



Foreign and Comparative Law

Heafey Law Library
Reference Department
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Foreign Law is the study of law in jurisdictions outside the United States. Comparative law is the comparison of different legal systems. The sources listed below are available in the Heafey Law Library, on subscription databases, or free of charge on the Internet.

1. LEGAL SYSTEMS:

- **Introduction to Foreign Legal Systems** (Danner and Bernal)
Call Number & Location: K 583 I57 1994 (Reference Collection)
- **Accidental Tourist on the New Frontier: An Introductory Guide to Global Legal Research** (Rehberg and Popa)
Call Number & Location: K85 A27 1998 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Legal Traditions of the World** (Glenn)
Call Number & Location: K559 G545 2000 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **An Historical Introduction to Modern Civil Law** (Watkin)
Call Number & Location: K585 W367 1999 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Studies in Modern Islamic Law and Jurisprudence** (Arabi)
Call Number & Location: KBP62 A73 2001 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Jewish Law** (Elon)
Call Number & Location: KBM E46 1994 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Canon Law Studies** (Catholic University of America)
Call Number & Location: KBG A73 C37 (Second Floor Stacks)

For additional treatises on world legal systems, search OSCAR by subject (e.g., civil law, Jewish law, Islamic law) or keyword to determine relevant call numbers, then search OSCAR by call number at <http://oscar.scu.edu/screens/callnumb.html> or browse the library collection at the appropriate call numbers.

2. COMPARATIVE LAW:

- **An Introduction to Comparative Law** (Zweigert)
Call Number & Location: K583 Z813 1998 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Major Legal Systems in the World Today: an Introduction to the Study of Comparative Law** (David and Brierley)
Call Number & Location: K583 D3813 1985 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **International Encyclopedia of Comparative Law.** Oceana, 1973-
Includes *National Reports* (Volume 1) and topical volumes.
Call Number & Location: K530 I57 (Reference Collection)

- **Comparative Law Yearbook**, 1972 –
Call Number & Location: K64 C62 (Second Floor Stacks)

For additional treatises on comparative law, search OSCAR by the subject (comparative law) or keyword to determine the relevant call numbers, then search OSCAR by call number at <http://oscar.scu.edu/screens/callnumb.html> or browse the library collection at the appropriate call numbers.

3. CONSTITUTIONS:

- **Constitutions of the Countries of the World**, 1971 – (Blaustein and Flanz)
A multivolume loose-leaf set containing English language translations of the constitutions of most countries, along with background information about many of them.
Call Number & Location: K3157 A2 C65 (Second Floor Stacks)

4. BIBLIOGRAPHIES AND GUIDES:

- **Foreign Law: Current Sources of Codes and Basic Legislation in Jurisdictions of the World**, 1989 - (Reynolds and Flores)
Available in print; Heafey does not yet subscribe to the web-based product. The eight loose-leaf volumes are organized by geographical region, then alphabetically by country within each region. Each country chapter contains a narrative about the country's legal system and history, followed by an annotated bibliography that lists major publications (codifications, official gazette, compilations or official codifications, session laws, and court reports). English-language materials are then listed by subject.
Call Number & Location: K38 R49 (Reference Collection)
- **Modern Legal Systems Cyclopedic**, 1984 – (Redden)
This loose-leaf publication is organized like Reynolds and Flores, above, by geographical region, then by country within each region. Country Studies describe individual national legal systems. There is more than one topical article for several countries (e.g., "Brazilian Confirmation of Foreign Judgments," "A Guide to International Trade and Investment Law in Japan"). General Studies articles focus on regional organizations and selected topics in human rights, international trade and comparative law.
Call Number & Location: K530 M62 (Reference Collection)
- **Martindale-Hubbell International Law Digest.**
Digests of the laws of 81 countries, the European Union, and Australian and Canadian states and provinces. The digests are written, for the most part, by in-country lawyers and revised annually. They vary in completeness and the extent to which legal citations are provided.
Call Number & Location: KF190 M373 (Index Tables)
- **Germain's Transnational Law Research: A Guide for Attorneys, 1991** (Germain)
This is a one-volume guide, focusing on Europe and business topics. Initial chapters discuss research methodology; chapter four is arranged by topic; chapter five by country. Listed sources are in English and other languages; in print and electronic format.
Call Number & Location: K85 G47 (Reference Collection)

