. For further useful guides see: IALS Research Guides [[36]](#footnote-36), Bodleian Law Library Guides[[37]](#footnote-37), Globalex,[[38]](#footnote-38) LLRX Country Guides,[[39]](#footnote-39) and WorldLII.[[40]](#footnote-40)

**2.3 Yearbooks & equivalents**

Produced annually by scholarly committees, law societies and universities. They summarise developments in international law and government practice, including decisions of international tribunals and digests of national cases. One of the most prestigious is the *British Yearbook of International Law*.[[41]](#footnote-41) There is no American equivalent yearbook but the *American Journal of International Law* fulfils a similar function. Several yearbooks are available electronically from HeinOnline.[[42]](#footnote-42)

**3. General Principles of Law**

See the research guide published by the Law Library of Oklahoma City University.[[43]](#footnote-43)

**4. Judicial Decisions & Teachings of Publicists**

In accordance with Article 59 of the ICJ Statute, ICJ decisions have no force except between the parties and in relation to the particular case. More generally, there is no doctrine of binding precedent in international courts and tribunals. The writings and opinions of jurists play some role in judicial decision-making, but the ICJ, for its part, does not cite individual writers even when it may have relied on them.

**4.1 Judicial Decisions**

There are very many international adjudicatory bodies and in the absence of any systemic hierarchy between them sources are widely scattered. National courts too deal with international law in different ways. No single text encapsulates the work of all these bodies, but the Project on International Courts and Tribunals (PICT) attempts to keep abreast of the main developments (see below). The following account is merely a summary and is loosely based on the classification used in Mackenzie *et al* (2010), which presents the work of PICT.[[44]](#footnote-44)

**4.1.1 *Global Courts***

**International Court of Justice.**[[45]](#footnote-45)Establishedin 1945. Succeeded the Permanent Court of International Justice. Judicial arm of the UN with general jurisdiction over inter-state disputes. The basis for jurisdiction is consensual. Also entitled to give Advisory Opinions to the UN and authorised institutions. The Court’s website is timely, comprehensive and includes briefs, transcripts, final judgments, dissenting and separate opinions, and complete PCIJ documentation from 1922-46. Further sources include ILM, Westlaw, LexisNexis.

**International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS).**[[46]](#footnote-46)Operational since 1996. A permanent UN court with compulsory jurisdiction over certain areas, in accordance with Articles 287 and 288 of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Seabed Disputes Chamber can also exercise jurisdiction over disputes which involve private parties. Authorised to give advisory opinions. To date, twenty-one cases have been submitted to the Tribunal.

**World Trade Organization Dispute Settlement (WTO).**[[47]](#footnote-47)Established in 1994. Comprises the Dispute Settlement Body, *ad hoc* panels and a standing Appellate Body. At the centre of this elaborate system is the arrangement for referring disputes to panels made of independent experts. Principle of free choice of means is largely absent. Proceedings initiated by request for consultation or dispute settlement. Panel Reports are liable to review by the Appellate Body. Once litigation stage is complete, a political body called the Dispute Settlement Body ensures implementation. Decisions are available on Westlaw and Lexis. Subscription databases proving summaries and analysis include TradeLawGuide[[48]](#footnote-48)and WorldTradeLaw.net.[[49]](#footnote-49)

4.1.2 *Arbitration Institutions*

Permanent Court of Arbitration **(PCA).**[[50]](#footnote-50) Established in 1899. Supports *ad hoc* arbitral proceedings, particularly in investor/state matters, for which it provides registry support and hosts oral proceedings. Selected cases available from court website and from *Reports of International Arbitral Awards*(section 4.1.5 below).

**International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID**).[[51]](#footnote-51) Established 1965. Creates institutional framework for arbitral tribunals and disputes between host states and foreign investors.

**Other resources for Investment Law –** ITA,[[52]](#footnote-52) UNCTAD,[[53]](#footnote-53) CLOUT[[54]](#footnote-54), ICC,[[55]](#footnote-55) TDM,[[56]](#footnote-56) KluwerArbitration,[[57]](#footnote-57) Investor-State LawGuide,[[58]](#footnote-58) Westlaw[[59]](#footnote-59), Transnational Dispute Management [[60]](#footnote-60). Further useful guide from ASIL.[[61]](#footnote-61)

**4.1.3 *European Courts***

**European Court of Justice (ECJ).**[[62]](#footnote-62) Established in 1951 by the European Community Treaty. Since 2009 it has been known as the Court of Justice of the European Union. Its role (Art 220) is to ‘ensure that in the interpretation and application of this treaty, the law is observed.’ It reviews the legality of the acts of EU institutions, compliance by member states of their obligations; and ensures uniform interpretation and implementation of EU law. The court’s website (Curia) provides access to case law since 1953. See Institute of Advanced Legal Studies guide.[[63]](#footnote-63)

For Courts of Justice of other Economic Communities, see Mackenzie *et al* (2010, 278-328).

