

XIV

Information
and Knowledge
Management



XIV. Information and Knowledge Management

Information and Knowledge Management plays a key role by fostering innovation and facilitating access to and analysis of the Court's information and knowledge. Its mission includes serving the needs of the various parts of the organization as well as external actors. This work area includes two essential units: the [Library](#) and [the Archive](#).

A. | Library

The Library, as an information unit, is an exemplar of knowledge management. It serves the entire inter-American human rights system and reaches a broad range of users, ensuring that its resources are available and accessible. Its ongoing editorial work on the Court's case law provides a solid foundation for the case law database and the Themis Digest of the Inter-American Court, which harnesses artificial intelligence to facilitate information access and analysis.

1. Case Law Database

The Inter-American Court reached an important milestone with the launch of its new Case Law Database, a comprehensive resource that enhances access to and analysis of legal decisions in the area of human rights. This innovative tool was developed using artificial intelligence (AI) and is continually refined through an editorial process involving organization and analysis, as well as enrichment of the information with descriptors and metadata.²⁰²

This new platform's features significantly improve the experience of those viewing, analyzing, and using the case law, providing better accessibility and a variety of search options to facilitate access to the information.



[Sobre la Corte IDH](#) | [Noticias](#) | [Biblioteca](#)



Jurisprudencia de la Corte IDH



²⁰² The Inter-American Court of Human Rights wishes to thank the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency for its support in the creation of this database of Inter-American human rights case law.

2. Themis Digest²⁰³

The Digest was designed as a public document in which all of the Court's legal rulings related to specific articles of the Convention can be found in one place.

Its main purpose is to facilitate access to the ACHR's legal framework through the Court's case law, demonstrating the contributions of individual judgments to the interpretation of specific provisions of the ACHR. Each digest includes a table of contents, and sources are duly referenced in the footnotes. This tool is always being updated and expanded.

Artificial intelligence (AI) plays a critical role in the creation and maintenance of the Digest by efficiently gathering and organizing the Court's legal rulings related to each article of the ACHR.

3. Inter-American Thesaurus of Human Rights²⁰⁴

The Inter-American Thesaurus of Human Rights is a tool for facilitating the management of legal information. It is a useful conceptual reference for guiding and facilitating content selection by users through search, recovery, analysis, indexing, and linking with other information systems.

The Thesaurus helps reduce semantic ambiguity to clarify the different meanings of homonyms, as well as to improve consistency through synonym review. These improvements ensure access to information by creating a structure that connects semantically related terms while taking into consideration variations in the usage of legal terms across the region.

203 The THEMIS methodology is a joint and comprehensive effort by the Legal area, the Information and Knowledge Management area of the Corte IDH, and the Regional International Law and Access to Justice in Latin America program (DIRAJUS) of the German cooperation/GIZ (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung/Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH). The basis of the cooperation is an agreement between the Organization of American States (OAS) and the German government on the promotion of access to justice in Latin America.

204 Developed with the support of the Regional International Law and Access to Justice in Latin America Program (DIRAJUS) of the German Agency for International Cooperation/GIZ (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung/Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH). This initiative is based on an agreement between the Organization of American States (OAS) and the German government for the promotion of access to justice in Latin America.

4. Literary Newsletter

In order to highlight the newest acquisitions and bibliographic developments, the Library publishes a weekly newsletter called "DerHum: Literary News." (Actualidad Literaria DerHum). This publication is emailed to approximately 12,439 subscribers throughout the world. During 2023, 50 newsletters were produced offering detailed information and access to 300 highlighted bibliographic resources.

B. | Archive

The Archive work area plays a crucial role by receiving and logging the various documents submitted by the parties before the I/A Court H.R. It is also responsible for processing and managing the use of digitized case documents, provisional measures, and advisory opinions, and for supervising the publication of the main case briefs on the Court's website. In 2023, 5290 electronic documents were processed. In addition, 539 inquiries related to the files were handled.

A virtual server was purchased on which to save and organize the digitized legal files of concluded cases in order to preserve the Court's institutional memory by safeguarding legal documents. This comprehensive approach ensures the efficient administration and preservation of important documents for the Court, thereby helping to fulfill the Court's legal and administrative obligations.

The Filing Protocol was developed jointly with Legal Affairs and is aimed at standardizing the creation, maintenance, use, and preservation of the Court's files. The rules established in this Protocol have made it possible to systematize the practices involved in preserving physical and digital files, keep the personal and private information of the parties in cases confidential, and improve access to information.

Certification process ISO 9001:2015 for Quality Management Systems (QMS) for Digital Records of the I/A Court H.R.

With the aim of enhancing and implementing standardized processes and best practices, as well as promoting ongoing improvements in the activities and procedures involving the various digitized documents, we initiated in August the Quality Management Systems process for ISO 9001:2015.