

PRESS RELEASE

HeinOnline's World Constitution Illustrated Selected for Choice Magazine's 2010 Outstanding Academic Title List

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BUFFALO, NY, January 1, 2011 – *Choice* Magazine has selected HeinOnline's *World Constitutions Illustrated: Contemporary & Historical Documents & Resources* for inclusion on the Outstanding Academic Title list for 2010. *World Constitutions Illustrated* was released in April of 2010 and was HeinOnline's first library presented in the new platform that brings together documents, books, articles, bibliographic references, and web sites all related to a subject area in one database.

Choice's **Outstanding Academic Titles** are considered to be the "best of the best" and works are chosen based upon excellence in scholarship and presentation, and significance in contribution to the field of study. Of the more than 25,000 titles submitted to *Choice* for review in 2010, just over 9% were reviewed and less than 3% were selected as an Outstanding Title.

Reviewed by *Choice* earlier this year, *World Constitutions Illustrated* focuses on the constitutional and political development of every country in the world. Every country includes the current constitution in its original-language format, commentary about the constitutional development, reference books about the development of government, direct links to specific chapters within the classic constitutional books, links to scholarly articles that discuss the constitutional and political development of the country, links to online sources that directly relate to the constitution or the government, and a bibliography of other select constitutional works. The *Choice* review appeared in the October 2010 issue of *CHOICE*.

This platform bolsters one of HeinOnline's primary objectives. Jefri Ruchti, Lead Editor on the project, explains, "A guiding objective of the existing libraries in HeinOnline is to provide a modern approach to legal history. *World Constitutions Illustrated* is designed in that spirit, to preserve and present that heritage." He goes on to say, "Its ambition is to present a complete constitutional hierarchy for every country. The primary documentary history has a concurrent partner: the publishing history. This continuing sequence of editions, translations and commentaries has run for years, decades and even centuries after some of the subject documents themselves have lost their force."

World Constitutions Illustrated brings historical constitutional documents back to life in a digital form and presents them in an image-based PDF format to preserve their original form.

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World Constitutions Illustrated is still in its infancy and will only continue to grow. HeinOnline is seeking the help of the legal scholar community and asking scholars from all around the world to contribute to the project. With contributions from libraries, organizations, scholars, and constitutional law experts, the goal is to fill in the constitutional history by providing every constitutional document, commentary and supporting resource for every country. Since the release of the library, HeinOnline has had a number of contributions. Mr. John P. Zangwa, a lecturer from Zambia in Southern Africa; Jootaek Lee, Reference Librarian and Assistant Professor at the University of Miami; Richard Albert, Assistant Professor at Boston College Law School; Kaydian Smith, a legislative counsel to Parliament in Kingston; Cheryl Saunders, Laureate Professor and Director of Studies at the University of Melbourne; Branko Smerdel, professor of Constitutional Law and Comparative Government at the University of Zagreb Law Faculty in Croatia; Frank Hendrickx, Deputy-Clerk of the Standing Committee on the Interior and Kingdom Relations for the House of Representatives of the Dutch Parliament, and Clerk of the Credentials Committee and of the Parliamentary Contact Group Germany; Suzie Navot, Associate Professor at the Law School – College of Management Academic Studies, Reshon LeZion, Israel; Dr. Kevin Tan Yew Lee, director of Equilibrium Consulting Pte. Ltd., President of the Singapore Heritage Society, and Chairman of the Foundation for the Development of International Law in Asia; the University at Buffalo; D’Angelo Law Library at University of Chicago; Robert S. Marx Law Library at University of Cincinnati; Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU); Organization of American States (OAS); Buffalo Erie County Public Library; and the United Nations Dag Hammarskjold Library have all contributed. It is this type of collaboration that HeinOnline hopes to foster to continue building upon the framework of the project.

“We are honored that HeinOnline’s World Constitutions Illustrated is part of the Choice Outstanding Academic Titles list,” said Kevin Marmion, President of William S. Hein & Co., Inc. *“It is our vision to partner with the legal scholar community, as we have done in the past ten years since the unveiling of HeinOnline, to build the world’s greatest collection of constitutions and constitutional resources. With the help of libraries and scholars from around the world, we believe we can develop a comprehensive resource for researchers studying constitutional law, comparative law, and political science.”*

About HeinOnline -- HeinOnline is a product of William S. Hein & Co., Inc. which has been serving the library community for nearly 90 years as a legal publisher, periodical subscription agent and the world’s largest distributor of legal periodicals. HeinOnline is Hein’s premier online product with more than 60 million pages of legal history available in an online, fully searchable, image-based format. The content includes legal journals, government documents, foreign and international law materials, legal classics, world trials and much more. All content is in PDF format, fully searchable and from inception. Now, in more than 3,200 locations in over 150 countries, HeinOnline is the world’s largest image-based legal research collection and contains more than nine centuries of legal history.

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