

Selected Resources on Chinese Legal Research

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RESEARCH GUIDES - Research guides summarize and describe print and online resources available for researching Chinese legal issues. These guides will typically identify both Chinese and English resources:

Chinese Law and Legal Research by Wei Luo

Published by W.S. Hein, 2005

This book, published by Wei Luo of Washington University School of Law Library, is a comprehensive treatment of how to research Chinese law. It is required reading for those serious about researching in the Chinese legal field. It covers print and online resources and provides background on the legal system, court system and legislation.

Chinese Legal Research at the University of Washington

<http://lib.law.washington.edu/eald/clr/cres.html>

This online research guide, authored by Bill McCloy of the Gallagher Law Library, gives an overview of finding Chinese legal materials in print and online at the University of Washington Gallagher Law Library. It covers statutes, regulations, cases, periodicals, news, commercial databases and Web resources. It also includes pointers on how to display Chinese characters on the Web and in email and discusses Chinese search engines and other research strategies. (Last updated January 2006).

A Complete Research Guide to the Laws of the People's Republic of China (PRC)

<http://www.llrx.com/features/prc.htm>

"Chinese law experts Wei Luo and Joan Liu's extensively documented guide details the major print, online and CD-ROM sources on the PRC's legal system, case law, primary and secondary sources, commercial database services, periodicals, directories, government agency Web sites, and also evaluates the authority of these resources." (Excerpt from the Web site.) Other useful features of this research guide include the history of the Chinese legal system, information on Hong Kong and Macau and a detailed evaluation of each online and print resource with the advantages and disadvantages of using each resource for Chinese legal research. (Published January 2003).

Finding Chinese Law on the Internet

<http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/China.htm>

Joan Liu of New York University School of Law Library discusses the Chinese legal system, details online resources and provides a research strategy. (Published in February 2005).

Internet Chinese Legal Research Center

<http://ls.wustl.edu/Chinalaw/>

This Web site, maintained by Wei Luo of Washington University School of Law Library, provides annotated links to legal resources in China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. It covers laws, news, and government sites and has a helpful explanation on how to update statutes. Additionally, it contains links to Chinese Law courses in North American law schools and Chinese Law summer study courses abroad.

Judicial Information of the People's Republic of China: A Survey

<http://www.llrx.com/features/chinajudicial.htm>

“Zhai Jianxiong, a librarian at the National Library of China, details his country's judicial system (both the higher and provincial courts), along with providing trial statistics. In addition, he surveys his country's range of legal publications as well as highlighting Web sites for legal researchers in English and Chinese.” (Excerpt from the Web site) A comprehensive overview of the court structure and judiciary in China with useful information on lower court publications and Web sites. (Published October 2002).

Research Guide on China

http://www.law.harvard.edu/library/services/research/guides/international/web_resources/foreignC.php#China

This online guide from Harvard Law Library has an annotated listing of useful Web sites and online databases for legal research on China, Hong Kong and Macau. It also lists Web sites by topic.

Web Resources for Chinese Law

<http://www.library.ubc.ca/law/chineselaw.html>

Compiled by University of British Columbia Library, this annotated directory points to Web sites related to the law of China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

LINKS – Links are listings of useful Web sites without commentary or annotations.

ABA China Committee Internet Links

http://www.abanet.org/intlaw/committees/africa_eurasia/china/links.shtml

The ABA China Law Committee's comprehensive collection of links include: Chinese government, non-governmental organizations, academic, US government as well as Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau.

Melbourne's Asian Law Centre Links: China

http://www.law.unimelb.edu.au/db/useful_links/alc/ListURLs.cfm?Level2=17

University of Melbourne's Asian Law Centre has arranged its collection of Chinese legal links by topic.

