For example, the European Union (EU) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) (formerly the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)), the North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA), and others. Dispute surrounding the effect of international law generally and the GATT in particular (predecessor to the WTO) within the European Union is nearly as old as the EU itself. The World Trade Organization website is a dynamic, responsive and transparent research tool. As is typical of most IGO websites, however, the WTO official documents online are limited to recent years. At least for now, comprehensive research requires a mixture of print, microfiche, and electronic formats.

This guide lists the essential sources for researching the current WTO system and the predecessor system under the 1947 General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. It does not attempt to list all the worthy secondary sources in this area. The guide cites selected U.S. materials.

1. For example, European Union (EU) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) (formerly the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)), the North American Free Trade Association (NAFTA), and others. 44 Cornell Int’l L.J. 179 (2011); 180 Cornell International Law Journal Vol. 44. which contain rules by which the trade activity of signatory states can be judged, has added an additional layer of complexity to the trading regimes of signatory states. The EU, the WTO, and the NAFTA: Towards a Common Law of International Trade: The Early Years of WTO Jurisprudence' in Joseph Weiler (ed), The EU, the WTO and the NAFTA: Towards a Common Law of International Trade? (2000) 35, 51. 17 David Palmetser and Petros Mavroidis, 'The WTO Legal System: Sources of Law' (1998) 92 American Journal of International Law 398, 402.