

AJIL UNBOUND STYLE GUIDE

Subject to variations indicated below and exceptional circumstances, AJIL Unbound follows *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* (20th ed. 2015)¹ [hereinafter *Bluebook*] on such matters as typeface conventions; quotations; abbreviations, numerals, and symbols; italicization; and terms of court. For questions not answered by the *Bluebook*, and for matters of capitalization and titles, we mainly follow the *Chicago Manual of Style* (17th ed. 2017) [hereinafter *Manual*].

Capitalization

(1) AJIL tends to capitalize more than the *Manual*, especially in short forms of reference to a major international court, treaty, or organization. Exceptions to the *Manual*—and some *Bluebook*—rules are, when speaking of a specific court, convention, treaty, etc., on its own:

- the “Assembly”—e.g., the UN General Assembly
- the “Council”—e.g., the UN Security Council
- the “Court”—the highest court of a nation or a major international or regional court such as the International Court of Justice, the Court of Justice of the European Communities
- the “Convention”—e.g., the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties
- the “Rules”—e.g., the ICJ’s Rules of Court
- the “Treaty”—e.g., the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty
- the “Secretariat”—e.g., the UN Secretariat
- the “Commission”—e.g., the UN International Law Commission and the UN Commission on Human Rights
- the “Committee”—e.g., the UN Human Rights Committee
- the “Judgment”—e.g., ICJ Judgments
- “Resolution,” “Article,” “Annex,” “Appendix”—only when followed by a number (but not “page,” “paragraph,” “chapter,” “note”)
- the “Tribunal”—e.g., Iran–United States Claims Tribunal, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
- a designated temporary use of a word standing alone (by inclusion in parentheses, but not quotation marks) for convenience, such as in a work on the General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women—(the Declaration)
- the above instruments, etc., are not capitalized if they have not yet entered into force or been established—e.g., the convention
- the phrase “optional clause” should not be capitalized, because it is not a formal name
- the phrase “diss.op.,” when used parenthetically (usually in citations), should not be capitalized

¹ To order a copy of the *Bluebook*, please visit www.legalbluebook.com.

(2) AJIL Unbound follows *Manual* chapter 7, sections 7.16–7.24, for personal titles, capitalizing only when the title is directly followed by the person’s name. E.g.,

President Bush, but “the president”
 Prime Minister Blair, but “the prime minister”
 Secretary-General Annan, but “the secretary-general”

(3) AJIL Unbound follows the *Bluebook* on capitalizing prepositions in all titles. That is, any preposition of five or more letters will be capitalized.

(4) Terms such as “state,” “city,” “commonwealth,” etc., should only be capitalized when used as an accepted part of the proper name of a place. *Manual* chapter 7, section 7.40. E.g., “New York City” vs. “the city of New York”; “Washington State” vs. “the state of Washington.” This means that, in order to include one of these terms in the text, the editor must know or find out what the proper name of a place is.

Hyphenation and Compound Words

AJIL Unbound generally follows the *Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary* (11th ed. 2008) in determining how words should be spelled—for example, whether “decision-making” should be one word, two words, or hyphenated. When a word does not appear in the dictionary, we follow *Manual* rules in chapter 6, “Spelling and Distinctive Treatment of Words.” The *Manual*’s list of prefixes that do not carry hyphens, such as “non” and “anti,” should be followed. Note that no en dash should be used in the expression “nonstate actors.”

Standard phrases such as “international law” should not be hyphenated when used as adjectival compounds. Editors will act judiciously, not hyphenating standard or clearly familiar phrases where there is “little or no risk of ambiguity or hesitation.” *Manual* chapter 6, section 6.4.1. This may be a context-based decision.

Exceptions include:

The prefix cyber: Two words except for “cyberspace.”—e.g., cyber activities

Non-refoulement

Abbreviations

We do not use U.S. and UN as nouns and prefer generally not to use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., EC) as nouns. The periods are retained in U.S. when used as an adjective (but not in UK).

Do not include abbreviations when they are not used later in the same piece; similarly, in all but a few very obvious cases, do not use abbreviations or acronyms unless they have previously been identified in parentheses. Exceptions include ICJ and UN. Please avoid overuse of abbreviations and acronyms, especially when they appear only a few times and a clear substitute can be found [(e.g., committee)].

