## The American Constitution Society. Access: https://www.acslaw.org/.

The American Constitution Society (ACS) website is an outlet for legal experts to address a general audience through podcasts, videos, and short- to medium-length texts. Since 2001, the ACS self-identifies as a "national progressive legal network" in response to *Bush v. Gore*, to counter the "conservative legal movement's mounting influence."

The website's banner menu lists blogs, issues, and analysis, "Projects," "Media," "About Us," and "Get Involved." The blogs are "Expert Forum" for longform analysis of policy or law published one to four times per month, and "In Brief" for eloquent weekly summaries on current topics. They are presented in reverse chronological order, or you can select from a list of ten subjects: "Supreme Court," "Criminal Justice," "Federal Courts," "Equality and Liberty," "Voting Rights," "Democracy and Voting," "Executive Power," "Importance of the Courts," "Racial Equity," and "Access to Justice." Each link opens the next part of the banner menu.

"Issues and Analysis" opens a menu listing thirteen issues and a column of analysis by format. The issues expand on the list above and include "First Amendment," "Immigration," "National Security and Civil Liberties," "Regulation and Administrative State," "Separation of Powers and Federalism," "Technology Law and Intellectual Property," "Workers' Rights," and "Constitutional Interpretation." Each Issue's page starts with a short description then links to relevant recent blogs, upcoming events, issue briefs, videos, press releases, and past events. Further scrolling leads to a list of sub-issues.

"Projects" is less predictable and may list statements, publications, videos, an overview, publications, news releases, audio, or recent events. "Projects" focuses on a variety of topics such as "Article V of the U.S. Constitution," "Death Penalty in America," "Judicial Nominations," "Protecting Reproductive Rights," "Voting Rights Project," and "Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation." One particularly interesting new project under "Judicial Nominations" is "Diversity of the Federal Bench," which offers animated charts, interactive maps, and an archive of statistics (static charts) since March 2020.

Students interested in history and political science will find a wealth of information at the ACS website.—*Jennifer Stubbs, Bradley University, jastubbs@bradley.edu* 

## **European Parliament.** Access: https://www.europarl.europa.eu/portal/en.

The European Parliament (EP) is the legislative body of the European Union (EU), a political and economic union of twenty-seven member states. Founded in 1952, the European Parliament is composed of 705 members (MEPs) directly elected by voters in every EU member state. The EP makes laws, approves the EU budget, and supervises the work of the EU. It shares power with the Council of the EU and the European Commission. The website of the European Parliament is a portal to a vast array of information about the work—and the inner workings—of the EP.

The website is organized into a primary site containing basic information about the EP,

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as well as ten secondary websites (all under the same domain name and with a similar look and feel) that allow visitors to delve into specific aspects of the EP. The primary site's top navigation includes menu items for "News," "MEPs," "About Parliament," "Plenary," "Committees," "Delegations," and "Other Websites." This navigation bar displays at the top of each subsite, giving an instant way to return to the primary site. Secondary and tertiary navigation menus drill deeper into each category. Secondary sites include "Multimedia Centre," "Think Tank," and "Legislative Train," which uses railway visuals and vocabulary (departed, arrived, derailed, etc.) to report on legislation. While this plethora of nested menus and sites may daunt first-time visitors, the multilayered structure befits the EP's complexity and its democratic imperative to share information with EU citizens.

The website is highly accessible. It largely conforms to level AA of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 from the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), though many of the recordings of parliamentary speeches lack closed captions. The site also makes content easy to understand for visitors with diverse reading levels and learning styles. Animations and infographics recap topics entertainingly. A button on all pages allows visitors to toggle seamlessly between twenty-four European languages. "Easy-to-read" page versions use plain language to describe how the EP works and what it does. All content is free to read without registration or payment.

This website provides free global access to the doings of the European Parliament and does so in an accessible and well-organized way. Scholars, students, policymakers, and citizens doing research or seeking to learn more about the EP will appreciate this resource's depth, design, and transparency.—*Michael Rodriguez, Lyrasis, topshelvr@gmail.com* 

## **National Council on Aging.** Access: https://www.ncoa.org/.

The National Council on Aging (NCOA) is a nonprofit organization seeking to "improve the lives of millions of older adults, especially those who are struggling." Based in Arlington, Virginia, and formed in 1950, the NCOA focuses on health and financial security for older adults, particularly those who may face societal inequities. The audience of the website is older adults, caregivers, professionals, and advocates with content devoted to each group, with most content being most relevant to older adults and their caregivers. The website provides a combination of news, best practices, personalized tools, and other resources geared to the needs of this demographic.

Content on healthy living includes prevention, physical and behavioral health, and aging mastery. Financial information centers on budgeting, job skills, retirement, and benefits enrollment. Information on falls prevention and COVID-19, notable sources of concern for the elderly, is prominently available across the site. Professionals will find guidance on best practices and organizations focused on seniors, and advocates will discover information on public policy, grants, and upcoming events. The bulk of the content is articles and tools (such as the AgeWell Planner and BenefitsCheckUp), with a few videos and infographics. Although not a scholarly source, academic librarians may find the NCOA website a resource to recommend for areas of study that serve older adults, such as the health sciences and allied health sciences.

The website is intuitive to navigate with a blend of visuals and text; however, the volume of information can be overwhelming. Specialized tools would benefit from being organized in one category as these can be difficult to locate other than by serendipitous browsing. There is

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no sitemap, but a keyword search box is located at the header. There are two font sizes to aid visibility. Information is organized by audience with additional choices available at the site's header and footer. The site states that the NCOA "believes every American deserves to age well—regardless of gender, color, sexuality, income, or ZIP code." However, information is only available in English. Although the site would benefit from greater diversity in language and tweaks to enhance discoverability, it is a robust health and financial literacy resource specific to older adults that academic librarians supporting programs serving this population will be sure to find useful.—Dawn Behrend, Lenoir-Rhyne University, dawn.behrend@lr.edu

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