Using Westlaw

Westlaw is a legal database with an elaborate collection of U.S. primary and secondary resources and a large collection of leading international journals.

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1. Contents
Westlaw comprises several collections: United States, international materials (Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, United Kingdom, European Union), research areas (e.g. International Commercial Arbitration and Global Competition and Antitrust) and World Journals (approx. 1000 leading international journals).

See http://westlawinternational.com/our-solutions/research-tools/ for a complete overview. See also (5) for highlights.

Westlaw can be used to find:
- case law, case reports, decisions
- statutes, rules, (annotated) legislation, treaties
- journal articles
- treatises, commentary titles, dictionaries, books
- news and more.
2. Access
Go to: www.uba.uva.nl/law and:
- use the Westlaw quick link on the right hand side, or
- click on the button Databases, Journals... -> Databases -> Westlaw

Westlaw is only available within the UvA network; in UvA buildings (PC or wireless) and at home by using UvAVPN (see: http://tinyurl.com/o6ohovy) or proxy.

3. Searching
The search box (1) on the home page has several functions: search for a specific database (e.g. journal, collection, treatise, book) or to search with a citation (35 Yale J. Int'l L. 71) or to search all the content the sub collections of the U.S. collection in one go (2).

Clicking on International Materials (3) will lead you to the international collections. (Note that the functions of the searchbox (4) alter according to the chosen database.)
Clicking on a **Jurisdiction** opens a country specific collection, clicking on a **Content Type** opens the possibility to search a specific country by document type.

The **World Journals** collection can also be found here on the right hand side (5).

**3.a Using the search box**

Beware that a SPACE when using the simple search means OR. Searching on ‘copyright infringement’ will search for ‘copyright OR infringement’. It is important to phrase (use “ ”) your search or to replace the space with an & (meaning AND). See **Connectors and expanders**.

For a precise search it is recommended to use the ‘advanced search and the so called ‘connectors and expanders’.”
3.b Advanced search

The advanced search alters with the database (journal, collection, book) you have selected. Options may vary.

3.c Connectors and expanders

Special characters can be used to refine or broaden your search. You can use them in the simple search box or in the advanced search.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&amp;</td>
<td>AND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/s</td>
<td>in same sentence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+s</td>
<td>preceding within sentence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/p</td>
<td>in same paragraph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;&quot;</td>
<td>phrase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+p</td>
<td>preceding within paragraph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>but not</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/n</td>
<td>within n terms of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For example:
“parents rights” & motherhood  (phrased / AND)
“parents right ” /p motherhood     (phrased / AND within same paragraph)
“parents rights” /8 motherhood     (phrased / AND within 8 terms of)
“parents rights” & mother!       (phrased / AND root expanded) *

* (does also search for mother, mothers, motherhood, motherly)

Specific date e.g. 06-22-2014 : “rule of law” & DA(06-22-2014)
Date year e.g. 2015 and 2016 **: “rule of law” & DA(aft 12-31-2014 & bef 01-01-2017)

** can be used in the World Journals collection to specify a date or period.

4. Westlaw UK
In addition to Westlaw the Law Library now also provides access to Westlaw UK which covers UK case law and case reports, legislation, news, legal journals (100+), commentary and EU legal materials. We recommend to use this database for UK research although most of the resources can also be found in Westlaw.

5. Highlights

See below a list of some useful resources within Westlaw:

American Jurisprudence
American Law Reports
Black’s Law Dictionary
Code of Federal Regulations
Corpus Juris Secundum
Criminal Law Review
Domke on Commercial Arbitration
European Competition Law Review
European Law Review
European Human Rights Reports
European Human Rights Law Review
European Intellectual Property Review
Federal Register
International Commercial Arbitration
International Materials
Legal Journal Index
Law Quarterly Review
Redfern and Hunter’s Law and Practice of International Commercial Arbitration
Restatements & Principles of the Law
Rowley & Baker: International Mergers
United States Code Annotated
World Journals