Taggart Law Library Research Guide #10: Comparative Administrative Law

There are many different sources available to you to conduct comparative administrative law research in the Taggart Law Library. If you need assistance locating or using any of these sources, please consult a librarian.

Secondary Sources

- **Treatises:** Legal treatises, or books, are often a good way to begin researching a legal topic. These treatises can be one volume or multi-volume, and may be updated with pocket parts or as part of a looseleaf service. They provide a discussion of the law in that area and can give you citations to cases, statutes, and regulations, as well as references to other research materials.

A few of the treatises on administrative law and comparative law available at the Taggart Law Library include:


- **Subject Searching:** The following are some subject headings you can use to search POLAR to find additional materials. Once you find a general area in the library that has materials you might need, you can browse the stacks in that area and possibly find something better than what you were originally looking for!

  - Administrative law
  - Administrative law—United States (or name of other country)
  - Comparative law
  - Local government—law and legislation
Encyclopedias: Legal encyclopedias provide general overviews of legal topics and references to other research materials. These encyclopedias will have a subject index to help you find entries by topic. For example, if you wanted to look up the topic “Agency” in the index, it might lead you to the encyclopedia’s article on “Administrative Law,” which you could then look up in the appropriate encyclopedia volume.

Taggart Law Library has two popular national legal encyclopedias:

- **American Jurisprudence, 2nd ed.** *(AmJur)—Law North* (also available on Lexis and Westlaw)

- **Corpus Juris Secundum** *(CJS)—Law North* (also available on Westlaw)

There are also encyclopedia sets available for many states if your research focus is state-specific. **Ohio Jurisprudence** *(OJUr)*, for example, is an Ohio legal encyclopedia. State encyclopedias can be found in the state materials section on the south side of the library.

Some encyclopedias are published on specific topics. For example, the Law Library has the following encyclopedia on comparative law:

● **Research Guides/Bibliographies:** Sometimes helpful research sources for a particular area of the law have already been pulled together by someone else. An example of a bibliography on comparative law is:


To find other materials like this, you can do a subject search for **comparative law bibliography** or **administrative law United States bibliography** in POLAR.

**Journal Articles**

Articles from legal journals and law reviews can also be helpful in explaining an area of the law and providing research references. Articles can often be more current and more narrowly focused than books. For example, on the topic of “Comparative Administrative Law,” the article “The Rulemaking Power of Independent Agencies” from the 2006 issue of the *American Journal of Comparative Law* might be helpful.

**How do I find journal articles on my topic?**

There is usually a two-step process to finding journal articles:

1. **Use a print or online index to find citations to articles by topic**
2. **Go to a print or online journal to get the full text of the article**

For the above example, this process would look something like this:

1. **Look in index under “Comparative Administrative Law” topic to find “The Rulemaking Power...” article**
2. **Go to the correct issue of the American Journal of Comparative Law to get the actual article**

**Print and Online Journal Indexes:**

- **Index to Legal Periodicals and Books** (Beige in color)
  - Articles indexed by subject and author from 1886-present; citations only—*Law North* (also available **electronically** through library’s Subscription Services page)
Current Law Index (CLI—Red & black in color)
- Articles indexed by subject, author, and title from 1980-present; citations only—Law North (also available electronically through library’s Subscription Services page as LegalTrac)

Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals (Burgundy in color)
- Articles indexed by subject, geographical area, and author from 1960-present—Law North (also available online through library’s Subscription Services page)

Public Affairs Information Service (PAIS—Green in color)
- Indexes over 1,600 public policy journals, including many non-law titles, by subject; includes non-English language journals—Law North (also available online through library’s Subscription Services page)

Where do I go to get the full text of articles?
- **Bound Periodicals and Law Reviews:** Shelved in alphabetical order by journal title—Law North

- **Law Reserve:** The most current issues of our periodicals are kept on reserve. If the article is recent and you can’t find it on the shelves, ask at the Circulation Desk.

- **LEXIS and Westlaw:** Both LEXIS and Westlaw have databases for law reviews and journals. Coverage varies by title.

- **HeinOnline:** Full text of law reviews and journals in PDF format; coverage varies by title—available at the law library from the Library Subscription Services web page (see below)
• **JSTOR**: Scholarly journal archive featuring full text page images of articles from journals in economics, history, political science, sociology, and many other disciplines; coverage varies by title—available through the Library Subscription Services web page.

