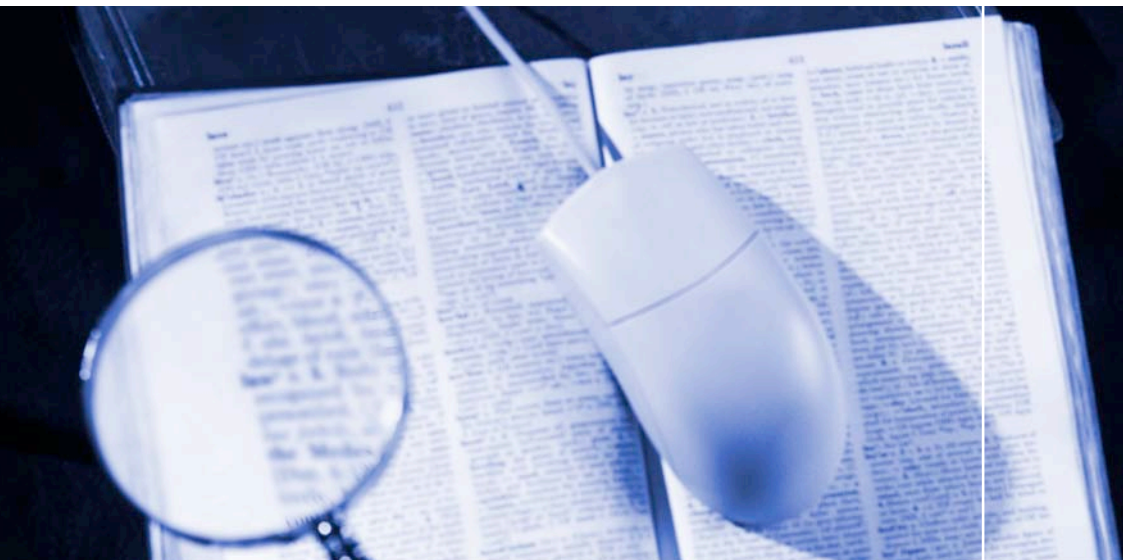




# UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



## Legal tools

► The international crime and drug control treaties provide the legal foundation for action against drug-related offences, transnational organized crime and corruption and reflect the international community's realization that such issues can be addressed effectively through the collaboration of all states affected or involved.

To facilitate the effective implementation of international drug control treaties and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), has developed a variety of legal tools which provide States and criminal justice practitioners with invaluable practical assistance and information.

# Competent National Authorities (CNAs) Directory

The UNODC Directory of Competent National Authorities provides easy access to the contact information of competent national authorities designated to handle requests under the 1988 Drugs Convention and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto.

It contains the contact information of over 600 CNAs authorized to receive, respond to and process requests for:

- Extradition
- Transfer of sentenced persons
- Mutual legal assistance in criminal matters
- Illegal traffic of narcotics by sea
- Smuggling of migrants by sea
- Trafficking in firearms

With the view to facilitate communication and problem solving among competent national authorities at the interregional level, the Directory contains essential information on:

- National legal and procedural requirements for making requests
- Use of the international conventions as the legal basis for requests
- Links to national laws and websites
- Indication of requests that can be made through Interpol

The online Directory is continually updated and accessible to competent authorities and government agencies with a user account. Account members receive the latest publication of the Directory twice a year and can download the directory in .pdf and .rtf formats.



TO REQUEST A USER ACCOUNT AND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,  
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.UNODC.ORG/COMPAUTH](http://WWW.UNODC.ORG/COMPAUTH)

# Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer Tool

Mutual legal assistance is one of the most decisive tools States have to fight serious international crime. For mutual legal assistance requests to be effective, they need to be generated quickly and comply with the legal requirements of both requesting and requested parties in order to avoid legal obstacles that can arise when criminal justice practitioners from different legal systems attempt to work together.

The Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer Tool (MLA Tool) has been developed by UNODC to assist States in drafting requests with a view to facilitating and strengthening international cooperation.

The MLA tool:

- Requires virtually no prior knowledge or experience of drafting mutual legal assistance requests;
- Helps to avoid incomplete requests for mutual legal assistance and therefore minimizes the risk of delay or refusal;
- Is easily adjustable to any country's substantive and procedural law;
- Enables the user to retrieve key information on treaties and national legislation;
- Features an integrated case-management tracking system for incoming and outgoing requests.