- **LLRX Comparative and Foreign Law Guides:**
http://www.llrx.com/comparative_and_foreign_law.html
Periodically updated articles about the law of 50 countries. Most are general guides to national legal systems and research, but some have a narrower focus: e.g., legal forms, Russian intellectual property law, refugee and asylum law.
- **GlobaLex:**
<http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/>
A selection of research guides on comparative law and guides to researching the law of more than 40 individual countries.
- **Selective List of Guides to Foreign Legal Research (Columbia):**
http://www.law.columbia.edu/library/Research_Guides/foreign_law/foreignguide
Worldwide, regional and national guides; print and online.
- **Bieber's Dictionary of Legal Abbreviations, 2001** (Prince)
Call Number & Location: KF246 P74 2001 (Reference Collection)
- **A Bibliography on Foreign and Comparative Law: Books and Articles in English, 1955 - 1989**
Continued by **Szladits' Bibliography on Foreign and Comparative Law, 1990 -**
Call Number & Location: K38 B53 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Dictionary of International and Comparative Law, 2nd ed., 1997**
Call Number & Location: KZ1161 F69 1997 (Reference Collection)

5. COUNTRY SPECIFIC COMMENTARY:

Print materials on the legal systems of specific countries are located in the Second Floor Stacks at the following call number locations:

- **KD – KDK** (United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales) and Ireland)
- **KE** (Canada)
- **KG – KGV** (Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean)
- **KH – KHW** (South America)
- **KJ-KKZ** (Europe)
- **KL-KWX** (Asia and Eurasia, Africa, Pacific area, and Antarctica)
- **KZ** (International Law)

The Heafey Law Library's collection of foreign legal materials concentrates on common law countries and the European Union. Some foreign legal materials are available in microfiche, at the same call numbers as print materials.

Some foreign law materials are available on Westlaw (from the Westlaw Directory, click on *International/Worldwide Materials*, then select a geographic region and/or country) and Lexis (from the Lexis Directory, click on *Legal (excluding U.S.)* and select a country).

6. TOPICAL GUIDES:

- **International Encyclopaedia of Laws** (Kluwer Law International)

Constitutional Law: K3165 I5742 (Second Floor Stacks)

Private International Law: K7015 I5742 (Second Floor Stacks)

Commercial / Business Law:

- **Doing Business Guides** from Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) are available free at <http://www.pwc.com>. From the PWC homepage, select from the Country/Territory pull-down menu and click "Go" or type "Doing Business" in the search template and click "Search."
- **Doing Business in Argentina, 2000 (American Bar Association)**
Call Number & Location: KHA333 B86 L39 2000 (Second Floor Stacks)
A one-volume summary.
- **Doing Business in Europe (CCH)**
Call Number & Location: KJE2061 D64 (Stauffer Collection)
Loose-leaf set with transfer binders and current newsletter.
- **Doing Business in Japan (Matthew Bender)**
Call Number & Location: KNX920 D65 (Second Floor Stacks)
Loose-leaf with statutory supplement.
- **Digest of Commercial Laws of the World**, revised ed., 1998 -
Call Number & Location: K1004.2 D54 (Second Floor Stacks)

Labor Law:

