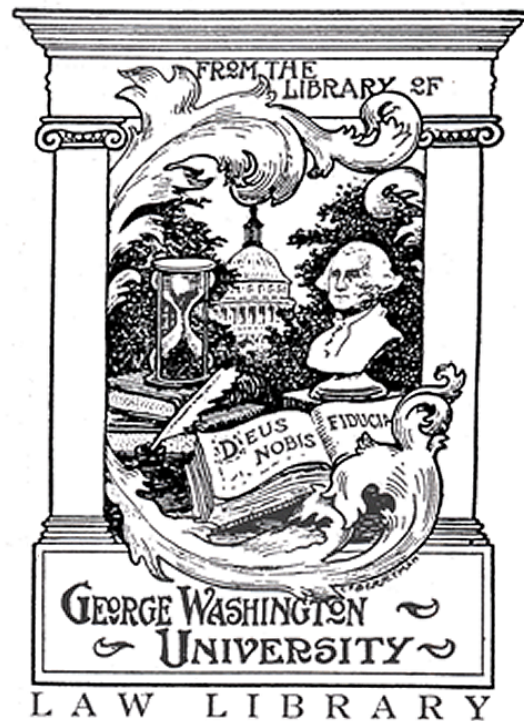




LEGAL RESEARCH GUIDE SERIES
SPECIALIZED RESEARCH GUIDE # 9

**CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN INTERNATIONAL
HUMAN RIGHTS LAW**



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LAW SCHOOL
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CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

INTRODUCTION

Effective research in the area of international human rights law requires skill in locating relevant international instruments coupled with familiarity with the institutions (national, international, and non-governmental) involved in defining, protecting, and promoting these important rights.

This guide introduces the novice researcher to selected primary human rights organizations and their key print and electronic research materials. Additional treatises and periodicals on the subject may be found by using JACOB, the catalog of the Jacob Burns Law Library (<http://jacob.law.gwu.edu>).

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 name or identifiers in the search box.

Examples: *United States Code* or *GENFED;USCODE*

Westlaw: If you are using Westlaw.com, type the name of the source in the "Search for a database" box. If you are using WestlawNext, type the name of the source in the WestlawNext search box and select the resource from the drop down list.

Examples: *United States Code Annotated* or *USCA*

I. ENCYCLOPEDIAS, THESAURI, ETC.

The following books define terms and provide basic information about human rights concepts.

Use the "Subject" link in JACOB (<http://jacob.law.gwu.edu>) to locate additional titles. Suggested "Subject" terms are:

- *human rights dictionaries*
- *human rights terminology*
- *human rights encyclopedias*

Rita Cantos Cartwright, *Human Rights in the United States: A Dictionary and Documents* (ABC-CLIO 2000)

- **Print:** SL3,KF4747.5 .C37 2000

H. Victor Condé, *An Encyclopedia of Human Rights in the United States* (Grey House Publishing 2011)

- **Print:** REFERENCE (1ST FL), KF4747.5 .C37 2011

Encyclopedia of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity (Macmillan Reference 2005)

- **Print:** REFERENCE (1ST FL), HV6322.7.E53 2005

Encyclopedia of Human Rights (Oxford University Press 2009)

- **Print:** REFERENCE (1ST FL), JC571.E673 2009 v. 1-5

David Robertson, *A Dictionary of Human Rights* (2d ed., Europa 2004)

- **Print:** REFERENCE (1ST FL), K3239.3.R67 2004

II. GENERAL TEXTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The following works offer more detailed treatment on the law of human rights. Use the “Subject” link in JACOB (<http://jacob.law.gwu.edu>) to locate additional titles. Suggested “Subject” terms are:

- *human rights*
- *humanitarian law*

Thomas Buergenthal et al., *International Human Rights in a Nutshell* (4th ed., West 2009)

- **Print:** RESERVE (1ST FL), K3240.4.B84 2009

Guide to International Human Rights Practice (4th ed., Transnational Publishers 2004)

- **Print:** RESERVE (1ST FL), K3240.4.G94 2004

Human Rights: Politics and Practice (Oxford University Press 2009)

- **Print:** SL2, JC571.H769685 2009

The Law of Human Rights (Oxford University Press 2009)

- **Print:** SL2, KD4080.L39 2009

Theodor Meron, *The Humanization of International Law* (Martinus Nijhoff 2006)

- **Print:** SL1, KZ6471.M473 2006

B. G. Ramcharan, *The Fundamentals of International Human Rights Treaty Law* (Martinus Nijhoff 2011)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240.R3556 2011

Henry J. Steiner, *International Human Rights in Context: Law, Politics, Morals: Text and Materials* (4th ed., Oxford University Press 2008)

- **Print:** RESERVE (1ST FL), K3240.S74 2008

III. COMPILATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

Use the “Subject” link in JACOB (<http://jacob.law.gwu.edu>) to locate additional titles. Suggested “Subject” terms are:

A. Print Resources

Asia-Pacific Human Rights Documents and Resources (Martinus Nijhoff 1998)

- SL1, KM572.A35 A84 1998

Basic Documents Pertaining to Human Rights in the Inter-American System (Organization of American States 2010)

- SL2, KDZ574.A35 D6313 2010

Blackstone’s International Human Rights Documents (Oxford University Press 2010)

- SL2, K3238.B58 2010

Ian Brownlie, *Brownlie’s Documents on Human Rights* (6th ed., Oxford University Press 2010)

- RESERVE (1ST FL), K3238.A1 B76 2010

Documents of the African Commission on Human and People’s Rights (Hart Pub. 2001)

- SL1, KQC573.A34 A38 2001

Human Rights in International Law: Basic Texts (3rd ed., CoE 2007)

- SL2, K3238.H856 2007

Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments (U.N. 2002)

- REFERENCE (1ST FL), K3238.A1 H845 2002

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights: Selected Basic Documents and Background Materials (Wolf Legal Publishers 2009)

- SL2, K3238.O44 2009

The Raoul Wallenberg Institute Compilation of Human Rights Instruments (Göran Melander eds. al., Martinus Nijhoff 2004)

- SL2, K3238.R36 2004

B. Comprehensive Websites for Human Rights Instruments

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Pages/WelcomePage.aspx>

Established by General Assembly resolution 48/141 (1993), the High Commissioner for Human Rights is the UN official with principal responsibility for coordinating UN activities in this field.

- Texts of major human rights instruments and resolutions and documentation of the various Charter and treaty-based human rights bodies:
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/Pages/HumanRightsBodies.aspx>
- A list of all universal human rights instruments with links to full text:
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/index.htm>

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library

<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts>

The most comprehensive site for materials concerning international human rights law. Provides treaty texts, documents from UN and regional human rights bodies, research guides, and bibliographies. Treaties are arranged by subject matter or users may search by keyword.

