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Introduction

The purpose of this research guide is to provide a starting point for international environmental law research. The guide presents a selected list of print and online primary and secondary materials (including web resources) important to the area of international environmental law. Sources of foreign environmental law are only selectively included.

For additional information, please see the following LibGuide available from the Law Library’s website: Finding Treaties and International Agreements at Burns Law Library (http://law.gwu.libguides.com/treaties)

To determine if a source listed in this guide is available through LexisNexis or Westlaw:

**LexisNexis:** Select the “Find a Source” tab; type the source in the search box

**Westlaw:** Westlaw.com: type the name of the source in the “Search for a database” box.

**WestlawNext:** type the name of the source in the search box and select the resource from the drop down list.

**Example:** International Environment Reporter or BNA; INTENV
I. The Development of International Environmental Law

International environmental law deals with the control of pollution, the protection of the environment, and the depletion of natural resources within a framework of sustainable development. Development and growth are predicated on the protection of the environment so as to safeguard the health and economic needs of future generations.

I. The Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment

Books such as Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring (1962) and Limits to Growth by the Club of Rome (a group of industrialists and world leaders) (1972) as well as phenomenon such as acid rain and the poisoning of fishermen in Japan’s Minimata Bay raised concerns about the state of the world environment.

These concerns led the United Nations to convene the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment in 1972. Until this time, environmental problems were dealt with sporadically, resulting in few significant treaties. The Stockholm Conference resulted in the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the first international organization devoted to the environment, and produced the Stockholm Declaration, 26 principles setting forth the rights and obligations of citizens and governments to preserve and improve the environment.


Before the Stockholm Conference, negotiations began concerning the protection of the ocean environment. UNCLOS was opened for signature in 1982 and came into force on November 16, 1994.

III. World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED)

In an attempt to resolve conflicts between environmental protection and economic development, the General Assembly of the United Nations created WCED in 1983 and charged it with proposing strategies for sustainable development. The WCED called for an international conference to act as a successor to the Stockholm Conference and carry out its legacy.
IV. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) (Earth Summit)

Held in 1992, the UNCED or Earth Summit was directed by the UN General Assembly to further develop the principles set forth in the Stockholm Declaration. Four important actions came out of the Earth Summit:

- Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
- Agenda 21
- Nonlegally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests
- The signing of the Climate Change and Biodiversity Conventions and the Kyoto Protocol

V. The Development of International Environmental Law Documents

Since the Stockholm Conference, a large body of international environmental law has developed. Documents which have become important to this area of law include:

- International declarations, agreements and treaties
- UN General Assembly resolutions
- EU directives, regulations and legislation
- Judicial decisions (International Court of Justice of the United Nations, European Court of Justice)
- Other International Conferences
II. DICTIONARIES

[Location: Reference KZ1161 .B63 2005]

[Location: Reference KZ1161 .F69 2003]

Parry & Grant Encyclopaedic Dictionary of International Law. New York: Oxford
Print: Reference: KZ1161 .P37 2009

• Provides the meaning of abbreviations and acronyms used in legal literature.

Online: LexisNexis [5th edition 2001]

III. DIRECTORIES OF INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS

Yearbook of International Organizations. Annual.
[Location: Reference & SL2: JZ4836 .Y43]

• All types of international organizations included
• Includes: names of executive directors, addresses, phone and fax numbers for main
and regional offices, a detailed description of the organization, member countries,
publications, and activities.

[Location: Ready Reference: JZ4970 .U65]

• Provides current information on all United Nations organizations (origin, purpose
and structure and membership)
• Contains information on subsidiary organs established in accordance with the
Charter, related UN organs and programs, specialized agencies and autonomous
bodies brought into relationship with the UN, and various ad hoc organs and
programs.
IV. GUIDES TO INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW RESEARCH


- Discusses general search strategies
- Lists English language, primary (treaties/international agreements) and secondary sources (journals), including web resources, Lexis/Westlaw and library catalogs.


- Arranged by topic
- Links to primary documents, such as treaties and other international instruments
- Information on each instrument, includes print citations and relevant dates
- Guides users to the “best sites” for certain topical areas or kinds of research


- Current, comprehensive guide to print and online resources

V. CURRENT AWARENESS

News and analysis of recent developments in international environmental law is available through the following current awareness publications:

**ClimateWire:**
- Published by Environment & Energy (E&E) Publishing
  - *Online*: Web: [http://www.eenews.net/](http://www.eenews.net/)

**EcoAmericas:**
- Monthly online newsletter; available in English or Spanish
- Current news and analysis on development and the environment in Latin America
**ELR Environmental Law Reporter: News & Analysis** (Environmental Law Institute (ELI))

**Online**: ELR: Environmental Law Reporter

  [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions)

  *LexisNexis (ENVIRN;NEWS) (1971 to date)*

  *WESTLAW (ENVLRNA) (2008 to date)*

**Print**: Reserve: Current Issues; SL3: KF3775.A6 E5

**Environmental Forum** (Environmental Law Institute (ELI))

- Indexed in *LegalTrac* database but not in *Index to Legal Periodicals and Books* (*ILP*)

**Print**: Reserve: Current Issues; LL2: K5.N854

**Environment and Energy Daily:**

- Published by Environment & Energy (E&E) Publishing

**Online**: *LexisNexis (NEWS; EENEWS) (1996 to date)*

  *WESTLAW (EEP-EED) (July 2001 to date)*

  Web: [http://www.eenews.net/](http://www.eenews.net/)

**International Environment Reporter** (Bureau of National Affairs (BNA))

- Daily & biweekly newsletter covering foreign & international environmental issues

**Online**: BNA Electronic Subscriptions (2/7/96 to date):

  [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions)

  *LexisNexis (BNA; INTENV) (9/87 to date)*

  *WESTLAW (BNA-INTENVR) (2/98 to date)*

**Print**: Reserve: Current Issues; SL2: K3585.4 .I57 (Vol. 10, 1987-)

**World Climate Change Report** (Bureau of National Affairs (BNA))

- Daily newsletter covering foreign & international climate change law issues

- “Climapedia” links to full text foreign & international law documents

**Online**: BNA Electronic Subscriptions (2/7/96 to date):

  [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions)
VI. INDEXES TO LEGAL PERIODICALS

Legal periodical articles provide analysis and discussion of current topics in international environmental law and provide citations to important primary documents, such as treaties and European Union directives and regulations. They can be located using the following indexes:

**Current Index to Legal Periodicals (CILP):**
- Weekly; citations to articles available 4-6 weeks before they appear in other indexes
- Indexes articles under broad topics ("Comparative Law," "International Trade," "Environmental Law," "International Law," "Law of the Sea") from over 500 legal publications

**Online:**
- [http://docs.law.gwu.edu/Burns/alllaw/cilp/webcilp.htm](http://docs.law.gwu.edu/Burns/alllaw/cilp/webcilp.htm)
- **WESTLAW** (CILP) (most recent 8 weeks only)

**LegalTrac**
- Citations, with selected abstracts and full text
- Indexes over 850 law review, journal and legal newspapers published in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain, New Zealand, and Australia
- 1980 to date

**Online:**
- [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research Database Subscriptions](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research)
  - LexisNexis (LAWREV; LGLIND) (1980-)
  - **WESTLAW** (LRI) (1980-)

**Index to Legal Periodicals Full Text (ILP) (1981-)**
**Index to Legal Periodicals Retrospective (1908-1981)**
- Citations, with selected full text
- Indexes over 500 law reviews, journals, yearbooks and government publications

**Online:**
- [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research Database Subscriptions](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research)
  - LexisNexis (LAWREV;ILP) (1979 to date)
  - **WESTLAW** (ILP) (8/81 to date)

**Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals (IFLP)**
- Citations to articles in selected legal periodicals dealing with international law (public and private), comparative law and municipal law of countries other than the U.S., the British Isles and the British Commonwealth, whose systems of law have a common law basis. Database covers 1985-date.

