

# OSCOLA: Oxford University Standard for Citations of Legal Authorities Basic Guide\* for Law Students

Type of Source	How to Cite	Example
<b>Cases (Domestic UK or Ireland)</b>	<i>Names of the Parties</i> [Year of law report] # of Volume of reporter Abbreviation for law report title Page # or case # (Court) [pinpoint page #].	<i>James v Eastleigh BC</i> [1990] 2 AC 751 (HL).
<b>Cases (European Court of Human Rights)</b>	<i>Names of Parties</i> (Year Published) Volume # Law report abbreviation Page #.	<i>Omojudi v UK</i> (2010) 51 EHRR 10.
<b>Cases (European Court of Justice)</b>	Case prefix Case registration # <i>Case Name</i> [date] Report citation.  Case Prefix: ‘Case C’ for ECJ or ‘Case T’ for GC.	Case T-344/99 <i>Arne Mathisen AS v Council</i> [2002] ECR II-2905.  Or  Case C-556/07 <i>Commission v France</i> [2009] OJ C102/8.
<b>Cases (Other Jurisdictions)</b>	Cite as they would be cited in their own jurisdiction. However, if the jurisdiction and court are not obvious from your work or context, indicate in parenthesis at the end of the reference.  The OSCOLA Guide provides an appendix regarding how other jurisdictions cite cases.	<i>Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka</i> , 347 U.S. 483 (1954).  <i>Waltons Stores (Interstate) Ltd v Maher</i> (1988) 164 CLR 387 (High Court of Australia).
<b>Cases (International Court of Justice)</b>	<i>Case Name (States Parties Names)</i> (Title of Document) [Date] Reporter citation of ICJ or PCIJ.  If the case is not published in the official reporter provide the website of the ICJ and the date accessed.	<i>Corfu Channel Case (UK v Albania)</i> (Merits) [1949] ICJ Rep 4.  <i>Case of the Free Zones of Upper Savoy and the District of Gex (Switzerland v France)</i> PCIJ Rep Series A/B No 46.  Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall (Advisory Opinion) 2004 < <a href="http://www.icj-cij.org/icjwww/idocket/imwp/imwpframe.htm">http://www.icj-cij.org/icjwww/idocket/imwp/imwpframe.htm</a> > accessed 21 July 2005 [139]–[142].
<b>Legislation</b>	Title of the Act including year, abbrev. for section # section subsection paragraph within subsection.  ‘s’ indicates single section; ‘ss’ indicates multiple sections. Part ‘pt’; Schedule ‘sch’; Paragraph ‘para’  For domestic legislation outside UK and Ireland, cite as would be in local jurisdiction. See the OSCOLA guide appendix for further guidance.	Human Rights Act 1998, s 19(1)(b).

<b>EU Legislation</b>	<p>Treaty or Protocol: Title of the legislation [Year of Publication] Official journal series First page #.</p> <p>Regulations, Directives &amp; Decisions: Legislation type Number and Title [date] Official journal details and page number.</p>	<p>Treaty: Treaty of Lisbon amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community [2007] OJ C306/01.</p> <p>Regulations, Directives &amp; Decisions: Council Directive 2001/29/EC on the harmonisation of certain aspects of copyright and related rights in the information society [2001] OJ L167/10.</p>
<b>Books</b>	Author, <i>Title</i> (series title, edition publisher, place date) pinpoint page.	JH Baker, <i>An Introduction to English Legal History</i> (4th edn Butterworths, London 2002) 419–21.
<b>Chapters/Essays in Books</b>	Author of chapter, ‘Title of Chapter’ in Name of editors (ed), <i>Title of Book</i> (series title, edition publisher, place date) pinpoint page.	I Brownlie, ‘The Relation of Law and Power’ in Bin Cheng and ED Brown (eds), <i>Contemporary Problems in International Law: Essays in Honour of Georg Schwarzenberger on his Eightieth Birthday</i> (Stevens and Sons, London 1988).
<b>Encyclopedias</b>	<p><i>Title of encyclopedia</i> (edition, year) vol. #, page/para. #.</p> <p>If an author is credited with entry: Author name, ‘Segment Title’, <i>Title of Encyclopedia</i> (Date) pinpoint page.</p>	<p><i>Halsbury’s Laws</i> (5th edn, 2010) vol 57, para 53.</p> <p>CJ Friedrich, ‘Constitutions and Constitutionalism’, <i>International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences III</i> (1968) 319.</p>
<b>Published Articles</b>	<p>Author, ‘Article Title’ (Date) Volume number Abbreviated journal title First page of article, Cited page.</p> <p>For an online journal, after the date cite like this: Volume # (Issue #) Abbreviated journal title &lt;URL&gt; date accessed.</p>	<p>H Charlesworth et. al., ‘Feminist Approaches to International Law’ (1991) 85 Am. J. Int’l L. 613, 630.</p> <p>G Greenleaf, ‘The Global Development of Free Access to Legal Information’ (2010) 1(1) EJLT &lt;<a href="http://ejlt.org/article/view/17">http://ejlt.org/article/view/17</a>&gt; accessed 6 May 2011.</p>
<b>Newspaper/Magazine Article</b>	<p>Author, ‘Title’ Newspaper (City of publication, Full date) page number.</p> <p>If article is retrieved from an online source, provide the full URL in &lt; &gt; and the date accessed.</p>	<p>F Gibb, ‘Prison is not the right place for minor criminals’ <i>The Times</i> (London, 11 May 2006) 7.</p> <p>E Hobsbawm, ‘The Dangers of Exporting Democracy’ <i>Guardian</i> (London 22 January 2005) &lt;<a href="http://www.guardian.co.uk/usa/story/0,12271,1396157,00.html">http://www.guardian.co.uk/usa/story/0,12271,1396157,00.html</a>&gt; accessed 10 May 2005.</p>
<b>Websites (If not covered by some other source citation i.e. newspaper, articles, etc.)</b>	<p>Author of the page, ‘Title of the Page’ (Type of document if relevant or Website name if not obvious or Blog name &amp; Date of issue if available) &lt;Web Address&gt; accessed date.</p> <p>If there is no author, use the organization responsible for the page. If</p>	<p>American Civil Liberties Union, ‘Technology and Liberty’ &lt;<a href="https://www.aclu.org/technology-and-liberty">https://www.aclu.org/technology-and-liberty</a>&gt; accessed 11 February 2015.</p> <p>Stella Jegher, ‘Amplifying Women’s Voices’ (Amnesty International, 5</p>

