AALL Special Interest Section
Recommended Reading Lists*

¶1 To celebrate the centennial volume of *Law Library Journal*, each of the Special Interest Sections was invited to contribute a “recommended reading list” to this final issue of volume 100. The goal was for the SIS to put together a list of articles from *Law Library Journal*’s first century that it would suggest as reading for its members. Eight of the Special Interest Sections responded to the invitation, and their selections follow in alphabetical order by the name of the SIS.

¶2 The invitation intentionally left the format choice open, and as you will see, this led to a number of different approaches. What they have in common, though, is that all resulted in bibliographies that highlight the wide variety of topics LLJ has covered over the years, and that demonstrate the continued relevance of articles published decades ago.—The Editor

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Introduction

¶1 In celebration of Law Library Journal’s centennial, the following list of articles on topics in international, foreign, or comparative law was prepared; it is a kaleidoscopic presentation of past, current, and emerging issues that have influenced and are still impacting international law. The FCIL-SIS has an interesting history, which illustrates in itself the growth of interest in the subject matter of the section. The Foreign, Comparative and International Law SIS was created in 1985, but it had existed as an AALL committee since 1947, albeit under varying names. ¹

¶2 The excellent quality of all the articles written over the period made any selection a particularly challenging process, and it was decided instead to include all articles on the subject. It is notable that established legal scholars and holders of chairs or named professorships, such as Thomas E. Carbonneau² and John E.C. Brierley,³ have been among our contributors. One general trend that may be noted briefly here is a change in the focus of the articles over time: moving from collections, and particularly the difficulty of acquiring foreign materials, to topical international and foreign legal bibliography and legal systems in the abstract. Finally, a significant number of the articles on foreign law focus on Canadian law, and this should not be surprising, given that in 1963 Canadian librarians formed an association chapter within AALL as a prelude to their emergence, in 1970, as an independent association.⁴

¶3 To add additional interest to the list, a very rough citation analysis was undertaken. We wondered how often articles had been cited in other legal and law-related journals. Articles were located through HeinOnline, LexisNexis, Westlaw, and the Index to Legal Periodicals and Books, both current and retrospective, which covers the entire publication run of Law Library Journal from 1908 onwards. The citation analysis was performed utilizing Westlaw’s KeyCite and the LexisNexis’s Shepard’s features. In addition, Academic Search Premier’s Cited References was used for cross-checking purposes, as well as in an attempt to retrieve citations for the older articles; however the number of target journals on law is small in that database. HeinOnline also provides a feature indicating articles that cite any particular article, and this was used as well. The limitations of the

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databases’ citation analyses are due to coverage in the analysis feature, resulting in a (not surprising) lack of citation data for older articles. The number of citations found is indicated in parentheses at the end of the bibliographic citation. Articles are in alphabetical order.

Articles


