



The Center for Research Libraries

Research Access to Sources on Law and Government

October 24, 2012



Today's agenda

- Introduction
 - CRL Global Resources Forum
 - Why law & government
 - CRL's agenda
- Access to digitized legacy materials
 - HeinOnline, LLMC-Digital, and other databases
- International sources
 - Aggregators, digitization projects
 - GLIN (Global Legal Information Network)
- Digital federal government information
- Questions & answers



Presenters



- **Bernard F. Reilly**

President

Center for Research Libraries



CRL Global Resources Forum

Analysis

Intelligence

Library investment



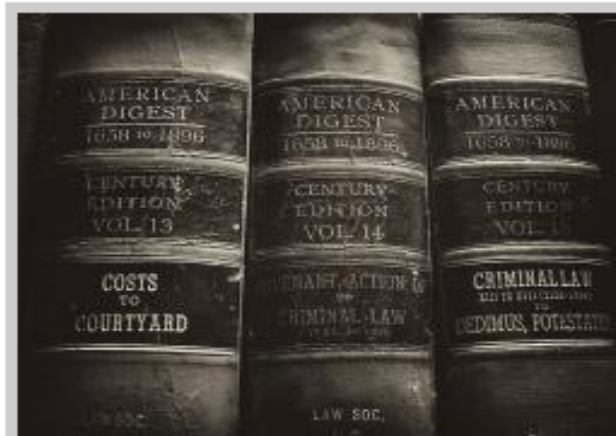


TOPIC GUIDE

Legal Databases: Comparative Analysis

[Landscape](#)[CRL Collections](#)[Related Resources](#)[Appendix](#)

Legal research was one of the first areas of scholarship to move into the electronic world, with the introduction of dial-up terminals for searching case law in the 1970s. Today, most legal research done in law schools, courts, and the legal profession at large is conducted via computerized databases. Legal professionals depend primarily on services purchased from the two giants in the field, *Westlaw* and *LexisNexis*. However, for scholars outside of law schools, the judicial system, or the legal profession, access to primary source materials on the law has traditionally been much more difficult. In addition, the digital products offered by the large legal information companies are not



FOCUS on Global Resources

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CIVIL SOCIETY: LEGAL and GOVERNMENTAL RESOURCES

Documenting Colonial
and Indigenous History:
the Central American
Archives, 1544–1821

2

Historical Puerto Rican
Court Documents

7

Primary Sources at a
Distance: Researching
Indian Colonial Law

9

Using Legislative Journals
to Explore Lawmaking

12

Old Courthouse in Aguadilla, Puerto
Rico.

www.crl.edu



In This Issue

Civil society and its institutions are topics of growing interest to researchers in a wide range of fields. Documents produced by, and in connection with, early governments, courts, and legislatures provide valuable and often unique perspectives on the life, politics, and culture of their eras.

Unfortunately, at a time when historians, jurists, and social scientists are beginning to mine primary legal texts for myriad purposes, many law libraries are retiring their holdings of those materials and public archives in many developed and developing countries are in danger of failing. For years the *Area Microform Projects* at CRL have aided and preserved public archives in many world regions. And recently CRL formed a partnership with the *Law Library Microform Consortium*, to expand its preservation of historically important legal publications. CRL and LLMC are now pooling resources to digitize important published materials, particularly from world regions like Africa and the Caribbean (see pages 9 and 12). CRL's recent acquisition of the Central American Archive (page 2) and LAMP's digitization of cases from 19th-century Puerto Rican courts (page 7)—two vast troves of unpublished archival materials on Spanish colonial governments—further enlarge this wealth of documentation. We hope that CRL's efforts can help ensure that the memory of civil societies is preserved for the benefit of future researchers—and tomorrow's citizens.

—Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.
President

Why “Sources on Law and Government”?

