

Judiciaries Worldwide:

An Online Resource on Comparative Judicial Practice By the Federal Judicial Center

The **Federal Judicial Center** is the education and research agency for the United States federal courts. The Center's international office collaborates with judicial academies on capacity-building initiatives and supports the efforts of U.S. judges interested in engaging with their foreign counterparts.

Judiciaries Worldwide was developed to broaden judges' knowledge about how countries structure their judicial systems. National judiciaries have varied histories and legal cultures. Judiciaries Worldwide explores these traditions and offers insights about different approaches to court procedure and judicial administration, as well as information about international institutions and rule of law initiatives. This information is presented through summaries and graphics, with references included to encourage more in-depth study.

The Federal Judicial Center seeks partners interested in developing content for the site. We aim to build a community of contributors with diverse expertise and a shared commitment to quality and collaboration. Contributor names are **posted** on the site.

Content Development Guidelines

There is no rigid template for site content; the layouts are varied and include infographics. We request that content-developers consider the guidelines set forth below. Please note, the Center reserves the right to edit all submissions.



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Each post has a brief introduction, from which 3-4 sentences are pulled for a **Preview Card** (see left). Text should be organized in a manner that works for the subject. Authors need not format their work, but it is helpful to look at the site to get a sense of how dense information can be displayed. For example, <u>International</u> <u>Institutions</u> is a series of short paragraphs about organizations set off with images; <u>Sentencing</u> uses lists and toggles to display information about how countries determine and impose criminal sentences. Some pieces, like <u>Trial Waivers</u>, are longer and presented as a scrolling webpage with blocks of text broken up through lists and vectors. Interested authors may browse the site's <u>theme page</u> for a full range of design features and propose formatting suggestions for their work.

<u>Country Profiles</u> are not comprehensive. They highlight strategies nations have adopted to deliver justice; this may include information about judicial selection, judicial review, or specialized courts. Each profile has a "focus feature." For example, the profile of <u>India's</u> judiciary describes the *suo moto* petition; <u>Saudi Arabia</u> was included in this collection because

of its unique court system. There is no single type of focus feature and most national judiciaries have a quality or tradition that will be of interest to judges from other countries.

Country profiles on JW loosely follow the template below.

- Opening (for Preview Card)
- Legal system Sources of Law Court system/structure (brief unless unusual)
- Focus feature(s), with examples

The posted profiles illustrate this template's flexibility and the many ways to incorporate a judicial system's distinctive features or institutions.

Suggestions

JW seeks content that will enrich any of the topical categories as well as new country profiles, more in-depth exploration of rule of law and international law issues, and terms or art or practice to include in the <u>Quick Questions</u> section. Currently, the site has only limited posts related to civil litigation, and it would be helpful to receive submissions exploring topics such as how different justice systems approach civil and punitive damages, enforcement of judgments, injunctions, and pro se litigants.

Contact

If you are interested in submitting content to JW, please contact the Federal Judicial Center at <u>ijr@fjc.gov</u>.