Are you looking for a comprehensive and efficient research tool for investment treaty law?

Investor-State LawGuide™ (ISLG) has mapped the world of investment treaty law by capturing the relationships between treaties, arbitral rules, cases and other key materials. Now you can apply that map to your research needs.

Key Features & Benefits

- **Pinpoint Accuracy™**: instantly links you to the specific passages in arbitral decisions and awards where a tribunal discusses a particular legal instrument or prior arbitral decision.

- **Efficiency Gains**: what took hours or even days to research now takes minutes through the use of contextual navigation and an intuitive research interface.

- **Multifaceted Research™**: ISLG’s integrated and cross-referenced Research Tools enable you to examine a specific legal issue from all angles.

- **Comprehensive Document Collection**: all materials relevant to publicly available ICSID, NAFTA and ad hoc tribunal decisions are available in a comprehensive document directory that can be filtered in a variety of ways.

- **NEW Effective Tracking**: all research performed on ISLG can be effectively saved, tracked and shared using the Notepad Feature.

Through a combination of technology and human resources, ISLG puts each of its documents through a proprietary data capture process in order to achieve a high degree of granularity and accuracy.
ISLG has five principal Research Tools to facilitate a Multifaceted Research approach. Each tool allows you to conduct your research with Pinpoint Accuracy.

1. The Subject Navigator

The Subject Navigator is a fast and efficient way to narrow down and isolate issues relevant to your research, which can then be supplemented through our other Research Tools. It is a vast electronic directory of investment treaty arbitral law which lays out subjects in branches and sub-branches of ever increasing detail. You can survey complex subjects (e.g., fair and equitable treatment) and drill down into the nuances of each issue and sub-issue, ultimately arriving at the specific passage or footnote of a case where that issue or sub-issue is discussed.

2. The Article Citator

The Article Citator enables you to instantly see how specific legal instruments relevant to international investment law have been interpreted by tribunals. By selecting an instrument, or a particular provision within that instrument, you are taken directly to the paragraph(s) or footnote(s) where that instrument/provision has been applied or interpreted by tribunals.

3. The Jurisprudence Citator

The Jurisprudence Citator enables you to instantly see how specific decisions have been treated by subsequent investment treaty tribunals. This includes both investment and non-investment treaty decisions (e.g., International Court of Justice judgments and GATT/WTO panel and Appellate Body reports). Two types of tools are available: one provides you with the cases where tribunals refer to a decision generally; the second provides you with references to specific paragraph(s), footnote(s) or page(s) of a particular decision. This allows you to effortlessly isolate a specific passage within a decision with Pinpoint Accuracy and quickly determine how that passage has been addressed by subsequent tribunals.

4. Terms & Phrases

Terms & Phrases enables you to look for the meaning of terms and phrases that have been defined in treaties and rules or by arbitration tribunals. This tool is integrated with the other Research Tools, allowing you to easily navigate throughout the database.

5. Full-text Search

The Full-text Search enables you to tailor your legal research and control your findings while providing you with the flexibility of a full-text search. Standard functionality combined with the ability to filter results by specific types of decisions (e.g., decisions on interim measures of protection), by country (i.e., all cases involving a particular respondent State(s)), or by applicable treaty or arbitration rules. This tool is also integrated with our other Research Tools, enabling you to complete your research after beginning with a more targeted approach.

6. Notepad Feature

The Notepad Feature enhances the efficiency and collaboration capabilities of ISLG. The application is divided into two parts: one part provides you with an improved ability to track your usage of ISLG; the second part provides you with a robust ability to save your research and share it with colleagues.
How ISLG helps your research

Quickly narrow the scope of your research

Example: if you want to see how fair and equitable treatment is addressed under NAFTA, start with the Subject Navigator.

- Open branch “F” to find “Fair and Equitable Treatment”.

- Open “Fair and Equitable Treatment” to reveal a series of sub-branches concerning this subject and cross-references to other parts of the Navigator, including “For fair and equitable treatment in the context of NAFTA”.

- Select this cross-reference to take you to the branch on “Minimum Standard of Treatment”, which includes the standard of fair and equitable treatment in Article 1105 of the NAFTA.

- View the text of Article 1105 by selecting the “See NAFTA Article 1105” cross-reference.

- Browse further under this subject, to find the discussion in S.D. Myers v. Canada, Partial Award, 13 November 2000, in which the tribunal, at paragraph 263, discussed the minimum standard of treatment.

- Select this branch to link you directly to paragraph 263 of the S.D. Myers award.

Browsing the Subject Navigator has provided you with two valuable pieces of information:

1. Article 1105 is a provision that is relevant to determining how the standard of fair and equitable treatment is incorporated into the NAFTA; and
2. paragraph 263 of the S.D. Myers award interpreted the standard.

Instantly see how legal instruments are treated by tribunals

Example: use the Article Citator to provide you with further information on NAFTA Article 1105.

- Open the Article Citator to provide you with a list of legal instruments that have been interpreted by arbitral tribunals.

- Select “NAFTA” to provide you with a list of Chapters within NAFTA (and other related instruments) that are relevant to investment dispute resolution.

“ISLG is a very powerful and useful tool. It is a cost-effective research tool that is a benefit to our practice. I would recommend it to any lawyer practicing in international arbitration. It is not a plus. It is a must!”

– ALVARO GALINDO, International Counsel, Dechert LLP

- Select “Chapter 11: Investment” to list all provisions under the Chapter that have been applied or interpreted by tribunals.

- Select “Article 1105” to link you to all decisions that have referred to that article in reverse chronological order.

- Select any listed decision to reveal specific paragraph/footnote numbers, which if selected take you directly to the passage(s) in decisions that have applied or interpreted Article 1105.

Instantly see how cases are treated by subsequent tribunals

Example: use the Jurisprudence Citator to find further information on paragraph 263 of the S.D. Myers award.

- Open the Jurisprudence Citator to provide you with three types of jurisprudence: NAFTA, Investment Treaty and Non-Investment Treaty jurisprudence.

- Open “NAFTA Jurisprudence” to reveal a list of disputes in alphabetical order by respondent State.

- Select “Canada-S.D. Myers, Inc. v. Government of Canada” to present you with the list of decisions within that dispute (and all paragraphs/footnotes/pages within a particular decision) to which subsequent tribunals have referred, including paragraph 263 of the partial award.

- Select paragraph 263 to provide you with a list of decisions, which if selected will reveal specific paragraph/footnote numbers that link you directly to the passage(s) in the selected decision that refer(s) specifically to paragraph 263.

In three easy steps, you were able to narrow the issue and identify the legal instruments and case law most relevant to your research, and see how such material has been applied by arbitral tribunals. This demonstrates the power of Multifaceted Research and how, in combination with an intuitive and easy to use interface, ISLG can make your research more comprehensive and efficient.
“ISLG is your one-stop resource for international investment law research. No other database provides the researcher with so many effective and efficient ways to research and access treaties, rules of arbitration, decisions and awards, and other related documents. This database goes beyond providing the text of the legal materials; it allows the researcher to really dig into the law by using specialized tools like the subject navigator, the citators, and the terms and phrases locator.”

– MARCI HOFFMAN, Associate Law Library Director & Lecturer in Residence, Berkeley Law

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