• **Google Scholar**: Searches scholarly literature (books, articles, etc.); search results include citations and links to full text. “OLinks” linking feature shows print and online access to materials at ONU and OhioLINK (see below). Available at [http://scholar.google.com](http://scholar.google.com).

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<th>Administrative Law and Comparative Law Periodicals:</th>
<th>Administrative and Regulatory Law News: Published by the American Bar Association Section of Administrative and Regulatory Practice (vol. 1-current in Law Periodicals; also available online through HeinOnline, Academic Search Complete, and EBSCO Legal Collection)</th>
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<td>There are many periodicals dealing with administrative and comparative law issues. Some of these titles are listed below, with the law library’s holdings provided where applicable.</td>
<td>Administrative Law Review: Published by the American Bar Association Section of Administrative Law (vol. 1-current in Law Periodicals; also available online through HeinOnline, Westlaw, Lexis, and Business Source Complete)</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Journal of Comparative Law: Published by the American Society of Comparative Law (vol. 1-current in Law Periodicals; also available online through HeinOnline, Westlaw, and Lexis)</td>
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International and Comparative Law Quarterly: Published by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law (vol.1-current in Law Periodicals; also available online through Hein Online, OhioLINK EJC, Lexis, and Academic Search Complete)

To find other print and electronic journals on these topics, you can do a subject search for administrative law periodicals or comparative law periodicals in POLAR.

**Primary Sources**

Primary sources such as regulations, statutes, and foreign laws are also an important part of comparative administrative law research. These primary sources are available in a variety of places.

**Regulations:** Administrative regulations are very similar to statutes, except they are produced by administrative agencies (e.g. the Environmental Protection Agency—EPA) instead of legislatures. There are two main sources for U.S. federal administrative regulations, the Federal Register (FR) and the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

- **Federal Register (FR):** The official daily publication for the Rules, Proposed Rules, and Notices of federal agencies and organizations, as well as Executive Orders and other Presidential Documents. The Federal Register is also the place to find agency contact information. The Federal Register has monthly and annual indexes in print to find materials by agency or subject. **GS 4.107—Law Documents (North).**

  A good source for detailed information on the Federal Register is:


  The Federal Register is also available online in the following places:
  - HeinOnline: exact page images from volumes and annual indexes, 1936-present
  - Lexis: 1936-present (FEDREG database)
  - Westlaw: 1936-present (FR-ALL database)

- **Code of Federal Regulations (CFR):** Codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the federal government. The CFR is organized into 50 titles, which represent broad subject areas. Regulations concerning public lands, for example, are contained in Title 43 of the CFR. The CFR publishes its own index, and there is now a multi-volume index to the CFR published by West. **GS 4.108—Law Documents (North)**

  The CFR is available online in the following places:
  - HeinOnline: exact page images from 1938-present
• **Agency Documents**: Documents of state and federal administrative agencies may also be useful sources in your research. The law library has collections of selected federal government documents in print, microform, and online formats. They can be found by searching POLAR by keyword, title, or author (by using the specific agency or department name as the author—e.g., United States Department of Agriculture). Government documents in print and microform can be found on the north side of the library.

Some agency documents and decisions can be found online. One good source for finding agency decisions online is through the University of Virginia Library at [http://www.lib.virginia.edu/govdocs/fed_decisions_agency.html](http://www.lib.virginia.edu/govdocs/fed_decisions_agency.html). Lexis and Westlaw also have databases of agency documents.

• **State Regulations**: The administrative regulations of state agencies are usually organized in a similar manner to federal regulations. Ohio regulations are codified in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). For example, regulations for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources can be found in Chapter 1501 of the OAC. *Baldwin’s Ohio Administrative Code* is an annotated version of the OAC, and is available in print in the Reading Room and in the Ohio section on the south side of the library. Online annotated versions of the OAC are available on Lexis and Westlaw, and an unannotated version can be found at [http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/](http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/).

**U.S. Statutes**: Conducting U.S. statutory research in the United States Code (USC) may also be helpful. Arranged topically with 51 titles, there are two annotated versions of the USC, *United States Code Annotated* (USCA—burgundy in color) and *United States Code Service* (USCS—black). These annotated codes provide citations to relevant regulations related to individual statutes.

Statutes may be found by using the index volumes at the end of the set to find what you need, or there are volumes listing acts by popular name (Violence Against Women Act, etc.) We keep copies of both the USCA and USCS in the Law South stacks and they are also available on Westlaw (USCA) and Lexis (USCS).

