

Introduction: Use of electronic information resources

This guide highlights some of the most important general reference resources available both in hardcopy in the University Library and via our electronic subscriptions.

Access from outside the University Network (the .cam domain) will require use of a Raven password. These are available to current staff and students of Cambridge University.

General reference

CUL classmark/URL

Holler, Frederick L.

Information sources of political science. 4th ed.

R206:5.7

Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-Clío Information Services, c1985.

Annotated citations of printed and online reference works in political science and related social sciences. Covers general references; American government, politics and public law; international relations and organisations; comparative government and area studies; political theory; public administration. Includes indices for author, title, subject and typology.

Dictionaries

Krieger, Joel (editor in chief)

The Oxford companion to politics of the world. 2nd ed.

R206.3

Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.

650 articles covering international relations and national domestic politics worldwide, with emphasis on post-1945 events. Most articles conclude with cross-references and sources.

Bibliographies, indexes

ESRC Data Archive catalogue. 2 vols.

R200:5.160

Cambridge: Chadwyck-Healey, 1986.

The *ESRC data archive* aims to support research by supplying computer readable social and economic data for secondary analysis. The catalogue gives bibliographical details of surveys, reports, etc. providing that data.

ESRC Data Archive. Bulletin. 1982-2000.

OP.1100.206.011

Provides details of selected new deposits into the *Data Archive*, a regular update to the serials holdings and a number of feature articles.

Now available online

<http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/>

Social sciences citation index.

Philadelphia: Institute for Scientific Information.

1970 to date - available online through **Web of Science**

<http://wok.mimas.ac.uk/>

via eresources@cambridge

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

Raven password required.

A multidisciplinary index to the journal literature of the behavioural and social sciences. More than 1,400 periodical titles are covered, with selected relevant items from a further 3,100 physical and natural science titles. Non-journal literature, such as conference literature or books, is not included. The *Social Sciences Citation Index* enables you to search for papers which have referenced a known paper or other work.

International bibliography of political sciences. 1952-. Annual. P206.c.77
 Also available online as *International bibliography of the social sciences (IBSS)*. Weekly. Raven password required. <http://www.bids.ac.uk/>

Although basic coverage of IBSS is of four central disciplines – anthropology, economics, politics and sociology, the scope is extremely broad and includes book reviews. It indexes more than 2,000 journal titles and more than 8,000 books each year and is especially strong in international coverage and in references to non-English material.

Public Affairs Information Service (PAIS) bulletin. 1967-1990. R200.19
 New York: Public Affairs Information Service.
 Continues as *PAIS International in print*.

PAIS International in print: a selective list of the latest books, periodical articles, Government documents, pamphlets, microfiche, and reports of public and private agencies relating to business, economics and social conditions, public policy and administration, and international relations. R200:5.20
 1991-. Monthly.
 New York: Public Affairs Information Service.
 Previously titled *Public Affairs Information Service bulletin*.

Indexes c. 3,000 periodicals published in English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. With frequent cumulations and wide coverage of material, this is a major indexing service for the social sciences.

International bibliography, information documentation. 1973-1990. OPR.8.124-

UK government

British parliamentary papers. 1801-. [Official Publications]
 Index available on CD-ROM as *Index to House of Commons Parliamentary Papers*. Quarterly.

The full text of the *House of Commons Parliamentary Papers* from 1715 to the present is available via eresources@cambridge
<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

The *House of Commons Parliamentary Papers Index* contains the first cumulative index of all House of Commons Parliamentary Papers (i.e. Bills, Papers and Command Papers) published from 1801 to the current decade. It draws together material from Chadwyck Healey's Subject Catalogue of the House of Commons Parliamentary Papers 1801-1900, the House of Commons decennial indexes covering the period 1900-1979 and data from the Parliamentary Online Information Service (POLIS) database from 1979 onwards.

British Official Publications Collaborative Reader Information Service (BOPCRIS). <http://www.bopcris.ac.uk/>
 Available online

BOPCRIS focuses on around 23,000 key official documents – primarily Parliamentary – published 1688-1995; abstracts are provided. These documents were originally selected for inclusion in the internationally known hard-copy "Ford lists and Breviates". These lists are available at OPR.2.70-.

The full text of the *Eighteenth Century Parliamentary Publications* 1688-1839 is available via eresources@cambridge
<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

Hansard House of Commons & House of Lords Debates. 3 times p.a. <http://www.parliament.uk/hansard/hansard.cfm>
 Available online

Features include separate section of MPs' profiles: name, constituency, party, portfolio. No members' profiles or division lists in Hansard House of Lords. Subjects covered: Debates (oral and written answers) of the House of Commons and House of Lords, division lists, members' profiles.

EU and inter-governmental organisations

European access. 1980-2002. OPR.3.02

A bibliographical guide to the development, activities and policies of the European Community. Includes some extended bibliographical essays. No longer current but still very valuable.

Thomson, Ian

The documentation of the European Communities: a guide.

OPR.3.235

London: Mansell, 1989.