IV. HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANS BASED ON THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER

A. Introduction

Article 55 of the United Nations Charter provides that the United Nations shall “promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.”

“Charter-based” organs are those UN bodies with human rights responsibilities established under the authority of Article 68 of the Charter. They include the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

For a listing of all United Nations human rights bodies, see:
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/Pages/HumanRightsBodies.aspx>

Following is a listing of the Charter-based human rights bodies of the United Nations, with information about the scope of their responsibilities, the publications they produce, and the availability of their publications via the web.

For more information about United Nations documentation, see United Nations Documentation: Research Guide: <http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/resguide>

B. Human Rights Council (HRC)
<http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil>

UN Document Symbol: A/HRC/

Purpose and Organization: The Human Rights Council replaced the Commission on Human Rights, which was formally abolished on June 16, 2006. It holds at least three sessions per year. The Council will also hold special sessions when necessary by request of a Member of the Council with the support of one-third of the other members.

Types of Documentation

- **Working documents:** Issued under the series symbol A/HRC/-

- **Summary Records of Meetings:** Issued under the series symbol A/HRC/[session]/SR.[meeting number] (e.g., A/HRC/4/SR.16: Summary record of the 16th meeting of the 4th session on 21 March 2007).

- **Sessional reports**
Issued as a supplement to the Official Records of the General Assembly under the series symbol A/[session]/[number] (For example, the report of the 61st session was issued as A/61/53).

Contain the texts of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission (resolutions and decisions are not published separately).

- **Press releases:** Issued under the series symbol HRC/CN/-.

- **Decisions and Resolutions**
University of Minnesota Human Rights Library (Links to UN site)
<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/hr-council.html> (June 2006-)

- **“Special Procedures” Documentation**
According to the HRC’s website, “Special procedures” are the “mechanisms established by the Commission on Human Rights and assumed by the Human Rights Council to address either specific country situations or thematic issues in all parts of the world.”

A list of country and thematic special rapporteurs can be found at:
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/index.htm>

Sources of Documentation

- **World Wide Web**

Human Rights Council website

<http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil>

Documents and meeting records (June 2006-); press releases and rules of procedure.

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library(June 2006-)

<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/hr-council.html>

U.N. Official Documents System (PDF, June 2006-)

<http://documents.un.org>

- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs (2006-)

C. **Human Rights Council Advisory Committee**

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/advisorycommittee.htm>

UN Document Symbol: A/HRC/AC

Purpose and Organization

Pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee (hereinafter “the Advisory Committee”), composed of 18 experts, has been established to function as a think-tank for the Council and works at its direction. The Advisory Committee replaces the former Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

According to its website, “the scope of its advice should be limited to thematic issues pertaining to the mandate of the Council; namely promotion and protection of all human rights. The Committee shall not adopt resolutions or decisions, but may propose to the Council, within the scope of its work as set out by the Council, suggestions for further enhancing its procedural efficiency, as well as further research proposals within the scope of the work set out by the Council.”

Types of Documentation

- **Working documents:** Issued under the series symbol A/HRC/AC/-
- **Sessional reports:** Issued under the series symbol A/HRC/AC/[HRC session]/ . Contain the recommendations adopted by the Advisory Committee during the session as well as the results of its work as an advisory body to the Human Rights Council.
- **Press releases:** Available on the Advisory Committee’s sessional page at: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/advisorycommittee.htm>

- **Recommendations:** See Advisory Committee's sessional page at (2008-): <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/advisorycommittee.htm>

Sources of Documentation

- **World Wide Web**

Human Rights Council Advisory Committee website

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/advisorycommittee.htm>

Documents and meeting records (2008-); press releases and rules of procedure.

Human Rights Documents database

<http://ap.ohchr.org/Documents/gmainec.aspx>

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library (Conclusions, 2008-)

<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/undocs/HRcouncil-AC.html>

U.N. Official Documents System (PDF, 1992-2006)

<http://documents.un.org>

- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs. (1982-2006)

D. Commission on Human Rights (CHR)

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/index.htm>

UN Document Symbol: E/CN.4/

Purpose and Organization

On March 27, 2006, the Commission on Human Rights concluded its sixty-second and final session. Its successor body is the Human Rights Council.

The Commission on Human Rights was established by ECOSOC resolution 5(I) in February, 1946. The Commission met annually, and, when necessary, in special session. The Commission consisted of 53 member governments elected to three-year terms by the ECOSOC, the body to which it reported the results of its work.

Types of Documentation

- **Working documents:** Issued under the series symbol E/CN.4/-
- **Summary Records of Meetings:** Issued under the series symbol E/CN.4/[year]/SR.[meeting number] (e.g., E/CN.4/1998/SR.60: Summary record of the 60th meeting of the 54th session on 24 April 1998).
- **Sessional reports**
Issued as a supplement to the Official Records of the Economic and Social Council under the series symbol E/-. It is also issued under the Commission's symbol E/CN.4/- .

Contain the texts of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission (resolutions and decisions are not published separately).

- **Press releases:** Issued under the series symbol HR/CN/-.
- **Decisions and Resolutions**
University of Minnesota Human Rights Library (1994-1999)
<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/commission/commission.htm>
- **Reports of Country and Thematic Special Rapporteurs**
These documents include reports drafted by the various experts and rapporteurs tasked with investigating and reporting on human rights situations in various countries as well as particularly pressing human rights issues.

The reports of the country and thematic special rapporteurs can be found under the “reports” heading for each session at:

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/previous-sessions.htm>

Sources of Documentation

- **World Wide Web**
Commission on Human Rights website
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/index.htm>
Documents and meeting records (1991-2006); press releases and rules of procedure.

Human Rights Documents database
<http://ap.ohchr.org/Documents/gmainec.aspx>

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library
<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/commission/commission.htm>
Decisions, resolutions and reports (1994-1999)

U.N. Official Documents System (PDF, 1992-2006)
<http://documents.un.org>
- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs. (1982-2006)

E. Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/subcom>

UN Document Symbol: A/HRC/Sub.1/ (Prior to 19 June 2006, documents issued under E/CN.4/Sub.2/-).

Purpose and Organization

The Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights was established by the Commission on Human Rights under authority of ECOSOC resolution 9 (II) of 21 June 1946. According to the resolution, its function is to “undertake studies, particularly in the light of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and to make recommendations to the Commission concerning the prevention of discrimination of any kind relating to human rights and fundamental freedoms and the protection of racial, national, religious and linguistic minorities.”

According to the Sub-Commission’s website, “[p]ursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 entitled ‘Human Rights Council’ all mandates, mechanisms, functions and responsibilities of the Commission on Human Rights, including the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, were assumed, as of 19 June 2006, by the Human Rights Council.”

