
Book Reviews

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International Council on Archives / Conseil international des archives (ed.), *Archival Legislation 1981–1994 / Législation Archivistique 1981–1994 (Archivum)*, International Review on Archives / Revue internationale des archives, vols. XL and XLI. Munich, New Providence, London, Paris 1995. K. G. Saur. pp. XX, 343 (vol. XL), pp. XXIII, 338 (vol. XLI). Each vol. DM 98.

Since 1963, the International Council on Archives (ICA), which has its headquarters (Secretary general) in Paris, has published six volumes on the legislation pertaining to the national archives of 115 States.¹ The two volumes published in 1995 update this information with respect to ninety-seven States and nine supranational and international organizations. New national sources (which include the regional sources of federal States) are published in one of six languages: English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish. Those sources which are not officially promulgated in one of these lan-

guages have been translated into English, French or German. Each national report, written by a specialist of the respective State, consists of information about relevant developments which have taken place between 1981–1994 and any new statutory materials enacted over this period.

Each volume contains a detailed chart on archival legislation published in the volumes of the periodical *Archivum* and a detailed index. These references provide an excellent point of access to the archival legislation collected by the ICA. The indices also refer to all national provisions protecting archives as forming part of national cultural treasures. In his introduction to vol. XLI, the editor-in-chief of *Archivum*, André Vanrie, highlights a number of trends which have developed in modern archival legislation: the conservation and integration of archives in the cultural and documentary heritage, centralization of the organization of archives, increasing interest in the management of current records and facilitating public access to archives. The present volumes, together with the six volumes of *Archivum* which have already been published,

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provide an excellent source of information about international archival legislation. There are no better publications on this subject.

Note

- 1 Archivum vols. XI (1963), XVII (1971), XIX (1972), XX (1972), XXI (1973), XXVIII (1982).