Describes the many publicly available printed documents, many in series, that emanate from the Community. Also includes information on the structure of all its institutions. Appendices cover such topics as EC information centres and depository libraries.

European Commission Libraries Catalogue (ECLAS).

Available online

<http://europa.eu.int/eclas/>

A bibliographic database consisting of ca. 200 000 completed catalogue records on European affairs.

UN and other international resources

Publications issued by the League of Nations. 1920-1945. OPR.8.5

United Nations documents index (UNDOC). 1947-. OPR.8.9-; OPR.8.02

The complete reference guide to United Nations sales publications. 1946-1978. 2 vols. OPR.8.272-

United Nations Treaty collection.

Available online. Password required.

<http://untreaty.un.org/>

Includes information about the status of multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary General, the United Nations Treaty Series, the text of recently deposited multilateral treaties, photographs of treaty signature ceremonies and titles of the multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General in the UN official languages.

UNBIS (UN Bibliographic Information System). 1975-.

Quarterly.

<http://unbisnet.un.org/>

Available online

Bibliographic database of the United Nations, indexed by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library. Format Citations to U.N. documents. Full-text of U.N. resolutions. Voting records for all the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and an index to speech citations, since 1983, agendas. Proprietary software.

Declassified Documents Reference System (DDRS)

Available online.

<http://infotrac.london.galegroup.com/itweb/cambuni>

Contains searchable digitised images of over 70,000 declassified documents from various U.S. government agencies including the White House, the CIA, the FBI, and the State Department. The database ranges from the years immediately following World War II, when declassified documents were first made widely available, through the 1970s. Nearly every major foreign and domestic event of these years is covered: the Cold War, Vietnam, foreign policy shifts, the civil rights movement and others.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) reports.

Reports for the former Soviet Union 1974-1988 (microfiche)

Microfiche OP.144

1988-1996 (hard-copy)

OP.26500.947.01

Superseded by **World News Connection**, available online. Updated continuously.

<http://wnc.dialog.com/>

Provides information from non-U.S. political speeches, television programmes, radio broadcasts, newspaper articles, periodicals and books - all translated into English. The information in *World News Connection*, which is run by the National Technical Information Service, is provided by the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS), a U.S. government agency that monitors news items from around the world.

Statistics

Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Available on the Internet.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>

Official statistics collated and categorised by subject groups. Useful for ascertaining details of printed publications.

Eurostat. Updated daily.

Available on the Internet.

<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/>

Statistical information made publicly available by the EU Statistical Office.

Newspapers & news

The University Library has an excellent collection of contemporary 'quality' newspapers on microfilm. Such titles as *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times* and *The Los Angeles Times* are held along with the major European and British titles. Indexes for most stand in the West Room. For details ask in the Microfilm Reading Room.

The following newspapers and newspaper indices are available electronically in the University Library:

LexisNexis Professional

<http://web.lexis-nexis.com/professional/>

Provides full-text access to a comprehensive range of UK news and international legal, industry and company data. Includes a fully searchable selection of national and major regional newspapers and a range of specialist and general weekly publications, including the *Spectator*, *New Scientist* and *New Statesman*.

Online Newspaper Collections

A number of major newspaper collections, including national, regional, and foreign press, can be found online via eresources@cambridge

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/materials.php>

Times Digital Archive

Researchers can search through the complete digital edition of *The Times* (London), from 1785-1985, using keyword searching and hit-term highlighting to retrieve full facsimile images of either a specific article or a complete page. Available online via eresources@cambridge

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

The Times index. 1790-.

1790-1980 also available online as **Index to The Times, 1790-1980.**

[Personal Athens password required]

1790-1905 also available on CD-ROM as **Palmer's Index to The Times, 1906-1905.**

NPR

<http://edina.ac.uk/times-index/>

BBC Monitoring Global Newslne.

Available online in CUL only.

<http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/globalnews/>

BBC monitoring covers reports from radio, television, news agencies, press and new media in over 150 countries and over 100 languages, providing a distinctive foreign news and information service from open sources.

Internet resources

Intute Social Sciences

<http://www.intute.ac.uk/socialsciences/>

Intute Social Science is an online database of high quality Internet providing access to the very best Web resources for education and research, evaluated and selected by a network of subject specialists. It offers users the chance to read descriptions of resources available over the Internet and to access those resources directly. The catalogue is browsable or searchable by subject area.

The RDN guide for the social sciences

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/subject/socsci/>

Richard Kimber's Political Science Resources.

<http://www.psr.keele.ac.uk/>

This web site contains briefly annotated pointers in more than a dozen political science related categories. Of particular interest is its elections and electoral systems page, with pointers to information in over 50 countries. Richard Kimber, a Lecturer in Politics at the University of Keele (UK), maintains this site.

REGARD. Monthly.

Available online.

<http://www.regard.ac.uk/>

A searchable database of awards which have been granted by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the products or outputs which result from those awards. Once the research begins to produce publications or other outputs, the details of these are added to the database with links to the original award record. Includes researcher's name, institution, funding amount and period as well as an abstract providing details of the aims and objectives of the research. Subject coverage includes economics, social sciences, education, planning, and politics.