Researching Treaties in the UGA Law Library

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This guide describes a number of major resources available in the UGA Law Library for finding treaties. It includes selected treaty texts, finding aids, collections by region, collections by subject, and examples of specific treaties published and classified individually. Selected on-line and electronic resources are listed within the resource categories.

I. Introduction

II. United States Treaties

- texts
- indexes

III. World-wide Treaty Collections (whether U.S. is a party or not)

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IV. Selected Collections of Treaties & Treaty Indexes by Jurisdiction (other than United States)

V. Selected Collections of Treaties & Treaty Indexes by Subject

VI. Examples of Specific Treaties Published by Name

Location Codes
Where applicable, this guide provides call numbers and locations for referenced materials. The locations are coded as follows:

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<td>SOHN</td>
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I. Introduction

Treaties can be referred to as international conventions, international agreements, covenants, final acts, charters, protocols, pacts, accords, and constitutions for international organizations. Usually these different names have no legal significance in international law.

Treaties may be bilateral (two parties) or multilateral (between several parties).

A treaty is usually only binding on the parties to the agreement. An agreement "enters into force" when the terms for entry into force as specified in the agreement are met.

Treaties usually follow the same general process: adoption - signature - ratification. Each country follows its own ratification procedures, after which the ratification instruments are exchanged or deposited with a depositary.

In the United States, ratification generally takes the following path: Executive branch negotiates and signs treaty - President submits treaty to Senate - Senate prints proposed treaty (S. Treaty Doc. No.) - Senate refers proposed treaty to Senate Foreign Relations Committee - SFR Committee conducts hearings (S. Hrg) and makes recommendation to full Senate (S. Ex. Rept) - Senate passes resolution of "advice and consent" to ratification of the treaty (Constitution requires 2/3 vote of a quorum of the Senate) - President ratifies treaty.

For some countries, ratification procedures are summarized in Constitutions of the Countries of the World (K3157.A2 B55 - Balc)
II. United States Treaties (this section includes resources containing the texts or indexes for treaties to which the U.S. is a participant - Section III below includes resources on multilateral or bilateral treaties to which the U.S. may or may not be a party)

Texts of United States Treaties (see next subsection for indexes)

Consolidated Treaties & International Agreements. Compiled and edited by Erwin Surrency. Oceana, 1991- [location: KZ 235.5 U55 - Base]. Publishes U.S. treaties and international agreements within 90 days after release or ratification. Updated quarterly; considerably more current than the official publication, TIAS. Arranged by Department of State number. Includes topical and country indexes, a list of multilateral agreements, and a list of treaties cited in subsequent treaties. TIARA, the online version, also includes many unpublished treaties.

Hein's United States Treaties and Other International Agreements Current Service. Buffalo, NY: W.S. Hein, 1990- [microform] [location: MFC H439 - 1Anx]. Unofficial publication of recent U.S. treaties and agreements. Much more current than the official set; items not yet assigned a TIAS number are assigned the set's KAV numbers. Includes cumulative index.

LEXIS - U.S. Treaties in Force (Oceana). INTLAW library, USTRTY file. Contains U.S. treaties since 1783 [available to law school students and faculty only].

Statutes at Large (Stat.) [Location: unclassed - near the U.S. codes on Main]. Prior to 1950, the official site for publication of U.S. treaties. Includes international agreements from 1932. Vol. 8 includes all treaties between the United States and foreign nations from 1778 to 1845. Vol. 7 includes all treaties between the U.S. and Native Americans from 1778 to 1845.

TIARA: Treaties and International Agreements Online. Dobbs Ferry, NY: Oceana, 1993- [location: online, linked from Law Library's Research Resources page]. This full text database contains over 10,000 treaties and agreements to which the U.S. is a party (also includes the texts of a number of bilateral tax treaties, some to which the United States is not a party). Includes some unpublished agreements. The Help Screen provides content information and searching tips. Updated monthly.

Treaties and Other International Act Series (TIAS). Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1946- [Location: KZ235.32 .U55 - Base]. Contains the official slip versions of U.S. treaties, each of which is assigned a number (e.g. TIAS 12075). Later bound into United States Treaties and Other International Agreements (UST). Lag time is considerable -- well over 10 years.


Westlaw. USTREATIES database. Contains U.S. treaties since 1979 (coverage starts at TIAS no.10869) Lag time equals approximately 2 months [available to law school students and faculty only].

