



University of Connecticut School of Law Library



HOW TO FIND UNITED NATIONS DOCUMENTS (EXCLUDING TREATIES) IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT SCHOOL OF LAW LIBRARY

The following pieces of information are most useful when attempting to locate a particular United Nations (UN) document. Using one or more of them in combination, you can locate a document in an index, catalog and/or database of document texts.

- Date of issue
- Issuing body/organization
- UN Document number

In some cases, you will need to look first in an index to further identify the document so you can find its text in another location. In other cases you will be able to use the information you have to find the text of the document directly.

If the document was issued within the past five years, you will most likely find it on the Internet on one of the UN's web sites. The main UN web site is located at <http://www.un.org>. There you can find documents issued by the General Secretariat, General Assembly and Security Council. If your document was issued by a subsidiary UN organization which has its own web site, such as the World Trade Organization or UNICEF, you can find and access the web site from the main UN web site. Alternatively, you can find the appropriate web site by using a web search engine such as Google and searching for the name of the issuing organization. The home page for the organization's web site is usually among the first ones listed in a Google search. The navigation of each site differs, but in most cases the site index is very helpful for finding where to look for a particular document.

If the document you want was issued in 1998 or later, you will probably also find it using the Law Library's research database, Access UN, at <http://infoweb.newsbank.com>. You can search this database by title, UN Document number, issuing organization or subject and, in most cases, you will be able to retrieve the text of document itself within the database. In some cases, however, you will get only a description of the document. You will need to note the proper title and the UN Document number in order to locate the text in the next step of your search.

If the document was issued between 1961 and the present, you should be able to access either the full text of the document or a complete bibliographical record for it using the Readex United Nations Index CD-Rom in the 4th floor microform room. Again, you can search by UN Document

number, issuing body, or subject. If the full text is not available, you will need to note the UN Document number and title to continue your search in one of the collections of UN documents.

If the document was issued between 1950 and 1960, you must use the print UN document indexes located in the general collection on the 4th floor in the JX 1977 .A2 call number range. The index changed names and formats several times over the years, so the volume you need to consult depends upon the date of the document you are looking for and what else you know about it. You can search the indexes by issuing body, title, UN Document number or subject. You will need to note the UN Document number and title in order to continue your search for the text of the document.

The Law Library holds only a small subset of all the UN's official documents that have been issued since the foundation of the UN. You will find many citations to documents listed in the indexes that the Law Library does not own. With the major exceptions of the documents regarding the foundation of the UN, the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, and documents issued by the International Court of Justice, we do not have complete runs of the documents issued by any UN body. The closest complete UN depository is the Mudd Library at Yale University in New Haven. This facility is open to public but does not fill interlibrary loan requests.

Our holdings and locations in the Law Library for the major UN bodies are as follows:

Official Records of the General Assembly (but not including all its subsidiary bodies, e.g. the Economic and Social Council)	1956- present, 4 th fl. Micro. Cab. 25
Resolutions of the General Assembly	1973-1988, 4 th fl. JX 1977 .A3255 D57
Official Records of the Security Council	1956- present, 4 th fl. Micro. Cab. 25
Resolutions of the Security Council	1946-1979, 5 th fl. KZ 5036 .U555
International Court of Justice	1947- present, 5 th fl. KZ 214 .I58 1956- present, 4 th fl. Micro. Cab. 25
UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	1976-1998, 4 th fl. Micro. Cab. 22
UN Commission on Human Rights	1946-1955; 1976-present, 4 th fl. Micro. Cab. 22
UN Conference on Disarmament	1952-1955; 1976-1998, 4 th fl. Micro. Cab. 22

These documents are arranged in order chronologically and then according to their UN Document numbers. For further assistance in finding a United Nations document, please consult the Reference Librarian on duty.