

Global Animal Law Research

Global Animal Law Research

Strategies and Resources

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Introduction

Alex Zhang & Katherine Siler

It has been over 400 years since arguably the first modern animal rights protection legislation was passed in the 1600s in Ireland. However, glancing through the legislative and regulatory framework of many countries globally, legal protection of animal rights is far less than satisfactory around the world. Furthermore, the level of protection in both breadth and depth varies dramatically among countries. On the one hand, countries in Northern Europe have developed a relatively sophisticated legal framework to protect animal rights. On the other hand, in many countries in Asia and Africa, animal rights have become an urgent concern in many different ways. They require immediate legal intervention and a sustainable legal protection framework.

Despite there having been scholarly works and news articles discussing animal rights globally from many different perspectives, there has not been a treatise addressing resources and strategies on researching the legal rights of animals at the international and domestic level. The purpose of this book is to fill the gap. More specifically, we attempt to discuss the current and emerging legal framework, primary and secondary resources, and research strategies on animal rights and welfare in the laws of the United States, international regime, and foreign jurisdictions (laws of countries other than the United States). Since animal rights is a broad topic, we address specific issues in different jurisdictions. This way, our expert authors are able to discuss diverse and unique research resources and strategies in a wide variety of contexts.

The compilation begins with three pieces focusing on international and comparative law research on animal rights. Susan Gaultier, in *Researching the*

Protection of Animals in Areas of Armed Conflict, discusses the research strategies and resources on multidisciplinary research in an emerging legal area: legal protection of animal rights in war zones. In *Animal Agriculture Legal Research in the European Union and the United States*, Deborah Heller compares legal and regulatory regimes of animal agriculture laws concerning animal safety and protection and consumer safety in both the United States and the European Union. Jean Wenger's article, *Researching the Legal Framework for Companion Animals in a Global Context*, explores the resources and strategies for researching legal development and issues related to companion animals in a global context.

Section II of the book focuses on animal law research in the United States. Three authors have addressed in-depth research strategies, resources, and techniques in three different areas. Shay Elbaum discusses the legal development, framework, and research resources in marine animal protection in the United States in his article, *Researching Marine Mammal Protection in the United States*. The article also includes a bibliography on both the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. Grace Lo explores the legal issues and research strategies on animal rights protection in the arena of entertainment law in the United States in her article, *Animals in Entertainment Law*. In *Soring: A Sore Subject for Equestrians*, Katherine Siler examines the legal issues surrounding the practice of soring horses in the United States. Her article considers the Horse Protection Act and provides insight on researching the relevant lobbying interests related to failed legislation and the enforcement problems connected to the Horse Protection Act.

One of the unique features of this compilation is that it highlights legal research strategies and resources on researching animal rights protection and laws in multiple jurisdictions other than the United States. Melissa Abernathy explores resources on researching bullfight-related issues in Europe and Latin American countries in *Legal Research on Bullfighting in Europe and Latin America*. Jootaek Lee discusses the legal issues surrounding animal rights and introduces strategies researching South Korea's relevant issues in his article, *Korean Animal Protection Law*. Kerry Lohmeier focuses her article, *African Law on Animal Rights: Trophy Hunting*, on discussing legal research resources, strategies, and tips for multiple African countries. Liv Mostad-Jensen's commentary, *Whaling in Iceland and the Faroe Islands: History and Legal Resources*, provides a historical overview of legal issues of whaling in Iceland and the Faroe Islands as well as contemporary legal resources and framework. Sarah Reis provides legal research strategies and resources for researching animal welfare issues in Australia and New Zealand in her article, *Animal Welfare*

Legal Research in Australia and New Zealand. Last but not least, Alex Zhang discusses the legal framework, research resources, and strategies on researching Chinese law in general and Chinese animal rights protection laws more specifically in her article, *Researching Chinese Animal Law*.

We hope you will find this compilation informative and helpful when conducting legal research on animal rights-related issues domestically and internationally.

