

## LAW LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

### SELECTED INTERNATIONAL COURTS AND TRIBUNALS: ONLINE SOURCES OF TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH

This report includes selected websites of major international courts and tribunals, hybrid courts, and regional courts that provide databases of their case law as well as other judicial information, much of which is in English.

#### I. International Courts and Tribunals

##### A. Courts

- INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE, <http://www.icj-cij.org/homepage/index.php?&lang=en> (in English and French). The ICJ, also called the World Court, provides on its home page separate links to Pending Cases, List of All Cases, and Advisory Proceedings, as well as Judgments, Advisory Opinions, and Orders by Chronological Order.
- INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT, <http://www.icc-cpi.int/Menus/ICC?lan=en-GB> (in English and French). The ICC, seated in The Hague, is an independent body that is not part of the United Nations system; it is governed by the Rome Statute, a treaty joined by 120 countries as of February 2012.<sup>1</sup> In the Basic Legal Texts section the ICC website makes available *The Official Journal of the ICC*, which contains the Rome Statute and various court-related regulations, and the Legal Tools Project database. This database contains, among other documents, international legal instruments, documents related to international criminal jurisdictions (such as Nuremberg and Allied tribunals in occupied Germany, Tokyo, and the Far East, and the International Criminal Tribunal of Yugoslavia), international criminal judgments, documents of national jurisdictions (e.g., constitutions and codes of criminal law and procedure, national implementing legislation (for which there is a National Implementing Legislation Database, searchable by keywords from a list of “main keywords,” or by jurisdiction), national cases involving core international crimes, and human rights decisions.<sup>2</sup>

In the National Implementing Legislation Database, links to individual states’ criminal codes or parts thereof, in the vernacular and/or English translation, are provided. A search using a keyword from the main keyword list, such as “provisional

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<sup>1</sup> *About the Court*, INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT, <http://www.icc-cpi.int/Menus/ICC/About+the+Court/> (last visited Mar. 5, 2012).

<sup>2</sup> *Browse the Tools*, INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT, <http://www.legal-tools.org/en/go-to-database/> (last visited Mar. 5, 2012).

arrest,” yields citation of the relevant provision(s) of the Rome Statute and a list of states that have relevant implementing provisions and links to those provisions.

## B. Tribunals

- INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA (ITLOS), <http://www.itlos.org/index.php?id=2&L=0> (in English and French). Provides cases (nineteen submitted thus far; for three of them, Webcam live streaming is available); basic texts, e.g., the Statute of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (Annex VI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea) and the Rules of the Tribunal (ITLOS/8), as amended on March 17, 2009; and links to other international organizations.
- INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA (ICTY), <http://www.icty.org/>. The Cases section of the website “provides the indictments, judgements, transcripts, as well as key decisions and orders from each case,” arranged under tabs reflecting the stage of proceedings (pretrial, trial, appeal, completed, and transferred).<sup>3</sup> ICTY COURT RECORDS, <http://icr.icty.org/>, is an online searchable database of “more than 190,000 public records, ranging from arrest warrants, motions, exhibits, through to the final appeal judgement in every case,” from 1994 onward.<sup>4</sup>
- INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA (ICTR), <http://www.unictr.org/>. The Cases section of the website provides information on the status of cases, the status of detainees, persons awaiting trial, cases in progress, cases on appeal, and completed cases, to name but a few of the categories. The Legal section includes relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions, the Statute of the Tribunal, Rules of Procedure and Evidence, etc.
- THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO), <http://www.wto.org/>. The Dispute Settlement subsection of the Trade Topics section of the WTO website, [http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/dispu\\_e/dispu\\_e.htm#disputes](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/dispu_e.htm#disputes), links to material on disputes in general and their handling by the WTO and its Dispute Settlement Body, new negotiations on the Dispute Settlement Understanding, and individual dispute cases. The WTO Terminology Database, WTOTERM, is a regularly updated database for translators that has terminology of the WTO in its three official languages (English, French, and Spanish); at present it has 10,000 terms (go to <http://wtoterm.wto.org/multiterm/index.mto?locale=en>, click the Select box, and hit OK to enter the database).