	<p>no organization, begin with the title of the page instead. (However, note that a reliable source has some kind of ownership indicated. Therefore, if you cannot find an author or some kind of organization, ask yourself if this is the most reliable source to be using in your research).</p> <p>If your source is online, but there is a print version available, cite the print version rather than the online version.</p>	<p>March 2015) &lt;<a href="https://www.amnesty.org/en/articles/blogs/2015/03/amplifying-womens-voices/">https://www.amnesty.org/en/articles/blogs/2015/03/amplifying-womens-voices/</a>&gt; accessed 6 March 2015.</p>
<p><b>International/Multilateral/Bilateral Treaties</b></p>	<p>Full Name of the Treaty (date it was opened for signature/signed/adopted, date entered into force) Official reporter citation (abbreviated name of treaty if going to reference later) pinpoint article.</p> <p>If the treaty is a bilateral treaty, include the names of the states parties in parenthesis after the title of the treaty.</p> <p>For international/multilateral treaties, use the UN Treaty Series Reporter or League of Nations Reporter. If Bilateral treaty, use official reporter of one of the states parties.</p>	<p>Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (adopted 28 July 1951, entered into force 22 April 1954) 189 UNTS 137 (Refugee Convention) art 33.</p> <p>Slavery Convention (adopted 25 September 1926, entered into force 9 March 1927) 60 LNTS 253.</p> <p>Rehabilitation and Development Co-Operation Agreement (Australia–Nauru) (5 May 1994) ATS 1994 15.</p>
<p><b>United Nations Documents</b></p>	<p>Author Res. #, ‘Title (if appropriate)’ (date) UN document #.</p> <p>Use this general format when citing UN Resolutions, as well as documents from the Secretary-General, the Human Rights Council, Special Rapporteurs, High Commissioners and Treaty Bodies.</p> <p>For General Recommendations by treaty bodies, provide the source where the recommendation is printed after the title of the recommendation.</p> <p>Use full name of United Nations, General Assembly, Security Council, Treaty Body, etc. the first time it is used. Then use the abbreviation thereafter.</p>	<p>UNGA Res 3314 (XXIX) (14 December 1974).</p> <p>UNSC ‘Security Council, Briefed by Chairman of Counter-Terrorism Committee, Stresses Need for All States to Report on Anti-Terrorism Efforts’ (15 April 2002) Press Release SC/7361</p> <p>Report of the Secretary-General, ‘Rape and Abuse of Women in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia’ (1994) UN Doc E/CN.4/1994/5.</p> <p>UN Committee for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, ‘General Recommendation No 19’ in ‘Note by the Secretariat, Compilation of General Comments and General Recommendations Adopted by Human Rights Treaty Bodies’ (29 July 1994) UN Doc HRI/GEN/1/Rev .1</p> <p>UNHCR ‘Report of the 45th Session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner’s Programme</p>