**Online:**
- [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research Database Subscriptions](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research)

**Print:** Indexes, first floor across from the reference desk: K33.I52 (1960-)
VII. FULL TEXT LEGAL PERIODICAL DATABASES

HeinOnline:
http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions
- Only full text online resource for pre-1985 and current legal periodicals in PDF
- Search by citation, author, journal and keyword

LexisNexis:
- LAWREV; ALLREV (bar journals and law school environmental law reviews)
- ENVIRN; CURNWS (environment and energy newsletters; selected environmental articles from news wires, journals and major newspapers; most recent 2 yrs.)
- ABA; ALLABA (selected ABA journals and newsletters; ABA’s Natural Resources & Environment journal must be searched separately)
- INTLAW; INTLR (international law reviews and journals, includes all law school environmental law reviews and journals)
- NEWS; ALLNWS (includes international environment and energy news sources)
- ENERGY; ALLNWS (energy and utility newsletters, journals and selected wires)

WESTLAW:
- ENV-TP (law school environmental law reviews, texts, ABA environmental newsletters and bar journals; includes ABA’s Natural Resources & Environment)
- INT-TP (law school law reviews, bar journals, texts, CLE course materials published in the U.S. that relate to relations among nations; includes very few law school environmental law reviews)
- TP-ALL (law school law reviews, journals, texts and treatises; includes international and environmental law school law reviews)
- JLR (law school law reviews and bar journals, includes international and environmental law reviews)
- ENVNEWS (news and information about the environment from newspapers, magazines, journals, newsletters, transcripts and news wires)
- INTNEWS (selected full-text, English-language articles and abstracts for non-English-language news and business sources)

VIII. SELECTED NON-LEGAL PERIODICAL DATABASES

A. National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Working Papers:
http://www.nber.org/papers/
- Coverage includes international environmental economics

B. GWU Gelman Library: http://www.gelman.gwu.edu/ (Under “SEARCH” click on “Articles & Databases”)
Contains citations to journal articles; includes selected full text:

ABI/INFORM Complete Plus
- Index to journal articles on international business topics, including international environmental issues
- Selected full text
Cambridge Scientific Abstracts
• Collection of environment-related databases
• Citations to articles, conference proceedings and reports
• Coverage varies by database

EconLit
• Citations, with abstracts to economic literature
• Topics covered include: environmental economics, trade and environment, emissions trading, eco-labelling
• 1969 to date

International Political Science Abstracts (EBSCO publishing)
• Citations with selected full text
• World’s leading journals in political science
• Topics covered include energy & environmental foreign & international law & policy issues
• 1975 to date

PAIS International
• Citations, with abstracts/selected full text, to books, articles, statistics, government reports and conference proceedings on political, social and public policy issues
• 1915 to date

Proquest Research Library Plus
• Citations with abstracts and selected full text of journal articles on a variety of topics, including international environmental law issues
• 1971 to date

Worldwide Political Science Abstracts (Cambridge Scientific Abstracts)
• Citations with selected full text
• International journals in political science & related fields
• Topics covered include energy & environmental foreign & international law & policy issues
• 1975 to date

IX. GENERAL WORKS ON INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
Use online catalogs to locate international environmental law materials:

A. JACOB, the Law Library's online catalog: http://jacob.law.gwu.edu/
International environmental law materials in the Library's collection can be located using JACOB.

1. “Keyword” Search:
   • Use keywords to begin research
   • Searches for word(s) in any order in the author, title, subject headings (Library of Congress) and notes sections of a bibliographic record
   • “Subject” links in a record retrieve works on the same topic
   • Example: basel convention or climate change and trad* (The “*” symbol
retrieves variable endings, such as **trade** or **trading**

2. **“Subject” Search:**
   - Limits a search to Library of Congress subject headings found in the “Subject” links at the end of a record
   - To locate general materials on international environmental law, click on “Subject” and type: **environmental law international** in the search box
   - Specific international environmental law “subject” terms are: **transboundary pollution; marine pollution law and legislation; sustainable development; ozone layer depletion; international trade environmental aspects; environmental economics–developing countries**

3. **“Author” Search:**
   - Search a personal author or an organization
   - Entering the acronym for an organization (e.g., CEC (Commission for Environmental Cooperation)) will retrieve links to names of organizations; clicking on the appropriate link will retrieve a list of titles

B. **WorldCat (online catalog)**

   - Link to WorldCat on the Off-Campus Access page
   - Searches Library collections worldwide
   - Citations to books, journals, journal articles, reports, etc.

Selected general works in the Library on international environmental law are:

[Location: SL2: K3585 .A42 2010]


**Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law: International Environmental Law**


X. **COMPILATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW INSTRUMENTS**


- Text of 200 important international environmental documents
- Includes resolutions, guidelines, decisions, recommendations, drafts, and conventions issued by international organizations and recording bodies


- Discussion of laws and regulations on international and national levels


- Treaties may be located chronologically or by subject
- The status of conventions included in the collection is provided
- 1868 to date

- Texts of environmental treaties and bilateral agreements
- Citations to and selected full text of major environmental laws and regulations for selected countries
- Texts of European Union environmental directives, regulations, and decisions by subject

**Online:** [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions > BNA Electronic Subscriptions](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions > BNA Electronic Subscriptions)

  From the above link, click on “Environment & Safety Library.” The “International” section links to documents

**Print:** SL2: K3585.4 .I57 1978


- Selected texts of current environmental law treaties, draft treaties and agreements

**Online:** HeinOnline: Treaties and Agreements Library

  [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions)

  *LexisNexis* (INTLAW; ILMTY) (1962-)

  *WESTLAW* (ILM) (1980-)

**Print:** Reserve: Current Issues


[Location: SL2: K3585.4 .I5748]

- Decisions and action plans that implement Agenda 21
- These legal and administrative decisions fall between hard law of treaties and the soft law of policy decisions
- Chronological index


- Contains a detailed exposition of international environmental law
- Collection of international instruments provided in vol. II (A and B) and vol. III

- Companion volume to *Principles of International Environmental Law*
- Full text of selected treaties and documents with editorial introductions


- Text of over 130 international environmental agreements and instruments
- Information on signatories and status

**Online**: WESTLAW (INTLENVL)

**XI. YEARBOOKS**


- Articles and selected international agreements


- Articles, book reviews and bibliography of law journal articles and books
- Includes citations to articles discussing a particular country
- “Year in Review” summarizes environmental law developments in selected countries


- Excellent starting point for research involving the UN and the environment
- Chapter on Economic and Social Questions covers UN work in the areas of natural resources, energy, and the environment
- Entries cite to relevant documents and often include texts of resolutions

**Print**: SL2: JZ4947 .U55
**Online**: http://unyearbook.un.org/
XII. COMPILATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW DECISIONS


- Each volume contains a table of cases reported, a table of treaties and a topical index:
  
  **Volume 1, Early Decisions**: 1880s to the 1960s that are regarded as significant in the development of international environmental law;
  
  **Volume 2, Trade and Environment**: decisions focusing on the evolving relationship between trade and environment;
  
  **Volume 3, Human Rights and Environment**: decisions of U.S., European and UN tribunals;
  
  **Volume 4, International Environmental Law in National Courts**: decisions of national courts and their application of international law principles to the environment;
  
  **Volume 5, International Environmental Law in International Tribunals**: decisions from international tribunals, including the International Court of Justice, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, various arbitral tribunals, and the UN Compensation Commission


- Contains decisions of the International Court of Justice and arbitral tribunals

**International Law Reports**

- Using Justis.com, it provides a comprehensive collection of decisions of international courts and arbitrators as well as the judgments of national courts (in English translation) on important international law issues.

