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ISRAEL

TRANSLATION OF NATIONAL LEGISLATION INTO ENGLISH

All Israeli laws and subsidiary legislation as well as court decisions are published in Hebrew. English translations of Israeli legal sources are very limited and generally outdated. Except for free online government sources, subscriptions are required for up-to-date legal databases. This report highlights useful legal sources for research in Israeli law.

I. Official Publications

Reshumot (Official Journal) is the main source for all legislative and administrative actions. It is published continuously in Hebrew by the *Reshumot* government printer in Jerusalem and includes the following:

- SEFER HA-HUKIM [BOOK OF LAWS] (1949–), LC Call No. KMK13 .I87.
- DINE MEDINAT YISRAEL: NUSAH HADASH [LAWS OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL: NEW VERSION] (1954–), LC Call No. KMK13 .I86 (revised and updated Hebrew text of the legislation enacted before the establishment of the State).

II. Court Reporters

The following civil court reporters were published by the Israel Bar Association prior to 1999, and have been published by the Nevo Press Ltd. since then:

- PISKE DIN [DECISIONS OF THE ISRAELI SUPREME COURT] (1948–), LC Call No. KMK18.A2 I87.
- PESAKIM SHEL BATE HA-MISHPAT HA-MEHOZIYIM BE-YISRAEL [DECISIONS OF THE DISTRICT COURTS OF ISRAEL] (1948–), LC Call No. KMK20.A2 P472.

III. Translations of Laws

Most primary legislation dating back to 1948 has been made available in English by the Ministry of Justice, in the following authorized translations:

- LAWS OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL (1948–), LC Call No. KMK 13 .I8713. This publication includes most laws and amendments. The latest volume published appears to be 1989–1990. There is also a special volume titled Penal Law (1977).
- LAWS OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL: NEW VERSION (1967–), LC Call No. KMK 13 .I874. This publication is an English edition of the revised text of pre-State legislation in three volumes; the latest was published in 1981.

IV. Translations of Court Decisions

A limited number of leading decisions by the Supreme Court of Israel are available in English, as follows:

- SELECTED JUDGMENTS OF THE SUPREME COURT OF ISRAEL (1962–1996), LC Call No. KMK18.A2 I854. This ten-volume publication, covering judgments through 1993, includes a full text of a list of selected decisions that had great impact on the Israeli legal system and on its constitutional law. It also includes a special volume covering 1962–1969.
- ISRAEL LAW REPORTS (1992–), LC Call No. KMK18.A2 I85. This publication is a continuation of *Selected Judgments of the Supreme Court of Israel* that provides English translations of the most important recent judgments issued by the Supreme Court of Israel. Although the foreword for the 1992–1994 volume announced that the intention of the publishers was to publish three to four volumes each year, only fifteen volumes have been published since then, with the last volume published in 2006 (each volume covers either one or two years).

V. Online Resources

Although some legal materials are made available online, all governmental websites include a disclaimer that in case of a discrepancy between the online version and the official print version, the latter version is binding. Key online sources include the following:

- *Reshumot*, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, <http://www.justice.gov.il/MOJHeb/Reshumot/>. This website contains various legal sources, including *Sefer Ha-Hukim*, from June 2005 to date. Although it offers some information in English, it does not contain translations of laws.
- THE KNESSET (Israel's Parliament), <http://www.knesset.gov.il/main/heb/home.asp> (in Hebrew). This website contains the full text of laws from *Reshumot*, as well as of those laws approved after final reading. The English version of the site, <http://www.knesset.gov.il/main/eng/home.asp>, offers a limited number of translations of Basic Laws and of “Laws of Special Interest.”
- THE STATE OF ISRAEL: THE JUDICIAL AUTHORITY, <http://www.court.gov.il/heb/home.htm> (in Hebrew). This website provides the full text of all Supreme Court decisions; the English site, <http://elyon1.court.gov.il/verdictssearch/englishverdictssearch.aspx>, offers translations of a limited number of leading Supreme Court decisions.