CRL’s historic mission

Change in the mandates of law libraries

Change in the role of national repositories



CRL's agenda: Law and Government

Digitization of CRL holdings

Provide digital access to broader range of digital law

Ensure survival of the print corpus



Pierre C. ALEXANDRE

/
A PROPOS
de la
LÉGISLATION
sur
L'INVENTAIRE

Préface de Me. Félix Soray
Ex-Professeur de Droit Commercial
et de Législation Financière
à la Faculté de Droit de Port-au-Prince

COLLECTION DU SESQUICENTENAIRE

AU SERVICE DE L'ADMINISTRATION HAITIENNE

Imprimerie "LES PRESSES LIBRES"

Port-au-Prince, Haïti

1951



The Center for Research Libraries
GLOBAL RESOURCES NETWORK

Presenters



- **Fred Barnhart**

Associate Dean for Library Services
and Collections,
Loyola University Chicago



Access to Sources on Law and Government: Digitized Legacy Materials

Fred Barnhart
Loyola University Chicago



Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

Research Topics

- Social Sciences
- Humanities
- Digital Humanities



Challenges

- Researchers
 - Background
 - Discovery tools
- Libraries
 - Providing access
 - Discovery tools
- Publishers
 - Focus



Trends for new material

- Non-U.S. gazettes
- British legal manuscripts
- Pre-Soviet Russian legal materials
- Chinese legal codes and case law



Other trends

- NGO and IGO materials
- Municipal and state agency
- Special collections
- Gray literature



Case law

- HeinOnline – strong federal, state, and foreign jurisdictions
- LLMC-Digital – strong federal and English reports, but occasionally weak state reports (strengthening)
- LN Academic – strong federal and state (but text only, not images)



Trial Accounts

- LLMC-Digital – weak in this area
- HeinOnline – strong in English and American trial accounts, 17th – 20th century
- Gale's MML – most comprehensive in English and American trial accounts



Statutes/Laws

- HeinOnline – strong historical collection of federal, state, and British laws
- LLMC-Digital – similarly strong in federal and British. State laws less so, but improving.
- Gale's MML – municipal codes and state statutes a strength



Presenters

- **Ava Iuliano**

International Relations Librarian,
Florida International University



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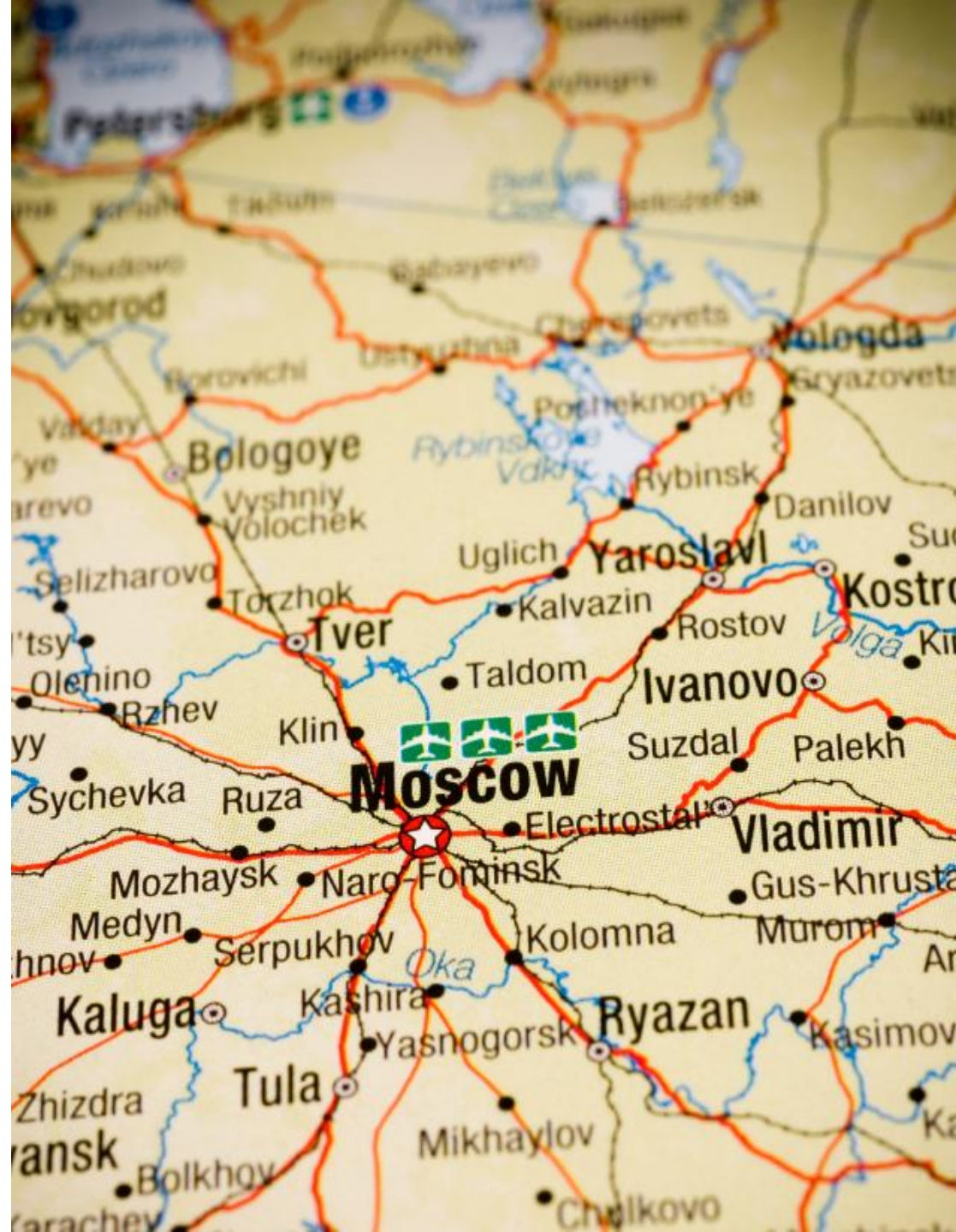