**European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR).**[[64]](#footnote-64) Established by European Convention on Human Rights 1950. Handles complaints from states and individuals in 47 states party to the ECHR. Applications initially assessed for admissibility, then subjected to ‘friendly settlement’ in line with the Convention and its protocols before being passed on to a hearing. Judgements are binding. To date has handled over 200,000 petitions and has the largest number of pending cases before a single international tribunal (90,000, according to Lowe 2007, 127). Case law is contained in HUDOC,[[65]](#footnote-65) which provides Decisions and Judgments from both the Court and the Commission (the latter only pre-1998). [When using HUDOC for subject searches, identify the Article of the Convention at issue. Key this number into the relevant search facility. E.g. to find inter-state cases, key in ‘Art 33’]. See Institute of Advanced Legal Studies guide.[[66]](#footnote-66)

For further information on Human Rights bodies see Mackenzie *et al* (2010, 334–542).

**4.1.4 *International Criminal Courts and Tribunals***

**International Criminal Court (ICC).**[[67]](#footnote-67)Became operational in 2002. A permanent Court, with jurisdiction over four categories of international crimes committed by individuals after July 2002: genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and crimes of aggression. The Court’s website gives full access to its activities and documentation.

***Ad hoc* International Criminal Tribunals.** UNbodies created to deal with specified international crimes with scope limited to specified territories. Currently limited to *International* *Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia*,[[68]](#footnote-68) and *International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda*.[[69]](#footnote-69) Websites contain all case materials and judgment details. For information on similar tribunals, e.g. military and hybrid criminal, see Mackenzie *et al* (2010, 154) and PICT synoptic chart.

**4.1.5 *Collections***

***Reports of International Arbitral Awards* (RIAA).**[[70]](#footnote-70) The UN publishes selected arbitration awards of international decisions, (a) between States and (b) between States and international organizations.

***International Law Reports* (ILR).**[[71]](#footnote-71) The only publication devoted to systematic reporting (in English) of full decisions from international courts and arbitrators, as well as judgments of national courts, from 1919 to the present. Citations to treaties in decisions of courts and tribunals can also be found in the Index to the ILRs. Available online from *Justis*.

**4.1.6 *Decisions of Municipal Courts***

International law issues are frequently raised in domestic courts. Useful sites for domestic law in Common Law jurisdictions include BAILLI,[[72]](#footnote-72) Austlii,[[73]](#footnote-73) US Supreme[[74]](#footnote-74) and Federal Courts.[[75]](#footnote-75) There is no systematic reporting of cases in civil jurisdictions where journals often document cases, but see Globalex country guides.[[76]](#footnote-76) For both common and civil jurisdictions see *Oxford Reports on International Law[[77]](#footnote-77)* and WorldLII.

**4.2 Teachings of Publicists**

**4.2.1 *Textbooks, Monographs and Journals***

Some of the more important journals include:

*Academie de Droit International de la Haye, Recueil des Cours* (Collected Courses of the Hague Academy of International Law). Starting in 1923, courses cover both public and private international law. Available online from Nijhoff/Brill.

*American Journal of International Law*

*European Journal of International Law*

*International & Comparative Law Quarterly*

*Zeitschrift für Ausländisches öffentliches Recht und Völkerrecht*[[78]](#footnote-78)

***4.2.2 Open Access***

Within the UK, following the Finch Report, it is now government policy that all academic journal articles will be OA from 1 April 2016. This does not yet apply to books.

SSRN[[79]](#footnote-79), DOAJ, UN AudioVisual

**4.2.3 *Journal Indices***

***Index to Legal Periodicals & Books.*** Started in 1908. Indexes ~1000 mainstream journals with permanent reference value from common law jurisdictions. Electronic access via EBSCO with selective coverage. (~1,025 titles).

***Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals.***  Started in 1960. Electronic access via HeinOnline. Multilingual index covering over 500 legal journals published worldwide and covering lesser-known jurisdictions.

**5. Other Sources**

**5.1 International Organisations**

Primarily involves the United Nations but also includes various regional economic organisations, IGOs, and NGOs.

