

**Technical Services SIS Metadata Management Standing Committee  
Report**

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**(1) Original Law Classification Developments.**

**Creation of Classification Schedule for Law of Indigenous Jurisdictions:  
*Western Hemisphere: South America KIQ-KIZ***

These schedules present the last set of the KI series, and at once, the final classes in the frame of the LC Class K, of immediate interest of the Law Library of Congress. Research has been demanding, time consuming, relies on Web resources and often on grey literature, all exclusively in Spanish and Portuguese. Because of size and importance of the charge and my own time cut into halve (phased retirement) I worked with interns (*HACU Program; LC Junior Fellows Program*) as well as volunteering colleagues. Great supporters were *Richard Amelung* and *George Prager*. Results of accumulated research were the basis for classification and at once for the *Indigenous Law Portal* a cooperative project between the *LC Acquisitions & Bibliographic Access Directorate (ABA)* and the *LC Law Library (LLC)*.

- **KIQ1001-5000 Indigenous Law: Argentina**  
*Research/spread sheets for classification and Portal completed*
- **KIQ6001-9999 Indigenous Law: Bolivia**  
*Classification currently being finalized*  
*NARs for jurisdictions (Phil George/law Team)*
- **KIR1-6000 Indigenous Law: Brazil**  
*Classification currently being drafted*  
*NARs for jurisdictions (Phil George)*
- **KIS1-6000 Indigenous Law: Chile**  
*Research/spread sheets for classification and Portal completed*
- **KIS6001-9999 Indigenous Law: Colombia**  
*Classification currently being drafted*  
*NARs for jurisdictions created (Richard Amelung, Phil George)*
- **KIT1-6000 Indigenous Law: Ecuador**  
*Research/spread sheets completed*
- **KIV1-5000 Indigenous Law: Paraguay**  
*Research for classification and spread sheets completed*
- **KIV5001-9000 Indigenous Law: Peru**  
*New research. Schedule restructured*  
*NARs for Indigenous jurisdictions (Richard Amelung, Phil George)*
- **KIX1-5000 Indigenous Law: Uruguay**  
*Research currently underway*

**Attachment:** Outline of Indigenous peoples' law in the Western Hemisphere

## (2) Indigenous Law Portal: Intelligent Access to Information (ILP):

*An original collaborative project between ABA/LS and LCC*

*Now an open access database at LawLibraryMicroformConsortium-Digital (LLMC)*

Built by Law Library's *Digital Resources Division* as a page on the Law Library's web site **Guide to Law Online**, it was based on content I provided through research and on the metadata and structure of the new Library of Congress Classification schedules *Law of Indigenous Peoples in the Western Hemisphere (Classes KI-KIZ)*. As member of the Advisory Council of LLMC-Digital, I reached out to LLMC, and with support of the Board of Directors and membership,

- LLMC-Digital, LS Management and the Law Library entered into the agreement to transfer ILP to LLMC-Digital. Following the AALL Annual Conference 2019, the Portal opened on the LLMC-Digital Web site;
- LLMC-Digital transformed ILP into a database as an **open access electronic resource**, thought of great value for research, education and reference service on this vast and rapidly evolving field of learning: Indigenous Peoples' law;
- LLMC-Digital will be able to use additional content of the forthcoming *Indigenous Law Classifications* (with associated Excel spreadsheets) for its data base on *Indigenous Peoples Law in the Western Hemisphere*.

**To date, the information available through the Portal is as follows:**

- **Class KI** for general/global organizations and primary and secondary legal materials. The class references as well to all other indigenous law developments in the K system, such as Africa, Asia, Pacific Area with Hawaii, etc.;
- **Recent update:** *Circumpolar regions/jurisdictions and subregions* (e.g., Sápmi (Cultural) region of the Sámi).
- **Classes KIA-KIL (North America)** for thousands of tribes and tribal organizations in the regions Arctic/Subarctic, Canada, the United States, including Alaska, Hawaii, and Mexico;
- **Classes KIM-KIP (Central America)** for regions and jurisdictions such as Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama; including hundreds of tribes and indigenous communities, and indigenous organizations;
- **Interactive maps are visual access tools.**
- **Classification structure and Portal structure** are aligned, especially for the current developments to assure uniform display. In addition, the Portal will provide links to the php. version of the classification on PTCPs website (available for free)
- **Usage statistics** for the Portal (analyzed in the *2020 Statistical Usage Summary* -

*Web Metrics*) attest to the need for such access to hard to find and rare materials. The Portal was since 2014 (Portal opening) steadily accessed by ca.170 countries.