Note that in proper names, the *Bluebook* closes the space between initials, but that based on the *Manual* rule, AJIL Unbound does not (e.g., John B. C. Doe). AJIL Unbound does close the space for case names, which in this context are usually company names (e.g., *W.S. Kirkpatrick & Co. v. Environmental Tectonics Corp.*).

Nonenglish Words and Phrases: Typeface Conventions

The *Bluebook* adopted modern style some years ago and no longer italicizes commonly used foreign words and phrases. Do not italicize Latin expressions commonly found in legal texts such as *amicus curiae*, *inter alia*, e.g., i.e., et al., *de facto* and *de jure* (unless being used to contrast each other), *qua*, *prima facie*, and *viz.*, but retain italicization for *sic*.

Names of foreign tribunals, by analogy to the names of foreign parliaments and other common foreign words, also should not be italicized.

Please retain all foreign characters and diacritical marks necessary for proper spelling.

Numbers, Numerals, and Symbols

(1) AJIL Unbound follows the *Bluebook* for numbers and symbols, with the following major exceptions:

- Round numbers should be spelled out. E.g., “hundred,” “million.”
- Whole numbers from one through one hundred should be spelled out. E.g., “forty-four,” “thirty-nine.”
- Any whole numbers above followed by a round number should be spelled out. E.g., “one hundred thousand,” “twenty-four million.”
- Percentages should be expressed as follows, regardless of the size of the number:
 - In text, numeral + the word (e.g., “2 percent”)
 - In footnotes, numeral + the symbol (e.g., “2%”)
- Numerals should not be used to refer to AJIL Unbound essay sections. E.g., “part II,” not “part 2.”

(2) Vote counts should be expressed in numerals, e.g., “5-4,” “5 to 4,” “30-10-3” (where the meaning of each figure has been established). Note that hyphens are used between the numerals, not en dashes.

Cross-references to Material in the Same Manuscript

When cross-referencing textual material or footnotes in the same manuscript, AJIL Unbound does not use the *Bluebook*’s formulation “text accompanying notes *x* and *y*.” Rather, because the notes actually accompany the text, we prefer “text at notes *x* and *y*” or, when applicable, “note *x* and corresponding text.”

Formating Citations

All manuscripts should be [submitted double-spaced] with footnotes, not endnotes. Mastery

of the *Bluebook* is not required, but please provide enough information to enable our editorial staff to format each of your citations properly. The more required information we have initially, the smoother will be the process of readying your manuscript for publication. Thus, please utilize the checklist below in formulating your citations.

Checklist for Citation Information

Please include at least the following information in the first citation of each of your sources, with correct characters, accents, etc.:

<i>book with one or multiple authors</i>	—	names of authors as printed on the book's title page
	—	full title of book as printed
	—	editor(s) and/or translator as printed in the book, if applicable
	—	year of publication
	—	page(s) to which you refer, if any
	—	URL (web address), if available online

Examples: THEODOR MERON, HENRY'S WARS AND SHAKESPEARE'S LAWS 71 (1993).

INTERNATIONAL LAW, THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS (Laurence Boisson de Chazournes & Philippe Sands eds., 1999).

<i>book collecting shorter works</i>	—	names of editors as printed on the book's title page
	—	full title of book as printed
	—	year of publication
	—	name of author(s) of essay to which you refer as printed in the book
	—	full title of the essay
	—	beginning page of the essay
	—	page(s) to which you refer
	—	URL (web address), if available online

Example: Richard R. Baxter, Jus in Bello Interno: *The Present and Future Law, in* LAW AND CIVIL WAR IN THE MODERN WORLD 518, 527–28 (John Norton Moore ed., 1974).

<i>periodical article; periodical</i>	—	author(s) of article as printed in the article title page
<i>consecutively paginated</i>	—	full title of the article as printed
<i>(pagination continues</i>	—	full name of the periodical
<i>consecutively throughout volume)</i>	—	volume number
	—	year of publication
	—	page on which article begins
	—	page(s) to which you refer
	—	URL (web address), if available online

Example: Peter H. Schuck, *Refugee Burden-Sharing: A Modest Proposal*, 22 YALE J. INT'L L. 243 (1997).

