



**Corpus of Resolutions**  
—  
**UN Security Council**

**Launch Event**  
20 May 2024  
Online

# Corpus of Resolutions UN Security Council

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20 May 2024

Interest Group on International Organizations (IG-IO)

European Society of International Law (ESIL)

Part I

About

# Structure of the Presentation

- 1 About
- 2 Main Dataset
- 3 Bibliographic Database
- 4 Citation Network Data
- 5 Download and Applications

# About this presentation

Available open access in one week


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Direct Link [www.doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11205640](http://www.doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11205640)

Web [www.seanfobbe.com](http://www.seanfobbe.com)

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# Previous Work

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Open Access Data Sets by Seán Fobbe

Published October 23, 2023 | Version 2023-10-22DatasetOpen

## Corpus of Decisions: International Court of Justice (CD-ICJ)

Fobbe, Sean<sup>1</sup>Show affiliations

### Overview

The **Corpus of Decisions: International Court of Justice (CD-ICJ)** collects and presents for the first time in human- and machine-readable form all published decisions of the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Among these are judgments, advisory opinions and orders, as well as their respective appended minority opinions (declarations, separate opinions and dissenting opinions). The International Court of Justice has kindly made available these documents on its website.

The *International Court of Justice (ICJ)* is the primary judicial organ of the United Nations and one of the most consequential courts in international law. Called the 'World Court' by many, it is the only international court with general thematic jurisdiction. While critics occasionally note the lack of compulsory jurisdiction and sharply limited access to the Court, its opinions continue to have an outside influence on the modern interpretation, codification and wider development of international law. Every international legal textbook covers the workings and decisions of the Court in extenso and participation in international moot courts such as the *Philip C. Jessup Moot Court* without regular reference to and citation of the International Court of Justice's decisions is unthinkable.

This data set is designed to be complementary to and fully compatible with the **Corpus of Decisions: Permanent Court of International Justice (CD-PCIJ)**, which is also available open access.

### Citation

A peer-reviewed academic paper describing the construction and relevance of the data set entitled 'Introducing Twin Corpora of Decisions for the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the Permanent Court of International Justice (PCIJ)' was published open access in the *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies (JELS)*. It is also available in print at JELS 2022, Vol. 19, No. 2, pp. 491-524.

If you use the data set for academic work, please cite both the JELS paper and the precise version of the data set you used for your analysis.

11KVIEWS41KDOWNLOADSShow more details

### Versions

Version 2023-10-22 10.5281/zenodo.10050647	Oct 23, 2023
Version 2023-05-07 10.5281/zenodo.7876266	May 9, 2023
Version 2022-09-07 10.5281/zenodo.7051929	Sep 7, 2022
Version 2021-11-23 10.5281/zenodo.3826445	Feb 14, 2022

View all 4 versions

Cite all versions? You can cite all versions by using the DOI 10.5281/zenodo.3826444. This DOI represents all versions, and will always resolve to the latest one. Read more.