## C. Hybrid Courts

- THE HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY PANEL, <http://www.unmikonline.org/hrap/Eng/Pages/default.aspx>. The three-member panel “examines complaints of alleged human rights

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<sup>3</sup> *The Cases*, ICTY, <http://www.icty.org/action/cases/4> (last visited Mar. 5, 2012).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

violations committed by or attributable to the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and makes recommendations to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) in Kosovo when appropriate.”<sup>5</sup> Cases lodged from 2006 through 2010 are listed both by number and alphabetically by complainant name.<sup>6</sup>

- THE SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE, <http://www.sc-sl.org/>. The Special Court for Sierra Leone, set up jointly by the Government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations, is mandated to try persons responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law and Sierra Leonean law committed in the territory of Sierra Leone since November 30, 1996.<sup>7</sup> The Cases section of the website includes a court records documenting system (only for authorized users) and a list of cases that have been concluded (with links to decisions, judgments, transcripts, etc.).<sup>8</sup>
- EXTRAORDINARY CHAMBERS IN THE COURTS OF CAMBODIA, <http://www.eccc.gov.kh/en>. The Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia for the Prosecution of Crimes Committed During the Period of Democratic Kampuchea (ECCC) was created by Cambodian law and based on an agreement between the Cambodian government and the United Nations to try serious crimes committed during the Khmer Rouge regime (1975–1979).<sup>9</sup>

The Caseload section of the website covers four cases. The webpage for each case contains a description of the case and links to related news items. There is also a link, before the news section of the page, to court documents. The Legal Documents section of the website also has a list of court documents, but has a search feature whereby the cases are searchable by date, defendant name, chamber, and filings, and there are additional browsing options in a separate column on the right side of the page.

## II. Regional Courts

### A. Europe

- EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, [http://www.echr.coe.int/ECHR/Homepage\\_EN](http://www.echr.coe.int/ECHR/Homepage_EN). The website contains, among other information, links to the European Convention on Human Rights, case law, reports, and pending cases. Decisions and

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<sup>5</sup> *About Us*, THE HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY PANEL, <http://www.unmikonline.org/hrap/Eng/Pages/default.aspx> (last visited Mar. 5, 2012).

<sup>6</sup> *HRAP Cases*, THE HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY PANEL, <http://www.unmikonline.org/hrap/Eng/Pages/Cases.aspx> (last visited Mar. 5, 2012); *see also Regulation 64 Panels in the Courts of Kosovo*, IRIN, <http://www.irinnews.org/InDepthMain.aspx?InDepthId=7&ReportId=59472> (last visited Mar. 5, 2012).

<sup>7</sup> *Cases*, THE SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE, <http://www.sc-sl.org/CASES/tabid/71/Default.aspx> (last visited Mar. 6, 2012).

<sup>8</sup> *See also The Special Court for Sierra Leone*, IRIN, <http://www.irinnews.org/InDepthMain.aspx?InDepthId=7&ReportId=59469> (last visited Mar. 5, 2012).

<sup>9</sup> *Introduction to the ECCC*, EXTRAORDINARY CHAMBERS IN THE COURTS OF CAMBODIA, <http://www.eccc.gov.kh/en/about-eccc/introduction> (last visited Mar. 6, 2006).

judgments of the Court are found in its HUDOC database, searchable at <http://www.echr.coe.int/ECHR/EN/Header/Case-Law/Decisions+and+judgments/HUDOC+database/>.

- COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, <http://curia.europa.eu/>. The judicial institution of the European Union and of the European Atomic Energy Community, the Court comprises three judicial bodies: the Court of Justice, the General Court, and the Civil Service Tribunal. The home page of the English-language website has a case-law search form to search for a specific case as well as the option to view the most recent judgments and opinions of each of the three bodies.

The Case-Law section of the website provides access to the InfoCuria case-law database, searchable by case status, court, case number, and subject matter, among other options. The Library and Documentation section of the website has a link to a National Case-Law database (in English and French) and to Legal Information of European Union Interest, among other links. The latter includes a link to COURTS OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, [http://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo2\\_7231/](http://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo2_7231/), a work of more than seven hundred pages in French, describing the court systems of each of the twenty-seven EU Member States as of January 1, 2007; organizational diagrams are also provided for each jurisdiction's court system.

- EUROPEAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (EFTA) COURT, <http://www.eftacourt.int/>. The EFTA Court has jurisdiction over EFTA States that are parties to the European Economic Area (EEA) Agreement—currently Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway. The Court is comprised of three judges representing each of the state parties. The website's Cases section is divided into Pending Cases and Decided Cases; a number of the case judgments are available in English translation.

