

Teaching Legal English to International Law Students

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Abstract

When teaching a foreign language for special purposes, namely legal, there is a need in authentic and complete information, especially when we speak about the international law language. To our mind, as the basic sources of getting knowledge, in this case, can serve specialized sites of international organizations, first of all, the United Nations Organization, International Court of Justice, International Committee of the Red Cross, etc.

The UN site consists, for example, of the following main sections: Peace and Security, Human Rights, Humanitarian Affairs, International Law. The latter provides us with the information concerning UN Bodies; International Courts and Tribunals, such as International Court of Justice, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, etc. Besides, an important part of this section is dedicated to legal resources: UN Treaty Collection, Audiovisual Library of International Law, etc.

Thus, analyzing the content of the UN site from the point of view of its utility for the teaching process, it is possible to draw a conclusion that the information provided allows to develop and improve such aspects of speech, as reading and hearing.

To prove, it is necessary to speak about one the important parts of the UN site that is the Audiovisual Library of International Law. It is a unique, multimedia resource which provides with high quality international law training and research materials to an unlimited number of recipients on a global level. It consists of three pillars: the Historic Archives, the Lecture Series and the Research Library. One of the purposes to establish it in 2008 was to promote a common language of international law and a culture that is conducive to the rule of law. This innovative teaching and research tool is available, free of charge, to all institutions and individuals around the globe.