**5.1.1 *United Nations bodies***

UN competence includes rule making, adjudication, monitoring state compliance and policy-formulation (Lowe 2007, 12-4). The documentation is vast. Official records comprise meeting records, resolutions and decisions and reports of major committees. Accessed via UN Documentation Centre.[[80]](#footnote-80) Several useful guides (see 5.1.2) describe the structure of the UN, the system of document notation and the reporting route (e.g. the ILC reports to the GA).

**UN** **General Assembly**.[[81]](#footnote-81)Articles 24 and 25 of the UN Charter state that Resolutions of the GA are recommendatory. However where States ‘consistently vote for resolutions and declarations on a topic, that amounts to a state practice and a binding rule may very well emerge provided that the requisite *opinio juris* can be proved’ (Shaw 2008, 115).

There are seven specialised GA committees; the Sixth Committee[[82]](#footnote-82) considers legal matters, which include: GA questions, reviewing work of *ad hoc* GA committees, and approving the codification programme of the ILC (see below). Its website has material from 1977. Summary records of meetings in the Sixth Committee can be retrieved through UNBISNET or the ODS (see 5.1.2).

**UN Security Council**.[[83]](#footnote-83)Articles 24 and 25 of the UN Charter state that SC Resolutions are binding on all member states of the organisation. In recent years the SC has been willing to lay down rules and principles of general application including use of its power to override customary law and treaty obligations (Boyle and Chinkin 2007, 109-10). Documents on its website include voting records, and are arranged by year and resolution number.

**International Law Commission**.[[84]](#footnote-84)Established by the UN General Assembly in 1947 to develop and codify international law. In addition to draft treaties and guidelines, also preparesreports and studies on topical issues of international law. ILC records can be retrieved using UNBISNET or the ODS (6.1 below). ILC Yearbooks accessible online from 1949.

**Other UN Bodies.** International law is also developed during the work of:

UNCITRAL (United Nations Commission on International Trade Law), whose work is scrutinised by the GA 6th Committee.

UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), whose recommendations have been adduced before some national courts (see Gardiner 1997, 660).

UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development), whose reports include, *inter alia*, the harmonization of trade and development policies and cases of investor-state dispute settlement.[[85]](#footnote-85)

Specialized Agencies, e.g. ILO,[[86]](#footnote-86) UNESCO.

**5.1.2. *Guides, Repositories and Catalogues for UN materials***

Overviews of documents and publications issued by the UN[[87]](#footnote-87) (e.g. reports, resolutions, meeting records, press releases), and guidance on how to work with them.[[88]](#footnote-88)

*Audiovisual Library of International Law* (AVL).[[89]](#footnote-89) A unique resource of (a) Historic Archives, (b) Lecture Series, (c) Research Library.

*Official Documents System* (ODS).[[90]](#footnote-90) All types of official United Nations documentation. Includes resolutions of the GA, SC, ECOSOC and the Trusteeship Council from 1946. Excludes [press releases,](http://www.un.org/News/Press/full.htm) sales [publications](http://unp.un.org/), UNTS and brochures issued by Department of Public Information. Indexed according to UNBIS.

UNBISNET.[[91]](#footnote-91) Catalogues UN material indexed by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library (including commercial publications and non-UN sources) and the UN Geneva Office library. Mainly focuses on the period after 1979, but does have older documents. Includes many full-text resources in the six official languages of the UN. Also includes voting records for all resolutions of the GA and SC back to 1946, and citations to speeches in GA and SC from 38th session (1983), ECOSOC (from 1983) and Trusteeship Council (from 1982).

**5.1.3 *Other Bodies outside the UN***

Regional Organisations (EU,[[92]](#footnote-92) Council of Europe,[[93]](#footnote-93) OAS,[[94]](#footnote-94) League of Arab States[[95]](#footnote-95)), IGOs,[[96]](#footnote-96) NGOs[[97]](#footnote-97) (e.g. Amnesty International, International Committee Red Cross, GATT and WTO).

**5.2 Soft Law**

Soft law is a convenient term for a variety of non-binding instruments used in contemporary international relations (e.g. inter-state conference declarations), common international standards of transnational regulatory bodies, NGOs and professional and industrial associations (Boyle and Chinkin 2007, 212–3). There is no centralised list – researchers have to look up the particular statements, standards and declarations as required. Such organizations include ICCR, Amnesty International.

**6. Encyclopaedias, Digests**

Useful `first bases` from which to launch searches on particular problems or for specific topics.