Note: The Sub-Commission no longer exists. For the new expert advisory mechanism of the Human Rights Council, please visit the Advisory Committee at: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/advisorycommittee.htm>

Types of Documentation

- **Working documents:** Issued under the series symbol A/HRC/Sub.1/ (Prior to 19 June 2006, they were issued under E/CN.4/Sub.2/-).
- **Summary Records of Meetings:** Issued under the series symbol A/HRC/Sub.1/[session]/SR.[meeting number] (e.g., A/HRC/Sub.1/58/SR.21: Summary record of the 21st meeting of the 58th session on 24 August 2006). Prior to 19 June 2006, they were issued under E/CN.4/Sub.2/[year]/SR. [meeting number].
- **Sessional reports:** Issued under the series symbol A/HRC/Sub.1/[session]/[no.] (Prior to 19 June 2006, they were issued under E/CN.4/- and E/CN.4/Sub.2/-).

Contain the texts of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Sub-Commission.

Reports are also presented to the Sub-Commission by working groups and special rapporteurs. The Law Library has a fiche collection of documents issued by the Commission [**Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs. (1982-)].

- **Press releases:** Press releases of the Sub-Commission are issued under the series symbol SC/no.

- **Studies and Reports issued by the Sub-Commission:** The Sub-Commission's website (<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/subcom>) includes a listing of the studies and reports issued by working groups and special rapporteurs under its direction.

Sources of Documentation

- **World Wide Web**

Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights website: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/subcom>
Decisions, reports, resolutions, NGO statements (selective, 1990-).

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library
<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/demo/subcom.html>
Decisions, reports, and documents (selective, 1993-).

U.N. Official Documents System (ODS) (PDF, 1992-)
<http://documents.un.org>

- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs. (1982-)

F. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw>

UN Document Symbol: E/CN.6/

Purpose and Organization

The CSW was established in 1946 by the Economic and Social Council through Council resolution 11(II). Its purpose is to provide recommendations and reports to the Council on promoting women's rights in political, economic, civil, social, and educational fields. The Commission consists of 45 members, appointed by their respective governments and subsequently elected by the Economic and Social Council for a period of four years. The Commission meets annually.

Types of Documentation

- **Working documents:** Issued under the series symbol E/CN.6/
- **Sessional reports:** Issued as a supplement to the Economic and Social Council's Official Records under the series symbol E/-. The report is also issued under the Commission's symbol E/CN.6/-.
- **Press releases:** Division for the Advancement of Women's website (Available with sessional documentation):
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/index.html>
- **Decisions and Resolutions:** Division for the Advancement of Women's website (1992-): <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/index.html>

- **Reports:** Reports on human rights situations relevant to women's issues are available at the Division for the Advancement of Women's website: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/index.html>

Sources of Documentation

- **World Wide Web**

Commission on the Status of Women website

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw>

U.N. Official Documents System (ODS) (PDF, 1992-)

<http://documents.un.org>

WomenWatch (selected documents): <http://www.un.org/womenwatch>

- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs. (1982-)

V. UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS TREATY-BASED MECHANISMS

A. Introduction

The treaty-based institutions of the United Nations refer to those bodies established by the six universal human rights treaties: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD); the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT); and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

The treaty-based bodies differ from their Charter-based counterparts in two ways:

- Constituencies are states that are parties to the aforementioned treaties rather than all United Nations members.
- They interpret and oversee implementation of their respective treaties and, in some cases, have jurisdiction to accept complaints from individuals for state violations of treaty provisions.

For listings of the status of ratifications of the principal international human rights treaties see: <http://treaties.un.org/Pages/Treaties.aspx?id=4&subid=A&lang=en>

Additional works on each convention listed below can be located by selecting "Subject" search in JACOB (<http://jacob.law.gwu.edu>), and typing the name of a convention (e.g., international covenant on civil and political rights) in the search box.

B. Selected General Works on the UN Human Rights Treaty System

Julie Mertus, *The United Nations and Human Rights: A Guide for a New Era* (Routledge 2009)

- **Print:** SL2, JC571. M4447 2009

The New Core International Human Rights Treaties (United Nations 2007)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240.N37 2007

Roger Normand, *Human Rights at the UN: The Political History of Universal Justice* (Indiana University Press 2008)

- **Print:** SL2, JZ4974 .N67 2008

Michael O'Flaherty, *Human Rights and the UN: Practice Before the Treaty Bodies* (Martinus Nijhoff 2002)

- **Print:** SL2, K3241.O34 2002

B. G. Ramcharan, *The Protection Roles of UN Human Rights Special Procedures* (Martinus Nijhoff 2009)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240.R36 2009

The UN Human Rights Treaty System in the 21st Century (Kluwer Law International 2000)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240 .U55 2000

Wouter Vandenhoele, *The Procedures Before the UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies: Divergence or Convergence?* (Intersentia 2004)

- **Print:** SL2, K3241.V36 2004

C. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) (999 U.N.T.S. 171)

1. Commentaries and Travaux Préparatoires on the ICCPR

Johann Bair, *The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its (First) Optional Protocol: A Short Commentary* (Peter Lang 2005)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240.B35 2005

Marc J. Bossuyt, *Guide to the "Travaux Préparatoires" of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (Martinus Nijhoff 1987)

- **Print:** SL2, K3238.31966.B67 1987

Manfred Nowak, *U.N. Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: CCPR Commentary* (N.P. Engel 1993)

- **Print:** SL2, K3238.31966.A3 N6813 1993

2. **The Human Rights Committee (HRC)**

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc/index.htm>

UN Document Symbol: CCPR/C/-

Purpose and Organization

The Human Rights Committee was established under the provisions of Article 28 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). The Committee consists of 18 members who are elected and serve in their personal capacity. They meet in three sessions each year in New York and Geneva.

The Committee reviews reports submitted by States parties pursuant to Article 40 of the Covenant that detail the measures each state has adopted which implement the rights recognized in the Covenant.

These reports and the Committee's concluding observations can be found at: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc/sessions.htm>

The Committee may also entertain individual complaints of human rights violations under the First Optional Protocol the ICCPR.

Guides to Practice, Compilations of Decisions, etc.

Alex Conte, *Defining Civil and Political Rights: The Jurisprudence of the United Nations Human Rights Committee* (2nd ed., Ashgate 2009)

- **Print:** SL2, K3241.C66 2009

Leading Cases of the Human Rights Committee (Inst. for Human Rights 2007)

- **Print:** SL2, K3239.5 2007

Fleur van Leeuwen, *Women's Rights Are Human Rights: The Practice of the United Nations Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (Intersentia 2010)

- **Print:** SL2, K644.L44 2010

Dominic McGoldrick, *Human Rights Committee: Its Role in the Development of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (Oxford University Press 1991)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240.4 .M3 1991

Selected Decisions of the Human Rights Committee under the Optional Protocol (United Nations 1990-)

- **Print:** SL2, K3239.23.U55

Official Records of the Human Rights Committee (U.N. 1993-)

- **Print:** SL2, K3239.23.U55

- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs.

