



OÑATI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF LAW
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INSTITUTO INTERNACIONAL
DE SOCIOLOGÍA JURÍDICA DE OÑATI

The Oñati Style. Citing and referencing in *Oñati Socio-Legal Series* (OSLS) and *Sortuz*: an overview

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Leire Kortabarria

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Introduction

The Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law (IISL) owns and publishes two socio-legal journals: *Oñati Socio-Legal Series*, or OSLS (ISSN 2079-5971) and *Sortuz* (ISSN 1988-0847). The citing and referencing style for both of these journals is based on the Harvard citing and referencing style. However, due to the nature, topic, and diversity of schools of authors and styles that traditionally contribute to these journals, the original Harvard guidelines have acquired nuance in their application in them.

This compendium of the Oñati guidelines (“Oñati style”) does not aim to be exhaustive. Its goal is to offer an overview of our house style as it has developed organically and as it is understood and owned by both OSLS and *Sortuz* as a part of their editorial policy and process. It is based on the British Standards BS 5605:1990 Recommendations for citing and referencing published material and BS 1629:1989 Recommendations or references to published materials as published by [Taylor & Francis](#), and also, partially, on the [APA Style Guidelines](#). All of these have been adapted to reflect the current usage in both OSLS and *Sortuz*.

Authors are advised to present their submissions using this citing and referencing style. When in doubt or for something not covered in this style sheet, they can always default back on the commonly used Harvard guidelines, because accepted submissions go through a personalized editorial revision and correction of citations and references, as well as other formal aspects.

As a by-product of the Harvard style, the core of the Oñati style is to cite publications in the text by giving the author’s surname and the year of publication, and to list all the citations in a bibliography (“references”) at the end of the text. This is why it can be referred to as “author-date style”.

How to cite references in your text

If the author’s name occurs naturally in the sentence, the year is given in parentheses:

In a popular study Harvey (1992) argued... As Harvey (1992, 21) said, ...

If the name does not occur naturally in the sentence, both name and year are given in parentheses. Do not insert a comma between the name and the year.

A more recent study (Stevens 1988) has shown...

If there are two authors, cite and reference them both:

Matthews and Jones (1997) have proposed that...

Theory rises out of practice, and once validated, returns to direct or explain the practice (Stevens 1998).

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If two or more references by the same author published in the same year are cited, distinguish these by adding a,b,c, etc. after the year, according to alphabetical order of the titles that are being referenced:

Johnson (1994a) discussed...

If you want to include two or more references within the same parentheses, use chronological order and separate with commas:

...as discussed by several authors (Smith 1993, 2003, Brown 1995, Smith and Jones 1997, Green 2004,).

Since authors of many different nationalities and linguistic and cultural backgrounds are referenced in our journals, in the case of names which do not follow the First and Last Name pattern, or if an equivalent to the last name is not easily identifiable, we recommend following the author's preference, or the format used in the document that is being cited. Please check that there is a correspondence between the citation and the reference, and that the same pattern is followed in all cases throughout the paper.

Harvard style implies that citations are made in the text rather than footnotes. However, we accept citing in a footnote when the citation is followed by commentary or clarification.

More than two authors

If a source has more than two authors, give the surname of the first author followed by *et al.* (with a full-stop and in italics):

Office costs amount to 20% of total costs in most businesses (Wilson *et al.* 1997).

However, for works by three authors, give the surname of the first one and "et al." in the text, but give all three authors' last names and initials in the reference at the end.

A source quoted in another source

If you refer to a source quoted in another source, cite both in the text, but only list the work you read in the references. The page number is needed for the source that has been used; in the following example, Jones 1994:

A study by Smith (1960 as cited in Jones 1994) showed that...

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Pages

As far as possible, specify the page interval that you are citing, or the specific page(s) that you are citing, *no matter if you are using direct or indirect quotes*. In the reference, specify the page interval of the article or chapter that you are referencing. In the in-text citation, the page or pages go after the year, separated by a comma. The abbreviation “p.” or “pp.” does not need to be present, but it will not be removed if you use it.

How to organize the reference list

List references to all documents cited in the text, under the heading References. They are listed in alphabetical order of authors' names. If you have cited more than one item by a specific author, they should be listed chronologically (earliest first), and by letter (1993a, 1993b) if more than one item has been published during a specific year.

We recommend creating separate subsections for either legal or case-law references. The rest of references, regardless of primary vs secondary, type of medium, emitting source, etc. should be grouped on a general list.