**6.1 Encyclopaedia**s

Several encyclopaedias deal with international law (e.g. **Parry & Grant Encyclopaedic Dictionary of International Law, 2009**), but by far the most comprehensive online is the **Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law** (general editor, R Wolfrum).[[98]](#footnote-98) A feature is the avoidance of purely Eurocentric perspectives, with contextualisation of each topic and the maintenance of a focus on the mainstream/majority view, and with hyperlinks to primary sources. Authors are international legal scholars and practitioners. Articles reviewed by the Members of the MPEPIL Advisory Board.

**International Encyclopedia of Ethics[[99]](#footnote-99).** Peer reviewed articles incorporate metaethics, practical ethics and nominative ethics.

**6.2 Digests**

**Keesing's** **World News Archive[[100]](#footnote-100)** is a comprehensive online archive including political, constitutional and legal topics. Access to a 79-year archive, with 95,000 searchable articles. Cross referencing is incremental and citations lead directly to earlier articles.

**7 Research Guides, Resources & Blogs/Commentaries**

**7.1 Guides** Useful websites include: ASIL Guides[[101]](#footnote-101), LLRX[[102]](#footnote-102), Globalex[[103]](#footnote-103), Academic Library Guides[[104]](#footnote-104), Legal Citation guides[[105]](#footnote-105)

**7. 2 Blogs/Commentaries**

EJIL: Talk[[106]](#footnote-106), ASIL Insights[[107]](#footnote-107), Kluwer Arbitration Blog[[108]](#footnote-108), Opinio Juris[[109]](#footnote-109), International Law in Brief[[110]](#footnote-110), International Lawl Reporter[[111]](#footnote-111), International Law Prof Blog[[112]](#footnote-112)

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1. \* Foreign and International Law Librarian Squire Law Library, University of Cambridge. I am indebted to Mary Rumsey (University of Minnesota Law Library) and Jonathan Pratter (Tarlton Law Library) for their constructive criticism of the manuscript. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://treaties.un.org/doc/source/publications/THB/English.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <http://treaties.un.org/Pages/Overview.aspx?path=overview/glossary/page1_en.xml> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <http://treaties.un.org/doc/source/guide_en.doc> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <http://conventions.coe.int/>. See http://libguides.ials.sas.ac.uk/councilofeurope?hs=a [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. http://europa.eu/index\_en.htm. Within Publications & Documents, see Legislation & Treaties. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/en/index.htm> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. http://eur-lex.europa.eu/n-lex/index\_en.htm [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. <http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/European_Union_Travaux_Preparatoires1.htm> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. <http://www.asil.org/eu1.cfm> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. <https://www.gov.uk/uk-treaties#treaty-command-papers> [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. <https://www.gov.uk/uk-treaties#uk-treaties-online> [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. http://www.state.gov/s/l/treaty/ Reporting International Agreements to Congress under Case Act (Text of Agreements). [At the Case Act page, find a sidebar with links from 2006 onwards.] [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Contains full text US treaties from 1776, including treaties no longer in force. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Within ‘USTREATIES’. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Treaties & Agreements Library contains, inter alia, *Treaties in Force, International Legal Materials[ILM] and Hertslet’s Commercial Treaties* [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. <http://www.eisil.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. <http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/> [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/> [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Tables of Contents available at <http://www.asil.org/ilm.cfm>. Also accessible via Westlaw, Lexis and HeinOnline. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. <http://library.law.umn.edu/researchguides/most-cited.html>;<http://www.llrx.com/features/non_ustreaty.htm>; <http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/treaty_research.htm>;

    <http://library.law.umn.edu/researchguides/treatysources.html>. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. <http://193.62.18.232/dbtw-wpd/textbase/treatysearch.htm>. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. <http://worldtreatyindex.com/> Originally founded in 1974 by Peter Rohn, University of Washington, currently maintained by [Michael Bommarito](http://www-personal.umich.edu/%7Emjbommar/), [Daniel Martin Katz](http://sitemaker.umich.edu/dankatz/home) and [Paul Poast](http://sitemaker.umich.edu/poast.paul/home), [University of Michigan](http://umich.edu/). [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. *Nouveau recueil general de traites*. By Karl von Martens et al. Series 1, Leipzig: Dietrich, 1902; Series 2, Leipzig: Dietrich, 1910; Series 3, Leipzig: T. Weicher, 1922-75. Includes materials from 1840 – 1969 in original languages. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. London: James Ridgway and Sons, 1841-1977. Published by the FCO. Includes materials from 1373 – 1974. See also *Law Librarian*. 1986, 17(2), 64-6 [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. <http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/Travaux_Preparatoires1.htm> [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. <http://www.un.org/law/ilc/> [Click Analytical Guide] [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/library/classes/iflr/customary.html#research>;

