

Background & Context Information

[Europa World](#)

A leading source of political and economic information on over 250 countries.

Read the “Country Profile” for every country you’re interested in, especially the “Contemporary Political History” section. See also the selected statistics for easy country comparisons.

[International Studies Online](#)

Peer reviewed essays on regions, hot topics, key IR concepts, and more.

Databases for Scholarly Journal Articles in Politics

Worldwide Political Science Abstracts

References to articles in political science and related fields, including international relations, law, and public administration & policy

International Political Science Abstracts

Similar to Worldwide Political Science Abstracts but with more foreign language content

PAIS International (Public Affairs Information Service)

References to periodicals, books, governmental and NGO publications, research reports from think tanks in all areas of public policy

Peace Research Abstracts

References to articles on all aspects of peace, war and conflict, international relations, arms control, the military, diplomacy, international law and international organizations

Academic Search Complete

Indexes popular scholarly journals in addition to U.S. news magazines

Other Social Sciences Databases

- America: History & Life
- EconLit
- Gender Studies Database
- Historical Abstracts
- SocIndex
- Social Sciences Citation Index
(part of Web of Science)

Databases for Coverage of Regions

- ABSEES: American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies
- Bibliography of Asian Studies
- Black Studies Center (for Africa & the Caribbean)
- Handbook of Latin American Studies
- HAPI: Hispanic American Periodicals Index
- Middle East and Central Asian Studies

Finding Think Tank Publications

[2013 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report](#)

Ranking of U.S. and world-wide organizations produced by the Think Tank and Civil Society Program at the University of Pennsylvania.

Find Policy - <http://www.findpolicy.org/>

Search the publications of selected think tanks by topic area.

Think Tank Search - http://guides.library.harvard.edu/hks/think_tank_search

The Library at the Harvard Kennedy School created a guide which includes a scoped Google search that looks at selected think tanks' web sites, as well as lists of U.S. and non-U.S. organizations

CIAO: Columbia International Affairs Online

Check out "What's New @ CIAO" or use the links for 'Policy Briefs' or 'Working Papers.'

News Databases

Contemporary

- **Academic Search Complete**
Indexes popular U.S. news magazines in addition to scholarly journals
- **Factiva**
Full text access to selected U.S. and international news sources – includes the *Wall Street Journal*
- **LexisNexis Academic**
Full text access to selected U.S. and international news sources

Historical Coverage

- *New York Times* (1851 – 2010)
- *Times of London* (1785 – 1985)

Translations of Foreign News Stories

- **World News Connection, 1996 – 2013**
Full text translation and English-language news and information from local media sources around the world (includes e.g. newspapers, periodicals, TV and radio broadcasts). Produced by the Open Source Center, a U.S. Government agency.
- **FBIS Daily Reports, 1941-1996 (Foreign Broadcast Information Service)**
Full text translations of news reports from foreign newspapers and television and radio broadcasts, interviews, speeches, editorial commentary and other materials; compiled by the U.S. Intelligence community

U.S. Government Information Sources

Guide to U.S. Foreign Policy: A Diplomatic History – ebook via OBIS

Comprehensive coverage organized both historically and thematically.

ProQuest Congressional Publications

Includes information about bills, public laws, hearings (searchable full text through 2010), committee reports and documents, and the *Congressional Record*.

Digital National Security Archive

Declassified documents on the most critical world events and U.S. policy decisions from World War II into the 21st century.

Department of State - <http://www.state.gov/>

Look at items in 'Media Center,' 'Policy Issues,' 'Countries & Regions,'

Foreign Relations of the United States

The official historical record of major U.S. foreign policy decisions and significant diplomatic activity. Recent volumes published contain declassified records from all foreign affairs agencies.

Print Volumes:

- Main Library JX233.A3 1950 to date (currently up to Carter Administration)
- Main Library 327.73Un3 1932-1949

Online Access:

- <http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/FRUS>
- <http://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/about-frus>

American Presidency Project - <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/>

Consolidated online access to official presidential documents of all types – speeches, executive orders, proclamations, etc.