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HuriSearch –a dynamic new search human rights engine built on global collaboration

Judith Dueck
 Vice–chair, HURIDOCS
 Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems
 International

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Abstract

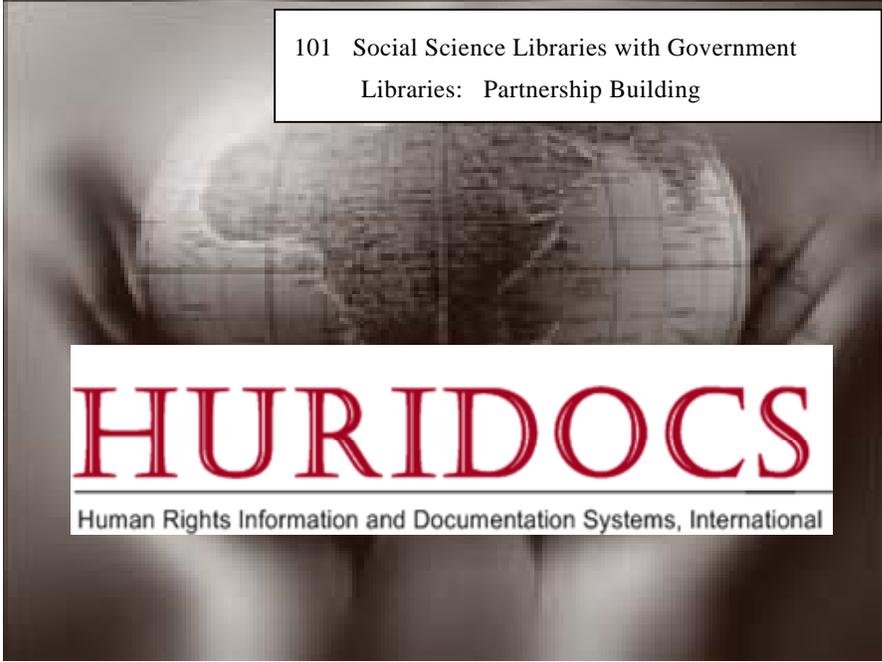
HURIDOCS, a global capacity-building network of organizations, uses documentation techniques, monitoring methods, information management systems and technologies in the defense of human rights.

Government agencies, NGOs, universities, libraries, media, researchers and others find it challenging to obtain accurate human rights information. Small organizations who document violations may not be able to disseminate information widely.

Human Rights organizations need tools to manage information. HURIDOCS develops tools collaboratively using international task forces, experts, librarians, volunteers and network members.

One of these tools, HuriSearch, provides detailed human rights information and also allows 3000 small and large human rights organizations with a means to make their information easily accessible on the web.

101 Social Science Libraries with Government
Libraries: Partnership Building



HURIDOCS

Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems, International

HuriSearch:

a dynamic new human rights search engine
built on global collaboration

www.hurisearch.org

Presentation by Judith Dueck

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HURIDOCS Secretariat

48, chemin du Grand-Montfleury

CH-1290 Versoix, Switzerland

Tel. 41.22.755 5252 Fax 41.22.755 5260 info@HURIDOCS.org www.huridocs.org

<http://www.huridocs.org/hurisearch> to preview the new HuriSearch

<http://www.huridocs.org/toolsmap.htm> to download HURIDOCS tools

<http://fast.nidelven-it.no/huridocs/downloadarea/publications/> to look at leaflets about HURIDOCS programs

<http://fast.nidelven-it.no/huridocs/downloadarea/publications/leaflets/HURIDOCS%20sheet%20-%20french2.pdf>
for information in French

<http://fast.nidelven-it.no/huridocs/downloadarea/publications/leaflets/Partners.pdf/download> to see a sampling
of participants in the HURIDOCS network

HuriSearch:

A dynamic new human rights search engine built on global collaboration and developed by HURIDOCS

"Information is a powerful tool in combating the proliferation of human rights violations".

Introduction

As we see everyday in the news and on the internet, information forms our perception of the world. Peace is all too elusive. Addressing human rights using solid information is certainly one avenue of building civil society, facing injustice and promoting peace.

The power of information is what drives HURIDOCS. Information drawn from sound data provides the basis for good decisions and good processes. Without good information, it is difficult to consider ideas of conflict resolution, democracy and civil society

Recent history demonstrates that many gross violations of human rights go unrecorded. The systematic killing of people, extra-judicial executions, disappearances, torture, arbitrary detention and other abuses have most often been carried out in a sinister vacuum, where little or no record remains of the specific victims, crime, or perpetrators. What the survivors are left with are memories of the masked intruder hauling their loved ones away in the night, the nameless bureaucrat denying the existence of their son, husband, wife or parent; the unidentifiable corpses.

Lack of exact knowledge means that perpetrators of gross human rights abuses can operate with virtual impunity believing that they will remain faceless and nameless even if their superiors are toppled or, in the case of insurgents, their cause extinguished.

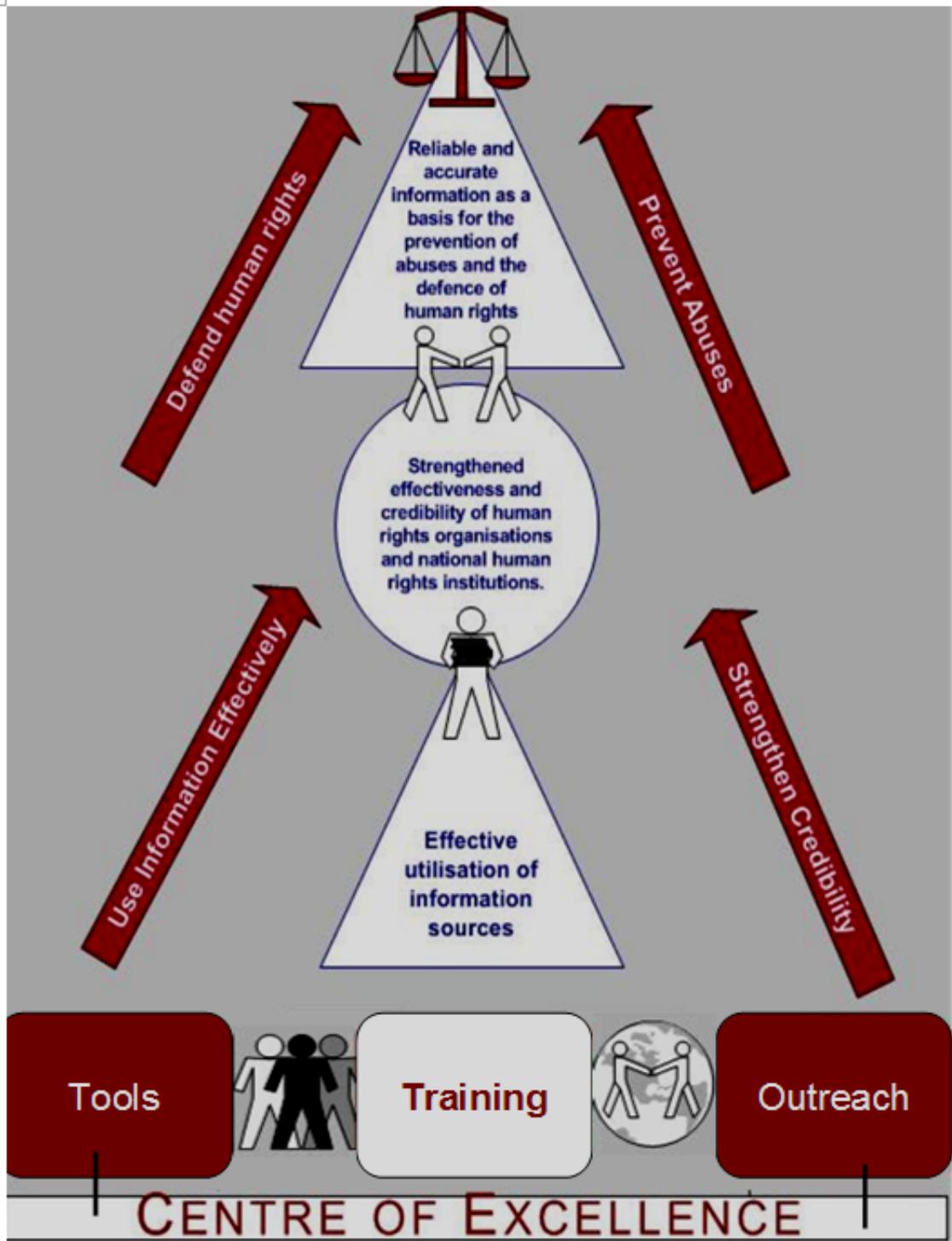
While information will not guarantee systemic change, good tools can assist in providing relevant and reliable information to those who can address issues of poverty, environment, gender and other causes. They can also use their power to mitigate abuses, mediate conflicts, and promote reconciliation.

