

## Preemption Checklist

Complete this checklist to ensure your topic is not preempted. Keep a log of your searches.

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<b>Westlaw and Lexis</b>

Search for journal and law review articles in Westlaw and Lexis. Coverage varies and may not include historical material.

*Therefore, do not rely solely on Lexis/Westlaw journal databases for your preemption check.*

<b>Law-Related Database: HeinOnline</b>
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Field search in the Law Journal Library.

- Note that Boolean operators MUST be in capital letters.
- Full text coverage goes back to volume one for nearly all journals and law reviews.

<b>Law-Related Database: Index to Legal Periodicals (ILP)</b>
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After keyword searching, you can refine your search by using the subject terms for each relevant entry. Subject terms are listed along the left side-bar within each entry.

<b>Social Science Research Network (SSRN) and Berkley Electronic Press (bepress)</b>
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Search these sources to find published articles and working papers (papers that have not yet been published but are in the publication process).

- SSRN <http://www.ssrn.com>
- bePress <http://law.bepress.com>

<b>Library Catalog &amp; Discovery Tool</b>
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The library catalog finds books in our library. The catalog overlay—[insert name of discovery tool]—checks University books and databases plus the Internet, news, and other libraries' holdings to find relevant information from any discipline. It is a powerful tool, with many post-search filters. Available from the Library's homepage ([insert link])

<b>Google Scholar - <a href="http://scholar.google.com/">http://scholar.google.com/</a></b>
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Find scholarly articles in all disciplines. Set your preferences to recognize GMU so that you can directly access our subscription databases.

- <http://scholar.google.com/> → Settings → Library Links → search for and add \_\_\_\_\_ plus **WorldCat Open Library Links**
- Advanced search available: <http://scholar.google.com/> → click on the down arrow in the search bar.

<b>International and Foreign Law Articles</b>
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To search for articles in foreign law journals and law reviews about foreign and international law topics:

- Within HeinOnline search the **Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals**
- **PAIS International**

<b>Research Guides</b>
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To learn more about researching your topic specifically, consult a research guide.

- Guides are available from the Library's Home Page by selecting \_\_\_\_\_
- If we do not have an applicable research guide, [Georgetown](#) and [Harvard](#) Law Libraries have extensive guides available to the public on their library websites.

<b>Law Blogs</b>
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- ABA Blawg Directory <http://www.abajournal.com/blawgs>
- Justia Blawg Search <http://blawgsearch.justia.com/>
- SCOTUS Blog (focuses on the Supreme Court) <http://www.scotusblog.com/>