# U.S. Treaty Research

University of Idaho College of Law

The materials included in this research guide are available at the University of Idaho College of Law Library and Main Library.

## **Introduction**

Treaties are referred to by a variety of names: international agreement, international convention, covenant, protocol, charter, act, declaration,

For more detailed information on treaty research the following materials may be helpful.

Fundamentals of Legal Research 8th ed.

Law Library Reserve KF240 J66

Chapter 20 on "International Law" has a good discussion on U.S. and non-U.S. treaty research.

Guide to International Legal Research 5th ed.

Law Library Ref. KZ1234 G85

Comprehensive research guide covering primary and secondary sources, practice materials, and country specific resources, both in paper and electronic format. Part II, Chapter B covers treaty resources.

ASIL Guide to Electronic Resources for International Law: Treaties http://www.asil.org/resource/home.htm

Detailed research guide to U.S. and non-U.S. treaty research with numerous links to online resources. Part of a larger research guide to international law.

Researching U.S. Treaties and Agreements

http://www.llrx.com/features/ustreaty.htm

This guide covers both paper and electronic resources used in U.S. treaty research.

Generally, there are three steps to performing treaty research:

- 1. Finding the text of the treaty or agreement.
- 2. Determining the treaty's status (is it still in force).
- 3. Locating legislative history or cases interpreting a treaty.

## **Locating Treaties**

United States Treaty Index, 1776-1990 Consolidation

Law Library Ref. KZ235 U58 1991

This is the primary index for locating U.S. treaties. Also known as Kavass' index. Access volumes through treaty number, or chronological, country, and subject indexes. Provides citations to treaty texts in Statutes at Large, UST, TIAS, UNTS, Bevan's, or ILM, as appropriate. Assigns KAV numbers to treaties released by the Dept. of State but not yet published in TIAS. Supplemented by Revision volumes and semi-annually by the *Current Treaty Index* (Ref. KZ235 C87)

Two other sources that can be used for locating treaties are  $\it Treaties in Force$  and  $\it A$   $\it Guide to the United States Treaties in Force$ 

## Treaties and

A Guide to the United States Treaties in Force

Law Library Ref. KZ235 G85

Also known as Kavass' guide. A more detailed index for locating bilateral and multilateral treaties t Guide to th0 0 12 90 664.1l treaties t Guide to th0 0 12 90 6n8rl treat2ary Ref. 2

-- CIS Abstracts/Index/Legislative Histories

Law Library Ref. KF49 C62

Since 1970, references to both *Senate Treaty Documents* and *Senate Executive Reports* can be found in the *Abstract* volume under the heading, "Senate Committee, Foreign Relations, Executive Reports and Executive Documents."

Shepard's United States Citations

Law Library Shepard's Table

Citations to federal cases and amendments can be found in the statute volumes. Pre-1950 treaties are listed by Statutes at Large citation, post-1949 treaties by UST or TIAS citation.

United States Code Service (USCS)

Law Library Main Floor Shelf 207

See the volume titled, "Notes to Uncodified Laws and Treaties," for notes and annotations concerning bilateral and multilateral treaties.

### **Additional Information**

#### **Practice Digests**

Practice digests are treatises providing a comprehensive analysis of U.S. policy regarding international law. Published by the Department of State. Citations to primary and secondary sources are incorporated into the text, rather than through footnotes or endnotes.

A Digest of International Law of the United States...

Law Library KZ237 W5 1887

This is the first of the digests issued by the Department of State, also known as Wharton's. Three volumes.

A Digest of International Law as Embodied in Diplomatic Discussions...

Law Library KZ237.7 M66 1906a

Also known as Moore's digest. Published in 1906, this is a revised and much expanded version of Wharton's digest, comprising eight volumes.

Digest of International Law

Law Library KZ237.7 H32 1975

Also known as Hackworth's digest. This set does not include material covered in Wharton's or Moore's digests, but surveys the period from 1906-1939. Eight volumes.

Digest of International Law

Law Library KZ237.7 W49 1963

This 15 volume set began publication in 1963 and ended in 1973; also known as Whiteman's digest. Whiteman's does not include the material covered in Hackworth's digest.

Digest of United States Practice in International Law

Law Library KZ21 R68

This series differs from the previous digests in that it does not attempt to give a comprehensive analysis of U.S. international law. Instead, this series issues annual volumes covering all calendar year materials of legal significance. One volume was issued for each year from 1973-1980. A three volume cumulative set was issued for the years 1981-1988. There are no volumes covering the years 1989-1999. The practice of issuing annual volumes resumed in 2000 and is expected to continue.

#### Restatements

Restatement of the Law 3rd: The Foreign Relations Law of the United States

Indian Affairs: Laws and Treaties

Law Library Reserve KF8203 1903

Seven-volume set. Vol. 2 reprints the treaties negotiated between the U.S. and various Indian tribes between 1778-1883. Also known as Kappler's Indian Affairs.

Tax Treaties

http://www.irs.gov/businesses/index.html

There are a number of tax treaties available on the IRS web site. From the Home page click on "Businesses," then "International Businesses" and "Tax Treaties." Treaties are listed in alphabetical order by country.

Unperfected Treaties of the United States, 1776-1976 Law Library KZ236 1976