Kristen A. Young, *The Law and Process of the U.N. Human Rights Committee* (Transnational Publishers 2002)

- **Print:** SL2, K3241.Y68 2002

Oxford Reports on International Law (ORIL)

- **Commercial Databases**

ORIL (International Human Rights module)

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

Find decisions of the Human Rights Committee.

Types of Documentation

- **Working documents:** Issued under the series symbol CCPR/C/-.
- **Summary Records of Meetings:** Issued under the series symbol CCPR/C/SR.[meeting number] (e.g., CCPR/C/SR.1689: Summary record of the 1689th meeting on 24 July 1998).
- **Sessional reports:** The reports of the Committee to the General Assembly are issued as supplement number 40 to the Official Records of the General Assembly (A/[session]/40).
- **Press Releases:** <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc>
Find press releases on the left side of the Committee's page under "The Committee and its Work," select *Press Releases*.
- **Decisions and Resolutions:** Decisions and resolutions of the Committee are included in the sessional reports noted above.

Sources of Documentation

- **World Wide Web**

Human Rights Committee website

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc/index.htm>

State reports/concluding observations (1997-);
communications (2000-).

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library
<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/hrcommittee/hrc-page.html>
Decisions (1997-); concluding observations (1992-).

U.N. Official Documents System (ODS) (PDF, 1992-)
<http://documents.un.org>

- **Print:** SL2, K3237.U55 U179 (selected years)
- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs (1982-)

D. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (993 U.N.T.S. 3)

1. Guides to Practice, Compilations of Decisions, etc.

Dowell-Jones, Mary, *Contextualising the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (Martinus Nijhoff 2004)

- **Print:** SL2, K3238.31996 .D69 2004

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Action (Mashood A. Baderin & Robert McCorquodale eds., Oxford University Press 2007)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240.E26 2007

Giving Meaning to Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (University of Pennsylvania Press 2001)

- **Print:** SL2, JC571.G525 2001

Justiciability of Economic and Social Rights: Experiences from Domestic Systems (Intersentia 2006)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240 .J88 2006

Fleur van Leeuwen, *Women's Rights Are Human Rights: The Practice of the United Nations Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (Intersentia 2010)

- **Print:** SL2, K644.L44 2010

M. Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona, *The Nature of the Obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights* (Intersentia 2003)

- **Print:** SL2, K3238.31996.S46 2003

Elsa Stamatopoulou, *Cultural Rights in International Law: Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Beyond* (Martinus Nijhoff 2007)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240 .S72 2007

2. **Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (CESCR)**
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cescr/index.htm>

UN Document Symbol: E/C.12/-

Purpose and Organization

The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was created by ECOSOC resolution 1985/17 to supervise the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The Committee is comprised of 18 members who serve in their personal capacity, not as representatives of Governments. The Committee meets in three sessions each year in Geneva.

The primary purpose of the Committee is to monitor the implementation of the CESCR by states parties.

Types of Documentation

- **Working documents:** Issued under the series symbol E/C.12/-.
- **Summary Records of Meetings:** Issued under the series symbol E/C.12/[year]/SR.[meeting number] (e.g., E/C.12/1998/SR.21: Summary record of the 21st meeting of the 18th session on 11 May 1998).
- **Sessional reports:** The reports of the Committee to ECOSOC are issued as supplements to the Official Records of the Economic and Social Council. They are issued under E/[year]/no. and E/C.12/[year]/no.
- **Press releases:** Issued under the series symbol HR/-.
- **Decisions and Resolutions:** Decisions and resolutions of the Committee are included in the sessional reports noted above.

Sources of Documentation

• **World Wide Web**

Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights website
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cescr/index.htm>

States reports, concluding observations, individual complaints (1997-).

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library

<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/esc/esc-page.htm>

General Comments, concluding observations (1993-).

U.N. Official Documents System (ODS) (PDF, 1992-)
<http://documents.un.org>

- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs. (1982-)

E. Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1465 U.N.T.S. 85)

1. Guides to Practice, Compilations of Decisions, etc.

Conclusions and Recommendations of the UN Committee Against Torture: Eleventh to Twenty-second Sessions (1993-1999) (Martinus Nijhoff 2000)

- **Print:** SL2, K5304.A41984 A12 2000

Michael John Garcia, Cong. Res. Serv., RL 32438, *U.N. Convention Against Torture: Overview and Application to Interrogation Techniques* (2009)

- **World Wide Web**

Open CRS: <http://openocrs.com/document/RL32438>

Camille Giffard, *The Torture Reporting Handbook: How to Document and Respond to Allegations of Torture Within the International System for the Protection of Human Rights* (Human Rights Center., University of Essex 2000)

- **Print:** SL2, K5304.G54 2000

Chris Ingelse, *The UN Committee Against Torture: An Assessment* (Kluwer 2001)

- **Print:** SL2, K5304 .I5413 2001

Manfred Nowak, *The United Nations Convention against Torture: A Commentary* (Oxford University Press 2008)

- **Print:** RESERVE (1ST FL), K5304.A41984 N69 2008

Seeking Remedies for Torture Victims: A Handbook on the Individual Complaints Procedures of the UN Treaty Bodies (World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) 2006)

- **Print:** SL2, K5304 .S44 2006

Torture: A Collection (Oxford University Press 2006)

- **Print:** SL2, HV8593 .T67 2006

2. **Committee Against Torture (CAT)**
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/index.htm>

UN Document Symbol: CAT/C/-

Purpose and Organization

The Committee against Torture was created pursuant to Article 17 of the Convention against Torture to supervise the implementation of the Convention.

According to Article 17, the Committee “shall consist of ten experts of high moral standing and recognized competence in the field of human rights, who shall serve in their personal capacity. The experts shall be elected by the States Parties, consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution and to the usefulness of the participation of some persons having legal experience.” The committee members are elected by secret ballot for a term of four years.

Types of Documentation

- **Working documents:** Issued under the series symbol CAT/C/-.
- **Summary Records of Meetings:** Issued under the series symbol CAT/C/SR.[meeting number] (e.g., CAT/C/SR.341: Summary record of the 341st meeting on 19 May 1998).
- **Sessional Reports:** The reports of the Committee to the General Assembly are issued as supplement number 44 to the Official Records of the General Assembly.
- **Press Releases:** Press releases are issued under the series symbol HR/-.