Institutions such as universities, colleges, libraries, media, community interest groups, researchers and others may not have the resources to get at the full picture. At the same time, those organizations that actually have the information may not have the resources to disseminate the information widely or design technically sophisticated web pages.

HURIDOCS is based on the conviction that the gathering and dissemination of information about human rights are vital to a strong civil society – and to healthy processes in reconciliation. It has developed a variety of tools and training programs to help organizations use and access information effectively.

What is HURIDOCS?

HURIDOCS is a global capacity-building network of organizations that use documentation techniques, monitoring methods, information management systems, technology and other tools in the defense of human rights and the prevention of abuses. HURIDOCS was established in 1982. For more information, see appendix C.



Who is in the HURIDOCS network?

Mostly human rights NGOs. HURIDOCS has a unique working infrastructure. It is a network in the deepest sense of the word and yet it has no formal membership or fees. It shares its tools and knowledge in an open ended, generous spirit. It is truly international in that the players from north and south and east and west are all participants and offer value to the network. Over the years, the HURIDOCS secretariat has worked with the network to:

Produce a wide range of tools

- introductory manuals on monitoring, documentation and information handling
- manuals and software for libraries handling bibliographic human rights information
- manuals and software for documenting human rights violations
- manuals for monitoring economic, social and cultural rights
- HuriSearch: a multilingual specialized human rights search engine

Provide training services all over the world

- conducted 140 training courses, workshops and similar activities
- conducted a series of training for trainers courses starting in 1994
- produced a training manual which contains 27 training modules along with training aids
- received over 50 interns at the Secretariat

Facilitate the establishment of documentation centers all over the world

Facilitate the formation of several regional documentation networks

- Arab Human Rights Information Network (AHRINET)
- Asia-Pacific Committee for the Training of Trainers (ACTT)
- European Coordination Committee on Human Rights Documentation
- Red de Informatica y Documentación en Derechos Humanos de América Latina y el Caribe (RIDHUALC)
- Human Rights Information Network for Anglophone Africa (HURINAA)

Support human rights information and documentation networks

- Coalition Against Trafficking in Women – Asia Pacific (CATW-AP, Philippines)
- International Refugee Documentation Network
- International Torture Documentation Network
- Documentary Network of Indigenous Peoples

HURIDOCS shares information about relevant activities, documentation developments, communication initiatives, IT management tools, new technologies and key initiatives undertaken by the human rights movement. The secretariat facilitates communication between network participants. HURIDOCS uses a variety of methods to build and develop the network including:

- Contact with human rights organizations in more than **150 countries**
- Publication of HURIDOCS News (network newsletter)
- Maintenance of website and four electronic mailing lists with information on:
 - HURIDOCS activities, tools, training courses, human rights information topics, and other matters of interest to the network
 - relevant technical information
 - health and indigenous people
 - all 3000 organizations included in HuriSearch

HURIDOCS works with intergovernmental organizations such as the OSCE and the U.N. and has established:

- Consultative Status with the U.N. Economic and Social Council;
- Operational Relations Status with UNESCO; and
- Observer Status with the Africa Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

See Appendix B for a sampling of network participants.



What tools are available from HURIDOCS?

- Guidebooks
- Tools for documenting human rights violations
- Tools for organizing human rights libraries
- Tools for monitoring economic, social & cultural rights
- Translations of many tools into French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and other languages
- Dissemination of tools on CDROM and on the web at <http://www.huridocs.org/toolsmap.htm>
- HuriSearch: accessing human rights information on the web – this tool will be featured today.

Why is a human rights search engine needed?

Non-governmental organizations play a key role in the defence of human rights, in particular in countries where gross and systematic human rights violations occur. In recent years, a growing number of NGOs have started using the Internet as a powerful and cost-effective medium for informing the world about human rights issues.

Many of these organizations, and in particular those based in developing countries, are not known to the general public. Researchers, activists, professionals and others who look for human rights information on the Web find themselves in the same situation as other Web users. They have to sort through hundreds or thousands of Web pages in order to find those of genuine relevance. Information overload in the internet age poses problems.

- Information may be relegated to the end of search lists where few people will look.
- Some search engines give in to demands to throttle liberty in exchange for access to their markets. Some remove news listings which are critical of government policy. Others block terms "freedom," "democracy" and other concepts designated as "dangerous." Self censorship is clearly at work.
- Authoritarian governments try to limit access to sensitive information, including and perhaps particularly human rights information.
- As the Web is strongly oriented towards the English language, it is harder to find material in other languages. Accessing and using material in other scripts than the Latin alphabet can be especially difficult
- Some search engines index only certain parts of a site, maybe only the first few pages
- General search engines often operate with special rules for selection or ranking criteria. These might be based on popularity, sponsorship or criteria of interest specific to the general search engine. This can push valuable information sites to the end of a search list while commercial or popular sites find their way to the top. Sometimes the smaller sites of less-known but often highly knowledgeable organizations are not found at all.

In addition to these factors, the efforts of small NGOs are often on the content itself, rather than on facilitating ease of indexing or designing sophisticated web pages. Sometimes the technical skills required to incorporate easily accessed sites are not found in small NGOs. The result is that sometimes the most relevant information is not found.

What is HuriSearch?

A multilingual search engine which crawls, indexes and then provides the user with human rights information from 3000 human rights sites from all over the world. It is:

- An efficient medium for obtaining relevant information about human rights and related issues.
- A dissemination medium for grassroots NGOs whose information might be easily lost in the information deluge of large internet search engines
- A powerful and effective medium for informing the world about human rights issues

- Effective access to human rights information on the web

- a search tool with egalitarian and known ranking and indexing principles without regard to commercial agendas, censorship issues or political pressure

- search capabilities in 77 different languages

- look-up lists by country and organization

- enhanced access to sites of smaller organizations

- a dynamic list of most frequently occurring keywords based on each search, allowing users to refine their searches by a simple click

- World wide information dissemination opportunities even for small organizations.