Indexes to U.S. Treaties


Treaties in Force [location: KZ 235 T74 - Base; most recent year on Res]. Lists current United States treaties. Lists bilateral agreements alphabetically by country and within broad subject categories. Lists multilateral agreements by subject (note: the subject categories in the bilateral agreements section do not always correspond exactly with the subject categories in the multilateral agreements section). Current edition available on Lexis and Westlaw.

III. World-wide Treaty Collections (this section includes resources providing the text of treaties as well as indexes for locating treaties, regardless of whether the U.S. is a party - see Section II above for additional resources exclusive to treaties including the U.S. as a party; see note below about finding treaties to which the U.S. is not a party)

Texts of World-wide Treaties


Tufts Multilateral Project - http://fletcher.tufts.edu/multilaterals.html. Fletcher School's web site providing the text of or links to many multilateral treaties. Allows for searching by full-text. Also arranged chronologically and by subject.

United Nations Treaty Series (UNTS). New York: United Nations, 1946/47- [location: KZ 172 T74 - Base]. Contains all treaties registered with the United Nations (but note that not all member countries comply with the UN Charter requirement to register). Arranged by date of registration with the UN, not by date of ratification or signature. Cumulative indexes covering a span of volumes are published occasionally, but there is no overall cumulative index. Expect major delay (more than 10 years) in publication. Note: UNTS is also available online through a subscription to the United Nations Treaty Collection at http://untreaty.un.org (linked from the
Indexes and Other Finding Aids for World-wide Treaties


**Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General.** New York: United Nations [location: KZ 171 M86 - Base]. Provides the status of multilateral treaties deposited with the United Nations. Includes information on signatures, accessions, and notifications. Also provides reprints of reservations and declarations by individual countries. Also available online through the United Nations Treaty Collection, linked from the UGA Law Library Research Resources page.

**Multilateral Treaties: Index and Current Status.** Edited by M.J. Bowman & D.J.Harris. London: Butterworths, 1984 (supplement compiled and published by Nottingham Treaty Centre, currently to 1994 with the Eleventh supplement) [location: KZ 118 B68 1984 - Base]. Arranged chronologically, but also includes subject and word indexes for major multilateral treaties. Provides dates of conclusion, signing, entry-into-force, parties, and reservations.

Suggested Sources for Bilateral Treaties to which the United States is Not a Party

- yearbooks of international law for the relevant jurisdictions (e.g., *German Yearbook of International Law*)
- *United Nations Treaty Series*
- *International Legal Materials*
- TIARA Treaties & International Agreements Online (although mostly U.S. treaties, TIARA does include a number of bilateral tax treaties to which the U.S. is not a party)
- collections of treaties by jurisdiction (section IV below)
- collections of treaties by subject (section V below)

IV. Selected Collections of Treaties and Treaty Indexes by Jurisdiction or Region (Other than United States)

ASEAN


EUROPE


Great Britain


India

India, Bilateral Treaties and Agreements. Delhi: Published for Policy Planning and Research Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi, by Siba Exim, 1994- [location: KZ 976 1994 - Base]. Multi-volume set. Includes indexes.

Organization of American States


V. Selected Collections of Treaties & Treaty Indexes by Subject
Air & Aviation


Armed Conflict


Environment


Foreign Investment


Human Rights


Intellectual Property


Researching Treaties at UGA

site under "News and Information Resources -- Documents."


**Law of the Sea**


**Tax**

**International Tax Treaties of All Nations.** Edited by Walter H. Diamond and Dorothy B. Diamond. Dobbs Ferry, NY: Oceana, 1975 [location: K4473 .I58 - Balc]. Title page asserts that this set contains English language texts of all tax treaties between two or more nations in force on July 1, 1975, and it is updated by cumulative supplements.


Trade

**Basic Documents of International Economic Law.** Edited by Stephen Zamora and Ronald A. Brand. Chicago: Commerce Clearing House, 1990 [location: K3820 .A35 B37 1990 - Balc]. Includes full-text of international agreements and documents relating to international economic law, up to November 1989. In addition, introductory essays and selective bibliographies accompany each document [also available on Lexis (INTLAW library, BDIEL file), with updates, for law school students and faculty only].


**LEXIS - INTLAW Library, GATT and NAFTA files** [available to law school students and faculty only].


**WESTLAW - GATT and NAFTA databases** [available to law school students and faculty only].

VI. Examples of Specific Treaties Published Individually by Name