<i>periodical article; periodical</i>	—	author(s) of the article as printed
<i>nonconsecutively paginated</i>	—	full title of the article
<i>(each issue in volume paginated</i>	—	full name of the periodical
<i>separately)</i>	—	day, month, & year of publication
	—	page on which the article begins
	—	page(s) to which you refer
	—	URL (web address), if available online

Example: Robert J. Mathews & Timothy L. H. McCormack, *The Influence of Humanitarian Principles in the Negotiation of Arms Control Treaties*, 81 INT'L REV. RED CROSS 331 (1999).

newspaper article — everything requested for nonconsecutively paginated periodical above, except: if the article is not available online, please include the initial section number/letter (or other identifier) & page number; we do not need the page(s) to which you refer

Example (online): Colum Lynch, *Holbrooke Faces Challenge at U.N.; New Ambassador Seeks to Restore U.S. Clout Eroded by Fights over Dues, Policy*, WASH. POST (Aug. 24, 1999).

Example (only print): Colum Lynch, *Holbrooke Faces Challenge at U.N.; New Ambassador Seeks to Restore U.S. Clout Eroded by Fights over Dues, Policy*, WASH. POST, Aug. 24, 1999, at A12.

document from the UN or — document number

regional body

- full name of the issuing body
- date of document, including month, day, and year if possible
- full title of the document, if available
- full name of author, where not apparent from the title, if available
- page(s), paragraph(s), article(s), etc., to which you refer
- URL (web address), if available online

Example: UNHCR, Note on International Protection, UN Doc. A/AC.96/830, para. 54 (1994).

*third-party decisions (e.g.,
court judgments & orders,
arbitral awards, etc.)*

- full name of the case as printed in the official source
- full names of the parties (where different from above) in the order they appear
- name of the court in which it was heard
- name of the reporter in which it is published
- page of the reporter on which the case begins
- page(s) to which you refer
- full date of the decision, as available
- URL (web address), if available online

Examples: National Thermal Power Corp. v. Singer Co., 1993 Y.B. COM. ARB. 403 (Sup. Ct. India, 1992).

International Standard Elec. Corp. v. Bidas Sociedad Anonima Petrolera Industrial y Commercial, 745 F.Supp. 172 (S.D.N.Y. 1990)

Military and Paramilitary Activities in and against Nicaragua (Nicar. v. U.S.), Merits, 1986 ICJ REP. 14, 114 (June 27).

Hyperlinks

AJIL Unbound uses hyperlinks instead of giving full URLs for reference. The use of hyperlinks is generally limited to footnotes. For each source that is available online, the respective title is linked. Authors are not expected to include links themselves but are encouraged to provide the relevant URLs. Where a link is likely to expire in the future, please include a permalink, which is easily created at <https://perma.cc>.

Example: Daniela Campello & Leany Barreiro Lemos, [*The Non-Ratification of Bilateral Investment Treaties in Brazil: A Story of Conflict in a Land of Cooperation*](#), 22 REV. INT'L POL. ECON. 1055 (2015).

And: Campello & Barreiro Lemos, [*supra* note 2](#), at 1056.

Note, however, that crossreferences that contain a title still place the hyperlink on the respective title:

[VCLT](#), *supra* note 2.

Bluebook *Exceptions and Clarifications*

Internet Citations

To facilitate worldwide access to source material, AJIL Unbound encourages the inclusion of citations to the World Wide Web. When citing Internet materials, please include the following information in the citation:

- author's name as found on the Internet document, if available
- title of the document or top-level heading of the page, if available
- a date should be provided for all citations (year, month, and day. Hour and minute of publication is not necessary): If the material is an electronic journal or publication, provide date of publication; if document has an "internal" date, such as the date on which a speech was given or a conference was held, include that. This date should be included in parentheses following the title and without accompanying text.
- electronic periodicals should otherwise follow the guidelines provided for print periodicals

Example of Internet periodical citation with publication date:

Lakshmi Chaudhry, *A South African AIDS Catch-22*, WIRED NEWS (Apr. 25, 2000).

Example of Internet nonperiodical citation with internal date:

Briefing by Mrs. Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to the Security Council (May 5, 1999).

If a manuscript makes repeated references to documents routinely published by an institution on the Internet, an early footnote might provide a general reference to that Web site instead of including repeated references to the site in subsequent citations, e.g., "ICJ decisions are available online at <http://www.icj-cij.org>."

Online Databases

When citing to an electronic database, such as Westlaw or LEXIS, include a complete citation to the document and a parallel citation to the database. Such citations should include the phrase, "*available in*." Thus:

Report on the Proposed International Criminal Court, REC. ASS'N B. CITY N.Y., Jan./Feb. 1997, *available in* LEXIS, Lawrev Library, Record File.