DATABASES – Online databases typically charge a subscription fee for access and can include laws, regulations and cases. For information on Chinese law databases, check out: Guide to Foreign and International Legal Databases – China http://www.law.nyu.edu/library/foreign_intl/china.html prepared by NYU Law Library. The main online databases for Chinese law include:

- Chinalawinfo <http://www.chinalawinfo.com/index.asp>
- China Law Reference Service Online <http://www.clrsonline.com/>
- Isinolaw <http://www.isinolaw.com/isinolaw/index.jsp>

LIST SERVS – Email discussion groups are a great way to keep up with legal developments.

ABA China Committee Listserv

<http://www.abanet.org/abanet/common/email/listserv/listcommands.cfm?parm=subscribe&listgroup=INTCHINALAW>

Monitor Chinese law activities and committee initiatives.

Chinalaw List

<http://donaldclarke.net/chinalaw/>

Administered by Law Professor Donald Clarke, the China Law List is “an electronic discussion group devoted to issues of modern Chinese law. While it is intended that the law of the People's Republic of China will be the main focus, postings relating to other Chinese jurisdictions or to Chinese legal history are also welcome. All persons with an interest in Chinese law are welcome to subscribe.” (Excerpt from the Web site.) This list serv is worth monitoring for discussions about new legal developments as well as clarifications on legal issues. Academics, practitioners and librarians in the Chinese law field respond to queries and analyze Chinese law.

BLOGS – Blogs are personal Web sites that provide updated information and commentary on a particular topic.

China Law Blog

<http://www.chinalawblog.com/>

Contains up-to-date postings on Chinese business law. This is a good resource for keeping up on China-related postings from other blogs. The blog is maintained by Dan Harris and Steve Dickenson of Harris & Moure, an international law firm.

Chinese Law Professors Blog

http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/china_law_prof_blog/

Law professor Donald Clarke edits this blog which contains up-to-date postings of reports and publications, research resources, employment opportunities, internships and fellowships and conferences related to Chinese law. Readers can subscribe to the blog for updates and post responses and comments.

ARTICLES - For a listing of selected journal articles on Chinese law (in English) by topic from 2004 and 2005, check out my bibliography on the ABA China Committee Web site: http://www.abanet.org/intlaw/committees/africa_eurasia/china/bibliography.shtml. For more recent selected articles, see the Items of Interest section in the China Law

Reporter on the ABA China Committee Web site:
<http://www.abanet.org/dch/committee.cfm?com=IC860000>.

BOOKS – For a listing of selected books in English on specific aspects of Chinese law from 2004 and 2005, see my bibliography on the ABA China Committee Web site http://www.abanet.org/intlaw/committees/africa_eurasia/china/bibliography.shtml. For more recent selected books, see the Items of Interest section in the China Law Reporter on the ABA China Committee Web site:
<http://www.abanet.org/dch/committee.cfm?com=IC860000>. Here are some recent books on the Chinese legal system in general:

Bird in a Cage: legal reform in China after Mao, by Stanley Lubman, Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1999.

China Law Deskbook: a legal guide for foreign-invested enterprises, by James M. Zimmerman, Chicago, IL: ABA Section of International Law, 2005.

China's Long March toward Rule of Law, by Randall Peerenboom, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Chinese Law, edited by Wang Guiguo and John Mo, Boston: Kluwer Law International, 1999.

Chinese Law and Legal Research, by Wei Luo, Buffalo, NY: W.S. Hein, 2005.

Chinese Law and Legal Theory, edited by Perry Keller, Burlington, VT: Ashgate/Dartmouth, 2001.

Chinese Law: towards an understanding of Chinese law, its nature, and development, by Jianfu Chen, Boston: Kluwer Law International, 1999.

The Chinese Legal system: globalization and local legal culture, by Pitman B. Potter, New York: Routledge, 2001.

An Introduction to the Legal System of the People's Republic of China, by Albert Hung-yee Chen, Hong Kong: Lexis/Nexis, 2004.

The Legal System of the People's Republic of China in a Nutshell, by Daniel C.K. Chow, St. Paul, MN: Thomson West, 2003.

Understanding China's Legal System: essays in honor of Jerome A. Cohen, edited by Stephen C. Hsu, New York: New York University, 2003.