**Online:** [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > Database Subscriptions
Oxford Reports on International Law

- Contains decisions of the International Court of Justice in the *International Courts of General Jurisdiction* module

**Online:** [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > *Database Subscriptions*

LexisNexis:
- ✦ *Euro-Lex EU Law Database* (INTLAW; ECJ) (1954 to date)

- ✦ *(UN) International Court of Justice Decisions, Combined* (INTLAW;ALLICJ) (1948 to date)

WESTLAW:

- ✦ *Environmental Law Reports* (ENV-RPTS)
  - Decisions and orders from the UK courts and the Court of Justice of the European Communities relating to environmental law
  - 1993 to date

- ✦ *European Union Case Law* (EU-CS)
  - Decisions of the Court of Justice of the European Communities
  - 1954 to date

XIII. SOURCES OF FOREIGN ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTES & REGULATIONS

*Foreign Law Guide: Current Sources of Codes and Basic Legislation in Jurisdictions of the World*

- Citations to foreign statutes and regulations
- Select a jurisdiction, then the subject heading (e.g., “Environmental Protection”)

**Online:** [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > *Database Subscriptions*


**Print:** SL2: K3478 .E54
**International Encyclopaedia of Laws: Environmental Law**, 1991-

**Print**: SL2: K3585.4.E583 1991

- Extensive background information on the law of individual countries
- Citations and summaries of statutes and regulations


- Texts of treaties and bilateral agreements
- Citations to and full text of major laws and regulations for selected countries
- Texts of European Union directives, regulations, and decisions by subject

**Online**: [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > Database Subscriptions > BNA Electronic Subscriptions

Click on: “BNA Electronic Subscriptions,” “Environment & Safety Library.”

Click on the “International” tab

**Print**: SL2: K3585.4 .I57 1978


**Print**: SL3: KQC705 .C65 1996


[Location: SL2: K3585.4 .I5748]

- Decisions and action plans that implement Agenda 21
- These legal and administrative decisions fall between hard law of treaties and the soft law of policy decisions
- Chronological index


**vLex**

- Full text statutes, regulations, cases and secondary materials from over 100 countries.

**Online**: [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > Database Subscriptions
LexisNexis:

✦ **EUR-Lex EU Law Database** (INTLAW; ECLAW)
  - Series L and C of the *Official Journal (OJ)*, SEC and COM final documents
  - 1952 to date

✦ **International Law > Find Laws by Country or Region**

WESTLAW:

✦ **ENFLEX International Environmental, Health and Safety Regulations** (ENFLEX-INT)
  - Full text translations of current laws and regulations relating to environment, health and safety
  - Covers Brazil, Canada, France, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Spain, United Kingdom and the European Union

✦ **European Union Legislation and Regulations** (EU-LEG)
  - Contains regulations, directives, legislation and international agreements
  - 1952 to date

XIV. SOURCES OF ENVIRONMENTAL TREATY TEXTS

A. **U.S. Treaties**


  - U.S. treaties are first officially published as pamphlets entitled *Treaties and Other International Acts Series* (TIAS)
  - Each treaty is assigned a unique number (e.g., TIAS 10345)
  - TIAS pamphlets eventually republished in the bound *United States Treaties and Other International Agreements* (UST) set (see entry below)

**Online:** HeinOnline: Treaties and Agreements Library (1982-1996)

  [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > Database

  Subscriptions
United States Treaties and Other International Agreements (UST). Washington, D.C. : Dept. of State, 1952-.

- Official bound compilation of U.S. treaties and agreements
- TIAS pamphlets republished in UST, retaining the original TIAS number
- 1950 to date

**Online:** HeinOnline: Treaties and Agreements Library (1950-1984)
  [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database)
  Subscriptions
  LexisNexis  (INTLAW;USTRTY) (1776 to date)
  WESTLAW  (USTREATIES) (1778 to date)

**Print:** SL3: KZ235.3 .U55


- Unofficial compilation of treaty texts
- Fills the gap left by publication delays of the official TIAS and UST sets
- KAV numbers accepted by The Bluebook if citations to official compilations are not available (see Rule 21.4.5)

**Online:** HeinOnline: Treaties and Agreements Library (Listed as “KAV Agreements”)
  [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database)
  Subscriptions

**Microform:** LL1: Microfiche 118

U.S. Senate. *Senate Treaty Documents* and *Senate Executive Reports*.

- For U.S. treaties requiring the advice and consent of the Senate, the President submits to the Senate the text of the treaty, along with a letter of submittal by the Secretary of State and memoranda of understanding
- Treaty text and letter of submittal are then issued by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations as a *Senate Treaty Document* (e.g., Treaty Doc. 99-1) (known before 1981 as a *Senate Executive Document*)
- After Committee's favorable consideration, treaty submitted as a *Senate Executive Report* to the full Senate for vote
- The *Senate Executive Report* contains a resolution of ratification which may include the text of additional reservations, understandings or declarations
- Before 1930, these types of Senate treaty documents were confidential
- Between 1930 and 1980, although no longer confidential, they were not included in the U.S. Serial Set

- Indexes to *Senate Treaty Documents* and *Senate Executive Reports*:

**Online:** ProQuest Congressional (1970 to date)
  [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database)
  Subscriptions
Print: CIS Index to Congressional Publications (1970 to date)
   LL1: Fiche 110 Index
   CIS Index to U.S. Senate Executive Documents and Reports (1818 to 1969)
   LL1: Fiche 99 Index

• Full text *Senate Treaty Documents* and *Senate Executive Reports*:

   **Online:** ProQuest Congressional (1970 to date)
   [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > Database Subscriptions
   FDsys: Senate, House and Treaty Documents collection
   (From the Advanced Search page, select the Congressional Documents Collection.)
   PDF. 104th Congress(1995-96) to date

**United States Statutes at Large.** Washington : U.S. G.P.O.

• U.S. treaties prior to 1950
• Volume 64, part 3 (1950-51) contains a cumulative list of treaties, alphabetical by country

   **Online:** HeinOnline: U.S. Statutes at Large
   [http://law.gwu.libguides.com/electronicresources](http://law.gwu.libguides.com/electronicresources) > Click the JBLL Database List tab.
   WESTLAW: US-STATLRG (1789-1972)

   **Print:** LL1: Gov. Docs.

**B. Worldwide Treaties (U.S. May or May Not be a Party)**


• Official texts of *selected* multilateral and bilateral agreements
• Texts in multiple languages
• Publication delays of about ten years
• No cumulative print index
• 1946 to date