When citing to a wire service or other materials that are unavailable or difficult to obtain in

print, include a complete citation in standard *Bluebook* form, with the addition of the database citation, using the “*available in*” form, at the end of the citation. The database citation itself (that which follows the “*available in*”) should include the name of the database and other information that would help locate the file, such as a path to the files and file number. For example:

Zeno Park, *N. Korea Uses Disputed Waters for Concessions from US: Analysts*, Agence France-Presse, Mar. 24, 2000, *available in* LEXIS, News Library, Wires File.
 Usha Lee McFarling, *Dying Frogs Called the “Canaries” of Ozone Loss*, BOSTON GLOBE, Mar. 8, 1994, at 1, *available in* 1994 WL 5978840.

[In general, when referring to a sourcing from the internet are categorized into webpages and documents available online.]

Webpages: Author (if available), *Title*, NAME OF WEBPAGE (date if available).

[*Cambridge Conference Facilities*](#), CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS.

Please note that top-level domains (.com, .net, etc.) are generally not included. Exceptions are made in cases in which a webpage is otherwise not identifiable as such.

Documents available online are cited according to the relevant bluebook rules for the type of document.

Periodical Titles

Please note the following abbreviations:

AJIL for AM. J. INT’L L. (American Journal of International Law)
 ASIL for Am. Soc’y Int’l L. (American Society of International Law)
 EJIL for EUR. J. INT’L L. (European Journal of International Law)
 ILM for I.L.M. (International Legal Materials)
 ICJ REP. for I.C.J. (International Court of Justice Reports)
 PCIJ for P.C.I.J. (Permanent Court of International Justice)
 ECR for E.C.R. (European Court Reporter)
 ILR for I.L.R. (International Law Reports)
 UNTS for U.N.T.S. (United Nations Treaty Series)

See also entry for *Recueil des Cours*, *infra*, page 10.

Spacing

AJIL omits space from the following:

S.Ct.
 F.Supp.
 §1601

¶18

UN Resolutions

Use the longer, Official Records (GAOR, SCOR) cite when the Official Records are available and have been published. Do not turn document numbers into Official Records cites where you don't know whether the Official Records have been published yet.

While the *Bluebook* form is acceptable, especially for recent sessions, it is also permissible to give an abbreviated citation to resolutions of the UN General Assembly and Security Council consisting only of the issuing body, resolution number, and the full date of passage in parentheses. Do not use the "UN Doc." number citation. For example:

GA Res. 47/226 (Apr. 30, 1993).

Until 1976, the session number must be added:

GA Res. 3541 (XXX) (Dec. 17, 1975).

UN Document Titles

The 16th edition of the *Bluebook* began italicizing the names of UN documents, a practice we have not adopted for the sake of consistency. Thus, the title of General Assembly resolutions and the annual reports of the International Law Commission are carried in roman. Whole books published by the United Nations are cited according to the *Bluebook* rule for sales documents (but see rule on yearbooks).

UN Meetings: UN SCOR, 72d Sess., [7866 mtg.](#) (Jan. 19, 2017).

Press Releases: UN Security Council Press Release, [Security Council Press Statement on Mali](#), UN Doc. SC/10878 (Jan. 10, 2013).

ICJ Cases

As mentioned above, the *ICJ Reports* is cited as ICJ REP. AJIL Unbound follows the Court's own mode of citation more closely than the *Bluebook* and includes the type of decision immediately after the case name instead of parenthetically at the end of the citation. However, AJIL Unbound does not include generic characterizations such as "Judgment" or "Order" in the citation. Note that "Advisory Opinion" should be separated by commas from other parts of an ICJ citation, not indicated parenthetically.

E.g., East Timor (Port. v. Austl.), 1995 ICJ REP. 90 (June 30).

Certain Expenses of the United Nations (Article 17, Paragraph 2, of the Charter),
Advisory Opinion, 1962 ICJ REP. 151 (July 20).

Corfu Channel (UK v. Alb.), Preliminary Objection, 1948 ICJ REP. 15 (Mar. 25).

But not:

East Timor (Port. v. Austl.), Judgment, 1995 ICJ REP. 90 (June 30).

Where an ICJ case has not yet been printed in the Reporter, please use the following format and include citation to ILM or the ICJ's Web site, if possible:

Case Name (A v. B), [descriptor, if appropriate], (Int'l Ct. Justice, month day, year).

