

Parliamentary Documents and Official Publications Room



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Overview

The Parliamentary Documents and Official Publications Room (PDOP) holds a wide selection of essential materials of legislative, judicial and executive branches of Japanese and foreign governments as well as inter-governmental organizations.

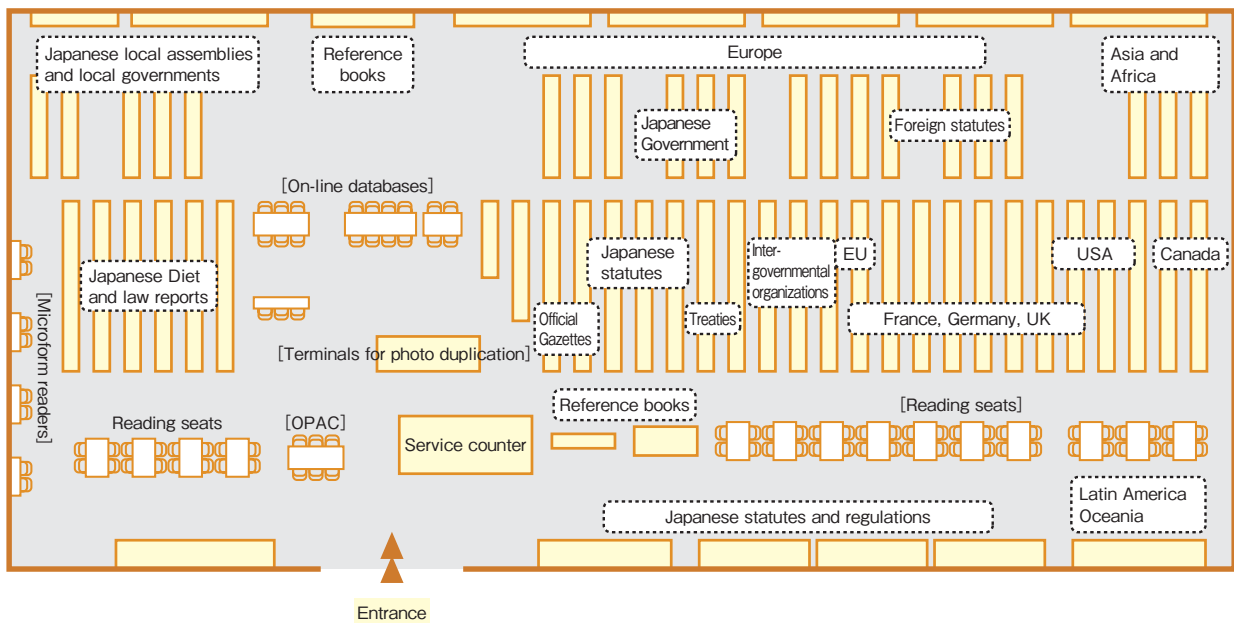
PDOP's collections consist of 320,000 Japanese books, 450,000 foreign books, 520,000 issues of Japanese journals, 860,000 issues of foreign journals and 1,745,000 microforms. All of them are readily available to Diet members, Diet staff and the general public. About 60,000 books and journals are placed on the open shelves for easy access.

The collections of Japanese materials include Japanese parliamentary documents, statutes, law reports, treaty collections and commentaries from the Meiji era, as well as leaflets issued by the national and local governments.

The collections of foreign materials include parliamentary materials of about 70 jurisdictions and legal materials of about 150 jurisdictions. In particular, basic materials published after the 18th-19th centuries in the United Kingdom, the United States, Germany and France have been collected comprehensively.

Microforms of the US Government Printing Office, US presidential papers, declassified documents of the US government and microforms of the UK government are also available. The National Diet Library enjoys depository library status with major inter-governmental organizations including the United Nations, its specialized agencies, the European Union and the OECD. PDOP holds a vast amount of their publications and documents under the depository agreements.

Layout of the Room



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Collections

Materials PDOP holds are classified into four categories: legal, parliamentary, administrative and inter-governmental organization materials. Most of them are placed in the closed stacks in the basement (B5 and B6) of the annex. The following is a list of key materials of the each category.

(1) Legal Materials (All the materials under the National Diet Library Classification C)

1) Japan

官報 (Kanpo, Official Gazette), 法令全書 (Horei Zensho, Compendium of laws and regulations), compilations of laws and regulations in force, the most recent edition of compilations of laws by subject, official bulletins of national ministries and agencies, local ordinances in force and official gazettes of prefectures.

Law reports issued by the Supreme Court of Japan, compilations of law reports by subject, collections of case summaries and indexes of cases.

2) Foreign countries

Legal materials, such as official gazettes and compendia of statutes, of about 150 jurisdictions. Compendia of laws and regulations in force of about 30 jurisdictions. Law reports of supreme courts, treaty collections and compilations of comparative law by subject.

(2) Parliamentary Materials (All the materials under the National Diet Library Classification B)

1) Japan

Handbooks and directories of the Diet and the Imperial Diet, collections of precedents, official bulletins, bills, lists of petitions, committee reports, records of proceedings, budgets and audits, materials submitted to committees and all the records of proceedings of all the prefectural assemblies after World War II.

2) Foreign countries

Parliamentary materials of about 70 jurisdictions. In particular, essential materials of the United Kingdom, the United States, Germany and France since the 18th or 19th century.