- Enhanced relevancy of searches on topics related to human rights

HuriSearch Languages



Afrikaans	Czech	Finnish	Irish	Portuguese	Tagalog
Albanian	Danish	French	Italian	Romanian	Thai
Arabic	Dutch	Frisian	Japanese	Russian	Turkish
Basque	English	Galician	Korean	Serbian	Ukrainian
Bulgarian	Esperanto	German	Latin	Slovak	Vietnamese
Byelorussian	Estonian	Greek	Lithuanian	Slovenian	Welsh
Catalan	Faeroese	Hebrew	Malay	Spanish	and others
Chinese	Hungarian	Icelandic	Norwegian	Swahili	Total = 77
Croatian	Farsi	Indonesian	Polish	Swedish	

*One of the biggest problems for the dissemination of information about human rights has been that web sites disappear among the results in the regular search engines. I recommend that everyone interested in human rights remember the name **HuriSearch**.*

-- Lars Våge, PANDIA Search Engine News.
July 2004 <http://www.pandia.com/sw-2004/28-HuriSearch.html>



Who uses HuriSearch?

Many organizations put a link to HuriSearch on their home page for ease of use.

Examples include:

- [UNESCO Social and Human Sciences](http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-URL_ID=4462&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)
- [Initiative Européenne pour la Démocratie](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/projects/eidhr/links_fr.htm)
- [Child Rights Information Network](http://www.crin.org/resources/InfoDetail.asp?ID=4158)
- [Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin](http://amtsdruckschriften.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/de/links/internetquellen/fi.html)
- [Beogradski centar za ljudska prava \(Belgrade Center for Human Rights\)](http://www.bgcentar.org.yu/index.php?p=264)
- [Georgia Institute of Technology](http://www.library.gatech.edu/research_help/subject/index.php?international_affairs/human_rights)
- [Kenmore State High School, Australia](http://www.kenmoreshs.eq.edu.au/resourcecentre-englishr.html)
- [European Master's Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation](http://www.emahumanrights.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=49&Itemid=65)
- [Buscopio](http://www.buscopio.net/esp/index.php?cat=709)
- [Belize Centre for Human Rights](http://www.humanrightsstudies.org.bz/links.htm)
- [Human rights video project. NY](http://www.humanrightsproject.org/content.php?sec=resource&sub=publication)
- [Juraportal.dk, University of Copenhagen](http://juraportal.dk/links/020/100/050/link-1089893641-570769-3425.tkl)
- [El Metasitio Mística, Funredes, DR](http://funredes.org/mistica/metasitio/referencia.php3?pin=983)
- [Pace University, NY](http://appserv.pace.edu/library/links/linkstatic.cfm?subject=Human%20Rights)
- [University of Portsmouth, UK](http://www.libr.port.ac.uk/ROADS/cqi-bin/tempbyhand.pl?query=1087385980-29287)
- [Polaris Institute, Canada](http://www.polarisinstitute.org/polaris_project/public_service/articles_presentations/cancun/update_aug_18.html)
- [International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific](http://www.iwraw-ap.org/resources/human_rights.htm)
- [Georgetown University Law Center, Washington](http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/intl/cals/asylumconditions.htm)
- [Alliance Sud](http://www.alliancesud.ch/francais/pagesnav/framesE4.htm?D&D_DmDs.htm)
- [Institut Universitaire d'études du développement](http://www.iued.unige.ch/information/cyberdev/search.php?cat=24)
- [Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights](http://www.ohchr.org/english/library/resources.htm)
- [Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Universitetet i Oslo](http://www.humanrights.uio.no/english/library/)
- [CÁTEDRA UNESCO DE EDUCACIÓN PARA LA PAZ](http://unescopaz.rpp.upr.edu/documentos/OrganizDerHum.htm)
- [UNIVERSIDAD MAYOR DE SAN ANDRES LA PAZ](http://www.umsa.bo:8080/umsa/peri/otros_recursos_importantes.html)
- [Sekitarkita Indonesia](http://www.sekitarkita.com/link.php)
- [Московская школа политических исследований \(Moscow School of Political Studies\)](http://tmp102.vokrug.info/news/news1362.html)
- [Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law](http://www.rwi.lu.se/library/library.shtml)
- [UNESCO Chair and Institute of Comparative Human Rights](http://www.unescochair.uconn.edu/generalResources.htm)
- [Asian Resources for Librarians](http://www.aardvarknet.info/user/subject26/index.cfm?letter=H&start=30)
- [Brazil Human Rights and Justice](http://brazilink.org/hrjustice.asp)
- [McGill University, Canada](http://www.library.mcgill.ca/refshelf/dissent.htm)
- **And many others. See also appendix A**

Some organizations HuriSearch box on their page to facilitate searching. For an example see [Protection Resource Library](#). Other organizations refer to HuriSearch rather than creating their own directory of human rights websites.

AAAS Science and Human Rights Program

Important Notice!

In our ongoing effort to best serve the science and human rights communities, the AAAS Science and Human Rights Program has discontinued the *Directory of Human Rights Resources on the Internet*. Since the *Directory's* launch in 1996, search technology has improved and better tools now exist that make it even easier to search the web's vast number of constantly changing human rights sites.

HURISEARCH is a new search engine provided by Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems, International (HURIDOCIS). We recommend that you try HURISEARCH as well as general, comprehensive search engines like Google.

>> Go to HURISEARCH <<

American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

What does FAST technology offer?

- FAST creates the real-time search and filter technology solutions that are behind the scenes at the world's best known companies with the most demanding search problems.
- FAST's flexible and scalable integrated technology platform elevates the search capabilities of enterprise customers and connects people to the relevant information they seek regardless of medium.
- FAST's powerful enterprise search technology solutions are used by more than 2,000 global customers and partners, including America Online (AOL), AT&T, Cardinal Health, CareerBuilder.com, Chordiant, CIGNA, CNET, Dell, Factiva, Fidelity Investments, Findexa, IBM, Knight Ridder, LexisNexis, Overture, Rakuten, Reed Elsevier, Reuters, Sensus, Stellent, Tenet Healthcare, Thomas Industrial Networks, T-Online, US Army, Virgilio (Telecom Italia), Vodafone, and Wanadoo.
- FAST is headquartered in Norway and is publicly traded under the ticker symbol 'FAST' on the Oslo Stock Exchange.
- The FAST Group operates globally with presence in Europe, the United States, Asia Pacific, Australia, South America, and the Middle East. For further information about FAST, please visit www.fastsearch.com.

Who funds HuriSearch?

- FAST Search and Transfer, Norway
- Reebok Human Rights Foundation, U.S.A
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
- Mennonite Central Committee, Canada
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada
- Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Human Rights Education Associates, U.S.A
- OSCE / ODIHR – Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Poland

Access to HuriSearch is provided at no charge. Donations are welcome and will be acknowledged on the websites.