Sources of Documentation

- **World Wide Web**
 - Committee Against Torture website
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/index.htm>
States reports, concluding observations (1997-).
 - University of Minnesota Human Rights Library
<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/cat/cat-page.html>
General comments (1977-); concluding observations (1992-).
 - U.N. Official Documents System (ODS) (PDF, 1992-)
<http://documents.un.org>

- **Commercial Databases**

Oxford Reports on International Law (International Human Rights module)

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

Subscriptions

Find decisions of the CAT (1993-2010).

- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs. (1982-)

F. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) (660 U.N.T.S. 195)

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/index.htm>

UN Document Symbol: CERD/C/-

Purpose and Organization

The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was established under Article 8 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to supervise the implementation of the Convention. According to that article, the Committee shall be comprised of “eighteen experts of high moral standing and acknowledged impartiality elected by States Parties from among their nationals, who shall serve in their personal capacity, consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution and to the representation of the different forms of civilization as well as of the principal legal systems.”

Types of Documentation

- **Working Documents:** Issued under the series symbol CERD/C/
- **Sessional reports:** The reports of the Committee to the General Assembly are issued as supplement number 18 to the Official Records of the General Assembly.
- **Summary Records of Meetings:** Summary records of meetings are issued under the series symbol CERD/C/SR.[meeting number] (e.g., CERD/C/SR.1274: Summary record of the 1274th meeting on 20 March 1998).
- **Press Releases:** Press releases are issued under the series symbol RD/-.

Sources of Documentation

- **World Wide Web**

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination website

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/index.htm>

States reports, concluding observations (1997-).

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library

<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/country/cerd-page.html>

General recommendations (1972-); Opinions of the Committee (1984-); concluding observations (1993-).

U.N. Official Documents System (ODS) (PDF, 1992-)

<http://documents.un.org>

- **Commercial Databases**

Oxford Reports on International Law (International Human Rights module)

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

Decisions of the CERD (1988-2009).

- **Microfiche:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs. (1982-)

G. **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (1249 U.N.T.S. 13)**

1. **Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/index.htm>

UN Document Symbol: CEDAW/C/-

Purpose and Organization

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was established under article 17 of the Convention.

The Committee consists of “twenty-three experts of high moral standing and competence in the field covered by the Convention. The experts shall be elected by States Parties from among their nationals and shall serve in their personal capacity, consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution and to the representation of the different forms of civilization as well as the principal legal systems.”

Types of Documentation

- **Working Documents:** Issued under the series symbol CEDAW/C/-.

- **Sessional reports:** Issued as Supplement No. 38 to the Official Records of the General Assembly (e.g., A/56/38)
- **Summary Records of Meetings:** Issued under the series symbol CEDAW/C/SR.[meeting number] (e.g., CEDAW/C/SR.547: Summary record of the 547th meeting on 29 January 2002)
- **Press Releases:** Press releases are issued under the series symbol WOM/-

Sources of Documentation

- **World Wide Web**

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/index.htm>
 States reports, concluding observations (1997-).

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library
<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/cedaw/cedaw-page.htm>
 General recommendations (1986-); concluding observations (1993-).

U.N. Official Documents System (ODS) (PDF, 1992-)
<http://documents.un.org>

- **Commercial Databases**

Oxford Reports on International Law (International Human Rights module)
<http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research> > *Database Subscriptions*
 CEDAW decisions (2005-2007).

- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), U.N. Docs. (1982-)

2. UN Women <http://www.unwomen.org>

Purpose and Organization

In July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly created UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. It merges and builds on the important work of four previously distinct parts of the UN system, which focused exclusively on gender equality and women's empowerment: the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI), and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

The main roles of UN Women are: 1) To support inter-governmental bodies, such as the Commission on the Status of Women, in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms. 2) To help Member States to implement these standards, standing ready to provide suitable technical and financial support to those countries that request it. 3) To forge effective partnerships with civil society, to hold the UN system accountable for its own commitments on gender equality, including regular monitoring of system-wide progress.

H. Convention on the Rights of the Child (1577 U.N.T.S. 3)

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/index.htm>

UN Document Symbol: CRC/C/-

Purpose and Organization

The Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by its State parties. It also monitors implementation of two optional protocols to the Convention, on involvement of children in armed conflict and on sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

Guides to Practice, Compilations of Decisions, etc.

Sharon Detrick, *A Commentary on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* (Martinus Nijhoff 1999)

- **Print:** SL2, K639.D48 1999

General Comments of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Including CD with Concluding Observations in Europe and Central Asia (UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre 2006)

- **Print:** SL2, K639.G464 2006

Rachel Hodgkin, *Implementation Handbook for the Convention on the Rights of the Child* (UNICEF 2007)

- **Print:** SL2, K639.H63 2007

Legislative History of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (United Nations 2007)

- **Print:** SL2, K639.A41989 L45 2007

Cynthia Price Cohen, *Jurisprudence on the Rights of the Child* (Transnational Publishers 2005)

- **Print:** SL2, K639 .A52 2005

Sourcebook on International Children's Rights (Bruylant 2009)

- **Print:** SL2, K639.A35 S68 2009

The U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child: An Analysis of Treaty Provisions and Implications of U.S. Ratification (Transnational Publishers 2006)

- **Print:** SL2, K639.U65 2006

Types of Documentation

- **Working Documents:** Issued under the series symbol CRC/C/-.
- **Sessional Reports:** Issued under the series symbol CRC/C/-; conclusions and recommendations are published biennially as supplement number 41 to the Official Records of the General Assembly.
- **Summary Records of Meeting:** Issued under the series symbol CRC/C/SR.[meeting number] (e.g., CRC/C/SR.472: Summary record of the 472nd meeting on 3 June 1998).
- **Press Releases:** Issued under the series symbol HR/-.

Sources of Documentation

- **World Wide Web**

Committee on the Rights of the Child website

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc>

States reports, concluding observations (1993-).

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library

<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/crc/crc-page.html>

General comments (2001-); Concluding observations (1993-).

U.N. Official Documents System (ODS) (PDF, 1992-)

<http://documents.un.org>

- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1) U.N. Docs. (1982-)

VI. OTHER UN AGENCIES INVOLVED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

A. United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF)

<http://www.unicef.org>

This site provides access to information on human rights issues relevant to children, statistical data and special reports prepared by UNICEF and other agencies of the U.N. Most notable is their annual publication *The State of the World's Children*.

B. United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

<http://www.unesco.org>

This site provides access to Executive Board documents (1995-), General Conference documents (1995-), and resolutions and decisions (1946-).

C. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

<http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/txis/vtx/home>

The UNHCR website provides access to statistical information on refugee populations, evaluation and policy analysis reports, and REFWORLD, a collection of full-text databases offering legal and policy documents concerning refugee issues.

D. International Labour Organization (ILO)

<http://www.ilo.org>

The ILO's website provides access to ILOLEX, its database on international labor standards.

VII. OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

A. International Committee of the Red Cross

<http://www.icrc.org/eng>

The ICRC website offers the IHL (International Humanitarian Law) database, which provides comprehensive access to major international conventions dealing with international humanitarian law.

B. World Health Organization (WHO)

<http://www.who.int>

Provides links to the Bulletin of the World Health Organization, World Health Assembly documents, WHO Policies, and searchable infobases of WHO documents and reports.

VIII. REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS

Use the "Subject" link in JACOB (<http://jacob.law.gwu.edu>) to locate additional titles by typing: *african commission on human and peoples' rights* into the search box.

A. African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

http://www.achpr.org/english/info/news_en.html

This is the official website of African Commission on Human & Peoples' Rights. It provides background information about the Commission, full text copies of all of the basic instruments of the African system, as well as annual activity reports (1997-), and final communiqués.

Purpose and Organization

The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights was established by Article 30 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights which came into force on October 21, 1986. The Commission is charged with promoting the human and peoples' rights outlined in the Charter and to ensure their protection in Africa.

General Texts on the Charter, Commission, and Court

The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights: The System in Practice, 1986-2006 (2nd ed., Cambridge Univ. Press 2008)

- **Print:** SL1, KQC572.A46 2008

Rachel Murray, *The African Commission on Human and People's Rights and International Law* (Hart 2000)

- **Print:** SL1, KQC573.A34 M87 2000

Vincent Obisienunwo Orlu Nmehielle, *The African Human Rights System: Its Laws, Practice, and Institutions* (Martinus Nijhoff 2001)

- **Print:** SL1, KQC572.N58 2001

Fatsah Ouguergouz, *The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights: a Comprehensive Agenda for Human Dignity and Sustainable Democracy in Africa* (Kluwer Law International 2003)

- **Print:** SL1, KQC572.O9313 2003

Documents, Decisions, and Communications

Compilation of Decisions on Communications of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights: Extracted from the Commission's Activity Reports, 1994-2001 (2nd ed., Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa 2002)

- **Print:** SL1, KQC573.A34 C66 2002

Documents of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (Hart 2001-2009)

- **Print:** SL1, KQC57 .A34 A38 2001 v. 1-2

International Human Rights Reports

This periodical, issued three times yearly includes decisions of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. The Law Library has volume 1 (1994) to date.

- **Print:** SL2, K3239.23 .I57 (v.1, 1994-)

Report on the ... Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights = Compte-rendu sur la ... session de la Commission Africaine des Droits de l'homme et des Peuples (African Society of International and Comparative Law 1992-)

- **Print:** SL1, KQC573.A34 A37 (12th-17th sessions, 1992-1995)

World Wide Web

African Commission on Human & Peoples' Rights (University of Minnesota Human Rights Center)

<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/africa/comission.html>

Links to the African [Banjul] Charter on Human and People's Rights, the Commission's rules of procedure and resolutions, and final communiques.

Human Rights Watch: Africa

<http://www.hrw.org/en/africa>

Commercial Databases

Oxford Reports on International Law (International Human Rights module)

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

Decisions of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (1995-2009).

B. European Court of Human Rights website

<http://www.echr.coe.int>

Provides access to the Court's Rules of Procedure, judgments and decisions, and press releases. The HUDOC database allows full-text searching of ECHR judgments

Purpose and Organization

The European Court of Human Rights is the most active and effective of the three regional human rights courts. The Court was created with the entry into force of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in September of 1953. Initially, both a Commission and a Court were created. Protocol No. 11 to the Convention, which came into force on 1 November 1998, replaced the existing, part-time Court and Commission with a single, full-time Court.

The Court is composed of a number of judges equal to that of the Contracting States. Judges are elected by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe for a term of six years. Judges sit on the Court in their individual capacity and do not represent any State. There is no limit on the number of judges of one nationality. The Court has both contentious and advisory jurisdiction.

General Texts on the Convention and Court

Martyn Bond, *The Council of Europe and Human Rights: An Introduction to the European Convention on Human Rights* (Council of Europe Publishing 2010)

- **Print:** SL1, KJE5132.B66 2010

Bringing a Case to the European Court of Human Rights: A Practical Guide on Admissibility Criteria (Wolf Legal Pub. 2011)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5138.B75 2011

A Europe of Rights: The Impact of the ECHR on National Legal Systems (Oxford University Press 2008)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5138.E84 2008

The European Court of Human Rights in Facts and Figures (Council of Europe Publishing 2010)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5138 .E95 2010

European Court of Human Rights: Remedies and Execution of Judgments (British Inst. of International and Comparative Law 2005)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5138 .E98 2003

Michael D. Goldhaber, *A People's History of the European Court of Human Rights* (Rutgers University Press 2007)

- **Print:** SL3, KJC5138.G64 2007

S. C. Greer, *The European Convention on Human Rights: Achievements, Problems and Prospects* (Cambridge U. Press 2006)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5132 .G74 2006

David Harris et al., *Law of the European Convention on Human Rights* (Oxford University Press 2009)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5132 .H37 2009

Clare Ovey & Robin White, *Jacobs and White: The European Convention on Human Rights* (Oxford University Press 2006)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5132 .J33 2006

Karen Reid, *A Practitioner's Guide to the European Convention on Human Rights* (Thomson/Sweet & Maxwell 2008)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5132 .R44 2007

Theory and Practice of the European Convention on Human Rights (4th ed., Intersentia 2006)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5132 .D54 2006

Compilations of Documents, Decisions and Communications of Court and Commission

Annual Report of the Commissioner for Human Rights (Council of Europe 2001)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5132.A15 C68 2001

Council of Europe, *Collected Edition of the “Travaux Préparatoires” of the European Convention on Human Rights = Recueil des Travaux Préparatoires de la Convention Européenne des Droits de l’homme* (Martinus Nijhoff 1975-1985)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5132.A25 1975 v.1-8

European Court of Human Rights, *Publications de la Cour Européenne des Droits de l’homme. Serie A, Arrêts et décisions = Publications of the European Court of Human Rights. Series A, Judgments and decisions* (Grefte de la Cour, Conseil de l’Europe, 1961-1996)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5132.A52 E88 vols. 1-338

European Court of Human Rights, *Publications de la Cour Européenne des droits de l’homme. Serie B, Mémoires, plaidoiries et documents = Publications of the European Court of Human Rights. Series B, Pleadings, oral arguments, and documents* (Grefte de la Cour, Conseil de l’Europe, 1967-)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5132.A52 E882 vols. 1-104