Parties should not be italicized when given parenthetically, whether in footnotes or in text. (The *Bluebook* does not consider the parties to be part of the case name.) If the case is given a short name that consists of party names, however, the names should be italicized because of the short-form rule. E.g., "In *Spain v. Canada*, the Court noted . . ."

Recueil des Cours

For the *Recueil des Cours de l'Académie de Droit International*, we use RECUEIL DES COURS. After the first use, the *Bluebook* abbreviation R.C.A.D.I. can be used. We prefer to add the volume number for that year to the parenthetical for those volumes having such designations; e.g.,

Peter D. Trooboff, *Foreign State Immunity: Emerging Consensus on Principles*, 200 RECUEIL DES COURS 235 (1986 V).

Department of State Bulletin

Cites to this Bulletin before 1979 should include a volume number and year of publication, while cites for 1979 and subsequent years should include the month and year of publication, but no volume number; e.g.,

Purpose of Treaty with Republic of China, 31 DEP'T ST. BULL. 896 (1954).

Warren Christopher, *Agreements with Taiwan*, DEP'T ST. BULL., Jan. 1980, at 10.

WTO Reports

Panel [or Appellate Body] Report, [case name not in italics] United States—[em dash; no spaces on either side] Sections 301—[en dash; no spaces on either side] 310 of the Trade Act of 1974, WT/DS152/R [note that number changes (after the basic case number, or DS152 in this case, with each new document in a WTO proceeding)] (Adopted month [e.g., Feb.] xx, year). [add date of adoption, rather than the date the report was circulated. If not adopted, then we add the date as follows: (Circulated month xx, year)]

If there is a reference to particular paragraph, we include them after the name of the report but before the report number. We set them off by commas and use "para." or "paras." rather than any paragraph sign.

International Arbitration Awards:

For ICSID Awards, follow *Bluebook* Rule 21.6.

Example: [L.E.S.I. S.p.A. v. Alg.](#), ICSID Case No. ARB/05/3, Award (Nov. 12, 2008).

For Awards outside of the ICSID setting, if available include a case number and the procedural rules used.

Example (UNCITRAL): [OAO Tatneft v. Ukr.](#), Award on the Merits, para. 365 (UNCITRAL, July 29, 2014).

Example (Permanent Court of Arbitration): [Mesa Power Group LLC v. Can.](#), PCA Case No. 2012-17, Submission of the US, para. 10 (July 25, 2014).

International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

[Request for an Advisory Opinion Submitted by the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission \(SRFC\)](#), Case No. 21, Advisory Opinion of Apr. 2, 2015, para.129, ITLOS Rep. 2013, 212

International Criminal Court

For specific cases see Bluebook Rule 21.5.7

Other documents: [Decision Requesting Information on the Status of the Preliminary Examination of the Situation in the Central African Republic](#), ICC-01/05-6 (Nov. 30, 2006).

Special Court for Sierra Leone

[Prosecutor v. Charles Taylor](#), Case No. SCSL-03-01-I, Decision on Immunity from Jurisdiction (May 31, 2004).

European Case Law Identifier (ECLI)

The ECLI is a system used by the European Court of Justice, the European Court of Human Rights, and the European Patent Court. Newer decisions are frequently only identified by their ECLI number. For older decisions, the use of ECLI is optional.

Example: Joined Cases C-584/10 P, C-593/10 P & C-595/10 P, [Comm’n v. Kadi](#), ECLI:EU:C:2013:518., para 134.

Some General Matters of House Style

Lists

The preferred style for lists is (1), (2), etc. (not 1., 2., etc.). The only exception is when the provisions of a statute or convention are being tracked and the instrument itself uses (a), (b), etc., or (i), (ii), etc. Em dashes may be used for unnumbered lists.

Extracts

Direct quotations of 50 words or more, in accordance with *Bluebook* style, are set in both text and notes as block quotations. *Bluebook* rules on paragraphing and ellipses should be followed.

Headings

It is preferable to restrict essays to one level of heading. No numeration is used. AJIL Unbound does not include “Introduction” as a first heading.

Heading format for Articles, Notes & Comments, and Current Developments, after the manuscript title:

This Is Level 1

This is level 2.

Other Notes

Please note that there is a new edition of the *Bluebook* every five years. We try to keep up unless we feel our consistency over the longer term militates against it.

Further questions regarding AJIL style may be answered by reference to prior issues of AJIL Unbound or AJIL.