The search technology is provided by FAST. In addition, funds are required to cover activities such as:

- **Development:** translating the search interface into other languages (priorities: French, Arabic, Spanish, Russian, Chinese), researching new websites to add to index, monitoring websites currently indexed, developing further the search options (adding Dublin Core meta data for example)
- **Outreach:** promotion to various user groups (staff of human rights organisations, journalists, government and diplomatic officials, academics and students, private sector businesses and corporations), support to users, communication with webmasters of indexed sites.
- **System and hardware:** system and hardware purchase, server upgrades and additional licenses, hosting and development costs

The approximate annual operating funding required is 187'000 USD.

Advertising

HURIDOCS welcomes advertising for human rights-related products, such as publications (books, reviews, videos), or training activities.

What does HuriSearch look like?

The 2003 version <http://www.hurisearch.org/search>

Search for

Any language Search

Use word variants Exact phrase Disable dynamic abstract

42283 documents found - **1.0900** seconds search time

- Women's Rights** Find similar Refine similar Exclude similar
Violence against **women** is a global outrage. The experience or threat of violence affects the lives of **women** everywhere, cutting across boundaries of...the community, in times of war and peace, **women** are beaten, raped, mutilated and killed with...
<http://www.amnestyusa.org/women/document.do?id=420B9277A316E3B280256E3900688792> (295.8k)
Language: English - hrsites [text/html]
Indexed: 2004-03-14 11:16:18 CET
- Saudi Arabia: Gross human rights abuses against women** Find similar Refine similar Exclude similar
Women AI INDEX: MDE 23/057/00 Date: 27 September, 2000 Discrimination against **women** impacts upon and compounds the wide range of human...begins by discussing the discrimination faced by **women**. Among the issues covered are: laws and customs which...
<http://www.amnesty.ca/women/mde2305700.php> (112.5k)
Language: English - hrsites [text/html]
Indexed: 2004-03-14 17:05:13 CET
- WHRnet Issue - Women and Political Participation** Find similar Refine similar Exclude similar
Women and Political Participation This issue highlights strategies employed in enhancing **women's** political participation, looks at the provisions of **women's** political participation in the Beijing Platform for Action...
<http://www.whrnet.org/docs/issue-women-politics.html> (35.6k)
Language: English - hrsites [text/html]
Indexed: 2004-01-24 09:18:21 CET
- In Search of Political Power- Women in Parliament in Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon** Find similar Refine similar Exclude similar
A study of Arab **women** parliamentarians reveals that 68 per cent of **women** MPs are unsatisfied with the current level of **women's** political participation. This is due to a number of factors, including: the low number of **women** MPs in the Arab world...
<http://www.idea.int/women/parl/studies1a.htm> (31.9k)

The 2006 version is still being developed. It will be ready in fall. It is useable now although the final design is still in process. Try it out at: <http://saw2.nidelven-it.no:8080/search/search.jsp>. Send feedback to: info@huridocs.org

The screenshot shows the HuriSearch website interface. At the top left is the 'HuriSearch' logo with 'A HURIDOCSS' underneath. At the top right is the 'fast' logo. The main search area has a search bar containing 'documentation networks' and a search button. Below the search bar, there are options for 'Search by language: Any language' (circled in red) and 'Search Within Results'. A red arrow points to the language dropdown. To the right of the search bar, it says 'Advanced search' and '77 languages'. Below the search bar, there are checkboxes for 'Collections': 'Non-governmental organisations (ngo)', 'Academic Institutions (acad)', 'National human rights institutions (nhri)', and 'Intergovernmental organisations (igo)'. Below this, there is a search summary: 'You searched for documentation networks'. The results section shows '121593 Results found in 0.699s.' and a '1-20' pagination control. The results are sorted by 'RELEVANCE' and 'DATE'. The first five results are listed below:

- 1. Networking: Thematic Networks**
 ...Thematic Networks Partners THEMATIC NETWORKS HURIDOCSS currently supports two thematic **documentation networks**, the International Refugee Documentation Network (IRDN) and the International Torture Documentation...
 http://www.huridocs.org/thematic.htm (new window)
 Collection : ngo
 Published by : Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems, International (HURIDOCSS)
 Published in : Switzerland
 Similar: Find Refine Exclude More hits from this site...
- 2. African documentation in the Netherlands**
 ...Marlene van Doorn Library, Documentation and Information Department...programme 3.3. Library, Documentation and Information Department...International Research and Advisory Networks. 3.3. Library, Documentation and Information Department...
 http://www.niza.nl/docs/200405271032082956.pdf?&username=gue... (new window)
 Collection : ngo
 Published by : Nederlands instituut voor Zuidelijk Afrika (NIZA) = Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa
 Published in : Netherlands
 Similar: Find Refine Exclude More hits from this site...
- 3. Documentation Section of the PV Toolkit**
 ...1: Introduction to Documentation: What? Why? - p.5...Activity- p.6 II. What is documentation?- p.7 III. Documenting...Data collection [i.e. documentation] supports many of...process. Advocacy networks should collect and...
 http://www.afsc.org/immigrants-rights/documents/documentatio... (new window)
 Collection : ngo
 Published by : American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)
 Published in : United States
 Similar: Find Refine Exclude
- 4. Human Rights Documentation Exchange: Documentation Services**
 Human Rights Documentation Exchange home about us documentation services newspaks ...donations contact us Documentation Services Our Refugee Legal...
 http://www.handplant.com/mockups/hrde/documentation.htm (new window)
 Collection : ngo
 Published by : Human Rights Documentation Exchange
 Published in : United States
 Similar: Find Refine Exclude More hits from this site...
- 5. CIRI Human Rights Data Project: Documentation**

On the left side of the interface, there is a 'DRILL-DOWN' menu with categories: 'Languages' (listing English, French, Spanish, Indonesian, German, Arabic, Dutch, Italian, Kurdish with counts), 'Countries' (listing United States, Switzerland, France, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Canada, Mongolia, Belgium, South Africa, Thailand with counts), and 'Organisations' (listing Anti-Racism Information Service, Human Rights Studies in Mongolia, Ligue des Droits de l'Homme, Indonesia House, the Netherlands, and Nederlands instituut voor Zuidelijk Afrika (NIZA) = Netherlands).

