

A Brief Comparison of Hong Kong Online Databases

Database	Lexis Advance Hong Kong	Westlaw Asia	Hong Kong Legal Information Institute (HKLI)	Legal Reference System (Judiciary)	Hong Kong e-Legislation
Link	Access via A-Z Databases: Law page	Access via A-Z Databases: Law page	https://www.hklii.hk/eng/	https://legalref.judiciary.hk/lrs/common/ju/judgment.jsp	https://www.elegislation.gov.hk/
Language	English by default; can search in Chinese (if Chinese contents available)	English by default; can search in Chinese (if Chinese contents available)	Bilingual (Chinese & English)	Bilingual (Chinese & English)	Bilingual (Chinese & English)
Scope & Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Covers cases, legislation, commentaries, journals, forms & precedents, dictionaries, legal news, and eBooks Includes extensive coverage in Hong Kong and United Kingdom Includes selected content in Australia, Canada, India, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore and the United States of America 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Covers cases, legislation, commentaries, journals, current awareness, news and ProView eBooks Includes extensive coverage in Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and United Kingdom Includes selected content in Australia, China, Cambodia, Indonesia, Korea, Myanmar, and New Zealand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Covers judgements and legislations Practice Directions Ordinances Regulations Constitutional Instruments Basic Law Hong Kong Treaty Series Historical Laws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains judgments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains all Ordinances and subsidiary legislation that are currently in operation Past versions of Ordinances and subsidiary legislation (including repealed Ordinances and subsidiary legislation) dating back to 30 June 1997 Electronic copies of Gazette Legal Supplements No. 1 (Ordinances), No. 2 (Subsidiary Legislation), No. 3 (Bills) and Supplement No. 6 (Private Bills only) published since 2000 Editorial Records
Hong Kong Case Law Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hong Kong Cases (HKC) (1946-Present) Hong Kong Cases Unreported (HKCU) (1905-Present) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hong Kong Case Digests (1986,1996, 2003-Present) Hong Kong Chinese Law Reports and Translations (1995, 2001-2008) Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal Reports (1997, 1999, 2000-Present) Hong Kong Criminal Law Reports (1992-1996) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Court of Final Appeal (unknown date, 1997-Present) United Kingdom Privy Council (1861-1997 incomplete) Court of Appeal (unknown date, 1946-Present incomplete) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Court of Final Appeal (Civil: 1997-Present; Criminal: 1997-Present) Court of Appeal of the High Court (years varied) High Court (years varied) Competition Tribunal (2017-2018) District Court (years varied) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No cases Official database of Hong Kong legislation. It provides free online access to current and past versions of consolidated legislation dating back to 30 June 1997 and PDF copies marked “verified copy” have official legal status

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hong Kong District Court Law Reports (1953-1996) • Hong Kong Law Reports (1905-1996) • Hong Kong Law Reports and Digest (1997 – Present) • Land Tribunal Law Reports (1977-1979) • Unreported Judgements (1946-1948, 1961-Present) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Court of First Instance (1800, unknown date, 1946-Present incomplete) • District Court (1800, unknown date, 1946-Present incomplete) • Family Court (1973-Present incomplete) • Competition Tribunal (2017-Present) • Lands Tribunal (unknown date, 1982-Present) • Other Courts and Tribunals (years varied, incomplete) • Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre Decisions (2001-2018) • Law Reform Commission Consultation Papers (1993, 1995-2018) • Law Reform Commission Reports (1982-2016) • Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data Administrative Appeals Board Decisions (1997-2016) • Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data Complaint Case Notes (1997-2016) • Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data Investigation Report / Inspection Report (1997-2017) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Court (years varied) • Lands Tribunal (years varied) • Other Miscellaneous Cases (years varied) 	
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Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Click a flag to choose a relevant jurisdiction for searching Suggests and predicts legal phrases, documents and publications relevant to your search terms Select Table of Contents (TOC) link of a publication title to browse in document level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides Cross-Jurisdictional Research vs Country Specific Search Runs Advanced Search in Subject/Catchword and Legislation Title field Offers Case Analysis (cases citing this case, judicial treatment and relevant legislation and commentaries) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Autocomplete provides suggestions of titles of cases and legislation after first few letters of party name or legislation name are typed Includes appeal history Hong Kong Treaty Series contains full text of arrangements with the Macao SAR, arrangements with the Mainland China, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can search Case Number / Neutral Citation Number Newly Added Judgments are judgments uploaded in the last six working days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HKeL allows users to view, download and print a piece of legislation as a whole, or to view, download and print selected individual provisions View legislation in Timeline and/or “Point in Time” drop-down box List of Verified Legislation Frequently Accessed and Download
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select and add publication title(s) to Red Search Box; search results would be within the scope of the selected publications Browse subscribed publications under publication listings Browse legal topics Display results by timeline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides Legislation Analysis (law in force, historic law versions, citing cases, citing journal articles, citing commentary, and feature varies across jurisdictions) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bilateral agreements and treats that are applicable to Hong Kong Advanced Search allows users to search in as many fields as possible Comparison feature between any two versions of the same Ordinance/Regulation/Instrument 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislation/Instructions Recently Updated Legislation/Instruments Recently uploaded Bills E-Gazette List Editorial Records Verified PDF files Subscription to Email Alerts and RSS Feeds
Terms & Connectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> &, or, “”, /s, /p, /n, +s, +p, +n, AND NOT, !, *, # Refer to “Help – Understanding terms & connectors searches” menu on Lexis Advance Hong Kong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> &, or, “”, /s, /p, /n, +s, +p, +n, %, !, *, # Refer to “Help – Terms and Connectors” menu on Westlaw Asia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> &, or, “”, w/s, w/p, w/n, NEAR, pre/n, /n/, /m, n/, TITLE (...), [], { }, ^, +, -, NOT, *, ? Refer to “Help” – “Search Operators Chart” on HKLII 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildcards search : %, _ Refer to “?” on “Keyword Search” or “Advanced Keyword Search”