   **Online:** United Nations Treaty Collection
   [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > Database Subscriptions
   [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research)

   **Print:** SL3: KZ172 .T74 (Vols. 1 (1946/47) to date)
   **Microform:** Microfiche 116 for volumes 1-800
**European Conventions and Agreements = Conventions et Accords Européens.**

- Contains more than 170 international conventions and treaties
- Includes recent amendments and protocols
- 1949 to date
**Online:** Council of Europe’s treaty site: [http://conventions.coe.int/](http://conventions.coe.int/)

**European Treaty Series:**

- Official pamphlet editions of recently concluded European treaties
**Online:** Council of Europe’s treaty site: [http://conventions.coe.int/](http://conventions.coe.int/)
**Print:** SL3: KJC39 .C682

**LexisNexis:** [EUR-Lex EU Law Database: Combined Files](http://conventions.coe.int/) (INTLAW; ECLAW) (Dec. 1952 to date)

**WESTLAW:** [European Union Treaties](http://conventions.coe.int/) (EU-TREATIES) (1951 to date)

**XV. INDEXES FOR LOCATING AND UPDATING TREATY TEXTS**


- Index to multilateral treaties to which the U.S. may or may not be a party
- Contains a detailed subject index and a chronological list of treaties
- Provides citations to print treaty compilations
- Includes information on amendments, modifications, extensions, and terminations

**Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General.** New York : United Nations, 1982-.

- Annual index to 486 major multilateral treaties deposited with the United Nations.
- Citations to the official United Nations Treaty Series (UNTS), if available
- If no UNTS citation, references given to other UN documents
- Subject access by broad categories
- Texts of reservations included; texts of treaties are not
- Detailed information about date of entry into force and list of participants

**Online:** United Nations Treaty Collection
**Print:** Latest edition on Ready Reference KZ 171 .M85
Treaties and International Agreements Online (TIARA)

• Access to the full text of over 13,000 treaties and international agreements
• Treaties and international agreements ratified by the US, major treaties in the process of ratification, and all tax treaties, even those to which the US is not a party
• Basic and advanced search
• Official texts (PDF) of and citations to Senate Treaty Documents, TIAS, UST, International Legal Materials and unofficial KAV accession numbers that are keyed to Hein's United States Treaties and Other International Agreements Current Service

[Location: LL1: Fiche 304]

Online: http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions


• List of U.S. treaties in force as of revision date of the volume (e.g., January 1, 2010)

Online: http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/143863.pdf
HeinOnline: Treaties and Agreements Library:
http://law.gwu.libguides.com/electronicresources > Click the JBLL Database List tab.
LexisNexis (INTLAW; USTIF)


• Useful index for locating multilateral treaties throughout the world
• Citations to official and unofficial treaty sources
• Detailed information provided regarding dates, signatories, status, and parties
• Coverage is 1856-1994

XVI. WEB SITES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TREATY TEXTS

✦ ECOLEX
http://www.ecolex.org/start.php
ECOLEX is a portal to environmental law documents operated by FAO, IUCN and UNEP. It includes abstracts and full text of treaties, international soft-law and other non-binding policy.
Environmental Law Instruments (UN Environment Programme (UNEP))
http://www.unep.org/law/Law_instruments/index.asp

Environmental Treaties and Resource Indicators (ENTRI)
http://sedac.ciesin.org/entri/
(Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN))
Provides the full-text and summaries of about 100 international environment treaties.
It also includes status information and lists the parties to a particular treaty. Treaties
are accessible alphabetically, chronologically by date of adoption, and by subject.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Legal Office

International Maritime Organization (IMO), List of Conventions
http://www.imo.org/About/Conventions/ListOfConventions/Pages/Default.aspx

International Water Law Project
http://www.internationalwaterlaw.org/documents/intldocs/

The Multilaterals Project (Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University)
http://fletcher.tufts.edu/multilaterals/
This web site provides full text of international multilateral conventions and other
instruments arranged chronologically and by broad subject areas, such as atmosphere
and space, flora and fauna -- biodiversity, and marine and coastal.

Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database
http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/database/
(Oregon State University, Department of GeoSciences)

United Nations Treaty Collection (UN Office of Legal Affairs)
The Collection provides access to over 30,000 treaties and related subsequent actions
which have been published in the print United Nations Treaty Series. Also included is
a current version of Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General,
which provides the status of 486 multilateral treaties deposited with the UN.

XVII. OTHER INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW WEB SITES

Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
http://www.ciel.org/
CIEL is a public interest, not-for-profit environmental law firm founded in 1989 to
strengthen international and comparative environmental law and policy. Their site
includes a collection of CIEL publications in PDF and press releases.

International Energy Treaties
http://cees.colorado.edu/isea/
This site, sponsored by the Energy and Environmental Security Initiative (EESI) at the University of Colorado School of Law provides a database of international energy agreements and soft law documents. The database is searchable by keyword or browsable by instrument. Registration is necessary, but no fee is required.

EESI also sponsors a Climate Action database that collects proposed federal legislation for climate stabilization and related energy security and national security actions to be undertaken by the U.S. President, executive administrative entities, or the U.S Congress.

◆International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE)
http://www.inece.org/
INECE is a network of government and non-government enforcement and compliance practitioners. Their site provides a large number of resources on environmental enforcement and compliance issues including conference reports, studies and statistical materials. Also included are proceedings of topical and regional forums.

◆International Water Law Project
http://www.internationalwaterlaw.org/
The Project website links to treaties, articles, news stories, case law, websites, and other relevant information.

◆International Fisheries Law and Policy Portal
http://www.intfish.net/
The website includes the International Fisheries Treaty Database which contains over 1000 bilateral and multilateral treaties and other instruments about fisheries and marine living resource management. The site also links to news stories on fisheries, a collection of relevant documents and other materials relevant to international fisheries law.

◆North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC)
http://www.cecc.org/home/index.cfm?varlan=english
The CEC is an international organization created by Canada, Mexico and the United States under the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC). The website provides links to full text reports and documents.

◆Office of International Affairs (OIA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
http://www.epa.gov/oha/
OIA website links to speeches and reports on international environmental issues and information on EPA’s country and regional programs.
United Nations Division for Sustainable Development (DSD)
http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/

The Division for Sustainable Development (DSD) was created in December 1992 to monitor and report on implementation of the Earth Summit agreements. Their site provides the text of Agenda 21, periodicals issued by the Commission, reports and discussion papers.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
http://www.unep.org

The UNEP web site provides the text of environmental legal instruments as well as conference proceedings and other documents relating to these instruments.

Secretariat websites

Gateway to the UN System’s Work on Climate Change
http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/climatechange/gateway

This gateway makes available policy/strategy documents, state of the environment reports, conventions and treaties and other resources relating to climate change from the UN system.

UNEP’s DEWA/GRID- Europe
http://www.grid.unep.ch/

The aim of this site is to provide authoritative information on the environmental situation throughout the pan-European geographic region. The site provides access to UNEP documents on European environmental issues, conference proceedings, statistics and other materials pertinent to Europe.

UNEP’s Regional Seas Programme
http://www.unep.org/regionalseas/

This web site provides links to the web sites of the Regional Seas Programmes and texts of action plans and conventions.

Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP)
http://www.cep.unep.org/

The CEP is one of the UNEP administered Regional Seas Programmes. The CEP is managed by and for the countries of the Wider Caribbean Region through the Caribbean Action Plan (1981). The site includes working documents, recommendations, and decisions of the CEP issued at its meetings as well as technical reports and other documents issued by the Programme.

