



United Nations / Dag Hammarskjöld Library

United Nations Dag Hammarskjöld Library Overview of Services

for the IFLA Section, Libraries &
Research Services for Parliaments





Dag Hammarskjold Library people





UN libraries

- * Dag Hammarskjöld Library is the library of UN Headquarters in New York, with its own specific mandate
- * The UN Secretariat also has regional centres in Geneva, Vienna, Santiago, Addis Ababa, Beirut and Bangkok, each with its own autonomous library service.
- * Many of the other organisations in the UN system also have autonomous library services



UN Headquarters library

- * Library services existed from the origins of the UN in 1945
- * It is seen as a parliamentary library
- * A new library building was opened in 1961 and was named after Dag Hammarskjöld, the Secretary-General who had led the development of the plans and had died in service just before the opening
- * The Library service also took his name
- * The service is now much smaller in scale



Selected UN Information Resources

- ✓ The UN website: www.un.org
 - ✓ Treaty Collection: <https://treaties.un.org/>
- Resources wholly/partly maintained by the Library
- ✓ Research Guides: <http://research.un.org/en/docs>
 - ✓ Ask Dag: <http://ask.un.org/>
 - ✓ UN Member States on the Record:
<http://www.un.org/Depts/dhl/unms/about.shtml>
 - ✓ ODS: <http://documents.un.org>
 - ✓ Library database(UNBISNET): <http://unbisnet.un.org/>



UN Website

- ✓ Provides wide coverage of information on main thematic issues.
- ✓ Good start for a general research
- ✓ Provides links to the main thematic pages and websites
- ✓ Has an index: <http://www.un.org/en/siteindex/>
- ✓ Maintained by the Department of Public Information



Treaty Collection

- * <http://treaties.un.org/>
 - * Database of multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary General in full text;
 - * Database of treaties of the League of Nations
 - * Maintained by the Office of Legal Affairs



UN Library Research Guides

<http://research.un.org/en>

(Selected guides also in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish)

- * Starting point to understand UN documents;
- * Information on principal organs and their documents;
- * Access to list of resolutions and actions taken by the Security Council
- * Guides to main subject areas such as International Law, Human Rights, Environment, etc..
- * New topical research guides
- * Exhibit for the UN 70th anniversary: [70 Years, 70 Documents](#)



UN Research Guides

BY SUBJECT

ALL GUIDES

Africa

3

Development

10

Disarmament

2

Economic Affairs

1

Environment

5

Health

2

Human Rights

5

Humanitarian Affairs

3

International Law

8

Member States

3

Peace & Security

7

Social Affairs

3

UN Documents

16

United Nations

19



Official Documents System (ODS)

<http://ods.un.org/>

- ✓ Main database for UN Official and mast-head documents.
- ✓ Searchable through symbol, title, session, subject or agenda item.
- ✓ Since 1993 most documents digital and so are in ODS
- ✓ Library has hard-copy of pre-1993 documents

Digitisation

- ✓ All Security Council documents and resolutions completed
- ✓ Around 10% of the most important 1945-93 documents so far
- ✓ Items may be digitised on request



UNBISNET

- ✓ <http://unbisnet.un.org/>
- ✓ Library online catalogue - including UN documents.
- ✓ Coverage from 1979+
- ✓ Links to ODS for digital official documents
- ✓ Good source for speeches and voting information



UN Member States on the Record

<http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/unms/>

- * Direct access to digital UN documents reflecting the actions of individual United Nations Member States, including:
 - * Documents related to entry to the United Nations;
 - * Statements made at General Assembly debates;
 - * Draft resolutions sponsored by a country.



UN Dag Digital Library

- * The digital repository (currently online in pilot version at <http://repository.un.org>) makes available and preserves the digital Library collection of UN content.
 - * Public documents
 - * Publications
 - * Eventually, other digital content outside traditional categories
- * The DAG Digital Library project covers all Library online services



Social media

<http://twitter.com/#!/UNLibrary>

<http://www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsLibrary>

[\(http://un-library.tumblr.com/\)](http://un-library.tumblr.com/)



Online Tutorials

- * Videos and basic explanation on how to find UN Documents

<http://research.un.org/en/docs/find>



UN Depository Libraries

- * Since 1946, a global network of partner libraries, either free or subscription members.
- * Receive UN publications and documents (scope & depth of collection varies).
- * Currently 362 [depository libraries](#) in over 136 countries
- * Must provide free public access to the UN content
- * Physical distribution almost entirely terminated in 2012
- * Parliamentary libraries have conditional right to free membership

<http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/deplib/index.html>



Questions and Client Services

- * **Contact UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library Help desk for assistance:**
 - * Phone: 212 963 3000
 - * Email: Library-ny@un.org
 - * Web: Ask.un.org