<p>Organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anti Racism Information Service (5216) Human Rights Studies in Mongolia (4956) Ligue des Droits de l'Homme (4049) Indonesia House, the Netherlands (2894) Nederlands instituut voor Zuidelijk Afrika (NIZA) = Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa (2582) Documentation Center of Cambodia (2311) Amnesty International, USA section (2171) Free Press (1378) France Libertés - Fondation Danielle Mitterrand (1320) International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) (1264) <p><input type="checkbox"/> MORE</p> <p>Huridocs Terms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information (8508) Human rights (70934) Government (67505) Law (65175) Development (62579) State (60056) Children (56681) Women (56442) Education (52280) Health (48812) <p><input type="checkbox"/> MORE</p> <p>RESET</p> <p>→ KEYWORDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> human rights united nations 	<p>Published by : American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Published in : United States Similar: Find Refine Exclude</p> <p>4. Human Rights Documentation Exchange: Documentation Services Human Rights Documentation Exchange home about us documentation services newspapers ...donations contact us Documentation Legal... http://www.handplant.com/mockups/hrde/documentation.htm (new window) Collection : ngo Published by : Human Rights Documentation Exchange Published in : United States Similar: Find Refine Exclude More hits from this site...</p> <p>5. CIRI Human Rights Data Project: Documentation ...Rights Data FAQ Documentation People - Who are CIRI? ...Contact CIRI DOCUMENTATION Interrater Reliability Statistics...are i CIRI Documentation Page. Posted: 2005-10-12... http://ciri.binghamton.edu/documentation.asp (new window) Collection : ngo Published by : CIRI Human Rights Data Project, University of Binghamton Published in : United States Similar: Find Refine Exclude</p> <p>6. Asia Pacific Forum: Trafficking Focal Point Network ...Thailand Timor Leste Networks Networks Investigators Network ...Government Websites Research & Documentation Network: Point... http://www.asiapacificforum.net/networks/trafficking/ (new window) Collection : nhri Published by : Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions Published in : Thailand Similar: Find Refine Exclude More hits from this site...</p> <p>7. FAIFE: Freedom of Expression and the Communication Networks ...and the Communication Networks Strasbourg...public decency which see networks as a threat to their...practice and other docu discussion... Examination of documentation from interested professional...information through networks: 1.4 Expected... http://www.ifla.org/faife/papers/sturges/sturge_e.htm (new window) Collection : ngo Published by : Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE), IFLA Published in : Denmark Similar: Find Refine Exclude</p> <p>8. QPASTT - Final Report ...The process will include: documentation of traditions from the Sudanese elders...and support groups to building genuine network diverse, vital...she had heard about (through community networks). The most recent problem was her mother... http://www.qpastt.org.au/projects/a_dialogue_in_healing/fina... (new window) Collection : ngo Published by : Queensland Programme of Assistance to Survivors of Torture and Trauma (QPASTT) Published in : Australia Similar: Find Refine Exclude More hits from this site...</p> <p>9. Documentation ... Office Documentation Gender Balance Statistics...Work/Life Issues Networks Departmental Focal...of gender balance DOCUME General... http://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/fpdocumentation.htm (new window) Collection : igo Published by : WomenWatch: the UN Internet Gateway on the Advancement and Empowerment of Women Published in : United States Similar: Find Refine Exclude More hits from this site...</p>
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Keywords found frequently in full text of the results

HURIDOCS terms are translated and linked in English, French, Spanish, German and Russian. Other languages such as Korean and Arabic can be added easily – work is being done on this as of the writing of this paper. Eg. "Children (56681)" means 56681 documents contain the word children, enfants, kinder, niños or дети.

HuriSearch
HURIDOCS

Advanced search | Simple search

Search: censorship

Document Title: [] Clear

Document Keywords: [] ← HURIDOCS Index terms

Document Description: [] ← Searches Metatags (Dublin Core recommended)

Country: [china India Sri lanka Australia Indonesia] ← Country of Origin

Organisation: []

Search by language: Any language [v] Use spellchecking

Document type: All document types [v] Search within results

Show number of hits: All document types [v]

Collections:

- Non-governmental
- Academic Institutions
- National human rights institutions (nhri)
- Intergovernmental organisations (igo)

You searched for (countries:china countries:Korea countries:Indonesia countries:Australia countries:)

69015 Results found in 0.329s.

1. **Bizarre censorship: A case study**
... July 1982 Bizarre **censorship**: A case study A bizarre form of **censorship** exists in Kerala, and I cite this mere **censorship** is imposed at the level of reflexes...
http://www.pucl.org/from-archives/Media/censorship.htm (new window)
Collection : ngo
Published by : People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL)
Published in : India
Similar: Find Refine Exclude More hits from this site...

2. **EFF: Internet Censorship Legislation & Regulation**
...Room DeepLinks Action Center Join EFF > Home > **Censorship** > **Censorship** Bills Internet **Censorship** Legisla
Links | Off-Site Links...
http://www.eff.org/Censorship/Internet_censorship_bills/ (new window)
Collection : ngo
Published by : Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF)
Published in : United States
Similar: Find Refine Exclude More hits from this site...

What is the next step?

HURIDOCS plans incorporate training in metatags and Dublin core into its regular training programs. This will enhance access to human rights sites through greater specificity and more precise indexing.

When will HuriSearch be launched?

HuriSearch will be launched in many parts of the world throughout the fall. If you are interested in doing a demo or regional launch in your institution or community, please contact the HURIDOCS secretariat at info@huridocs.org. A major international launch will occur before the end of the year.

Where can I find out more about HuriSearch?

In English: <http://fast.nidelven-it.no/huridocs/downloadarea/publications/leaflets/hurisearch.pdf>

In French: <http://fast.nidelven-it.no/huridocs/downloadarea/publications/leaflets/HURIDOCS%20sheet%20-%20french2.pdf>

Try the 2006 HuriSearch <http://saw2.nidelven-it.no:8080/search/search.jsp>

Review by Dr. Susan Marat <http://www.huridocs.org/maret.htm>

[Pandia review](#) In Swedish. <http://internetbrus.com/2004/06/13/hurisearch-specialiserad-sokmotor-for-manskliga-rattigheter/>

See also appendix A of this document

See Appendix D for more information on HuriSearch features.

HuriSearch

A specialised multilingual HUMAN RIGHTS SEARCH engine

Why HuriSearch?

- A powerful cost effective medium for informing the world about human rights
- An efficient medium for obtaining relevant information about human right and related issues

General search engines do not adequately highlight the large number of sites of smaller organisations who often provide detailed, on-site information as it happens. Nor do they allow fast and easy access to relevant information strictly on human rights and related topics. **HuriSearch provides even small organisations with a means of disseminating their information widely and effectively; and also provides those who need this information with a means of finding it.**

Developed and managed by HURIDOCS, HuriSearch uses powerful software created by **Fast Search & Transfer ASA** (FAST, Norway), a leading provider of information retrieval solutions. HuriSearch was launched jointly by HURIDOCS and **Human Rights Education Associates** (HREA, United States) in 2003.

Users have requested the inclusion of other types of human rights information. HURIDOCS responded. In 2006, the new HuriSearch indexes over 3,000 sites of human rights organisations, including national human rights institutions, inter-governmental organisations, academic institutes and non-governmental organisations.

What languages are searched?

Afrikaans	Czech	Finnish	Irish	Portuguese	Tagalog
Albanian	Danish	French	Italian	Romanian	Thai
Arabic	Dutch	Frisian	Japanese	Russian	Turkish
Basque	English	Galician	Korean	Serbian	Ukrainian
Bulgarian	Esperanto	German	Latin	Slovak	Vietnamese
Byelorussian	Estonian	Greek	Lithuanian	Slovenian	Welsh
Catalan	Faeroese	Hebrew	Malay	Spanish	and others
Chinese	Hungarian	Icelandic	Norwegian	Swahili	Total = 77
Croatian	Farsi	Indonesian	Polish	Swedish	

What topics can be searched?

Dynamic full text search on human rights and related topics such as: gender, immigration, government, peace, civil society, hunger, elections, labour, water, development, policy, non-violence, refugees, terrorism, investment, regionalism, capacity building, housing, children, democracy, trade unions, environment, hate crimes, statistics, reparation, race relations, economy, trade, globalisation, disabilities, trafficking, disaster, army, media, public security, education, AIDS, homeless, domestic violence, specific geographical areas, conflict resolution etc.

HuriSearch: a HURIDOCS tool which has been supported by:

- Fast Search & Transfer ASA
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, NORAD
- Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE/ODIHR
- Human Rights Education Associates (HREA)
- Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Reebok Human Rights Foundation
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
- Mennonite Central Committee Canada (MCCC)

Approximate annual operating funding required: \$187,000 U.S.