    See also http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/Customary\_International\_Law.htm [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/ [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
30. http://travel.state.gov/law/law\_1734.html [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
31. <http://www.state.gov/s/l/c8183.htm> From 1989 - 2013 [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
32. http://www.usip.org/publications/foreign-affairs-ministries-the-web [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
33. <http://parlipapers.chadwyck.co.uk/home.do> [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
34. http://193.62.18.232/dbtw-wpd/textbase/collsearch.htm. [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
35. <http://www.foreignlawguide.com/> [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
36. http://libguides.ials.sas.ac.uk/guides [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
37. http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/law/guides [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
38. <http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/Foreign_Law_Research1.htm> gives useful overview of strategies, concentrating on codes and laws. [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
39. <http://www.llrx.com/comparative_and_foreign_law.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-39)
40. <http://www.worldlii.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-40)
41. <http://bybil.oxfordjournals.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-41)
42. <http://www.heinonline.org/HOL/Index?collection=intyb&set_as_cursor=clear> [↑](#footnote-ref-42)
43. <http://www.okcu.edu/law/lawlib/pdfs/guide_custom.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-43)
44. <http://www.pict-pcti.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-44)
45. <http://www.icj-cij.org> [↑](#footnote-ref-45)
46. <http://www.itlos.org> [↑](#footnote-ref-46)
47. http://www.wto.org/ See also ASIL Research Guides http://www.asil.org/iel1.cfm. [↑](#footnote-ref-47)
48. <http://www.tradelawguide.com/index.asp> Allows noting up of WTO law. Also provides comprehensive pinpoint citaions. [↑](#footnote-ref-48)
49. <http://www.worldtradelaw.net/dsc/main.htm> Provides Dispute Settlement Commentaries [↑](#footnote-ref-49)
50. <http://www.pca-cpa.org/showpage.asp?pag_id=363> Selected cases available from court website and from *Reports of International Arbitral Awards* [↑](#footnote-ref-50)
51. http://icsid.worldbank.org/ICSID/Index.jsp [Click ‘Cases’, then ‘Search Online Decisions and Awards’]. [↑](#footnote-ref-51)
52. http://www.italaw.com/ Investment Treaty Arbitration. University of Victoria (Canada) Law Faculty. [↑](#footnote-ref-52)
53. <http://investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org/IIA> Makes accessible full text of all available BITs searchable alphabetically from its website. Use Advanced Search for BITs [↑](#footnote-ref-53)
54. Selected case law on UNCITRAL texts http://www.uncitral.org/clout/showSearchDocument.do [↑](#footnote-ref-54)
55. Arbitral Body of the ICC (International Chamber of Commerce). Arbitrations are confidential and offer parties choice of tribunal, arbitrators, rules of law and place of arbitration [↑](#footnote-ref-55)
56. http://www.transnational-dispute-management.com/ Transnational Dispute Management. By Subscription, providing analysis, commentary, national legislation and case law. [↑](#footnote-ref-56)
57. http://www.kluwerarbitration.com/arbitration/ Full text by subscription, but searching and citation are free. [↑](#footnote-ref-57)
58. <http://www.investorstatelawguide.com/> By subscription. Includes archive of decisions with cross referencing facility, tribunal interpretations, texts of legal instruments and directory of investment treaty law. [↑](#footnote-ref-58)
59. Contains text of commercial arbitration cases from inter alia Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, UK, US. Key in