		(Geneva 3–7 October 1994)’ (11 October 1994) UN Doc A/AC.96/839.
<b>UN Treaty Body Decisions</b>	<p><i>Case Name</i> (Date) Communication # UN Doc. #</p> <p><i>Case Name</i> (Date) Other reporter citation.</p>	<p><i>Fatma Yildirim (deceased) v. Austria</i> (1 October 2007) Communication No. 6/2005 CEDAW/C/39/D/6/2005.</p> <p><i>Alexander Kozulin v. Belarus</i> (21 October 2014) Communication No. 1773/2008 CCPR/C/112/D/1773/2008.</p> <p><i>Barbato v Uruguay</i> (1982) 2 Selected Decisions of the Human Rights Committee 112.</p>
<b>International Criminal Courts (ICTY, ICTR, ICC, Nuremberg)</b>	<p><i>Case Name</i> (Decision Type) Court-year#-case# (date).</p> <p>It is also acceptable to cite from other reporters, such as International Legal Materials. Provide citation to reporter after decision type.</p> <p>Nuremberg judgments are published in the American Journal of International Law.</p>	<p><i>Tadic Case</i> (Judgment) ICTY-94-1 (26 January 2000).</p> <p><i>Prosecutor v Tadic</i> (Judgment in Sentencing Appeals) (2000) 39 ILM 635.</p> <p><i>Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo</i> (Decision on Confirmation of Charges) ICC-01/04-01/06 (29 January 2007).</p> <p><i>Judgment of the Nuremberg International Military Tribunal 1946</i> (1947) 41 AJIL 172.</p>

\*This table is not exhaustive or complete. These are the most common sources cited by students at the University. If you do not see your source here, check the OSCOLA guide, cited below, for guidance.

#### Notes on Citations in OSCOLA:

- ✓ Footnotes should be used rather than endnotes. Each footnote should be closed by punctuation. Footnote markers in the text should appear directly after the final punctuation of the sentence.
- ✓ If the footnote is *exactly* the same as the one directly before it, use ‘ibid’ to indicate that the citation is the same. If the page number cited is different, provide the appropriate page number after the ‘ibid’.
  - Example:
    - 33. H Charlesworth et. al., ‘Feminist Approaches to International Law’ (1991) 85 Am. J. Int’l L. 613, 630.
    - 34. *ibid* 635.
- ✓ If you’ve cited a source already, you can cross-reference in a subsequent footnote. But always do so with your reader in mind. Do not send your reader on a wild hunt for the source. Send them directly to the exact place in the previous footnote you’re referring to. (See pages 5-7 of the OSCOLA guide)
  - For cases, you may use the short form citation of the case. Give the cross referenced footnote in parenthesis. Example: fn. 7. *Austin* (n 1).
  - Cross-referenced footnotes use the previous footnote number in parenthesis. Provide either the author’s name or title of the document followed by the previous footnote in parenthesis. Example: fn. 33. Stevens (n 6) 110.
  - Word has a handy function to help you keep track of cross-referenced footnotes, even if they change as you write. To cross reference a footnote, go to the ‘Insert’ menu. Select ‘Cross-Reference’. There will be a ‘Reference Type’ drop down menu on the window that comes up. Select ‘Footnote’ from that drop down menu. This will bring up a list of all the footnotes you’ve referenced. Select the footnote you’re cross-referencing and select ‘insert’. The footnote will now be hyperlinked to the subsequent footnote. If you rearrange your footnotes, select all of your footnotes and press the F9 key. This will update all your cross referencing.

- ✓ Always cite the print version of a source over the online version. Print versions of resources are still valued as more reliable than web sources.
- ✓ Remember when citing authority, your main goal is to provide enough information so the reader can find your sources and read them. Pinpoint page citations are essential for this purpose.
- ✓ Be consistent. With abbreviations, names of authors, titles of sources, etc. Make sure to keep the same formatting throughout your work.
- ✓ If you're in doubt about how to reference something, or you can find an exact match for your source in the OSCOLA guide, get as close as you can. Remember, you need readers to be able to find your sources on their own.

#### Resources for Citing OSCOLA:

- Oxford University, 'OSCOLA' <<http://www.law.ox.ac.uk/publications/oscola.php>> accessed 6 March 2015.
- Oxford University, *OSCOLA: Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities* (4th edn, Oxford 2012) <[http://www.law.ox.ac.uk/published/OSCOLA\\_4th\\_edn\\_Hart\\_2012.pdf](http://www.law.ox.ac.uk/published/OSCOLA_4th_edn_Hart_2012.pdf)> accessed 7 March 2015.
- Oxford University, *Citing International Law Sources Section* (Oxford, 2006) <[http://www.law.ox.ac.uk/published/OSCOLA\\_2006\\_citing\\_international\\_law.pdf](http://www.law.ox.ac.uk/published/OSCOLA_2006_citing_international_law.pdf)> accessed 8 March 2015.
- Oxford University, 'OSCOLA Quick Reference Guide' <[http://www.law.ox.ac.uk/published/OSCOLA\\_4th\\_edn\\_Hart\\_2012QuickReferenceGuide.pdf](http://www.law.ox.ac.uk/published/OSCOLA_4th_edn_Hart_2012QuickReferenceGuide.pdf)> accessed 5 March 2015.
- Cathie Jackson & Ian Bradley, 'Citing the Law' (Cardiff University) <<https://ilrb.cf.ac.uk/citingreferences/oscola/tutorial/index.html>> accessed 8 March 2015.