Part II

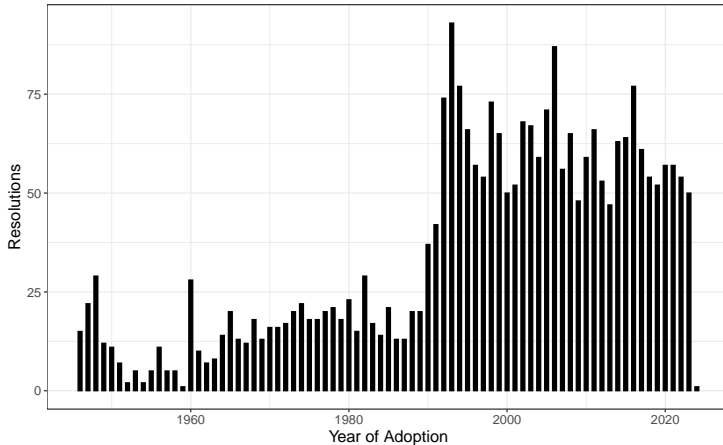
Main Dataset

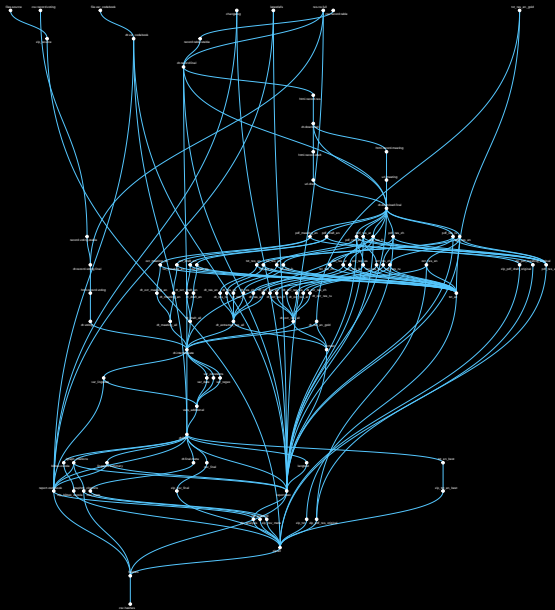
**UN Security Council** is a principal organ of the United Nations with primary responsibility for international peace and security

- 2722 resolutions (1946–2024)
- Resolution texts in all six official UN languages
- Drafts and meeting records (English)
- Open, platform independent (CSV, PDF, TXT, GraphML)
- Primary Data Source: UN Digital Library



CR-UNSC | Version 2024-05-19 | Resolutions by Year





# Enhancing Traditional Research

- **Original PDF files** for resolutions in all six official UN languages, drafts and meeting records in English
- **TXT files** for resolutions in all six official UN languages (e.g. for keyword searches or MAXQDA)
- **Bibliographic Database** (e.g. for Zotero, Endnote, Jabref)
- **Publication quality diagrams** for teaching, research and all other purposes (PDF for printing, PNG for web)

## 82 variables in seven groups

- 1 **[ID]** Document symbols of resolutions, draft, meeting record, related records etc.
- 2 **[Texts]** Resolutions in all six official UN languages, drafts and meeting records in English
- 3 **[Thematic information]** Title, subjects, Chapter VII, human rights, threat to peace, aggression etc.
- 4 **[Votes]** Yes, no, abstention, nonvote, total (count/countries)
- 5 **[Geographic]** Mention of countries and regions (M49 and ISO)
- 6 **[Source]** URLs for all PDF files in all languages
- 7 **[Meta]** Digital object identifier, version etc.

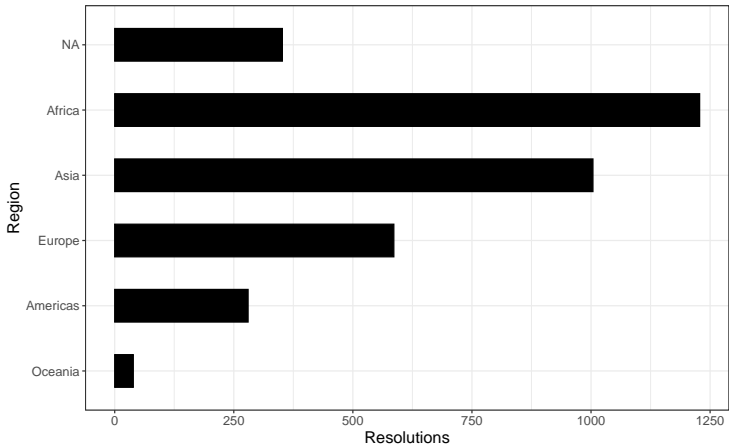
# Enhanced Optical Character Recognition (OCR)

Resolutions 1–899

OCR errors cause unique words (features) to appear in corpus.

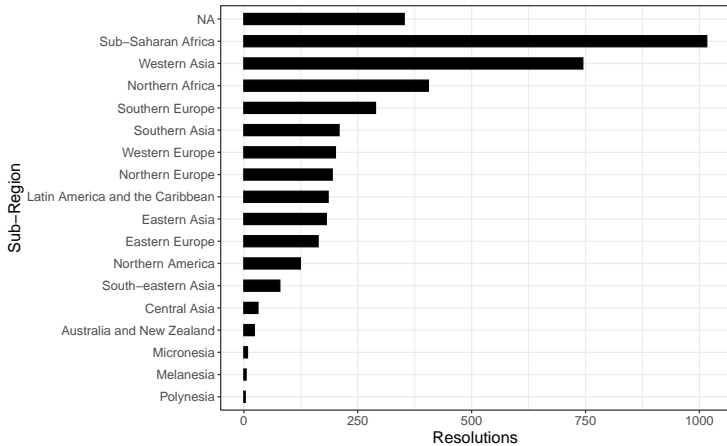
Language	Processing	Features	Absolute	Relative
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English	Tesseract	16,495	-12,266	-43%
English	Gold	7,371	-21,390	-74%
French	Original	27,466	-	-
French	Tesseract	13,652	-13,814	-50%
Spanish	Original	28,547	-	-
Spanish	Tesseract	15,219	-13,328	47%