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Prepared by Herb Somers and Germaine Leahy
Revised July 2011
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INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW RESEARCH

Introduction

The purpose of this research guide is to provide a starting point for international environmental law research. The guide presents a selected list of print and online primary and secondary materials (including web resources) important to the area of international environmental law. Sources of foreign environmental law are only selectively included.

For additional information, please see the following LibGuide available from the Law Library’s website: Finding Treaties and International Agreements at Burns Law Library (http://law.gwu.libguides.com/treaties)

To determine if a source listed in this guide is available through LexisNexis or Westlaw:

LexisNexis: Select the “Find a Source” tab; type the source in the search box

Westlaw: Westlaw.com: type the name of the source in the “Search for a database” box.

WestlawNext: type the name of the source in the search box and select the resource from the drop down list.

Example: International Environment Reporter or BNA; INTENV
I. The Development of International Environmental Law

International environmental law deals with the control of pollution, the protection of the environment, and the depletion of natural resources within a framework of sustainable development. Development and growth are predicated on the protection of the environment so as to safeguard the health and economic needs of future generations.

I. The Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment

Books such as Rachel Carson’s *Silent Spring* (1962) and *Limits to Growth* by the Club of Rome (a group of industrialists and world leaders) (1972) as well as phenomenon such as acid rain and the poisoning of fishermen in Japan’s Minimata Bay raised concerns about the state of the world environment.

These concerns led the United Nations to convene the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment in 1972. Until this time, environmental problems were dealt with sporadically, resulting in few significant treaties. The Stockholm Conference resulted in the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the first international organization devoted to the environment, and produced the Stockholm Declaration, 26 principles setting forth the rights and obligations of citizens and governments to preserve and improve the environment.


Before the Stockholm Conference, negotiations began concerning the protection of the ocean environment. UNCLOS was opened for signature in 1982 and came into force on November 16, 1994.

III. World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED)

In an attempt to resolve conflicts between environmental protection and economic development, the General Assembly of the United Nations created WCED in 1983 and charged it with proposing strategies for sustainable development. The WCED called for an international conference to act as a successor to the Stockholm Conference and carry out its legacy.

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1Lakshman Guruswamy and Brent Hendricks, INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW IN A NUTSHELL 1-54 (2007)
IV. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) (Earth Summit)

Held in 1992, the UNCED or Earth Summit was directed by the UN General Assembly to further develop the principles set forth in the Stockholm Declaration. Four important actions came out of the Earth Summit:

- Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
- Agenda 21
- Nonlegally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests
- The signing of the Climate Change and Biodiversity Conventions and the Kyoto Protocol

V. The Development of International Environmental Law Documents

Since the Stockholm Conference, a large body of international environmental law has developed. Documents which have become important to this area of law include:

- International declarations, agreements and treaties
- UN General Assembly resolutions
- EU directives, regulations and legislation
- Judicial decisions (International Court of Justice of the United Nations, European Court of Justice)
- Other International Conferences
II. DICTIONARIES

[Location: Reference KZ1161 .B63 2005]

[Location: Reference KZ1161 .F69 2003]

**Print**: Reference: KZ1161 .P37 2009

• Provides the meaning of abbreviations and acronyms used in legal literature.

**Online**: *LexisNexis* [5th edition 2001]

III. DIRECTORIES OF INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

**Yearbook of International Organizations**. Annual.
[Location: Reference & SL2: JZ4836 .Y43]
• All types of international organizations included
• Includes: names of executive directors, addresses, phone and fax numbers for main and regional offices, a detailed description of the organization, member countries, publications, and activities.

[Location: Ready Reference: JZ4970 .U65]
• Provides current information on all United Nations organizations (origin, purpose and structure and membership)
• Contains information on subsidiary organs established in accordance with the Charter, related UN organs and programs, specialized agencies and autonomous bodies brought into relationship with the UN, and various ad hoc organs and programs.
IV. GUIDES TO INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW RESEARCH


• Discusses general search strategies
• Lists English language, primary (treaties/international agreements) and secondary sources (journals), including web resources, Lexis/Westlaw and library catalogs.


• Arranged by topic
• Links to primary documents, such as treaties and other international instruments
• Information on each instrument, includes print citations and relevant dates
• Guides users to the “best sites” for certain topical areas or kinds of research


• Current, comprehensive guide to print and online resources

V. CURRENT AWARENESS

News and analysis of recent developments in international environmental law is available through the following current awareness publications:

ClimateWire:
• Published by Environment & Energy (E&E) Publishing
  Online: Web: http://www.eenews.net/

EcoAmericas:
• Monthly online newsletter; available in English or Spanish
• Current news and analysis on development and the environment in Latin America
• Searchable archives covers November 1998 to date
  Online: http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions
**ELR Environmental Law Reporter: News & Analysis** (Environmental Law Institute (ELI))

**Online**: ELR: Environmental Law Reporter

[http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > Database Subscriptions

*LexisNexis* (ENVIRN; NEWS) (1971 to date)

*WESTLAW* (ENVLRNA) (2008 to date)

**Print**: Reserve: Current Issues; SL3: KF3775.A6 E5

**Environmental Forum** (Environmental Law Institute (ELI))

- Indexed in *LegalTrac* database but not in *Index to Legal Periodicals and Books* (*ILP*)

**Print**: Reserve: Current Issues; LL2: K5.N854

**Environment and Energy Daily:**

- Published by Environment & Energy (E&E) Publishing

**Online**: *LexisNexis* (NEWS; EENEWS) (1996 to date)

*WESTLAW* (EEP-EED) (July 2001 to date)

Web: [http://www.eenews.net/](http://www.eenews.net/)

**International Environment Reporter** (Bureau of National Affairs (BNA))

- Daily & biweekly newsletter covering foreign & international environmental issues

**Online**: BNA Electronic Subscriptions (2/7/96 to date):

[http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > Database Subscriptions

*LexisNexis* (BNA; INTENV) (9/87 to date)

*WESTLAW* (BNA-INTENVR) (2/98 to date)

**Print**: Reserve: Current Issues; SL2: K3585.4 .I57 (Vol. 10, 1987-)

**World Climate Change Report** (Bureau of National Affairs (BNA))

- Daily newsletter covering foreign & international climate change law issues

- “Climapedia” links to full text foreign & international law documents

**Online**: BNA Electronic Subscriptions (2/7/96 to date):

[http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > Database Subscriptions
VI. INDEXES TO LEGAL PERIODICALS

Legal periodical articles provide analysis and discussion of current topics in international environmental law and provide citations to important primary documents, such as treaties and European Union directives and regulations. They can be located using the following indexes:

Current Index to Legal Periodicals (CILP):
- Weekly; citations to articles available 4-6 weeks before they appear in other indexes
- Indexes articles under broad topics (“Comparative Law,” “International Trade,” “Environmental Law,” “International Law,” “Law of the Sea”) from over 500 legal publications

Online:  
http://docs.law.gwu.edu/Burns/alllaw/cilp/webcilp.htm  
WESTLAW (CILP) (most recent 8 weeks only)

LegalTrac
- Citations, with selected abstracts and full text
- Indexes over 850 law review, journal and legal newspapers published in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain, New Zealand, and Australia
- 1980 to date

Online:  
http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions  
LexisNexis (LAWREV; LGLIND) (1980-)
WESTLAW (LRI) (1980-)

Index to Legal Periodicals Full Text (ILP) (1981-)
Index to Legal Periodicals Retrospective (1908-1981)
- Citations, with selected full text
- Indexes over 500 law reviews, journals, yearbooks and government publications

Online:  
http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions  
LexisNexis (LAWREV;ILP) (1979 to date)  
WESTLAW (ILP) (8/81 to date)

Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals (IFLP)
- Citations to articles in selected legal periodicals dealing with international law (public and private), comparative law and municipal law of countries other than the U.S., the British Isles and the British Commonwealth, whose systems of law have a common law basis. Database covers 1985-date.

