

Loyola University Chicago School of Law Library
Foreign Law Materials Statement

The Collection

Print

Foreign law materials comprise a small percentage of our library's print collection, as this has not been historically an area of great emphasis. Our current holdings are principally English-language materials in the form of treatises and commentary, rather than actual translations of primary law. Countries of continental Europe, along with the United Kingdom, Chile, and China, are generally emphasized. We also have a number of recently published secondary materials on India. Details of our current collection practices are described below.

A unique part of our foreign print collection, the "Universidad Alberto Hurtado Collection," is housed in our Rare Books Room. This collection, named after the Chilean university that donated the materials (the Universidad Alberto Hurtado (UAH) in Santiago), contains some 20+ items related to Chilean law. These materials are primarily in Spanish, and range from copies of UAH Law School periodicals, to an investigative dossier of former Chilean dictator, Augusto Pinochet. We have an ongoing relationship with UAH's Law School faculty and anticipate we will receive additional donations that will enhance this unusual collection.

Electronic

The Law Library currently subscribes to the following databases with foreign law emphasis/content: *Foreign Law Guide*, *HeinOnline (English Reports, Foreign & International Law Resources Database, World Constitutions Illustrated)*, *LawInfoChina*, *KluwerArbitration*, *Columbia International Affairs Online*, and *LLMC-Digital*.

Collection Practices & Goals

We presently have no separate written policy for FCIL collection development. When purchasing FCIL materials generally, our practice and primary goal is to support our curriculum and areas of faculty research. Because Loyola has permanent schools in Rome and Beijing, and the Law School offers annual field opportunities in London and Santiago, we purchase English-language materials that support those programs. The Law School also offers an annual comparative law seminar on children's rights with a foreign field study component, so we purchase materials to support this program. In recent years, this seminar has travelled to South Africa, Thailand, Vietnam, and India. In terms of faculty research, we have several individuals who do comparative work, with particular emphasis on EU-member countries.

One of our long-time faculty members established an endowment several years ago for the purchase of library materials related to Italian law. The scope of this endowment has recently broadened, such that we may now purchase items related to the law of all European and Latin American countries. This endowment has greatly assisted with financing our foreign law purchases in recent years.

In terms of FCIL selection generally, we rely heavily on our library approval plans—YBP, Hein, and Harrassowitz. Our profiles designate English-language materials only. We also receive notices for English-language materials from Casalini Libri, although we have not yet purchased materials through this Italian vendor.

Underlying all of our FCIL collection practices/decisions is the richness of FCIL collections in Chicago. As a member of CLAS (Chicago Legal Academic System), the collections of five other Chicago law school libraries are open to our faculty and students—through direct in-house usage, and via ILL. CLAS includes the Pritzker Legal Research Center (Northwestern University), which is only blocks away from Loyola, and has an exceptionally strong FCIL collection.

Going forward, we expect to continue our current collection practices in FCIL—focusing on supporting our curriculum and areas of faculty research—primarily with English-language materials.

Julienne Grant, Reference Librarian, Foreign & International Research Specialist
Submitted July 2010