CR-UNSC | Version 2024-05-19 | Top Regions of Countries Mentioned

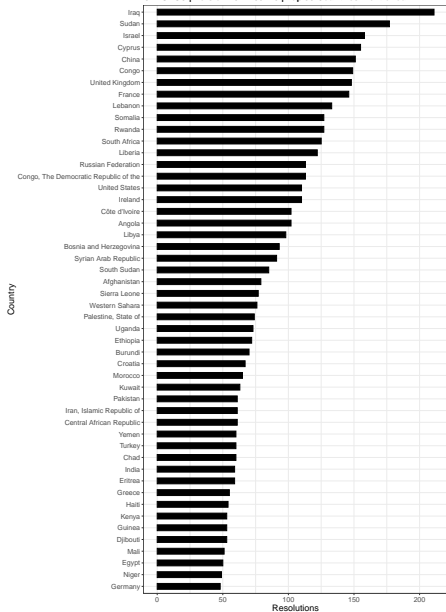


Fobbe/Gasbarri/Ridi | DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.11212056

### CR-UNSC | Version 2024-05-19 | Top Sub-Regions Mentioned

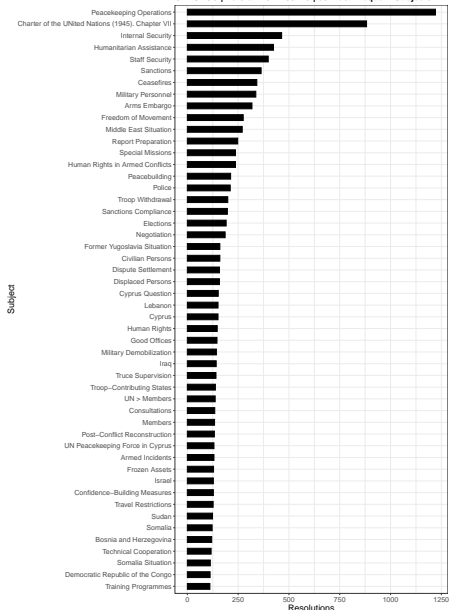


CR-UNSC | Version 2024-05-19 | Top 50 Countries mentioned





CR-UNSC | Version 2024-05-19 | 50 Most Frequent Subjects



## Part III

# Bibliographic Database

# Bibliographic Database

- Pre-built bibliographic database with thematic, geographic, voting and other information
- For use with e.g. Zotero, Jabref, Endnote, Citavi
- Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA)
- Format: BibTeX (bl-oscola by Paul Stanley)

#	entrytype	author...	title	year	journal/booktitle	bibtexkey	ranking
1	Misc		Security Council resolution 1 (1946) [on establishment of the Military Staff Committee]	1946		S_RES_1	
2	Misc		Security Council resolution 2 (1946) [on negotiations between Iran and USSR]	1946		S_RES_2	
3	Misc		Security Council resolution 3 (1946) [on withdrawal of USSR troops from Iran]	1946		S_RES_3	
4	Misc		Security Council resolution 4 (1946) [appointing a subcommittee on the Spanish question]	1946		S_RES_4	
5	Misc		Security Council resolution 5 (1946) [on withdrawal of USSR troops from Iran]	1946		S_RES_5	
6	Misc		Security Council resolution 6 (1946) [on procedures for admission of new members to the United Nations]	1946		S_RES_6	
7	Misc		Security Council resolution 7 (1946) [deciding to keep the situation in Spain under observation]	1946		S_RES_7	
8	Misc		Security Council resolution 8 (1946) [on admission of Afghanistan, Iceland and Sweden to membership in the United Nations]	1946		S_RES_8	
9	Misc		Security Council resolution 9 (1946) [on the International Court of Justice]	1946		S_RES_9	
10	Misc		Security Council resolution 10 (1946) [removing the Spanish question from the list of matters of which the Council is seized]	1946		S_RES_10	
11	Misc		Security Council resolution 11 (1946) [on the conditions under which Switzerland might become a party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice]	1946		S_RES_11	
12	Misc		Security Council resolution 12 (1946) [on border incidents between Greece, Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia]	1946		S_RES_12	
13	Misc		Security Council resolution 13 (1946) [on admission of Siam (Thailand) to membership in the United Nations]	1946		S_RES_13	
14	Misc		Security Council resolution 14 (1946) [on the term of office of Presidency of the Security Council]	1946		S_RES_14	
15	Misc		Security Council resolution 15 (1946) [on establishment of the Commission of Investigation on the Greek question]	1946		S_RES_15	
16	Misc		Security Council resolution 16 (1947) [on approval of the statute of the Free Territory of Trieste, Italy]	1947		S_RES_16	
17	Misc		Security Council resolution 17 (1947) [requesting postponement of the execution of persons sentenced by the Greek Government]	1947		S_RES_17	
18	Misc		Security Council resolution 18 (1947) [on regulation and reduction of armaments]	1947		S_RES_18	
19	Misc		Security Council resolution 19 (1947) [on incidents in the Corfu Channel]	1947		S_RES_19	
20	Misc		Security Council resolution 20 (1947) [on international control of atomic energy]	1947		S_RES_20	
21	Misc		Security Council resolution 21 (1947) [on the Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands]	1947		S_RES_21	
22	Misc		Security Council resolution 22 (1947) [on incidents in the Corfu Channel]	1947		S_RES_22	
23	Misc		Security Council resolution 23 (1947) [on the Commission of Investigation established by Security Council resolution 15 (1946) on the Greek question]	1947		S_RES_23	
24	Misc		Security Council resolution 24 (1947) [on admission of Hungary to membership in the United Nations]	1947		S_RES_24	

