

A QUICK-REFERENCE COMPARISON OF LEXIS®LIBRARY AND WESTLAW

Based on IALS Library's subscriptions

	Lexis®Library	Westlaw
Background	UK version launched in 1980 Owned by RELX Group	UK version launched in 2000 Owned by Thomson Reuters
Coverage		
<i>UK legislation and cases</i>	Legislation as amended. Over 50 UK law reports, including <i>The Law Reports</i> , <i>Weekly Law Reports</i> and <i>All England Law Reports</i> . <i>Case Overview</i> : case status, parallel citations, summaries. Transcripts 1980 onwards	Legislation as amended. Over 45 UK law reports, including <i>The Law Reports</i> , <i>Weekly Law Reports</i> , and <i>British Company Cases</i> . <i>Case Analysis</i> : case status, parallel citations, summaries, links to commentary. Transcripts 1967 onwards
<i>UK books and encyclopedias</i>	38 books and encyclopedias, incl. <i>Halsbury's Laws of England</i> , <i>Bennion on Statutory Interpretation</i> and <i>Fraud: Criminal Law and Procedure</i>	Over 250 books and encyclopedias, incl. <i>Chitty on Contracts</i> , <i>Benjamin's Sale of Goods</i> and <i>Palmer's Company Law</i>
<i>UK Journals (+)</i>	Over 120 series, focusing mainly on UK, European & international law <i>Journals Index</i> covers more than 500 journals, newsletters & blogs; includes abstracts; goes back to 1995.	114 series, focusing mainly on UK, European & international law <i>Legal Journals Index</i> covers more than 1000 journals/newsletters; includes abstracts; goes back to 1986.
<i>European Union</i>	EU official publications: legislation, cases, international agreements, COM docs, OJ C, etc. Several commercial publications devoted to EU law, incl. <i>Halsbury's EU Legislation Implementator</i>	EU official publications: legislation, cases, international agreements, COM docs, OJ C, etc. Several commercial publications devoted to EU law, including <i>Common Market Law Reports</i>
<i>United States</i>	Vast collections of legislation and cases, federal and state Over 700 journals A few hundred books	Vast collections of legislation and cases, federal and state Over 1000 journals Over 2,500 books
<i>International law</i>	<i>International Legal Materials</i> (vol.1 -) Treaties; cases; arbitral awards from WTO/GATT and NAFTA. >60 journals focusing on international law (see main Journals page + International Law Review Articles, Combined)	<i>International Legal Materials</i> (vol.19 -) Treaties; cases; arbitral awards from WTO/GATT, NAFTA, ICSID, ICC, etc. >130 journals focusing on international law (see Westlaw UK Journals page + Westlaw International Materials' <i>World Journals</i>)

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<i>Commonwealth material</i>	Substantial coverage of Australia, Canada and New Zealand Some coverage of India, Malaysia, South Africa and the Caribbean <i>Law Reports of the Commonwealth</i>	Substantial coverage of Canada Some coverage of Australia, New Zealand and Singapore
Searching		
<i>Connectors</i>	and to combine: <i>arbitration and evidence</i> or for alternatives: <i>medical or clinical</i> and not to exclude: <i>taxation and not income</i> w/5 = within 5 words of: <i>tax w/5 gifts</i> w/s = within the same sentence as w/p = within the same paragraph as	and to combine: <i>arbitration and evidence</i> or for alternatives: <i>medical or clinical</i> not to exclude: <i>taxation not income</i> /5 = within 5 words of: <i>tax /5 gifts</i> /s = within the same sentence as /p = within the same paragraph as If no connector used, e.g. <i>arbitration evidence</i> :- WL UK automatically inserts ' and ' (<i>arbitration and evidence</i>) <u>but</u> WL International Materials inserts ' or ' (<i>arbitration or evidence</i>)
<i>Truncation</i>	<i>bank!</i> finds bank, banks, banking, etc.	<i>bank!</i> finds bank, banks, banking, etc.
<i>Phrases</i>	Lexis generally <u>defaults to phrase searching</u> : type in <i>corporate governance</i> and Lexis will only find this exact phrase. However, 'Search Lexis Library' on the home page needs phrases to be in quotation marks, e.g. " <i>corporate governance</i> ".	Use double quotation marks to find a phrase on Westlaw, e.g. " <i>corporate governance</i> ".
	Onsite access for all academic users; offsite access for IALS staff and students only.	Onsite access for all academic users; offsite for IALS staff and students only.
<i>This table is based on IALS Library's subscriptions to Lexis and Westlaw. It is intended to give a broad overview of key sources – it does not list all available content.</i>		