Online:  
http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions
Print: Indexes, first floor across from the reference desk: K33.I52 (1960-)
VII. FULL TEXT LEGAL PERIODICAL DATABASES

HeinOnline:
http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions
• Only full text online resource for pre-1985 and current legal periodicals in PDF
• Search by citation, author, journal and keyword

LexisNexis:
• LAWREV; ALLREV (bar journals and law school environmental law reviews)
• ENVIRN;CURNWS (environment and energy newsletters; selected environmental articles from news wires, journals and major newspapers; most recent 2 yrs.)
• ABA;ALLABA (selected ABA journals and newsletters; ABA’s Natural Resources & Environment journal must be searched separately)
• INTLAW; INTLR (international law reviews and journals, includes all law school environmental law reviews and journals)
• NEWS; ALLNWS (includes international environment and energy news sources)
• ENERGY; ALLNWS (energy and utility newsletters, journals and selected wires)

WESTLAW:
• ENV-TP (law school environmental law reviews, texts, ABA environmental newsletters and bar journals; includes ABA’s Natural Resources & Environment)
• INT-TP (law school law reviews, bar journals, texts, CLE course materials published in the U.S. that relate to relations among nations; includes very few law school environmental law reviews)
• TP-ALL (law school law reviews, journals, texts and treatises; includes international and environmental law school law reviews)
• JLR (law school law reviews and bar journals, includes international and environmental law reviews)
• ENVNEWS (news and information about the environment from newspapers, magazines, journals, newsletters, transcripts and news wires)
• INTNEWS (selected full-text, English-language articles and abstracts for non-English-language news and business sources)

VIII. SELECTED NON-LEGAL PERIODICAL DATABASES

A. National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Working Papers:
http://www.nber.org/papers/
• Coverage includes international environmental economics

B. GWU Gelman Library: http://www.gelman.gwu.edu/ (Under “SEARCH” click on “Articles & Databases”)
Contains citations to journal articles; includes selected full text:

ABI/INFORM Complete Plus
• Index to journal articles on international business topics, including international environmental issues
• Selected full text
Cambridge Scientific Abstracts
- Collection of environment-related databases
- Citations to articles, conference proceedings and reports
- Coverage varies by database

EconLit
- Citations, with abstracts to economic literature
- Topics covered include: environmental economics, trade and environment, emissions trading, eco-labelling
- 1969 to date

International Political Science Abstracts (EBSCO publishing)
- Citations with selected full text
- World’s leading journals in political science
- Topics covered include energy & environmental foreign & international law & policy issues
- 1975 to date

PAIS International
- Citations, with abstracts/selected full text, to books, articles, statistics, government reports and conference proceedings on political, social and public policy issues
- 1915 to date

Proquest Research Library Plus
- Citations with abstracts and selected full text of journal articles on a variety of topics, including international environmental law issues
- 1971 to date

Worldwide Political Science Abstracts (Cambridge Scientific Abstracts)
- Citations with selected full text
- International journals in political science & related fields
- Topics covered include energy & environmental foreign & international law & policy issues
- 1975 to date

IX. GENERAL WORKS ON INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
Use online catalogs to locate international environmental law materials:

A. JACOB, the Law Library's online catalog: http://jacob.law.gwu.edu/
International environmental law materials in the Library's collection can be located using JACOB.

1. “Keyword” Search:
   - Use keywords to begin research
   - Searches for word(s) in any order in the author, title, subject headings (Library of Congress) and notes sections of a bibliographic record
   - “Subject” links in a record retrieve works on the same topic
   - Example: basel convention or climate change and trad* (The “*” symbol
retrieves variable endings, such as trade or trading)

2. **“Subject” Search:**
   - Limits a search to Library of Congress subject headings found in the “Subject” links at the end of a record
   - To locate general materials on international environmental law, click on “Subject” and type: environmental law international in the search box
   - Specific international environmental law “subject” terms are: transboundary pollution; marine pollution law and legislation; sustainable development; ozone layer depletion; international trade environmental aspects; environmental economics–developing countries

3. **“Author” Search:**
   - Search a personal author or an organization
   - Entering the acronym for an organization (e.g., CEC (Commission for Environmental Cooperation)) will retrieve links to names of organizations; clicking on the appropriate link will retrieve a list of titles

B. **WorldCat** (online catalog )
   - Link to WorldCat on the Off-Campus Access page
   - Searches Library collections worldwide
   - Citations to books, journals, journal articles, reports, etc.

Selected general works in the Library on international environmental law are:

[Location: SL2: K3585.A42 2010]


Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law: International Environmental Law
   - **Print**: Reference: KZ1160 .E53 1981


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**X. COMPILATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW INSTRUMENTS**


- Text of 200 important international environmental documents
- Includes resolutions, guidelines, decisions, recommendations, drafts, and conventions issued by international organizations and recording bodies


- Discussion of laws and regulations on international and national levels


- Treaties may be located chronologically or by subject
- The status of conventions included in the collection is provided
- 1868 to date

- Texts of environmental treaties and bilateral agreements
- Citations to and selected full text of major environmental laws and regulations for selected countries
- Texts of European Union environmental directives, regulations, and decisions by subject

Online: [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions > BNA Electronic Subscriptions](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) From the above link, click on “Environment & Safety Library.” The “International” section links to documents

Print: SL2: K3585.4 .I57 1978


- Selected texts of current environmental law treaties, draft treaties and agreements

Online: [HeinOnline: Treaties and Agreements Library](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > Database Subscriptions

[LexisNexis (INTLAW; ILMTY) (1962-)](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research)

[WESTLAW (ILM) (1980-)](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research)

Print: Reserve: Current Issues


- Decisions and action plans that implement Agenda 21
- These legal and administrative decisions fall between hard law of treaties and the soft law of policy decisions
- Chronological index


- Contains a detailed exposition of international environmental law
- Collection of international instruments provided in vol. II (A and B) and vol. III

- Companion volume to *Principles of International Environmental Law*
- Full text of selected treaties and documents with editorial introductions


- Text of over 130 international environmental agreements and instruments
- Information on signatories and status

**Online:** *WESTLAW* (INTLENVL)

### XI. YEARBOOKS

**Yearbook of Human Rights & Environment.** Den Bosch, the Netherlands: BookWorld Publications, 2001-. [Location: Reserve & SL2: K3581.3 .Y43]

- Articles and selected international agreements


- Articles, book reviews and bibliography of law journal articles and books
- Includes citations to articles discussing a particular country
- “Year in Review” summarizes environmental law developments in selected countries


- Excellent starting point for research involving the UN and the environment
- Chapter on Economic and Social Questions covers UN work in the areas of natural resources, energy, and the environment
- Entries cite to relevant documents and often include texts of resolutions

**Print:** SL2: JZ4947 .U55
XII. COMPILATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW DECISIONS


- Each volume contains a table of cases reported, a table of treaties and a topical index:
  - **Volume 1, Early Decisions:** 1880s to the 1960s that are regarded as significant in the development of international environmental law;
  - **Volume 2, Trade and Environment:** decisions focusing on the evolving relationship between trade and environment;
  - **Volume 3, Human Rights and Environment:** decisions of U.S., European and UN tribunals;
  - **Volume 4, International Environmental Law in National Courts:** decisions of national courts and their application of international law principles to the environment;
  - **Volume 5, International Environmental Law in International Tribunals:** decisions from international tribunals, including the International Court of Justice, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, various arbitral tribunals, and the UN Compensation Commission


- Contains decisions of the International Court of Justice and arbitral tribunals

**International Law Reports**

- Using Justis.com, it provides a comprehensive collection of decisions of international courts and arbitrators as well as the judgments of national courts (in English translation) on important international law issues.