(3) Administrative Publications

1) Japan

Catalogues and bibliographies of official publications of ministries and agencies, white papers, official statistics, catalogues of official publications and statistics of local governments, leaflets published by central and local governments, etc.

2) Foreign countries

Statistics of the United Kingdom, the United States, Germany, France, Canada, etc., catalogues of official publications, microforms of the US Government Printing Office, US presidential papers, declassified documents of the US government and microforms of the UK government, etc.

(4) Materials of inter-governmental organizations

Materials of the League of Nations and the United Nations, their specialized agencies, EU, OECD, Council of Europe, etc. (Most of them are acquired under depository agreements)

(5) Reference Books

In addition to these main four collections, users in the reading room can easily access the following reference books: Catalogues of publications on law and politics, handbooks and directories of national assemblies and governments, directories of lawmakers and lawyers, reference books on diplomacy, defense, warfare, administration, elections, etc.

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Databases

The National Diet Library offers a variety of its own databases and other commercial databases. Some of them are especially useful for legal, parliamentary or administrative research and are available in the Parliamentary Documents and Official Publications Room as well as other specialized rooms. Printout service is also available.

(1) Flagship databases authored by NDL

- Full-text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet (<http://kokkai.ndl.go.jp/>)

This database is co-authored by House of Representatives, House of Councillors and NDL and contains Diet session proceedings.

- Database System for the Minutes of the Imperial Diet (<http://teikokugikai-i.ndl.go.jp/>)

This database contains the Imperial Diet session proceedings.

- Index Database to Japanese Laws, Regulations and Bills (<http://hourei.ndl.go.jp/>)

This database contains information on the promulgation dates (dates of announcement in the Official Gazette), dates of amendment, dates of abolition, etc. of Japanese laws, orders and ordinances issued since 1886. It also contains information on the parliamentary actions of each bill since the first session of the National Diet (1947).

- Index Database to Japanese Laws, Regulations and Bills [for the early Meiji era]

(<http://dajokan.ndl.go.jp/>)

This database contains information on Japanese laws, orders and ordinances promulgated in the period 1867-1886.

- Bibliographical Database of Persons in Modern Japanese Politics

(<http://rnavi.ndl.go.jp/seiji/>)

This database contains bibliographic information on biographies, memoirs, journals, diaries etc. of politicians, diplomats, administrators, military servicemen, political philosophers etc. since the Meiji era.

- Bibliographical Database of Imperial Japanese Warfare (<http://rnavi.ndl.go.jp/gunji/>)

This database contains bibliographic information on Imperial Japanese wars from the Boshin War to World War II.

(2) Basic commercial databases

-D1-Law.com

現行法規 (Genko-hoki, Laws in force), 判例体系 (Hanrei taikei, Cases), 法律判例文献情報 (Horitsu hanrei bunken joho, Bibliography on laws and cases) are available.

-LEAGALBase

Cases and commentaries appearing in law journals such as 判例タイムズ (Hanrei taimuzu) and laws in force are available.

- 判例秘書 .JP (Hanrei hisyo JP)

Cases and articles of prominent law journals such as ジュリスト (Jurisuto) are available.

-LexisNexis (lexis.com)

Cases, statutes and parliamentary information of the United States, legal information such as cases and statutes of the EU, the United Kingdom, Canada, etc. as well as newspapers, journals, correspondences, etc. are available.

- House of Commons Parliamentary Papers

Bills, reports of committees, accounts and papers, etc. are available.

-U.S. Congressional Serial Set

Committee reports and other documents of the Congress are available.

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Featured Materials

●官報(Kanpo, Official Gazettes)

Official Gazettes since 1883 are on open shelves.

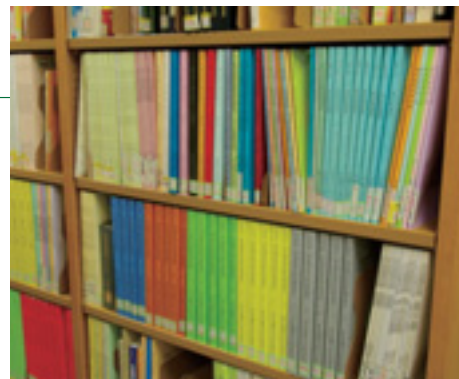


●Bills and related papers

A great number of bills, memoranda on questions, etc. since the first session of the Diet are available.

●Official statistics

You can access on open shelves an abundance of the latest official statistics such as the Population Census of Japan, establishment and enterprise census of Japan, labor force surveys, family income and expenditure surveys, demographic surveys, etc.



●Materials of inter-governmental organizations

You can consult largest numbers of publications of key inter-governmental organizations such as the League of Nations, the United Nations, their specialized agencies, EU, OECD, etc.

National Diet Library Parliamentary Documents and Official Publications Room

1-10-1, Nagatacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
100-8924, Japan
Tel: 03-3581-2331

Annex third floor

Opening hours... 9:30 - 19:00 (17:00 on Saturday)
Call-slip acceptance... 9:30 - 18:00 (16:00 on Saturday)
Request for photocopy (Same-day service)... 10:00 - 18:00 (16:00 on Saturday)
Request for photocopy (Regular service)... 10:00 - 18:30 (16:30 on Saturday)