A note to the reader: Research on Indigenous Peoples in these regions of the World is grounded in fluency of language and contemporary history, is difficult and needs phantasy and inventiveness. Resources are mostly found in the “grey literature twilight zone,” elusive and not always reliable. Nevertheless, together with capable interns, volunteers and help of a temporary employee (NTE), I was able to accumulate a substantial record of access points for further research even in areas of residual evidences and elusive manifestations because of continuous civil strife, violence, “ethnic cleansing” and disappearances.

**(3) Expansions. Revisions. Reclassifications**

**Foreign Law Enhancement of Metadata in Law Classifications and Subject Headings (FLEM Project)**

- a. **Identify and revise/update LC Classification patterns and hierarchies** in Classes K-KZ that are problematic and outdated, followed by harmonization of patterns and hierarchies in common and civil law schedules and associated subject tables.
- b. **Identify problematic and outdated areas in the LCSH** pertaining to the revised classes. Determine whether term or sh is in fact the same for common law and civil law.

**Environmental law**

During the 2019 AALL Conference, I had proposed to the TS SIS Standing Committee that we should – after much discussion - move ahead and provide

- a. First a clear division between, and separate, **Environmental law** from **Public health** in the oldest Law Classification schedules **KF, KD, and KE** (created between 1958 and 1975). This particular subject was **not a recognized field** and did not have a structural place in those early schedules; and
- b. Second, reclass all records of original KF3575+ Public health section to new KF3817+ Environmental law section
- c. In late 2019, in cooperation with Tania Diaz-Marerro and George Prager, Environmental law classes for KF were completed, also to be used as prototype for Classes KD and KE.
- d. While the new development was converted to *ClassWeb* by Libby Dechman, our little “swat team” reclassified early in 2020 over 1,200 titles from the original KF3575+ *Public health* section to the new KF3817+ *Environmental law* section.

### **Terrorism and Counterterrorism**

I also had proposed in 2019, and then undertook, a cross-class evaluation of older classification patterns and terminology used for “Terrorism” and “Counterterrorism” (triggered by the JX reclassification in this area).

- a. KZ-KZA and JZ, as well as the civil law classes KK, KJC-KJE and Table KJ-KKZ 2 were evaluated and updated. Libby converted most of the changes (as indicated by “added”). Still, a number of references are missing- which I consider very important. Class HV needs references to K classes. Examination of the shelf list at HV6431 revealed that a substantial number of works belong to Class K.
- b. I explored also the common law group KF-KD-KE and KG-KH. My proposal and questions for further discussion will be posted before the meeting of the 27. July. Just to mention: I would like to move on this

#### **(4) “Knowledge Transfer” pending retirement**

Since July 2019, I am in **phased retirement status** (half-time). I am obligated to devote 20% of my remaining time to knowledge transfer

- a. Thus, I was embedded with the **Law Team**, consulting and instructing law catalogers on all questions of classification, especially on the new Indigenous law classes (NARs for Bolivia and Brazil were created by/Phil George, who retires by the end of this month)
- b. Created so far two **Web presentations** for the LC Cataloging Forum (initiated and chaired by then Law Team leader, Clara Liao):
  - (i) **“Classification for Indigenous law: Concept & Structure of Knowledge”**(Ppt. presentation for December, 2019 Webinar);
  - (ii) **“International Law: Classification in the Balance between J and K. The Story and the Footnotes”** (Ppt. presentation for the Sept. 16, 2020 Webinar.
- c. **Mentoring of my assigned Interns** (actually my fifth year to work with interns.

#### **(5) Reclassification (assisted by volunteers) of records from Class JX to Classes KZ, K, JZ, and other jurisdictional K classes (countries):** During this reporting year, close to 2,000 titles were reclassified.

Respectfully submitted,

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