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  Y CHINA
  Y COLOMBIA
  Y FRANCE
  A POLAND
  A SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
  }

```

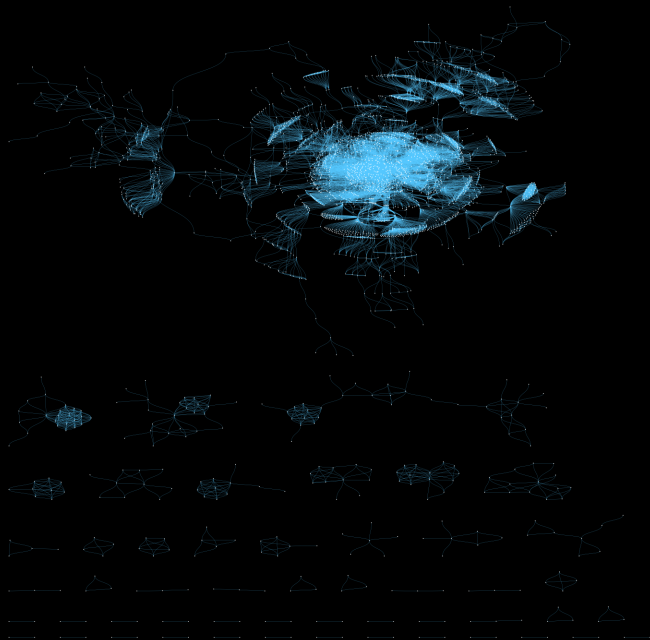


# Part IV

## Citation Network Data

# Citation Network Data

- UNSC citations are carefully placed and provide important political, legal and thematic context
- All UNSC–UNSC citations and UNSC–UNGA citations extracted and stored as network data
- 2,516 nodes (resolutions), 15,507 edges (at least one bilateral citation) and 26,866 total citations
- 54 metadata variables
- Format: GraphML



# Part V

## Download and Applications



# Download the UN Security Council Corpus

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Dataset	Download via Concept DOI
Dataset	<a href="https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7319780">https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7319780</a>
Source Code	<a href="https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7319783">https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7319783</a>
GitHub	<a href="https://github.com/seanfobbe/cr-unsc">https://github.com/seanfobbe/cr-unsc</a>

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## Version and Concept DOI

- Concept DOI: Always download the *newest* version
- Version DOI: Always download a *specific* version

# Applications

- Keyword/REGEX Searches [LIVE DEMO]<sup>1</sup>
- Network Analysis [LIVE DEMO]
- Dictionary Analysis, Topic Modeling
- Cluster Analysis, Classification
- Transformer-based methods

See also Alschner, Wolfgang, *The Computational Analysis of International Law* (July 29, 2019). Ottawa Faculty of Law Working Paper No. 2019-33, <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3428762>

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<sup>1</sup>For example *grep* on Linux, *AstroGrep* or *dnGrep* on Windows.

# Final Thoughts

- 1 Found an error? Need a feature? Submit a GitHub issue or send an e-mail ([fobbe-data@posteo.de](mailto:fobbe-data@posteo.de))
- 2 Publish anything based on the CR-UNSC? Send us a link, we'll include it in the Codebook as an example!

Questions?

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[www.seanfobbe.com](http://www.seanfobbe.com)

# Part IV

## Additional Slides

