

International Acronyms, Initialisms & Abbreviations Dictionary

FIRST EDITION

Volume 1

International Acronyms, Initialisms & Abbreviations Dictionary

Gale's publications in the acronyms and abbreviations field include:

Acronyms, Initialisms & Abbreviations Dictionary series:

Acronyms, Initialisms & Abbreviations Dictionary (Volume 1). A guide to acronyms, initialisms, abbreviations, and similar contractions, arranged alphabetically by abbreviation.

New Acronyms, Initialisms & Abbreviations (Volume 2). Two interedition supplements, in which terms are arranged alphabetically both by abbreviation and by meaning.

Reverse Acronyms, Initialisms & Abbreviations Dictionary (Volume 3). A companion to Volume 1, in which terms are arranged alphabetically by meaning of the acronym, initialism, or abbreviation.

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International Acronyms, Initialisms & Abbreviations Dictionary

*A Guide to over 90,000 Foreign and International Acronyms,
Initialisms, Abbreviations, Alphabetic Symbols, Contractions,
and Similar Condensed Appellations in All Fields*

Covering: Associations, Business and Trade, Communication,
Correspondence, Education, Foreign and International Affairs,
Government, Labor, Military, Politics, Religion, Science,
Transportation, and Other Fields

FIRST EDITION

Volume 1

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Preface to the First Edition

Acronyms, initialisms, and abbreviations have become increasingly popular as a means of simplifying and speeding up both oral and written communication. Their use pervades not only English but nearly every other language of the world. As political, economic, and cultural interdependence among nations grows, so also does the demand for aid in deciphering abbreviated terms in languages other than English.

As a companion to the *Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary* series, *International Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary (IAIAD)* includes abbreviations used internationally as well as tens of thousands of terms local to specific foreign countries and, as such, not eligible for inclusion in *Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary (AIAD)*. As a result, overlap between the two publications is minimal and is limited chiefly to certain generic terms known worldwide ("Mlle" for Mademoiselle, "eg" for Exempli Gratia) and to internationally known organization names.

This first edition of *International Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary* includes over 90,000 abbreviated terms. It incorporates and supersedes the paperbound "preliminary edition" published in 1984.

Other Volumes in the Series

Abbreviated forms seem to proliferate as rapidly in foreign languages as in English. In order to stay abreast of the global profusion of such terms, interedition supplements (*New International Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations*) are planned. In addition, a companion volume, *Reverse International Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary*, is available. In *RIAIAD*, terms are arranged alphabetically by the meanings of the abbreviations.

What Is Covered?

Our nets have been cast worldwide in collecting entries for this series. In addition to European coverage, this first edition includes numerous African, Russian, and Latin American abbreviations. There are terms from Malaysia, Cambodia, Turkey, the Middle East, Greece, Indonesia, and many other countries of the world.

Editorial concentration is focused on those countries in which English is not the major language. Beyond this, the criterion for inclusion is only that a term be clearly international in scope or be continental, regional, national, or local to a foreign area.

The range of subjects covered is virtually unlimited and includes societies, military terms, political parties, trade and commerce terms, labor unions, government units, and thousands of commonly abbreviated words in nearly two dozen languages.

Major Sources Cited

IAIAD was compiled from a variety of published sources, miscellaneous newspaper and newsmagazine references, lists provided by foreign consulates, government publications, terms provided by outside contributors, and independent research by the editorial staff. Each term from a major published source is followed by a parenthetical alphabetic code in small capitals. A key to these symbols and complete bibliographical information about the publications cited can be found in the List of Sources Cited on page 11.

Acknowledgments

For research suggestions or contributions of terms and for other courtesies during the preparation of this first edition, the editors are indebted to the embassies and/or consulate-general offices of the following nations: Austria, Colombia, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, France, Guyana, Hungary, Italy, Nauru, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Venezuela, and West Germany.

Comments and Suggestions Are Welcome

Users of *IAIAD* can make unique and important contributions to supplements and future editions by notifying the staff of subject fields or languages that are not adequately covered, by suggesting sources for covering such fields or languages, and even by sending lists of terms they feel should be included.

Editorial Policies

The rationale for compiling *International Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary (IAIAD)* and the editorial practices followed in preparing it are much the same as those applied to *Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary (AIAD)*. These include collecting as extensively as possible in one reference the countless abbreviated terms that touch nearly every aspect of modern life worldwide; documenting and making manageable this dynamic "language"; and keeping criteria for inclusion broad enough that terms are not excluded on subtle technicalities.