What does HuriSearch provide?

Effective access to human rights information on the web

a search tool with egalitarian and known ranking and indexing principles without regard to commercial agendas, censorship issues or political pressure

search capabilities in 77 different languages

look up lists by country and organisation

enhanced access to sites of smaller organisations

a dynamic list of most frequently occurring keywords based on each search, allowing users to refine their searches by a simple click

world wide information dissemination opportunities even for small organisations

Enhanced relevancy of searches on topics related to human rights

HuriSearch

Facilitating Access to Human Rights Information on the Web

Who would find HuriSearch useful?

- **Non-governmental organizations** with a focus on human rights or related topics
- **Professional groups** with human rights as part of their core activities
- **Journalists** and media professionals
- **Government** officials (judges, police officers, prison staff, medical professionals) who encounter human rights issues almost daily and need to know what international and regional human rights instruments and bodies state, what information is available to help them deal with difficult complexities and what constitutes good practice
- Government officials in ministries of **foreign affairs** who need global information involving national interests, country situations, dictatorial practices, good practices or potential violent conflict
- Officials in **international and intergovernmental organisations**, who either work directly or indirectly on human rights issues. People in the EU, UN, Council of Europe, UNESCO, UNHCR, WTO, ILO, WHO UNICEF, ICC, OSCE, IHRC, the African H.R. System and others, all need regular, up-to-date and often elusive human rights information
- **Academics librarians and students**, in politics, law, social sciences in general, environment, development economics and other related topics
- Private sector **businesses** and corporations. Labour rights, healthy working environments, reasonable pay, discrimination in the work place, best practices and pollution all are issues which can seriously affect profit and loss
- **Corporations** who have human rights policies and programmes
- **Human rights organisations**, particularly those without high levels of resources, who need an avenue to make their valuable information widely and easily available to a broad audience of people

*One of the biggest problems for the dissemination of information about human rights has been that web sites disappear among the results in the regular search engines. I recommend that everyone interested in human rights remember the name **HuriSearch** Lars Våge, PANDIA Search Engine News*

HuriSearch was #15 of the Top 50 search engines rated by SOSIG, Dec. 2004

...highly recommended for researchers, NGOs and civil society members who have an interest in locating quality human rights information ...

Dr. S. Maret, Charleston Advisor, October 2005

HURIDOCs
Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems, International

Where is HuriSearch?

http://www.hurisearch.org/search_2003

<http://saw2.nidelven.it.no:8080/search/search.jsp> 2006

<http://www.huridocs.org>

Appendix B Sampling of participants in the HURIDOCS network



Connection Collaboration Contribution

Some examples of Collaboration in Training:

- the Documentary Network of Indigenous Peoples, the Documentation Centre for Indigenous Peoples (DoCIP) and Mandat International organised and hosted 2 courses for indigenous peoples
- the UN Development Programme in Haiti and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) in Port-au-Prince organised and hosted 4 onsite advice and training sessions in Haiti
- Isis-Women's International Cross Cultural Exchange (Isis-WICCE) organized and hosted an international training institute for women in Uganda
- UN Development Programme (UNDP) in Tashkent organised and hosted two training courses in Uzbekistan
- the Albanian Human Rights Centre organised and hosted two national and two regional training courses
- the Legal and Human Rights Centre organised and hosted a training course in Tanzania
- the Human Rights and Rehabilitation Centre organised and hosted a training course and onsite analysis in Malawi
- the Rencontre Africaine pour la Defense des Droits de l'Homme (RADDHO) hosted a trainers' training course in Senegal
- The Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Programme, Warsaw, of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe hosted and organised a Training for Trainers course and a regional introductory training on monitoring violent incidents in Poland
- And many others

Many people donate a significant number of days and weeks to work on HURIDOCS projects. Some of these individuals are:

- Charles McCathieNeville (Australia) provides guidance on the semantic Web Project
- Hans Thoolen (Netherlands) represents HURIDOCS on the Board of the Martin Ennals Award
- Claire Dallier and Pauline Desnuelles (Geneva); Carolina Arango Blanco (Colombia), Sybille Badruddin (Lebanon) Maria Krouglova (Russia), Marc Lamontagne (Canada), Olga Shashkova (United States), Anastasiya Smirnova (United States), Fabricio Terrazas (Spain), Inga Urbina (Venezuela) and Carlos Vargas (Mexico), Irina Yarovaya (United States) are all volunteers working on translation of HURIDOCS documents into French, Spanish and Russian.
- Seven members of the HURIDOCS Continuation Committee (Board), each supervise specific aspects of HURIDOCS work, spending many holidays and evenings working on HURIDOCS projects.
- Dominique Bejean, Eolya, works on the new HuriSearch interface
- Bert Verstappen and Nejib Ghali provide administrative support
- Sue Barkman provides Fund Development Advice
- Programmer Dominique Fischer (France) developed the WinEvsys consolidation module
- And many others

Some examples of Collaboration in Projects

- Human Rights Education Associates hosts and co-ordinates the huridocs-tech mailing list and collaborate on HURISEARCH
- Comlink-Germany – Trilos has hosted various HURIDOCS Internet mailing lists and the HURIDOCS Website
- the Science and Human Rights Program of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Commonwealth Medical Trust, the Food First Information and Action Network collaborate in the project on monitoring economic, social and cultural rights
- Fast Search & Transfer ASA, Norway host HuriSearch, provide software, some hardware, licences and some development expertise
- the Evsys Design Team members work on new features and specific adaptations of Evsys. The team has included members from Canada, Philippines, France, UK, Chile and the Netherlands
- Harold and Selma Light Centre for Human Rights Advocacy translated HURIDOCS materials into Russian
- Coalition Against Trafficking in Women provided an analysis on required WinEvsys adaptations
- The Ligue des Droits de la personne dans la région des Grands Lacs, various local human rights organisations in Rwanda, Burundi and DR Congo, the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights (SIM) and Amnesty International (Dutch section) work collaboratively on a project to strengthen documentation and monitoring of human rights in the Great Lakes Region
- Hanne Stemann, MetaPoint supply PLONE webspace
- And others

HURIDOCS Financial Contributors since 2000 have included:

- Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 - Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 - Department for International Development, UK
 - Human Rights Desk of Evangelical Churches, Germany
 - Human Rights Education Associates
 - International Development Research Centre, Canada
 - Joyce Mertz Gilmore Foundation, USA
 - Mennonite Central Committee, Canada
 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland
 - Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 - Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
 - Prime Minister's Office, France
 - Reebok Human Rights Foundation
 - Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
 - Swiss Department for Foreign Affairs
- In addition, Canadian donations are handled by our strategic partner, Rights & Democracy, Montreal, Canada

WHO USES HURIDOCs TOOLS?