## B. Americas

- INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, <http://www.corteidh.or.cr/index.cfm?&CFID=2020&CFTOKEN=49355178>. The Inter-American Court of Human Rights (*La Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos*) website is in Spanish, although there is a (currently inoperative) link to an English version on the home page. The section on cases (*Jurisprudencia*) covers cases in contention, provisional measures, supervised implementation of sentences, and advisory opinions. Translations into English of a number of cases of the Court are available at WORLDCOURTS, <http://www.worldcourts.com/iacthr/eng/index.htm>, a database of case law from international judicial and quasi-judicial bodies.
- *Jurisprudencia*, COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE ANDEAN COMMUNITY, [http://www.tribunalandino.org.ec/index.php?option=com\\_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=67](http://www.tribunalandino.org.ec/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=67). A searchable database of cases offered on the website of the Court of Justice of the Andean Community (*Tribunal de Justicia de la Comunidad Andina*). The Andean Community includes Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela.
- CENTRAL AMERICAN COURT OF JUSTICE, <http://portal.ccej.org.ni/CCJ2/Default.aspx?tabid=56>. The website of the Central American Court of Justice (*Corte*

*Centroamericana de Justicia*) is in Spanish only. Its section on case law (*Jurisprudencia*) has links to documents, decisions, regulations, conventions, and opinions, among other material. The CEDOC (*Centro de Documentación e Información de la Corte Centroamericana de Justicia*) section of the website has links to the Court official gazette, the Court bulletin, and other information (<http://portal.ccj.org.ni/ccj2/CeDoc/tabid/60/Default.aspx>), all in Spanish. However, translations into English of seven cases of the CACJ are available at WORLDCOURTS, <http://www.worldcourts.com/cacj/eng/index.htm>.

- CARIBBEAN COURT OF JUSTICE (CCJ), <http://www.caribbeancourtsofjustice.org/old/default.htm> (in English). Among the various sections of the website, the Judgments section provides access to judgments in reverse chronological order; the Recordings section has links to audio/video case material, and annual reports are available in the Annual Reports section (the 2008–2009 and 2009–2010 reports provide an organizational chart of the CCJ). The Court Library section is currently under construction. Sixty CCJ decisions are also available at WORLDCOURTS, <http://www.worldcourts.com/ccj/eng/index.htm>.

### C. Africa

- THE AFRICAN COURT OF JUSTICE.<sup>10</sup> Not yet operational, but documentation on the Court is available at *The African Court of Justice*, AFRICAN UNION, [http://www.africa-union.org/root/au/organs/court\\_of\\_justice\\_en.htm](http://www.africa-union.org/root/au/organs/court_of_justice_en.htm)
- AFRICAN COURT OF HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS (AFCHPR), <http://www.african-court.org/en/>. The AfCHPR website can be viewed in Arabic, English, French, and Portuguese. The Cases section has links to judgments and orders, pending cases, procedures for submission of cases to the Court, and the case application form. Court activity reports (for the years 2006 and 2007) are in the Publications section.
- THE EAST AFRICAN COURT OF JUSTICE, <http://www.eacj.org/>. The Case-Law section of the website has links to judgments, other rulings, advisory opinions, arbitration awards, and taxation rulings (accessible via a drop-down menu at left side of the home page).
- ECOWAS COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE, <http://www.courtecowas.org/site/index.php?lang=en> (in English, French, and Portuguese). The Community Court of Justice was created in 1991 pursuant to the Revised Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).<sup>11</sup> The Cases section of the Court's website, listed on the left side of the home page, has links to decided cases that cover the years 2004–2009. The Publication section has a link to a court activities report for 2011, and volume 57 (2011) of the Court's *Official Journal* is also available there.

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<sup>10</sup> *ACJ: African Court of Justice*, AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL COURTS AND TRIBUNALS, [http://www.aicta.org/courts\\_conti/acj/acj\\_home.html](http://www.aicta.org/courts_conti/acj/acj_home.html) (last visited Mar. 6, 2012).

<sup>11</sup> *About Us*, ECOWAS COMMUNITY COURT OF JUSTICE, [http://www.courtecowas.org/site/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2&Itemid=5&lang=en](http://www.courtecowas.org/site/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2&Itemid=5&lang=en) (last visited Mar. 6, 2012).

#### **D. Asia**

There are not yet regional courts in Asia that resemble their counterparts in other areas of the world. As one commentator has noted,

The absence of regional judicial institutions in Asia is one of the most striking differences between its regional economic integration projects and those elsewhere. While Asia has no active standing regional court, Europe, Latin America, and Africa each have at least four active regional courts that have issued thousands of legally binding judgments. . . . About 90% of these judgments have come since 1990. . . .<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Erik Voeten, *Regional Judicial Institutions and Economic Cooperation: Lessons for Asia?* 16 (Asia Development Bank, Working Paper Series on Regional Economic Integration, Paper No. 65, Nov. 2010), [http://aric.adb.org/pdf/working\\_paper/WP65\\_Voeten\\_Regional\\_Judicial\\_Institutions.pdf](http://aric.adb.org/pdf/working_paper/WP65_Voeten_Regional_Judicial_Institutions.pdf).