# Find primary law print collections for foreign jurisdictions in UK libraries with FLAG Foreign Law Guide

#### IALS Quick Guide

## www.ials.sas.ac.uk/flag.htm



**FLAG** Foreign Law Guide <u>www.ials.sas.ac.uk/flag.htm</u> is a free to use web database of records describing and locating collections of foreign, comparative and international primary law resources in the UK, unlocking legal research information held in print in libraries across the country.



# Where can I find a library in the UK with

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Codes of law for Belgium? In English?

Legislation for the Cayman Islands?

Law reports for Japan?

Historic case law on international commercial arbitration?

FLAG contains collection descriptions of primary legal materials in print format for foreign jurisdictions held in UK libraries. It can help you locate FCIL collections held by over 60 libraries across England, Wales and Scotland. The institutions featured in the database include national libraries, universities, the National Archives and the Inns of Court. The searchable database details the size and extent of individual collections.



FLAG is designed to help you quickly trace where in the UK are collections of materials relating to a particular jurisdiction or type of material (e.g. legislation, court reports, parliamentary debates etc.), and gain a clear idea of the strength of each collection in terms of the extent, content dates and depth of holdings at each location.

#### **Quick search**

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Use the quick search screen to find either the law of a particular country or the law made by an international organisation. Just fill in at least one of the fields and Submit Query.



You can select "legislation" or "court reports" from dropdown menus to focus your search.

#### **Results table**

A results table lists briefly the records found by your search and provides links to more detailed collection records.

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## **Collection records**

The full record for each collection included in FLAG gives you a brief description of coverage, indication of the contents date range, shelfmark location and library contact information.



## IALS Quick Guide – Find Foreign Law collections in print with FLAG



FLAG has always been intended as a foundation upon which a national strategy for the acquisition and retention of foreign, international and comparative primary law materials would be built. In a time of reduced budgets it provides an important tool to identify gaps and overlaps in coverage aiding informed decisions on cancellation or rationalisation of resource provision.



FLAG was originally developed through an RSLP funded national project at IALS. It has been updated again in 2013-2014 by IALS with support from the Flare Foreign Law Research Group of libraries, School of Advanced study, University of London and the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians.

For further information please contact:

Institute of Advanced Legal Studies 17 Russell Square London WC1B 5DR <u>ials@sas.ac.uk</u>



#### Library details

A Library search form is available to look up comprehensive contact information for each of the libraries featured in the FLAG database. You can also find libraries by town, region or UK country.



Each library record provides details of that library's current location, postal address, contact telephone numbers, email address, website and social media presence such as Facebook and Twitter.

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You can find more information about FCIL collections in a particular library by using the advanced search option in FLAG.



#### **Advanced search**

Through an advanced search form you can search across all or a wide selection of the fields in the database - for example the Description field allows you to search for words appearing in a brief summary of each collection featured in the database.

A subject field has been used to describe only those collections not related to a particular country or international – for example law of the sea

More complex searching including Boolean strategies (and, or, but) is also supported.

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Advanced search lets you go deeper to find collection descriptions of the individual constituent elements of legal literature in a given jurisdiction – codes, statutes, session laws, court reports, indexes, citators, digests, and encyclopedias.

Click on a Browse Choices button to display a dialog that shows words you can search for. This eliminates trial-and-error searching and makes searching easier.

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