- **International Encyclopaedia for Labour Law and Industrial Relations** (Blanpain)
Call Number & Location: K1705 I5 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **International Labor and Employment Laws** (Keller)
Call Number & Location: K1705.4 I476 2003 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **International Labour Organisation (ILO):** www.ilo.org
Click on links to the *ILO Library* or *Information Resources* to access the ILO databases of national labor legislation:
 - ◆ **NATLEX : National Labor Laws:** www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/
A searchable database of national labor laws from dozens of countries and selected international organizations, browsable by subject or country. NATLEX also links to:
 - **MARLEX: Merchant Shipping Acts and Seafarers' Legislation:**
www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/cprofiles/MarLex.htm

- ILOAIDS: National instruments related to HIV/AIDS and the world of work:
www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/trav/aids/laws/index.htm
- **Child Labor Legislative Database** (University of Iowa Center for Human Rights)
www.childlaborlaws.org
Searchable database of the labor laws of thirty-one countries. The site also includes the text of major child labor treaties and links to ILO data regarding national participation.

Environmental Law:

- **International Environment Reporter (BNA)**
Call Number & Location: K3585.4 I57 (Stauffer Collection)
- **Comparative Environmental Law and Regulation**
Call Number & Location: K3585 C652 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Yearbook of International Environmental Law**
Call Number & Location: K3584.4 Y42 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **ECOLEX: A Gateway to Environmental Law:** www.ecolex.org/index.php
A database of environmental law jointly operated by FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), World Conservation Union and UNEP, ECOLEX includes national legislation and decisions as well as treaties and conventions.
- **FAOLEX:** faolex.fao.org/faolex/
Database of national laws on food, agriculture and renewable natural resources, compiled by the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) Legal Office.

Intellectual Property:

- **International Legal Materials on Intellectual Property** (Goldstein)
Call Number & Location: K1401 A35 G65 2002 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **International Encyclopaedia of Intellectual Property Treaties** (Ilardi)
Call Number & Location: K1401 A35 I428 2004 (Reference Collection)
- **World Intellectual Property Rights & Remedies**
Call Number & Location: K1401 W672 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **World Patent Law & Practice**
Call Number & Location: K1504.4 W6726 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Trademark Practice Throughout the World**
Call Number & Location: K15555.4 S692 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **ASIL Guide to International Intellectual Property Law** (Franklin):
www.asil.org/resource/ip1.htm
Although this guide focuses on international conventions, Part 6 lists several online sources of national intellectual property legislation and decisions, including:

- ◆ **WIPO's CLEA** (Collection of Laws for Electronic Access):
www.wipo.int/clea/en/index.jsp
Searchable and browsable copyright, industrial design, trademark legislation, etc., from various countries around the world. The text will not necessarily be in English.
- ◆ **UNESCO's Collection of National Copyright Laws:** portal.unesco.org/culture/en/
This is a collection of about 100 laws, copyright and related legislation, from UNESCO member states. Links to the official texts are often provided; the text will not necessarily be in English.
- **Sistema de Información al Comercio Exterior (SICE) / Foreign Trade Information System:** www.sice.oas.org/int_prop/ipnale.asp
A listing of IP laws in Western Hemisphere countries, with links to online texts of several, from the Organization of American States Trade Unit.

Taxation:

- **Basic World Tax Code and Commentary, 1995**
Call Number & Location: K4460.4 H87 1995 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Electronic Commerce and International Taxation, 1999**
Call Number & Location: K4460.4 D64 1999 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Foreign Tax and Trade Briefs (Diamond)**
Call Number & Location: K4460.4 D52 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Model Tax Convention on Income and on Capital, 2000 – (OECD)**
Call Number & Location: K4475.4 O729 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Tax Planning International Review**
Call Number & Location: K4464 A13 T38 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **International Tax Treaties of All Nations**
Call Number & Location: K4473 I582 (Second Floor Stacks)
- **Taxation, Revenue & Customs (WorldLII):**
www.worldlii.org/catalog/313.html
A variety of materials on taxation issues from WorldLII contributors, organized by country, source of law, etc. The “Other Indexes” link at the WorldLII taxation site leads to tax materials at a variety of other megasite including CataLaw, FindLaw, SOSIG.