Book

Adams, R., 1990. *Self-help, social work and empowerment*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

As far as possible, include in the reference information about the edition (not needed if it is the first edition), name of translator(s), and original year of publication, if it is a reedition. For reedited books, the original year is mentioned between brackets at the end of the reference:

Richmond, M.E., 1965. *Social diagnosis*. New York: Free Press. (Originally published in 1917).

But in the in-text citation, the original year of publication is cited first:

Richmond (1917/1965)

Collaborations

Sometimes, a publication is authored by a person, but someone else is credited as a collaborator or facilitator of the publication. Since this is not a case of two or more authors, the citation and reference are slightly different:

Last name, N1. (with N2, Last name, [role]), year. *Title of book*. Place: Publisher.

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Examples:

Misbah Yazdi, M.T. (with K. Subhani, ed.), 2001. *Nazariyyeh-ye Siyasi-ye Islam - Qanunguzari* [Political Theory in Islam] (Vol. 2). Qom: Imam Khomeini Educational/Research Institute.

Nuño Gómez, L., y De Miguel Álvarez, A., eds., (con L. Fernández Montes, coord.), *Elementos para una teoría crítica del sistema prostitucional*. Granada. Comares.

Edited book

Sonneveld, N., and Lindbekk, M., eds., 2017. *Women Judges in the Muslim World: A Comparative Study of Discourse and Practice*. Leiden/Boston: Brill.

Corporate author / Institutional paper

Name of issuing body, Year. *Title of publication*. Place: Publisher, Report Number (where relevant). Examples:

Unesco, 1993. *General information programme*. Paris: Unesco, PGI-93/WS/22.

Commission for Racial Equality, 1978. *Multi-racial Britain*. London: Commission for Racial Equality.

Sometimes, a paper or institutional document has been produced by a specific branch, commission, secretariat, office, etc. of another larger section. In this case, follow the attribution given in the document or suggested in the source.

In the cases in which there is one or more personal author(s), attribute the document to the personal authors, and name the institutional author in the body of the reference.

Chapter

Author, A., 2006. Chapter title. *In*: B.B. Editor and C.C. Editor, eds. *Title of book*. Place: Publisher, page numbers.

Cardinal, M.C., 2017. The politics of exclusion: Women public prosecutors and criminal court judges in Syria (1975-2009). *In*: N. Sonneveld and M. Lindbekk, eds., *Women Judges in the Muslim World: A Comparative Study of Discourse and Practice*. Leiden/Boston: Brill, 237-258.

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Journal article

Reference like a book chapter, but the editors of the particular journal issue do not need to be mentioned. Put the name of the journal in italics, followed by [online] if you want to include an URL. Put the number of the volume, followed by the number of the issue (between round brackets), and the page interval.

Evans, W.A., 1994. Approaches to intelligent information retrieval. *Information processing and management*, 7(2), 147–168.

Greenfield, J., 1990. The Sevso Treasure: the legal case. *Apollo*, 132(3), 14–16.

As added information, for online-based sources, it is advisable to provide the DOI or, if the document does not have a DOI, the URL. For online sources, insert “[online]” (between square brackets) right after the title of the journal:

Gonzalez, C.G., 2021. Racial capitalism, climate justice, and climate displacement. *Oñati Socio-Legal Series* [online], 11(1), 108–147. Available at:
<https://doi.org/10.35295/osls.iisl/0000-0000-0000-1137>

Place of publication

Give the city. If more than one city is listed, separate them with a dash (/).

If the publisher’s name includes the place of publication, do not give the place of publication. E.g.: Cambridge University Press, Chicago University Press.

Publisher’s name

Omit superfluous terms such as Publishers, Co, Inc., but retain the words Books or Press.

Other media

For references on non-paper formats, specify the format between square brackets, after the title of the work: e.g. [DVD], [YouTube clip], [exhibition], etc.

Conference proceedings.

Author, A.A., Year. Title of contribution. *In*: B.B. Editor, ed. (if applicable) *Title of conference proceedings* including date and place of conference. Place. Page interval.

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Dissertation or thesis.

Agutter, A.J., 1995. *The linguistic significance of current British slang*. PhD Thesis. Edinburgh University.

Include other information about faculty or date of presentation, if available.

Encyclopedia or dictionary

Reference by the title and/or name of editor(s).

The Europa world yearbook, 1996. London: Europa.

For dictionary entries, reference (and cite) by title of entry.

Frivolous, 2022. Cambridge English Dictionary [online]. Cambridge University Press. Available at: <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/frivolous>

Film

Reference by title, in italics. Then, follow the same structure as a regular reference, specifying type of document and director. To cite, use the title and the year.

Macbeth, 1948. Film. Directed by Orson Welles. USA: Republic Pictures.