Format of Entries

A typical entry would provide the foreign abbreviation, its expansion in the foreign language, an English translation, identification of the language or country of origin, and a source code. Many entries, however, do not contain all these elements; the completeness of a listing is dependent upon the information provided by the source.

Many entries are without English translations, and others consist only of the English expansion of the foreign acronym. It is felt, however, that even partial information will be helpful to a user struggling through a multilingual jungle of acronyms and abbreviations. If additional information or a translation becomes available in future research, an entry will be revised.

Capitalization, Special Characters, Transliteration

It was recognized at an early stage of compilation that complete consistency would be an elusive goal. *IAIAD* includes a multitude of languages, and sources vary in form and treatment of entries. As a result, most terms have been picked up exactly as given by the cited source.

It is common in English to write acronyms and initialisms in all-capitals and without periods, in part reflecting the limited capacity for character typesetting that marked the early days of the computer age. Periods have been eliminated from entries in *IAIAD*, but because conventions of capitalization vary widely from language to language, the capitalization of abbreviated forms has been preserved as given by the cited source. In the case of duplication, the all-capital form has been preferred.

Font limitations preclude the typesetting of diacritics, ligatures, and so forth. Where possible, however, affected letters have been altered according to accepted standards. (The German *für* became *fuer*, for example.)

Not surprisingly, various sources reflect differing systems or philosophies of transliteration. No attempt has been made to alter the original entries by applying a single system of transliteration. The potpourri of languages and sources represented makes complete consistency of treatment impossible. It is felt, however, that since *IAIAD* is aimed at a general audience rather than linguistic specialists, the simpler course will serve the needs of the general user satisfactorily.

Arrangement of Terms

Acronyms, initialisms, and abbreviations are arranged alphabetically in letter-by-letter sequence, regardless of spacing, punctuation, or capitalization. Neither ampersands, articles, conjunctions, nor prepositions are considered in the alphabetizing. If the same abbreviation has more than one meaning, the various meanings are then subarranged alphabetically, in word-by-word sequence. If an abbreviation uses an Arabic numeral, the term will follow other forms of the same abbreviation. (Roman numerals sort as alphabetics.)

For example:

FCFederacion de Comunistas [*Federation of Communists*]
 [Spanish] (WER)
F and CForwarded and Charged [*International trade*]
FEOPAEuropean Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund
 [Use EAGGF] (WER)
FEPACFederation des Patrons Catholiques [*Federation of*
 Catholic Employees] [Belgian] (WER)
fhwForhenvaerende [*Former*] [Danish] (GPO)
freFacture [*Invoice*] [French]
F-SFaire Suivre [*Please Forward*] [French]
FSFerrovie dello Stato [*Italian State Railways*] (WER)
FS3Federalni Shromazdeni 3 [*Federal Assembly, Third Level*]
 (CZ)
FTAForeign Trade Association (EA)

List of Sources Cited

(Unless further described in an annotation, the publications listed here contain no additional information about the acronym, initialism, or abbreviation cited in *International Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary*.)

- (AF) ***Reference Aid: Abbreviations in the African Press.*** Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1979.
- (BU) ***Reference Aid: Abbreviations and Acronyms Used in the Bulgarian Press.*** Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1978.
- (CED) ***Current European Directories.*** 2nd ed. Ed. by G. P. Henderson. Beckenham, Kent, England: CBD Research, 1981; distributed in US by Gale Research Co., Detroit.
- (CL) ***Reference Aid: Abbreviations in the Cambodian and Lao Press.*** Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1974.
- (CNC) ***Codes for the Names of Countries.*** National Bureau of Standards. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1977.

 These standard codes, approved by the International Organization for Standardization and the American National Standards Institute, are used in the international interchange of data in many fields.
- (COL) ***Diccionario de Siglas y Acrónimos Colombianos.*** 2nd ed. By Adela Sanabria Parra. Bogota: Instituto Colombiano para el Fomento de la Educación Superior, 1976.
- (CZ) ***Reference Aid: Abbreviations in the Czechoslovak Press.*** Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1970.
- (EA) ***Encyclopedia of Associations.*** 1984 ed. Ed. by Denise S. Akey. Vol. 4, *International Organizations*, issue nos. 1-3. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1983-84.