**Online:** [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research) > Database Subscriptions
Oxford Reports on International Law

- Contains decisions of the International Court of Justice in the International Courts of General Jurisdiction module

[Online: http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research] > Database Subscriptions

LexisNexis:

♦ Euro-Lex EU Law Database (INTLAW; ECJ) (1954 to date)

♦ (UN) International Court of Justice Decisions, Combined (INTLAW; ALLICJ) (1948 to date)

WESTLAW:

♦ Environmental Law Reports (ENV-RPTS)
  - Decisions and orders from the UK courts and the Court of Justice of the European Communities relating to environmental law
  - 1993 to date

♦ European Union Case Law (EU-CS)
  - Decisions of the Court of Justice of the European Communities
  - 1954 to date

XIII. SOURCES OF FOREIGN ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTES & REGULATIONS

Foreign Law Guide: Current Sources of Codes and Basic Legislation in Jurisdictions of the World

- Citations to foreign statutes and regulations
- Select a jurisdiction, then the subject heading (e.g., “Environmental Protection”)

[Online: http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research] > Database Subscriptions


[Print: SL2: K3478 .E54]
International Encyclopaedia of Laws: Environmental Law, 1991-.

Print: SL2: K3585.4.E583 1991

- Extensive background information on the law of individual countries
- Citations and summaries of statutes and regulations


- Texts of treaties and bilateral agreements
- Citations to and full text of major laws and regulations for selected countries
- Texts of European Union directives, regulations, and decisions by subject

Online: http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions > BNA Electronic Subscriptions
Click on: “BNA Electronic Subscriptions,” “Environment & Safety Library.”
Click on the “International” tab
Print: SL2: K3585.4 .I57 1978


[Location: SL2: K3585.4 .I5748]

- Decisions and action plans that implement Agenda 21
- These legal and administrative decisions fall between hard law of treaties and the soft law of policy decisions
- Chronological index


vLex

- Full text statutes, regulations, cases and secondary materials from over 100 countries.

Online: http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions
LexisNexis:

✦ *EUR-Lex EU Law Database* (INTLAW;ECLAW)
  - Series L and C of the *Official Journal (OJ)*, SEC and COM final documents
  - 1952 to date

✦ *International Law > Find Laws by Country or Region*

WESTLAW:

✦ *ENFLEX International Environmental, Health and Safety Regulations* (ENFLEX-INT)
  - Full text translations of current laws and regulations relating to environment, health and safety
  - Covers Brazil, Canada, France, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Spain, United Kingdom and the European Union

✦ *European Union Legislation and Regulations* (EU-LEG)
  - Contains regulations, directives, legislation and international agreements
  - 1952 to date

XIV. SOURCES OF ENVIRONMENTAL TREATY TEXTS

A. U.S. Treaties


- U.S. treaties are first officially published as pamphlets entitled *Treaties and Other International Acts Series (TIAS)*
- Each treaty is assigned a unique number (e.g., TIAS 10345)
- TIAS pamphlets eventually republished in the bound *United States Treaties and Other International Agreements (UST)* set (see entry below)

**Online:** HeinOnline: Treaties and Agreements Library (1982-1996)
  - [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research)
United States Treaties and Other International Agreements (UST). Washington, D.C. : Dept. of State, 1952-.

- Official bound compilation of U.S. treaties and agreements
- TIAS pamphlets republished in UST, retaining the original TIAS number
- 1950 to date

**Online: HeinOnline: Treaties and Agreements Library (1950-1984)**

http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database

Subscriptions
- LexisNexis (INTLAW;USTRTY) (1776 to date)
- WESTLAW (USTREATIES) (1778 to date)

Print: SL3: KZ235.3 .U55


- Unofficial compilation of treaty texts
- Fills the gap left by publication delays of the official TIAS and UST sets
- KAV numbers accepted by The Bluebook if citations to official compilations are not available (see Rule 21.4.5)

**Online: HeinOnline: Treaties and Agreements Library (Listed as “KAV Agreements”)**

http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database

Subscriptions

**Microform:** LL1: Microfiche 118

U.S. Senate. *Senate Treaty Documents* and *Senate Executive Reports*.

- For U.S. treaties requiring the advice and consent of the Senate, the President submits to the Senate the text of the treaty, along with a letter of submittal by the Secretary of State and memoranda of understanding
- Treaty text and letter of submittal are then issued by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations as a *Senate Treaty Document* (e.g., Treaty Doc. 99-1) *(known before 1981 as a Senate Executive Document)*
- After Committee's favorable consideration, treaty submitted as a *Senate Executive Report* to the full Senate for vote
- The *Senate Executive Report* contains a resolution of ratification which may include the text of additional reservations, understandings or declarations
- Before 1930, these types of Senate treaty documents were confidential
- Between 1930 and 1980, although no longer confidential, they were not included in the U.S. Serial Set

- Indexes to *Senate Treaty Documents* and *Senate Executive Reports*:

**Online: ProQuest Congressional (1970 to date)**

http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database

Subscriptions
Print: CIS Index to Congressional Publications (1970 to date)
   LL1: Fiche 110 Index
   CIS Index to U.S. Senate Executive Documents and Reports (1818 to 1969)
      LL1: Fiche 99 Index

• Full text Senate Treaty Documents and Senate Executive Reports:

Online: ProQuest Congressional (1970 to date)
   http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database
   Subscriptions
   FDsys: Senate, House and Treaty Documents collection
   http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/search/advanced/advsearchpage.action
   (From the Advanced Search page, select the Congressional Documents Collection.)
      PDF. 104th Congress (1995-96) to date

United States Statutes at Large. Washington : U.S. G.P.O.

• U.S. treaties prior to 1950
• Volume 64, part 3 (1950-51) contains a cumulative list of treaties, alphabetical by country

Online: HeinOnline: U.S. Statutes at Large
   http://law.gwu.libguides.com/electronicresources > Click the JBLL Database List tab.
   WESTLAW: US-STATLRG (1789-1972)

Print: LL1: Gov. Docs.

B. Worldwide Treaties (U.S. May or May Not be a Party)


• Official texts of selected multilateral and bilateral agreements
• Texts in multiple languages
• Publication delays of about ten years
• No cumulative print index
• 1946 to date

Online: United Nations Treaty Collection
   http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database
   Subscriptions

Print: SL3: KZ172.T74 (Vols. 1 (1946/47) to date)
Microform: Microfiche 116 for volumes 1-800
European Conventions and Agreements = Conventions et Accords Européens.