**Foreign Law**: Researching comparative administrative law requires the ability to find foreign law from a variety of jurisdictions. Some sources to help you get started include:

- *Constitutions of the Countries of the World*. Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.: Oceana, 1971-.
  
  K 3157.A2 B58—Law North

  

**GlobaLex**: A wide variety of research guides on the laws of individual countries, as well as guides on international and comparative law. Available through the NYU School of Law at [http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/index.html](http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/index.html)
Global Legal Information Network (GLIN): Public database of laws, regulations, judicial decisions, and other complementary legal sources contributed by governmental agencies and international organizations. Some full-text availability; documents in English and other languages. Available at http://www.glin.gov/

Government Gazettes Online: Provides links and descriptions of official gazettes for countries worldwide. Also includes a bibliography. Available at http://www-personal.umich.edu/~graceyor/doctemp/gazettes/index.htm


WashLaw Foreign and International Web: Provides links to primary foreign and international legal resources, organized by subject, author, and country. Available through the Washburn University School of Law at http://www.washlaw.edu/forint/index.html

World Constitutions Illustrated: Contemporary and historical constitutions for the countries of the world in original language and English versions, as well as books, periodicals, and related resources. Available through HeinOnline at http://heinonline.org/HOL/Index?collection=cow

You can also search POLAR by keyword or subject for foreign legal materials. For example, to find books on French law, you can search using the keywords “law and France” or by the subject “Law—France.”

Selected Links to Comparative and Administrative Law Websites

- When using the Internet for research, be sure to carefully evaluate the websites you are using to determine how authoritative they are and any potential bias they may have on the topic you are researching.

Administrative Codes and Registers Section: Provided by the National Association of Secretaries of State, this website contains links to the administrative registers and codified regulations of all 50 states. http://www.administrativerules.org/

Administrative Law Guide: Produced by the Law Library of Congress, this online guide provides an overview of administrative law, as well as information on Presidential and Executive Branch material, agency-specific material, and frequently asked questions. http://www.loc.gov/law/help/administrative.php

Administrative Law—Wex: Produced by the Legal Information Institute at Cornell University Law School, this website provides an overview of administrative law, as well as links to federal, state, and other materials on the topic. http://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/Administrative_law
American Society of Comparative Law (ASCL): Organization dedicated to study, research, and writing on foreign, comparative, and private international law subjects. Website contains information on the organization itself as well as links to a variety of resources.  
http://www.comparativelaw.org/

Comparative Administrative Law Initiative: Program sponsored by Yale Law School; website features a blog, reading lists, and links to other sources.  
http://www.law.yale.edu/intellectualife/compadlaw.htm

FDSys: Official service provided by the U.S. Government Printing Office. Contains online versions of the Federal Register and Code of Federal Regulations, as well as presidential documents, and a variety of other executive branch publications.  
http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/

Sigma Programme: Joint program created by the OECD and the EU to improve government administration. Contains a collection of European civil service laws in English, especially for countries in Central and Eastern Europe.  
http://www.sigmaweb.org

World Legal Information Institute (World LII): Contains a collection of freely available full-text databases of primary sources for several countries, as well as a catalog of links to lists of resources. The site can be browsed by country, region, or subject.  
http://www.worldlii.org/

Writing Resources

Once you have finished researching your topic, you may want help in writing your paper. Listed below are some resources at the Taggart Law Library to assist you with questions you may have about writing in general and legal writing specifically.

Style Guides and Citation Manuals

ALWD Citation Manual: A Professional System of Citation, 4th ed. Association of Legal Writing Directors and Darby Dickerson.  
KF 245.A45 2010—Law Reference

KF 245.U54 2010—Law Reserve and Law Reference (multiple copies)


The Elements of Legal Style, 2nd ed. Bryan A. Garner.  
KF 250.G37 2002—Law North and Law Reference

Writing Guides

KF 250.V6 2010—Law Reserve (multiple copies) and Law Reference

KF 250.C45 2007—Law North and Law Reserve

Effective Legal Writing: For Law Students and Lawyers, 5th ed. Gertrude Block.
KF 250.B6 1999—Law Reserve

Elements of Legal Writing. Martha Faulk and Irving M. Mehler.
KF 250.F38 1994—Law North (also available as an e-Book in POLAR)

KF 250.N48 2009—Law Reserve

KF 250.F35 2011—Law Reserve and Law Reference

If you have more questions or need more help after looking at this research guide, please stop by the law library reference desk. Our librarians are ready to assist you with your research!