Research Access to sources on Law and Government: International Sources

PASSPORT
Ava Iuliano, International Relations
Librarian
Florida International University

Overview

- International law and government sources
- Topics
- Challenges
- Opportunities
- GLIN



International Law and Government Information

NGOs

United Nations

- Where is it?

European Union

IGOs



Topics

UN

- Peace and Security
- Development
- Human Rights
- International Law

EU

- Finance/Economy
- International Law



Opportunities

- Aggregators
- Digitization
 - United Nations
 - EU

Challenges

Where to look?

Who?



Continued, consistent access

Maintenance

LEGAL

Global Legal Information Network

- 1991 via Law Library of Congress
- Government agencies
- Statutes, regulations, etc.
- Award-winning



Contact

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Presenters



- **Emily Lawson**

Reference/Research Librarian,
University of Houston Law Center



Access to Digital Federal Government Information



Emily Lawson
Reference/Research Librarian
University of Houston Law Center

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Accessing Government Information



- Shift from print to electronic access
 - 1994 – GPO Access launched in order to disseminate electronic government information
 - 2000 to 2009 – Number of copies of tangible publications distributed to depository libraries fell from 12.2 million in 2000 to 3.2 million in 2009
 - Today – Over 90% of federal government information is now born digital

“Born Digital” Government Information Issues



- **Access**
 - Digital divide
- **Availability**
 - Link rot; fugitive documents
- **Preservation**
 - Format changes; single copy problem
- **Authentication**
 - Vulnerable to alteration

FDsys: GPOs Federal Digital System



- Provides online access to over 50 collections from all three branches of government
 - Content typically goes back to mid-1990s
 - Not all government information is provided to GPO
- Seeks to preserve digital information for future access
- Authenticates documents with digital signatures

What Are Others Doing?



- LOCKSS –USDOCS (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe)
 - Harvesting and preserving all collections hosted on FDsys
- University of North Texas CyberCemetery
 - Archive of government websites that have ceased operation
- Registry of U.S. Government Publication Digitization Projects
 - Projects digitizing tangible documents

Questions & Answers

Please join us for a discussion with our presenters.

Submit your comments or questions
to the online chat.



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Upcoming Webinars

Text Mining Opportunities and Challenges:
November 13

News: January 14, 2013

CRL Collections & Services: June 12, 2013

CRL webinars usually occur on Wednesdays
from 2 to 3 p.m. Central Time



Upcoming Events

CRL Preconference at Charleston: *Emerging Approaches to Archiving Commercial Databases*

Wednesday, Nov. 7, 1:00–4:00 p.m.

Charleston, S.C.

<http://www.katina.info/conference/>

Annual Meeting of the CRL Council of Voting Members

April 19, 2013



For More Information

- Fill out our follow-up survey at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CRL_Sources_on_Law_and_Govt_Webinar_Oct_2012
- This presentation will soon be available on our YouTube channel www.youtube.com/crldotedu
- Visit CRL website www.crl.edu
- Sign up for *CRL Connect*: www.crl.edu/connect
- Find CRL on Facebook and Twitter