Some organisations who use HURIDOCs library tools are:

- African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the African Centre for Human Rights in the Gambia
- Anti-Racism Information Service (ARIS), Switzerland
- Arab Institute of Human Rights
- Council of Europe and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees
- Danish Institute for Human Rights and Norwegian Centre for Human Rights
- Human Rights Resource Centre, and the Ombudsman Office, Malawi
- Human Rights and Documentation Centre, Faculty of Law, University of Namibia
- Institute for Human Rights, Åbo Akademi University, Netherlands Institute of Human Rights (SIM), University of Utrecht
- Indigenous Peoples' Center for Documentation, Research and Information (DoCIP)
- Institute of Southern African Studies, Lesotho
- International Centre for Ethnic Studies in Sri Lanka
- International Commission of Jurists
- Legal Research and Resource Development Centre, Nigeria
- Ligue des Droits de la personne dans la région des Grands Lacs, Rwanda and Ligue Itaka, Burundi
- Makerere Full Gospel Church, Uganda
- National Human Rights Commission, Nepal
- Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights, Sweden
- Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims, and OASIS, Denmark
- Rights & Democracy, Canada
- And others

HURIDOCs Events Formats, Micro-thesauri or WinEvsys are implemented, adapted or used for reference by organisations such as:

- Human Rights Information and Documentation Centre, Georgia
- Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation in Malawi (coordinates a network of 20 organisations)
- Groups in Indonesia including the Institute for Policy Research and Advocacy and KontraS (Commission for Disappearances and Victims of Violence)
- Haiti Solidarity International
- Justice et Paix in Haiti
- The Coalition Against Trafficking in Women – Asia Pacific: a network of about 60 organisations
- Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas (México)
- OSCE Centre in Tajikistan
- And others

Trainers are from all over the world

Jean Baptiste Azolin (Haiti), Abie Acuba-Cainglet (Philippines), Saskia Bal (Netherlands), Svend B. Christensen (Denmark), Marija Laszlo (Croatia), Ion Iacobs (Romania), Manuel Guzman (Philippines), Patrick Müller (France), Louise Richard (Haiti), Noeline Nabwire (Kenya), Svetlana Velikoredchanina (Russia), Pavel Chacuk (Belarus), Bankole Olubamise (Nigeria), and many others provide leadership in training activities.

Connection
Collaboration
Contribution

HuriSearch provides an avenue for even small organisations to make their information available worldwide. A large number of organisations have links to HuriSearch right on their pages—creating needed global connections. Some examples include:

- [American Association for the Advancement of Science](#)
- [Asian Resources for Librarians](#)
- [Brazil Human Rights and Justice](#)
- [Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeast Europe](#)
- [Cátedra UNESCO de Educación para la Paz](#)
- [Council on Foreign Relations \(U.S.\)](#)
- [Georgetown University Law Center](#)
- [International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific](#)
- [l'Institut universitaire d'études du développement](#)
- [McGill University](#)
- [Дайджест](#) (Computational Linguistics and Information Technologies)
- [Московская школа политических исследований](#) (Moscow School of Political Studies)
- [Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law](#)
- [Tufts University](#)
- [Trinity Western University, British Columbia](#)
- [UNESCO Chair and Institute of Comparative Human Rights](#)
- [United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights](#)
- [University of Calgary Law Library](#)
- [University of Copenhagen](#)
- [University of Portsmouth \(UK\)](#) and many others

HURIDOCs provides support to a number of regional/linguistic networks which it helped to establish:

European Coordination Committee on Human Rights Documentation
 Arab Human Rights Information Network (AHRINET)
 Asian Committee for the Training of Trainers (ACTT)
 Red de Informática y Documentación en Derechos Humanos de América Latina y el Caribe (RIDHUALC)
 Human Rights Information Network for Anglophone Africa (HURINAA)

HURIDOCs provides support to thematic documentation networks such as

CATW Asia/Pacific (regional network undertaking documentation of violence against women)
 Documentary Network of Indigenous People
 International Torture Documentation Network (ITDN)

Appendix C. About HURIDOCS

To read this in French:

<http://fast.nidelven-it.no/huridocs/downloadarea/publications/leaflets/HURIDOCS%20sheet%20-%20french2.pdf>

HUMAN RIGHTS INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION SYSTEMS, INTERNATIONAL

A global capacity-building network of organisations that use documentation techniques, monitoring methods, information management systems and available technologies in the defence of human rights and the prevention of abuses.

Vision: A world where the **power of information** and communication is harnessed in the service of human rights

Mission: To strengthen the **effectiveness and credibility** of human rights organisations and national human rights institutions by enhancing their capacity to manage and communicate information

Goal: To ensure that human rights organisations have the **tools, knowledge, skills and supporting services** to use their information resources effectively



Objectives

1. To develop **tools and techniques** for monitoring, information management and communication; and to provide them to human rights organisations and national human rights institutions.
2. To build the capacity of the human rights community to master and adapt these tools and techniques to their specific needs through **training** and other activities.
3. To support human rights organisations to set up and **strengthen their information systems**.
4. To improve human rights **advocacy and reporting techniques**.
5. To expand human rights **outreach and network capacity**.
6. To provide a **centre of excellence** on methods and techniques for human rights.

HURIDOCS Centre of Excellence and Secretariat

48, chemin du Grand-Montfleury
CH-1290 Versoix, Switzerland
Tel. 41.22.755 5252, Fax 41.22.755 5260
Email: info@huridocs.org
Websites: www.huridocs.org www.huriresearch.org/search 2003
<http://saw2.nidelven-it.no:8080/search/search.jsp> 2006

North America:

828 Ash Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3N 0R8
Tel. 1.204 488 7538
Email: huridocs@mts.net

Canadian donations can be designated for HURIDOCS and made payable to **Rights & Democracy** who will issue tax receipts. Charitable registration number: 130349822 RR 0001

HURIDOCS Continuation Committee (BOARD)

Kofi Kumado (Ghana), CHAIR
Judith Dueck (Canada), VICE-CHAIR
Agneth Olesen (Denmark), TREASURER
Jonathan Kuttab (Palestine)
Aurora Javate de Dios (Philippines)
James Lawson (France)
Aida María Noval (Mexico)

HURIDOCS
Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems, International

Appendix D. HuriSearch Features and other information

HuriSearch crawls and indexes the websites of 3000 human rights websites. A list of these websites was developed and is maintained by HURIDOCS. The main criterion for inclusion is that “human rights” should be a dominant area of work for the organisation concerned, as expressed on its website.

Search by type of publishing organization

Check boxes allow users to select one or more collections. By default all four are checked.

- **NGOs:** human rights NGO and NGOS with a major human rights component
- **Academic institutions:** universities, research centres etc
- **National human rights institutions:** ombudsmen, advisory bodies, commissions of various kinds. National institutions complying with the Paris Principles adopted under the auspices of UNESCO are marked with PP after the organization name.
- **Intergovernmental organizations** at international and regional. Where mandates go beyond the human rights, only the relevant departments are indexed.

Search by language

This drop down searches documents in a specific language. By default the search is conducted in all documents, no matter what language they are in.

Search results clustered by organization

The originality of HuriSearch is the way it displays the results: they are grouped together by source. This means all the pages from the same website are bundled together, displaying the most relevant document for each site. This gives a chance to the websites of small NGOs to appear in the top search results. This is good for researchers because they get easy access to first-hand information produced by country-specific or theme-specific organizations. These smaller sources are often lost by larger search engines, which give higher rankings to the more popular websites of large international organizations and NGOs.

Results Drill down

In addition to the features available in the drill-down area, results based drill-down is provided via the Find , Refine and Exclude links available on each result.

