WORKING WITH NON-ENGLISH MATERIALS FOR THE ENGLISH SPEAKER
OUR VALUE PROPOSITION

AALL is dedicated to supporting the career development needs of law librarians through quality educational programming and events designed specifically for legal information professionals.

AALL embraces law librarians in all stages of their careers to provide exceptional experiences, tools for success and premier services to support professional growth.
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Library Resources

• Subscription Databases
  – Ex: Lexis, Westlaw, HeinOnline

• Treatises & encyclopedias
  – Ex: International Encyclopedia of Laws

• Journals & law reviews
EU Resources

- **EUR-Lex**
  - EU law
  - National law

- **N-Lex**
  - Search translation
  - Glossary

Photo by Tom Grimbert (@tomgrimbert) on Unsplash
English Translations

• National websites
  – Ex: German Ministry of Justice

• Other organizations
  – Ex: EBRD
Research Guides

• GlobaLex
• Bodleian Law Library
• Middle Temple Library
Language Learning

- Jannach’s German for Reading Knowledge
- Online / in-person language classes
  - Duolingo
  - Coursera
Translation Apps & Dictionaries

- Linguee
- Oxford Dictionary
- Collins Dictionary
- Collins Translate
- Google Translate
  – By word v. phrase
Find Help

• FCIL Jumpstart
• ListServ
  – Int-Law
  – IALL

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Asian Languages

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Working with English Translation of Asian Legal Materials

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Is English an official language?

- If yes, is the English version authoritative?

https://sso.agc.gov.sg/Index
Is English an official language?

– If yes, is the English version authoritative?

**About Us**

Legislation Division of AGC

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The Legislation Division of the Attorney-General's Chambers is Singapore's central law drafting office. The Legislation Division is responsible for drafting Singapore's legislation for the effective implementation of Government policies and public sector programmes. The Legislation Division also advises the Government and other public sector agencies on the development and translation of public policies into legislation and the initial implementation of legislation, and ensures 24/7 online access to Singapore's legislation.

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https://sso.agc.gov.sg/Index
Is English an official language?

– If yes, is the English version authoritative?
Is English an official language?

- If No, use official English translation if possible, but never solely rely on an English translation.

http://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp
Availability: Research Guides

- Globalex, FLG & Law Library of Congress’s Nations of the World
- Guides from local law libraries or legal institutions
Availability: Free E-resources

• Official Websites
  – Central government: three branches
    • https://elaw.klri.re.kr/eng_service/main.do (Korea)
    • https://law.moj.gov.tw/ENG/Index.aspx (Taiwan)
  – Ministries and departments:
    • http://en.moe.gov.cn/documents/laws_policies/
• World and Regional Organizations: WIPO, WHO etc.
• Nonprofit Organizations: AsianLII;Constituteproject.org
Availability: Free E-resources
Availability: Commercial E-resources

• Lexis/Westlaw
• Subject-specific databases: IBFD (tax); Global-Regulation.com
• Country-specific databases: LawInfoChina
  - Source of translation:
    • Machine translation v. human translation
    • Translation on demand service
Availability: Print Resources
Quality Control

• “legal, linguistic and cultural complications” – Deborah Cao
• Basic factors for evaluating a resource
  • Source of the translation
  • Date
  • Version history: how laws are being replaced and updated in each country
  • PDF v. HTML v. Database
• Compare multiple versions
Other Tools

• Expert: IALL/Int-Law/FCIL-SIS jump start list/local experts (faculty and students): https://en-lawlib.tau.ac.il/israeli_databases

• Translator or translation service
A Call for Collaboration

• A crowd-sourced/crowd-funded effort?
African Languages

Yemisi Dina
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Lost in Translation – African Legal Materials

Yemisi Dina
Applicable Situations

Local reports
- Customary courts

International reports
- Tribunal and courts in international jurisdictions where parties can only communicate in local dialect

Legislation
Current Options

• Google Translate
• Interpreters
African Languages

©https://www.afropolitan.co.za/articles/preserving-african-languages-2509.html
Problems

• Plurality of dialects and languages
• Lack of attention by authorities
Further Reading

Rotman, Edgardo “The Inherent Problems of Legal Citation” 1995 6:1 Ind. Int’l. & Comp. L. R. 187


Questions and Answers

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MORE FCIL-SIS EVENTS

At Fordham Law School, New York City:

- **June 27th, 2019, 6:30-7:30 pm**: What’s New with UN Resources,
  https://www.lla.org/index.php?option=com_jevents&task=icalrepeat.detail&Itemid=64

At the **AALL Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.**:

- **July 13, 8:45am - 12:00pm**: Basic FCIL Bootcamp, https://eventmobi.com/aall2019/agenda/46a58ddb-3536-49d3-8a60-e65f4405884/36f317a4-f1b4-4b37-9005-5eb16ced49a4
- **July 13, 1:30pm - 5:00pm**, Advanced FCIL Bootcamp, https://eventmobi.com/aall2019/agenda/46a58ddb-3536-49d3-8a60-e65f4405884/1bd78604-ba50-432a-8397-a44480bfa0
- **July 15, 3:00pm - 4:00pm**, Locating Latin American Legal Sources, https://eventmobi.com/aall2019/agenda/46a58ddb-3536-49d3-8a60-e65f4405884/09dabd42-50ed-47ea-8dc-b61d08bc0ef2
- **July 15, 5:30pm - 6:30pm**, FCIL-SIS Schaffer Grant for Foreign Law Librarians Recipient Presentation, https://eventmobi.com/aall2019/agenda/46a58ddb-3536-49d3-8a60-e65f4405884/5f97a4ef-8e56-45be-bde8-f13c20dfcb5

Keep an eye out for more webinars! Our next webinar will discuss teaching foreign LLMs.
Thank You!

Join us for the next webinar on the topic of Podcasting

Check AALLNET soon for details