- Contains more than 170 international conventions and treaties
- Includes recent amendments and protocols
- 1949 to date

Online: Council of Europe’s treaty site: http://conventions.coe.int/

European Treaty Series:

- Official pamphlet editions of recently concluded European treaties

Online: Council of Europe’s treaty site: http://conventions.coe.int/
Print: SL3: KJC39 .C68

LexisNexis: EUR-Lex EU Law Database: Combined Files (INTLAW; ECLAW)
(Dec. 1952 to date)

WESTLAW: European Union Treaties (EU-TREATIES) (1951 to date)

XV. INDEXES FOR LOCATING AND UPDATING TREATY TEXTS


- Index to multilateral treaties to which the U.S. may or may not be a party
- Contains a detailed subject index and a chronological list of treaties
- Provides citations to print treaty compilations
- Includes information on amendments, modifications, extensions, and terminations

Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General. New York : United Nations, 1982-.

- Annual index to 486 major multilateral treaties deposited with the United Nations.
- Citations to the official United Nations Treaty Series (UNTS), if available
- If no UNTS citation, references given to other UN documents
- Subject access by broad categories
- Texts of reservations included; texts of treaties are not
- Detailed information about date of entry into force and list of participants

Online: United Nations Treaty Collection
http://treaties.un.org/
Print: Latest edition on Ready Reference KZ 171 .M85
**Treaties and International Agreements Online (TIARA)**

- Access to the full text of over 13,000 treaties and international agreements
- Treaties and international agreements ratified by the US, major treaties in the process of ratification, and all tax treaties, even those to which the US is not a party
- Basic and advanced search
- Official texts (PDF) of and citations to *Senate Treaty Documents, TIAS, UST, International Legal Materials* and unofficial KAV accession numbers that are keyed to *Hein's United States Treaties and Other International Agreements Current Service*

[Location: LL1: Fiche 304]

**Online:** [http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions](http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research > Database Subscriptions)


- List of U.S. treaties in force as of revision date of the volume (e.g., January 1, 2010)

**Online:** [http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/143863.pdf](http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/143863.pdf)

**HeinOnline:** Treaties and Agreements Library:

[http://law.gwu.libguides.com/electronicresources > Click the JBLL Database List tab.](http://law.gwu.libguides.com/electronicresources > Click the JBLL Database List tab.)

**LexisNexis (INTLAW; USTIF)**

**Print:** Current Edition: Ready Reference: KZ235 .T74


- Useful index for locating multilateral treaties throughout the world
- Citations to official and unofficial treaty sources
- Detailed information provided regarding dates, signatories, status, and parties
- Coverage is 1856-1994

**XVI. WEB SITES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TREATY TEXTS**

**ECOLEX**


ECOLEX is a portal to environmental law documents operated by FAO, IUCN and UNEP. It includes abstracts and full text of treaties, international soft-law and other non-binding policy.
Environmental Law Instruments (UN Environment Programme (UNEP))
http://www.unep.org/law/Law_instruments/index.asp

Environmental Treaties and Resource Indicators (ENTRI)
http://sedac.ciesin.org/entri/
(Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN))
Provides the full-text and summaries of about 100 international environment treaties. It also includes status information and lists the parties to a particular treaty. Treaties are accessible alphabetically, chronologically by date of adoption, and by subject.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Legal Office

International Maritime Organization (IMO), List of Conventions
http://www.imo.org/About/Conventions/ListOfConventions/Pages/Default.aspx

International Water Law Project
http://www.internationalwaterlaw.org/documents/intldocs/

The Multilaterals Project (Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University)
http://fletcher.tufts.edu/multilaterals/
This web site provides full text of international multilateral conventions and other instruments arranged chronologically and by broad subject areas, such as atmosphere and space, flora and fauna -- biodiversity, and marine and coastal.

Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database
http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/database/
(Oregon State University, Department of GeoSciences)

United Nations Treaty Collection (UN Office of Legal Affairs)
The Collection provides access to over 30,000 treaties and related subsequent actions which have been published in the print United Nations Treaty Series. Also included is a current version of Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General, which provides the status of 486 multilateral treaties deposited with the UN.

XVII. OTHER INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW WEB SITES

Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
http://www.ciel.org/
CIEL is a public interest, not-for-profit environmental law firm founded in 1989 to strengthen international and comparative environmental law and policy. Their site includes a collection of CIEL publications in PDF and press releases.

International Energy Treaties
This site, sponsored by the Energy and Environmental Security Initiative (EESI) at the University of Colorado School of Law provides a database of international energy agreements and soft law documents. The database is searchable by keyword or browsable by instrument. Registration is necessary, but no fee is required.

EESI also sponsors a Climate Action database that collects proposed federal legislation for climate stabilization and related energy security and national security actions to be undertaken by the U.S. President, executive administrative entities, or the U.S Congress.

**International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE)**


INECE is a network of government and non-government enforcement and compliance practitioners. Their site provides a large number of resources on environmental enforcement and compliance issues including conference reports, studies and statistical materials. Also included are proceedings of topical and regional forums.

**International Water Law Project**


The Project website links to treaties, articles, news stories, case law, websites, and other relevant information.

**International Fisheries Law and Policy Portal**

[http://www.intfish.net/](http://www.intfish.net/)

The website includes the *International Fisheries Treaty Database* which contains over 1000 bilateral and multilateral treaties and other instruments about fisheries and marine living resource management. The site also links to news stories on fisheries, a collection of relevant documents and other materials relevant to international fisheries law.

**North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC)**


The CEC is an international organization created by Canada, Mexico and the United States under the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC). The website provides links to full text reports and documents.

**Office of International Affairs (OIA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

[http://www.epa.gov/oia/](http://www.epa.gov/oia/)

OIA website links to speeches and reports on international environmental issues and information on EPA’s country and regional programs.
United Nations Division for Sustainable Development (DSD)
http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/

The Division for Sustainable Development (DSD) was created in December 1992 to monitor and report on implementation of the Earth Summit agreements. Their site provides the text of Agenda 21, periodicals issued by the Commission, reports and discussion papers.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
http://www.unep.org

The UNEP web site provides the text of environmental legal instruments as well as conference proceedings and other documents relating to these instruments.

Secretariat websites

Gateway to the UN System’s Work on Climate Change
http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/climatechange/gateway

This gateway makes available policy/strategy documents, state of the environment reports, conventions and treaties and other resources relating to climate change from the UN system.

UNEP’s DEWA/GRID- Europe
http://www.grid.unep.ch/

The aim of this site is to provide authoritative information on the environmental situation throughout the pan-European geographic region. The site provides access to UNEP documents on European environmental issues, conference proceedings, statistics and other materials pertinent to Europe.

UNEP’s Regional Seas Programme
http://www.unep.org/regionalseas/

This web site provides links to the web sites of the Regional Seas Programmes and texts of action plans and conventions.

Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP)
http://www.cep.unep.org/

The CEP is one of the UNEP administered Regional Seas Programmes. The CEP is managed by and for the countries of the Wider Caribbean Region through the Caribbean Action Plan (1981). The site includes working documents, recommendations, and decisions of the CEP issued at its meetings as well as technical reports and other documents issued by the Programme.

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Revised July 2011