- **Find:** By clicking on the Find link HuriSearch will find documents similar to the selected document in the complete collection.
- **Refine:** By clicking on the Refine link HuriSearch will refine the query by returning only documents similar to the selected document within the original result list.
- **Exclude:** By clicking on the Exclude link HuriSearch will refine the query by returning only documents different from the selected document within the original result list.

Search within results

When this box is checked HuriSearch lets users redefine search criteria which will be run **within** the documents retrieved in the previous query. This allow users to zoom in - step by step - to the most relevant documents.

Drill-down area

Various drill-down lists allow users to “zoom” into retrieved documents according to a number of criteria. For each drill-down list, users can click on “More” to see the full list or “Show Less” to reduce the list .

Languages

HuriSearch indicates in which of the 77 languages documents retrieved in a search are written (with the number of retrieved documents in that language in brackets). This listed is sorted with the most frequently found language first.

Countries

HuriSearch indicates the countries where the documents retrieved in a search are published (with the number of retrieved documents in that country in brackets). This list is based on the country in which the organization publishing the document is based, as indicated by the organization when submitting its site, or following research by HURIDOCS. This is NOT determined by top level domain (for example .ru or .ch), or by analysing the IP. This list is sorted with the country publishing the most documents first.

Organizations

HuriSearch indicates the Organizations on whose sites the documents retrieved are published. This list is based on information indicated by the organization when submitting its site, or following research by HURIDOCS. This list is sorted alphabetically with the Organization publishing the most documents in the result list first. This does not necessarily mean that the organization indicated is the author of the document retrieved, as some websites reproduce content originally published by others.

HURIDOCS Terms

HuriSearch analyses search results and tells users when a HURIDOCS index term is mentioned, so that the most prevalent human rights themes are identified. Click on any term to get the most relevant pages for it. The HURIDOCS index covers the most relevant keywords in human rights work. This allows users to drill down results list using a broad list of human rights terms established by HURIDOCS.

Five language versions of these terms are currently implemented in HuriSearch (English, French, Spanish, German and Russian). The drill-down list will be in the language of the interface being used (currently English only but other languages are planned) even if the documents themselves may contain the terms in one of the four other languages.

This list is sorted with the most commonly found term first. The complete list of HURIDOCS index terms is available at: <http://www.huridocs.org/mt1.htm>

Keywords

HuriSearch instantly analyses the documents retrieved in a search and extracts keywords found in them. Keywords are not checked against a control list and may contain irrelevant terms. These keywords prove to be very useful for guiding users to search terms they may not have identified.

Advanced Search Screen

The advanced search screen allows powerful searches with advanced search logic and linguistic tools. In addition to the features of the simple search described above, the advanced search provides tools for more precise searching.

Search by language: this drop-down list allows users to search documents in any of 77 languages. By default the search is conducted in all documents no matter what language they are in.

Search by document types: this allows users to define which types of documents to retrieve. Selecting **PowerPoint** for example will limit the search to **PowerPoint** documents. A number of the most commonly found document types are available.

Use spell checking: when this box is checked HuriSearch calls on advanced linguistics tools to analyse queries. If no documents are retrieved and the terms searched are not contained in one of the HuriSearch dictionaries, the system will propose new terms as illustrated below. Currently spell checking is available in English, German, Italian, Portuguese, French and Spanish. By default English spell checking is used. Selecting the appropriate "search by language" activates the corresponding spell checker.

Search within results: this function allows users to further refine a search. When this box is checked HuriSearch lets users redefine search criteria which will be run **within** the documents retrieved in the previous query. This allows users to zoom in - step by step - to the most relevant documents.

Ranking and sorting

By default result lists are ranked by relevancy. It is also possible to rank by date by checking the box: The date used for sorting is the date that the page was indexed by HuriSearch. As the index is still quite new this sort is of limited value, but will prove more useful as the index matures. In the future, HuriSearch will take into account Dublin Core meta data, which contains a field for the date of publication. This will make searching by date more reliable, provided that websites systematically use meta data field to describe the pages they publish.

HuriSearch email Newsletter

Contact HURIDOCS to receive updates on HuriSearch as well as regular advice on how to make web content more retrievable. HURIDOCS privacy policy is simple: HURIDOCS does not share these email addresses with anyone else.

HuriSearch Crawl

HuriSearch uses a dedicated web crawler to retrieve and index documents based on a starting URL which in most instances will be a domain name. www.yoursite.org. The crawl conforms to a top-down approach and does not "horizontally" crawl to sites outside the domain specified in the starting URL. Sites mentioned for example in "Links" on a web page will not be crawled.

The Crawler visits sites periodically, identifying itself as as HuriSearchBot. Consult server logfiles for information regarding its activity. The frequency varies between once a day to once a week.

The crawler is set to comply with the Robots Exclusion Protocol and follow robots.txt instructions. See <http://www.robotstxt.org/wc/exclusion.html#robots.txt> If there are areas on a site that organisations do not wish to have indexed on HuriSearch, the robots.txt can be modified. Contact HURIDOCS for more information.

HuriSearch conforms to on-document instructions contained in the HTML Robots Meta Tag. See <http://www.robotstxt.org/wc/meta-user.html> for more information.

HuriSearch ranking

Retrieved documents are ranked on the result list solely on relevance. No paid listings are accepted, no popularity ranking is applied. The ranking algorithm is complex but in simple terms weights documents according to the placement, frequency and density of search terms within a document:

- When search terms are found in the URL, HTML TITLE, or HTML META tags of an HTML document, or in the Title and other fields of document properties (for Office and PDF files) it will be given a higher weight.
- When search terms are found in the HTML Headings of a document it will be given a higher weight.
- When search terms are found frequently in a document it will be given a higher weight.

How to make pages more retrievable.

Webmasters and authors can do many things to make their documents more retrievable such as:

1. Ensure documents have a TITLE,
2. Use meaningful and document specific meta data,
3. Ensure that documents have readable filenames,
4. Ensure that web pages have search engine friendly URLs.
5. Use metadata. See below

Many search engine optimisation sites on the web provide information about how to make pages more retrievable on the major search engines such as Google, Yahoo, MSN etc. Many of these tips are valid on HuriSearch, although some are not. In particular, the number of links on external sites pointing to a site has NO relevance in the HuriSearch algorithm.

Using metadata

HURIDOCS encourages webmasters to make systematic use of metadata to describe all published content, such as the Dublin Core meta data standard. This will make it easier for search engines to sort and retrieve documents. Content management systems allow persons without technical knowledge of HTML to easily create web content. Some of these systems also include fields for metadata, so content creators can directly add the relevant keywords by themselves. One excellent open source content management system which offers metadata fields is Plone.

HURIDOCS also recommends that at least one metadata keywords relevant to the human rights context, to describe the subject of a particular page. In such a case, a controlled vocabulary (or micro-thesaurus) will make it possible to avoid common errors made when adding keywords to a page, such as spelling mistakes, or using terms with overlapping or similar meaning. HURIDOCS has developed a micro-thesauri which may be used for this purpose which is available at <http://www.huridocs.org/mt1.htm>. In the future HuriSearch - like other search engines - will incorporate Dublin Core meta data into its indexing.

Adding a HuriSearch box to a website

Organizations are welcome to add a HuriSearch box on their websites for greater convenience and ease of use. Contact HURIDOCS for more information.

Feed-back!

Please forward questions, suggestions, ideas and comments to hurisearch@hurisearch.org