European Court of Human Rights, *Recueil des Arrêts et Décisions / Cour Européenne des Droits de l’homme = Reports of Judgments and Decisions / European Court of Human Rights* (Carl Heymanns Verlag, 1996-)

- **Print:** SL3, KJC5132.A52 E88 (Library has 1996-present)

European Human Rights Reports (European Law Centre 1980-)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5132.A52 E89 (Library has v. 1 (1979)-present)

Human Rights and Criminal Procedure: The Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights (Council of Europe Pub. 2009)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC9485.A52 H86 2009

Yearbook of the European Convention on Human Rights, the European Commission and European Court of Human Rights = Annuaire de la Convention Européenne des Droits de l’homme, Commission et Court Europeennes des Droits de l’homme (Martinus Nijhoff 1960-)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5132.A13 D62 (Library has 1958-)

World Wide Web

Council of Europe, Directorate General of Human Rights

http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/default_en.asp

Provides secretarial support and documentation for bodies established under the European Social Charter, the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture, the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance.

Complete List of the Council of Europe's Treaties (Council of Europe Treaty Office) <http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/EN/v3MenuTraites.asp>

This website provides the text of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms as well as its 13 protocols. Charts of signatures and ratifications are also available.

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library, Council of Europe

<http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/euro/eurocon-humanrts.html>

HUDOC: Database of the Case-Law of the European Convention on Human Rights (Council of Europe)

<http://cmiskp.echr.coe.int/tkp197/default.htm>

Commercial Databases

LexisNexis (*EURCOM*; *HRIGHT*)

Provides summaries and transcripts of decisions of the European Court of Human Rights from 1960, Butterworths Human Rights Cases from 1996, covering landmark decisions from international, European and English courts and tribunals.

Oxford Reports on International Law (International Human Rights module)

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

Decisions of the European Court of Human Rights (2002-2009).

C. Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (IACHR)

<http://www.cidh.oas.org/DefaultE.htm>

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

<http://www.corteidh.or.cr>

Purpose and Organization

The principal human rights body of the OAS, the IACHR, was established by Chapter XV of the OAS Charter and was first constituted in 1959. The IACHR's primary function according to Article 106 of the Charter, is to "promote the observance and protection of human rights and to serve as a consultative organ of the [OAS] in these matters." The Commission is composed of seven members elected in a non-governmental capacity by the OAS.

The adoption of the Inter-American Convention on Human Rights in 1969 created the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. The Court has both contentious and advisory jurisdiction. It is composed of seven judges who are nationals of the member states of the OAS.

General Texts on the Convention and Court

Clara Burbano Herrera, *Provisional Measures in the Case Law of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights* (Intersentia 2010)

- **Print:** SL2, KDZ579.I58 B87 2010

Scott Davidson, *The Inter-American Court of Human Rights* (Ashgate 1992)

- **Print:** SL2, KDZ579.I58 D38 1992

Scott Davidson, *The Inter-American Human Rights System* (Dartmouth, 1997)

- **Print:** SL2, KDZ578.I5 D38 1997

Jo M. Pasqualucci, *The Practice and Procedure of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights* (Cambridge University Press 2003)

- **Print:** SL2, KDZ579.I58 P54 2003

Compilations of Documents, Decisions and Communications of Court and Commission

Anuario Interamericano de Derechos Humanos = Inter-American Yearbook on Human Rights (Martinus Nijhoff 1968-)

- **Print:**SL2, KDZ574.A13 I5

Basic Documents Pertaining to Human Rights in the Inter-American System (Organization of American States 2010)

- **Print:** SL2, KDZ574.A35 D6313 2010 (updated to June 30, 2010)

Mónica Feria Tinta, *Protecting the Most Vulnerable at the Edge: The Landmark Rulings of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on the Rights of the Child* (Martinus Nijhoff 2008)

- **Print:**SL2, KDZ136.M54 F47 2008

Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Serie A--Fallos y Opiniones / Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos = Series A--Judgments and Opinions (Secretaria de la Corte 1982-)

- **Print:** SL2, KDZ574.A52 I58

Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Serie B—Memorias, Argumentos Orales y Documentos / Corte Interamericana De Derechos Humanos = Series B—Pleadings, Oral Arguments, and Documents / Inter-American Court of Human Rights (Secretaria de la Corte, 1983-)

- **Print:** SL2, KDZ574.A52 I583

Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Serie C—Resoluciones y Sentencias / Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos = Series C—Decisions and Judgments (Secretaria de la Corte 1987-)

- **Print:** SL2, KDZ574.A52 I585

Serie D—Memorias, Argumentos Orales y Documentos / Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos = Series D—Pleadings, Oral Arguments and Documents (Secretaria de la Corte 1994-)

- **Print:** SL2, KDZ574.A52 I586

World Wide Web

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (University of Minnesota Human Rights Library)

<http://heiwww.unige.ch/humanrts/cases/commissn.htm>

Links to annual reports of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, which includes its jurisprudence (1991-1999).

Inter-American Court of Human Rights (University of Minnesota Human Rights Library)

<http://heiwww.unige.ch/humanrts/iachr/iachr.html>

This site provides access to the jurisprudence of the Court, including advisory opinions, decisions in contentious cases, provisional measures, resolutions, the Statute of the Court, and procedural rules.

Commercial Databases

Westlaw (*IACHR-OAS*)

Contains documents appearing in the annual report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (1994-) and in the Basic Documents Pertaining to Human Rights in the Inter-American System from the Organization of American States (OAS) (current through May 1996).

Oxford Reports on International Law (International Human Rights module)

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

Decisions of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (1988-2008).

Microform

Documents of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Reports: MICROFICHE (LL1), Fiche 301

This collection compiles all public documents created by both the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court

of Human Rights from their inception until 1995. All documents have been cataloged individually and are searchable in JACOB. A print index is also available [**Print:** MICRO INDEX SHELVES (LL1), Fiche 301]

IX. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) undertake a number of tasks in the field of human rights: “fact-finding and monitoring in their own or in other countries, investigating and reporting on human rights abuses, lobbying national governments and international bodies, mobilizing interest groups, educating the public about human rights matters and the work of international organizations, representing clients in their dealings with national officials, courts or international bodies, and providing ideas, information and expertise to national governments and international bodies.”

