The relationship between research services and library services in parliamentary libraries

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Parliament and information

Make the law
Debate important issues
Scrutinise government activity
Authorise finance

Represent the people
What kind of library and research service does your Parliament need?

• What does your Parliament need?
• How does your Parliament want to develop?
• What kind of library and/or research service will support the development of the Parliament?
Qualitative survey

• Sample of countries from the Standing Committee
• Indicative
• Shows the range of options
• Some interesting background material such as structure diagrams
What do librarians do?

Find    Evaluate
Organise Search
Manage data Disseminate
Train
What do researchers do?

Brief  Write

Consult  Synthesise

Analyse
Examples of research questions

• how does this year's budget compare to last year's budget?
• what countries would be good role models for us?
• How does the average income for my electorate?
• Which countries have a model strategy for a knowledge economy?
• What legislation do other countries have for a particular issues?
Librarians & researchers working together

- UK – Single point of access
- UK – members don’t distinguish between library and research services
- US – researchers have narrow but deep knowledge
- US – librarians teach, deliver, manage information, broader subject areas
- Scotland – so merged there is no concept of differentiation
Japan

Overview of our Services for Diet Members

Our Research Policy
Extensive, Prompt and Appropriate in Confidential and Nonpartisan Manners

Research on Request
(38,000 answers per year)

Lectures and Meetings
Researchers provide lectures and participate in meetings held by Diet Members.
(600 cases per year)

Research Report
Researchers provide customized research reports including summaries of laws, policy background, foreign legislative information, etc.
(5,300 cases per year)

Lending and Copying services of Library Materials
The Library lends and provides copies of books, periodicals and newspapers from its comprehensive collections and printouts of databases.
(31,400 cases per year)

Request

Diet Members

Materials, Information and Facilities

Infrastructure for Diet Members in Study and Research
The NDL provides Diet Members for research and study on policy issues with comprehensive library materials, databases and comfortable reading and study rooms.

Full-text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet (p.7)
Reading Room, Study Room (p.8)
Detached Library in the Diet (p.9)

Anticipatory Research

Publications
(3,600 pages per year)

“NDL Website”
(provided for the general public through internet)

“Window on Research Services”
(on the exclusive website for Diet Members)

Issue Brief
Issue Brief is a compact briefing paper (about 10 pages) on national policy issues, published irregularly.

Reference
Reference is the RRLB’s monthly magazine which contains policy and legal analysis on state affairs, historical studies, and comparative studies on domestic and foreign systems, from medium- to long-term perspective.

Foreign Legislation
Foreign Legislation provides Japanese translations of foreign laws, explanations of the background of legislation, compact information on foreign legislative activities. It has monthly and quarterly versions.

Research Materials
Research Materials is a monograph series published regularly and contains reports of interdisciplinary researches and the “Scientific Technique Research Project”

Comprehensive Library Materials, Technical Information and Experts
(The staff comprise experts in a range of fields, such as law, politics, economy, humanities and sciences & technology and they also excel in foreign languages.)

Collections
- Books about 9,700,000
- Serials (periodicals and newspapers): 210,000 titles

Electronic Resources
- NDL-GFAC(The National Diet Library Online Public Access Catalog)
- Internet Resources and selected materials in Japan and foreign countries
- Databases for newspaper article, statistics, academic article
Qualifications required

• Commonly, librarians must have a library degree
• Commonly researchers must have a higher degree (Masters or Ph.D)
• Some countries have language requirements as well
• Some countries look for skills rather than qualifications
• Flexibility is becoming more important
## Ratio of Librarians: Researchers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Librarians</th>
<th>Researchers</th>
<th>Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>0.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>0.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>0.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>0.61</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>1.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Models of library/research services

Library Service only
Librarians perform information searches and present and organise electronic information tools

Research Service (Analysis)
- Technology
- Outreach
- Administration
- Library Services

Parliamentary Library
- Archives
- Outreach
- Collections
- Reference
- Analysis

Library Services
Research Services
Library service only

Librarians perform information searches and present and organise electronic information tools
Library services (with some analysis)
Research Services (with some library services)
United States

**KSG in the CRS Research Structure**

- 95 staff
  - 62 info professionals
  - 1 GIS analyst
  - Support & Program staff

[Diagram showing the structure of KSG in the CRS Research with Director at the top, American Law, Government and Finance, Domestic Social Policy, Resources, Science, and Industry, Foreign Affairs, Defense, & Trade, Knowledge Services Group (KSG), Reference centers, and Programs.]
Chile

http://transparencia.bcn.cl/estructura/organigrama
Library and research services as partners
THANK YOU FOR LISTENING