Birds in the garden, 1998. Video. London: Harper Videos.

TV broadcast

Reference by title and year, and follow the same structure as a reference of a film.

If it is an interview or a verbal statement, reference by name of the person and year, then follow with the title of the broadcast and the rest of the elements (place, network). If possible, include the date of the original broadcast.

Web page, website, e-book

Insert “[online]” right after the title of the document, and “available at” and the URL at the end of the reference:

Holland, M., 2004. *Guide to citing Internet sources* [online]. Poole, Bournemouth University. Available at: http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/library/using/guide_to_citing_internet_sourc.html

Legal and judicial sources (Case law)

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For legal and judicial sources, we do not prescribe any particular guideline. We ask that you follow the same citing and referencing style throughout the paper.

It is optional to provide references for these sources; in-text citations will suffice. If you choose to reference them, it is advisable to group them in separate sections at the end of the general bibliographic reference list, with titles such as “Legal sources” and “Case law”. For these, just name the law/bill/act and year/date of publication. For case law, give the name of the case and year, court, and reporter.

Legal reference.

If you are using references for different jurisdictions, we recommend listing them under different subsections named after the particular jurisdiction. However, it is optional to provide references for legal sources; it is enough to just cite them in the text. Again, if several jurisdictions are referred to in the article, the scope of each legal source must be clarified in the text.

Case law

Example:

Abubacarr Jawo v Bundesrepublik Deutschland (2019), case C-163/17
ECLI:EU:C:2019:218.

Soft law

In both OSLs and Sortuz, given that they are journals of socio-legal topics, citing so-called soft law resources is a frequent occurrence. By “soft law”, we refer to quasi-legal instruments (like recommendations or guidelines) which do not have any legally binding force, and, according to their source, are usually of the following types:

- Most Resolutions and Declarations of the [UN General Assembly](#)
- Elements such as statements, principles, code of practice etc.; often found as part of framework treaties;
- Action plans (for example, [Agenda 21](#), [Financial Action Task Force](#) Recommendations);
- Other non-treaty obligations.

To avoid disrupting the natural flow of the text, when a soft law resource is well-known or well described by its name, we recommend citing it by name, with the year right next to it, between brackets. It is also usually most natural to mention the institutional source as part of the text, rather than inserting a parenthetical citation. See this example:

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“They will be able to restore their personal relationship with the left-behind parent, in accordance with Article 24 § 3 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (2012).”

The reference would be this:

Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, 2012. *Official Journal* [online], C326, 26 October 2012, 391–407. Available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:12012P/TXT&from=cs>

In the case of soft law sources that are not well-known or whose name is not so descriptive or easy to insert in the text, we recommend citing it by its unique number assigned by the emitting institution:

For example, for this reference:

European Parliament and Council Directive 2000/31/EC on Certain Legal Aspects of Information Society Services, in Particular Electronic Commerce, in the Internal Market (Directive on electronic commerce), 8 June 2000.

The in-text citation would be “Directive 2000/31/EC” or simply “2000/31/EC”.

Sometimes, soft law items become better known by an abbreviated name, e.g., the 1929 Convention for the Unification of certain rules relating to international carriage by air is commonly known as the Warsaw Convention. In these cases, if the author wants to use the common denomination, we recommend citing the item by its official name in the first instance, providing the common name and the year between brackets, and continuing to use the common name in successive occasions.

Newspaper

Reference like a journal article.

Personal communication

As these do not provide recoverable data, they should not be included in the reference list. Cite personal communications in the text only. Give the name of the source, if possible (otherwise, a reference to their occupation/institutional position, and as exact a date as possible.

According to J. Green (personal communication, 19 Jan 2007).

Our submissions sometimes refer to interviews, confidential or otherwise, that have been conducted in the context of a research. We recommend listing them with the available data

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(identification and role/position/occupation of interviewee, approximate date and place of interview) in an Appendix, after the references. If there are only a few, give these details in a footnote.

Anonymous / Author not known

Where a document is Anonymous or we don't know the name of the author, the title of the document becomes the first element of the reference. It is put in italics and followed by the year.

To cite this document, use the title. If it is too long, use the first few words. Include the year of publication.

Classical literature

Reference list entries are not required for major classical works, such as ancient Greek and Roman works or classical religious works; simply identify in the first citation in the text the version you used (APA Publication Manual, 6th ed, 2009). We do not require referencing these sources because, in our published papers, they usually occur as a general reference that is not closely related to the object of the paper. For papers about law and literature, or discussing religious works, however, a regular reference should be provided, stating year of publication of the edition that has been used for consultation, editor and/or translator, and place of publication and publisher.

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