A. General Works on Non-Governmental Organizations and Human Rights

Scott Calnan, *The Effectiveness of Domestic Human Rights NGOs: A Comparative Study* (Martinus Nijhoff 2008)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240.C35 2008

Daniel P. L. Chong, *Freedom From Poverty: NGOs and Human Rights Praxis* (University of Pennsylvania Press 2010)

- **Print:** SL2, JC571 .C5535 2010]

Genesis and Role of NGOs in Protecting Human Rights (Ganesh C. Menon ed., Dominant Publishers and Distributors 2009)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240.G46 2009 v. 1-3

Loveday Hodson, *NGOs and the Struggle for Human Rights in Europe* (Hart 2011)

- **Print:** SL1, KJC5138.H63 2011

Human Rights NGOs in East Africa: Political and Normative Tensions (Makau Mutua ed., University of Pennsylvania Press 2009)

- **Print:** SL2, JQ2945.A91 H88 2009

William Korey, *NGOs and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: “A Curious Grapevine”* (St. Martin’s Press 1998)

- **Print:** SL2, K3240.4.K595 1998

Mitigating Conflict: The Role of NGOs (Henry F. Carey & Oliver P. Richmond eds., F. Cass 2003)

- **Print:** SL2, JZ6368.M58 2003

NGOs and Human Rights: Promise and Performance (Claude E. Welch, Jr. ed., University of Pennsylvania Press 2001)

- **Print:** SL2, JC571.N485 2001

Anton Vedder et al., *NGO Involvement in International Governance and Policy: Sources of Legitimacy* (Martinus Nijhoff 2007)

- **Print:** SL2, JZ4841.N356 2007]

B. Selected Non-Governmental Organizations and Academic Institutions

1. Amnesty International

<http://www.amnesty.org>

This site provides indexes to Amnesty International's investigative reports on human rights conditions as well as their annual reports for the past two years.

Sources of Documents

The Amnesty International Report (Amnesty International Publications 1976-)

- **Print:** SL2, JC571.A44

(See <http://thereport.amnesty.org/en/download> for the latest report)

Amnesty International: A Major Collection of Published and Unpublished Research Material (Inter Documentation Co. 1981?-)

The collection includes: Amnesty International country dossiers; Amnesty International newsletters; Amnesty International annual reports; Amnesty International briefing papers; Amnesty International publications on countries; Amnesty International reports on topics and Amnesty International general publications. The set is accompanied by a guide.

- **Microform:** MICROFICHE (LL1), Fiche 136

2. Asian Human Rights Commission

<http://www.humanrights.asia>

This site provides access to the Commission's written and oral statements to the UN Commission on Human Rights; press releases; and reports documenting human rights abuses in various countries.

3. Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (Washington College of Law, American University)

<http://www.wcl.american.edu/pub/humright/home.html>

This site provides access to the Center's publication Human Rights Brief and the Inter-American Human Rights Digest Project.

4. **Derechos Human Rights**
<http://www.derechos.org>
This site is useful for its compilation of human rights materials by country and region. Click on the link “HR around the World” on the left side of the main page.
5. **Institute for Human Rights** (Abo Akademi University, Finland)
<http://www.abo.fi/institut/imr>
This site provides access to FINDOC, a database containing bibliographic references to human rights literature (including monographs, periodical articles and seminar reports) (1996- ; updated daily).
6. **Human Rights Internet**
<http://www.hri.ca>
Of particular note at this site is *For the Record: The United Nations Human Rights System*. The report is a summary of the human rights documentation produced, and the human rights activities undertaken by the United Nations for a given year. The report is organized by country and thematically.
7. **Human Rights Watch**
<http://www.hrw.org>
Human Rights Watch’s site includes online versions of *Human Rights Watch World Report* and *Landmine Monitor Report*.
8. **Inter-American Institute of Human Rights**
<http://www.iidh.ed.cr>
Links to the Institute’s newsletter, press releases, and other publications.
9. **Interights** (International Centre for the Legal Protection of Human Rights): <http://www.interights.org>
Features the Interights Case Docket which indexes recent decisions of tribunals applying international human rights law.
10. **Women’s Human Rights Resources** (Bora Laskin Law Library, University of Toronto)
<http://www.law-lib.utoronto.ca/diana>
A comprehensive list of links and documents, the Women’s Human Rights Resources Database provides access to articles, documents, and web resources concerning women’s human rights issues.

X. PERIODICAL LITERATURE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Print and online versions of human rights law reviews and journals can be found using JACOB, the Library's catalog: <http://jacob.law.gwu.edu>. Select "Subject" search and type human rights periodicals to retrieve a list of titles, locations, and links to full-text.

A. Indexes to Legal Periodical Literature

1. LegalTrac (1980-)

LegalTrac provides citations to and selected full-text of articles from more than 1,500 law journals from the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand.

- **Commercial Databases**

LegalTrac

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

LexisNexis (*LAWREV;LGLIND*)

Westlaw (*LRI*)

2. **Index to Legal Periodicals Full Text (ILP)** (1981 to date) and **Index to Legal Periodicals Retrospective** (1918-1981)

ILP provides indexing to articles appearing in over 1,025 law reviews, journals, yearbooks and government publications.

- **Commercial Databases**

Index to Legal Periodicals Full Text and Index to Legal Periodicals Retrospective

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

LexisNexis (*LAWREV;ILP*)

Westlaw (*ILP*)

3. Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals (IFLP) (1985-)

IFLP provides citations only to articles appearing 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 basis.

- **Commercial Databases**

- Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals

- <http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research> > *Database Subscriptions*

- **Print:** INDEXES (1ST FL), K33.I52 (1960-)

4. *Public International Law* (1975-)

This print-only publication provides citations to articles in over 1400 journals dealing with international law.

- **Print:** INDEXES (1ST FL), K33.P83

B. Full-Text Sources for Legal Periodicals

1. HeinOnline

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

An image-based collection of legal periodicals that provides access to over 200 legal titles. Search by keyword, author, or citation, or browse tables of contents. Provides online access to American law reviews pre-1980s.

2. LexisNexis (*LAWREV;ALLREV*)

3. Westlaw (*JLR*)

4. E-Journal Finder

<http://www.law.gwu.edu/Library/Research> > *E-Journal Title Finder*

A research tool that provides links to full text online versions of legal and interdisciplinary journals, periodicals, and newspapers collected by the Jacob Burns Law Library and other GW libraries.

5. JSTOR

<http://www.jstor.org>

According to its website, “JSTOR is a digital archive collection of core scholarly journals.” The collection includes: American Journal of International Law, International Affairs, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, and the Journal of Conflict Resolution.

C. Non-Legal Periodicals: Bibliographic and Full Text Sources

GWU Gelman Library's ALADIN Research Portal: <http://www.library.gwu.edu>

International and public policy online resources are available through the ALADIN Research Portal. They provide citations to and selected full text of government reports, trade publications, scholarly journals, reports, conference proceedings, etc.. For a listing of the databases available, from Gelman's homepage, click on the Articles & Databases link. Look for the databases under the International Affairs heading.