

The Current Status and Issues of Laws and Regulations on Parliamentary Archives in Every Country of the World

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Abstract: What is the significance of parliamentary archives? What is the role and function of parliamentary archives? How to guarantee them by laws and regulations? Until now, the challenges and questions in this field have not been addressed.

With that in mind, I surveyed the current situation of laws and regulations of parliamentary archives of the majority of countries in the world. The details are as follows; first I analyzed the establishment of parliamentary archives. After that, I analyzed the related laws and regulations. The ultimate goal is to clarify the trends in parliamentary archives and to raise issues.

The following key points were revealed as a result of the study. First, parliamentary document management is divided into two types; central management and distributed management. Second, while the parliamentary archives of most countries are controlled by law, the types of law are different. Some countries have substantive law, and some have procedural law. A few countries have both.

In addition, it is revealed that the provisions are diverse, for example, the legal grounds of existence, provisions for document appraisal and selection, and provisions for public access to documents. These are a difference between parliamentary archives and national archives. In view of the above, I will raise an issue of critical analysis in regards to ICA guidelines for parliamentary archives.

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