 A guide to trade, professional, and other nonprofit associations that are international in scope and membership and that are headquartered outside the United States. Entries include name and address; principal foreign language name; telephone and telex number; chief official; and a description of the purpose, activities, and structure of the organization.
- (EG) ***Reference Aid: Glossary of Special Terms, Acronyms and Abbreviations as Used in East German and Other German Publications.*** Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1975.
- (GC) ***Reference Aid: Abbreviations, Acronyms and Special Terms in the Press of Greece and Cyprus.*** Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1977.
- (GC1) ***Reference Aid: Supplemental Abbreviations, Acronyms in the Press of Greece and Cyprus.*** Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1983.
- (GPO) ***Style Manual.*** Rev. ed. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1984.

 Terms are included in Chapter 24, Foreign Languages.
- (HU) ***Reference Aid: Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Special Terms Used in the Hungarian Press.*** Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1978.

- (IN) *Reference Aid: Glossary of Indonesian Abbreviations and Acronyms.* Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1971.
- (LA) *Reference Aid: Acronyms in the Latin American Press.* Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1979.
- (LA1) *Reference Aid: Abbreviations and Acronyms in the Latin American Press.* Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1983.
- (MAR) Private collection of African abbreviations. Lawrence Marwick, late head of the Hebraic section, Library of Congress.
- (ME) *Reference Aid: Administrative Structure, Military Ranks and Organization, Police, Monetary Units, and Abbreviations Related to the Middle East Press.* Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1976.
- (ML) *Reference Aid: A Glossary of Malaysian and English Abbreviations Appearing in the Press of Malaysia and Singapore.* Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1972.
- (MTD) *A French-English Military Technical Dictionary.* By Cornelis De Witt Willcox. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1917.
- (NAU) *Nautical Chart Symbols and Abbreviations.* 7th ed. Washington, DC: Department of Defense, 1979.
- (PD) *Political Dissent.* A Keesing's Reference Publication. Comp. by Henry W. Degenhardt. Ed. by Alan J. Day. Harlow, Essex, England: Longman Group, 1983; distributed in US by Gale Research Co., Detroit.
- "An International Guide to Dissident, Extra-Parliamentary, Guerrilla and Illegal Political Movements." Includes the history and aims of approximately 1,000 organizations, with details of their leaderships.
- (POL) *Abbreviations in the Polish Press.* Translations on Eastern Europe: Political, Sociological, and Military Affairs, no. 88. Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1969.
- (PPE) *Political Parties of Europe.* 2 vols. Ed. by Vincent E. McHale. The Greenwood Historical Encyclopedia of the World's Political Parties. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1983.
- One of a series of reference guides to the world's significant political parties. "Each guide provides concise histories of the political parties of a region and attempts to detail the evolution of ideology, changes in organization, membership, leadership, and each party's impact upon society."
- (PPW) *Political Parties of the World.* A Keesing's Reference Publication. Comp. and ed. by Alan J. Day and Henry W. Degenhardt. Harlow, Essex, England: Longman Group, 1980; distributed in US by Gale Research Co., Detroit.
- Covers historical development, structure, leadership, membership, policy, publications, and international affiliations. For each country, an overview of the current political situation and constitutional structure is provided.
- (RO) *Reference Aid: Abbreviations in the Romanian Press.* Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1979.
- (RU) *Glossary of Russian Abbreviations and Acronyms.* Aerospace Technology Division, Reference Department, Library of Congress. Washington, DC: US Government Printing Office, 1967.
- (SJT) *Reference Aid: Glossary of Specialized Japanese Terms.* Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1974.
- (TU) *Reference Aid: Abbreviations, Acronyms and Special Terms in the Turkish Press of Turkey and the TFSC.* Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1977.

- (TVP) *Reference Aid: Glossary of Terms Used in the Vietnamese Press*. 2nd rev. Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1976.
- (WEN) *Reference Aid: Glossary of Acronyms, Abbreviations, and Special Terms Used in Dutch, Finnish, German (Western Europe), and Scandinavian Press*. Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1977.
- (WER) *Reference Aid: Glossary of Acronyms, Abbreviations, and Special Terms Used in the Western Europe Romance-Language Press*. Arlington, Va.: Joint Publications Research Service, 1977.
- (YU) *Yugoslav Abbreviations: A Selective List*. 2nd ed. Washington, DC: Library of Congress, 1962.

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