Step by step, the MLA Tool guides the casework practitioner through the request process for each type of mutual assistance, using a series of templates. Before progressing from one screen to the next, the drafter is prompted if essential information has been omitted. The tool consolidates all data entered and automatically generates a correct, complete and effective request for final editing and signature.

The MLA Tool is currently available in English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Portuguese, Bosnian, Croatian, Montenegrin and Serbian



**TO REQUEST A USER ACCOUNT AND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,  
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.UNODC.ORG/MLA/INDEX.HTML](http://WWW.UNODC.ORG/MLA/INDEX.HTML)**

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\* It is possible to translate the MLA tool into other languages. All translations available have been made possible by extra budgetary funds or States' efforts to translate the tool into their languages. To initiate such translations or for further information please contact us at: [legal@unodc.org](mailto:legal@unodc.org)

# The Legal Library

The UNODC on-line legal library provides valuable access to legislation adopted by States and territories worldwide to put into effect the International Drug Control Conventions and the United Nations Transnational Organized Crime Convention and its Protocols thereto.

A unique resource of information for legislative drafters, the legal library contains laws and regulations in English, French and Spanish from over 150 States dating back to 1948.

To keep the library up to date, States are kindly requested to review the legislation online and to submit new legislations to:

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime  
Conference Support Section  
Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch  
Division For Treaty Affairs  
Vienna International Centre  
P.O. Box 500  
1400 Vienna  
Austria  
Email: [legal@unodc.org](mailto:legal@unodc.org)  
Fax: 0043+1 26060-74344



TO ACCESS THE LIBRARY AND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.UNODC.ORG/ENL](http://WWW.UNODC.ORG/ENL)



# The Omnibus survey software (comprehensive self assessment tool)

The Omnibus survey software is an efficient, interactive and user friendly tool conceived to simplify reporting obligations vis-à-vis the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, and the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Designed as a self-assessment checklist, the Omnibus survey software enables States parties to:

- Assess national legislation for compliance with UNTOC and its Protocols
- Identify technical and legal assistance needs
- Share best practices



TO ACCESS THE OMNIBUS SURVEY SOFTWARE AND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,  
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.UNODC.ORG/UNODC/EN/TREATIES/ASSESSMENT-OF-THE-IMPLEMENTATION-OF-THE-CONVENTION.HTML](http://WWW.UNODC.ORG/UNODC/EN/TREATIES/ASSESSMENT-OF-THE-IMPLEMENTATION-OF-THE-CONVENTION.HTML)





# UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

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## Recommended resources

### **Legislative guides to UNTOC and its protocols**

To assist States seeking to ratify and implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto by identifying legislative requirements and the various options available to States as they develop the necessary legislation. [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CTOC/legislative-guide.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CTOC/legislative-guide.html)

### **Commentaries on the International Drug Control Conventions**

A useful guide to States in their interpretation and effective implementation of the international drug control conventions. [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/index.html?ref=menutop](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/index.html?ref=menutop)

### **Model treaties and laws**

Model treaties and laws to assist jurisdictions to prepare, implement and upgrade their legislative frameworks to comply with the international drug control conventions and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols thereto. [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/legal-tools/Model.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/legal-tools/Model.html)

### **Practical Training Guide for Competent National Authorities under the 1988 Drugs Convention**

A user-friendly reference training guide to assist States in making requests and competent national authorities who have the responsibility to receive and respond to requests under article 17 of the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. Includes a series of annexes providing guidance on practical implementation, legal background and reference material. [www.unodc.org/compath/en/index.html](http://www.unodc.org/compath/en/index.html)

### **Tailor-made legal publications for practitioners**

Made to provide practitioners with the legal basis for extradition and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/legal-tools/Model.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/legal-tools/Model.html)

### **Expert group reports**

Reports produced by experts which identify best practice tips, best international practice and practical guides and for practitioners on mutual legal assistance, asset forfeiture and drug abuse casework. [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/legal-tools/Model.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/legal-tools/Model.html)

**For further information please contact:**

**Conference Support Section, Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch, Division for Treaty Affairs**  
**Email: [Untoc.cop@unodc.org](mailto:Untoc.cop@unodc.org)**