    Database Identifier ICA-CASES [↑](#footnote-ref-59)
60. <http://www.transnational-dispute-management.com/welcome.asp> Peer reviewed online journal on international arbitration with special focus on investment arbitration. [↑](#footnote-ref-60)
61. http://www.asil.org/sites/default/files/ERG\_ARB.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-61)
62. <http://curia.europa.eu/> [↑](#footnote-ref-62)
63. <http://ials.sas.ac.uk/library/guides/research/res_eu.htm#reports> [↑](#footnote-ref-63)
64. <http://www.echr.coe.int/echr/Homepage_EN> [↑](#footnote-ref-64)
65. <http://www.echr.coe.int/ECHR/EN/Header/Case-Law/Hudoc/Hudoc+database/> [↑](#footnote-ref-65)
66. <http://ials.sas.ac.uk/library/guides/research/res_council_of_europe.htm> [↑](#footnote-ref-66)
67. <http://www.icc-cpi.int/> [↑](#footnote-ref-67)
68. http://www.icty.org/ [↑](#footnote-ref-68)
69. <http://www.ictr.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-69)
70. <http://untreaty.un.org/cod/riaa/index.html> Available from Vol I 1948. through to Vol XXVIII 2007 [↑](#footnote-ref-70)
71. Lauterpacht, E., C. Greenwood and K. Lee (eds.), Cambridge: Cambridge University Press [↑](#footnote-ref-71)
72. <http://www.bailii.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-72)
73. <http://www.austlii.edu.au/> [↑](#footnote-ref-73)
74. <http://www.supremecourtus.gov/> [↑](#footnote-ref-74)
75. <http://www.findlaw.com/11stategov/> [↑](#footnote-ref-75)
76. [http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/#](http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/) [↑](#footnote-ref-76)
77. http://www.oxfordlawreports.com/ [↑](#footnote-ref-77)
78. http://www.hjil.de/ Non-fee based digitized content from Vol 1 (1929) – Vol 67 (2008). In later volumes, many articles in English. [↑](#footnote-ref-78)
79. <http://ssrn.com/en/> Counts as institutional repository for compliance with Finch Regulations. [↑](#footnote-ref-79)
80. <http://www.un.org/en/documents/index.shtml> [↑](#footnote-ref-80)
81. <http://www.un.org/ga/64/resolutions.shtml>. Search by General Assembly session number and then by agenda items [↑](#footnote-ref-81)
82. <http://www.un.org/ga/sixth/> [↑](#footnote-ref-82)
83. <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_resolutions.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-83)
84. http://www.un.org/law/ilc/ [Click on Analytical Guide to the Work of the International Law Commission] [↑](#footnote-ref-84)
85. <http://www.unctad.org/Templates/Page.asp?intItemID=1397&lang=1> [↑](#footnote-ref-85)
86. http://www.ilo.org/global/lang--en/index.htm [For Meeting Documents, click on Publications & Research, Official Reports ] [↑](#footnote-ref-86)
87. http://research.un.org/en See for UN Document notation and reporting routes. [↑](#footnote-ref-87)
88. <http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/UN_Resources_Research_Tools.pdf>

    http://www.asil.org/sites/default/files/ERG\_UN.pdf, See for structure of UN.

    <http://www.un.org/en/law/> [↑](#footnote-ref-88)
89. http://www.un.org/law/avl/ [↑](#footnote-ref-89)
90. <http://documents.un.org/welcome.asp?language=E> [↑](#footnote-ref-90)
91. <http://unbisnet.un.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-91)
92. <http://www.asil.org/eu1.cfm> [↑](#footnote-ref-92)
93. http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/home [↑](#footnote-ref-93)
94. <http://www.oas.org/en/information_center/default.asp> [↑](#footnote-ref-94)
95. <http://www.arableagueonline.org/las/index.jsp> [↑](#footnote-ref-95)
96. <http://libguides.northwestern.edu/IGO> [↑](#footnote-ref-96)
97. http://www.asil.org/sites/default/files/ERG\_IO.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-97)
98. Electronic subscription via OUP. Integrated with OUP *Oxford Reports on International Law* [↑](#footnote-ref-98)
99. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/book/10.1002/9781444367072> Wiley Online Library [↑](#footnote-ref-99)
100. <http://www.keesings.com/> [↑](#footnote-ref-100)
101. <http://www.asil.org/erghome.cfm> [↑](#footnote-ref-101)
102. <http://www.llrx.com/> [↑](#footnote-ref-102)
103. <http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/index.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-103)
104. http://ials.sas.ac.uk/library/guides/research\_guides.htm; <http://www.ouls.ox.ac.uk/law/guides>;

     <http://library.law.umn.edu/researchguides.html#FCIL>; <http://www2.lib.uchicago.edu/~llou/forintlaw.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-104)
105. E.g. The Bluebook (<http://www.legalbluebook.com/>), OSCOLA (http://www.competition-law.ox.ac.uk/published/oscola.shtml) [↑](#footnote-ref-105)
106. http://www.ejiltalk.org/ [↑](#footnote-ref-106)
107. http://www.asil.org/insights [↑](#footnote-ref-107)
108. http://kluwerarbitrationblog.com/ [↑](#footnote-ref-108)
109. http://opiniojuris.org/ [↑](#footnote-ref-109)
110. http://www.asil.org/blogs/ilib [↑](#footnote-ref-110)
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