To find additional foreign law treatises, search OSCAR by keyword (e.g., foreign direct investment) or LC subject heading (e.g., trade regulation [jurisdiction]). To determine appropriate subject headings, consult the *Library of Congress Subject Headings* volumes (Z695 Z8 L52 on the Heafey Reference Dictionary Stand, near the reference desk).

7. PERIODICALS:

Search OSCAR by subject, (e.g., comparative law periodicals, law [jurisdiction] periodicals) for a list of relevant journals.

Periodical indexes that will assist you in locating journal articles on foreign and comparative law topics include:

- **The Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals**
Call Number & Location: K33 I53 (Index Tables)
- **The Index to Legal Periodicals and Books**
Call Number & Location: KF8 I5 (Index Tables)

Both indexes above are also available online; search OSCAR by title, then click on the Internet link in the OSCAR record for each.

Also note that many articles on foreign and comparative law topics can be found in Lexis and Westlaw databases, in the Hein Online Law Journals database, and in other databases to which the law library subscribes. See the law library webpage for a list of electronic databases:

www.scu.edu/law/library/electronic_databases.html.

8. INTERNET RESOURCES:

- **Foreign Law Sites:** www.scu.edu/law/library/foreign_laws.html
Compiled by Heafey's law librarians.
- **Foreign and International Law Resources: An Annotated Guide to Web Sites Around the World** (Harvard):
www.law.harvard.edu/library/services/research/guides/international/web_resources/
The Foreign Law portion of this site provides a [Guide to Researching Foreign Law on the Internet](#), links to [Foreign Law Metapages](#), and [individual country guides](#), listed alphabetically.
- **Guide to Foreign and International Legal Databases** (NYU):
www.law.nyu.edu/library/foreign_intl/index.html
Both a topical listing and a listing by [jurisdiction](#). Many of the databases listed are available on the Internet for free, but subscription databases are also included and the Heafey library does not subscribe to many of them.
- **Law Library of Congress – Nations of the World:** www.loc.gov/law/guide/nations.html
Links to Internet sites for legal and background materials for most countries. Not all materials are in English.
- **Multinational Collections Database, Law Library of Congress:**
www.loc.gov/mulp/index.html
Laws and regulations, searchable by jurisdiction and subject.

- **WorldLII: World Legal Information Institute:** www.worldlii.org/catalog/215.html
A collaborative effort by Legal Information Institutes throughout the world, WorldLii includes law from English- and French-speaking countries.
- **Cornell's Legal Information Institute:** www.law.cornell.edu
The U.S. portion of WorldLii, above, Cornell's site links to national and international websites. The foreign and international law portion of the Cornell site is at: www.lawschool.cornell.edu/library/guides/foreign2/.
- **Emory School of Law, MacMillan Law Library Electronic Reference Desk:** www.law.emory.edu/erd/foreign.html
This website links to several megasites that, in turn, collect links to foreign government websites. Click on "Foreign Law and Government Links" for relevant links from six of these megasites, arranged alphabetically by country.
- **Europa: European Governments On-Line:** europa.eu.int/abc/governments/index_en.htm
Links to official government websites for all member countries of the European Union, applicant countries (e.g., Turkey), and other European countries (e.g., Switzerland, Norway)
- **Legislation Online:** www.legislationline.org/
Legislation on selected topics from EU and COE countries; many laws are available in English translation.
- **Researching Foreign Law** (University of Minnesota Law Library): www.law.umn.edu/library/tools/pathfinders/foreignlaw.html
An extensive list of print and electronic resources.

Globalization moved my cheese: Or, How Do I Find Foreign Law? by Jean Wenger is a more detailed bibliography of print and electronic sources on various foreign law topics. The guide is not available online at this time, but you may ask at the reference desk for a copy of the most recent revision. Some titles listed in that bibliography are not available at Heafey, but may be requested via interlibrary loan or available for consultation at other Bay Area law libraries.