Archives Research as Unfinished Business

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OCTOBER is American Archives Month
Varieties of Archives

Governments: national, regional, local
Intergovernmental organizations
Businesses
Medical/health care organizations
Science/technology organizations
Labor organizations
Faith-based organizations
Educational institutions
Non-governmental organizations
Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework

Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, John Ruggie
The kilo/Ph.D. ratio
Access is the availability of records/archives for consultation as a result both of legal authorization and the existence of finding aids.

--Dictionary of Archival Terminology, 2nd Edition
International Council on Archives

World organization of archival institutions and archivists

Headquartered in Paris
Principles of Access to Archives

Adopted August 2012
1. The public has the right of access to archives of public bodies. Both public and private entities should open their archives to the greatest extent possible.
2. Institutions holding archives make known the existence of the archives, including the existence of closed materials, and disclose the existence of restrictions that affect access to the archives.
3. Institutions holding archives adopt a pro-active approach to access.
4. Institutions holding archives ensure that restrictions on access are clear and of stated duration, are based on pertinent legislation, acknowledge the right of privacy and respect the rights of owners of private materials.
5. Archives are available on equal and fair terms.
6. Institutions holding archives ensure that victims of serious crimes under international law have access to archives that provide evidence needed to assert human rights and to document violations of them, even if those archives are closed to the general public.
7. Users have the right to appeal a denial of access.
8. Institutions holding archives ensure that operational constraints do not prevent access to archives.
9. Archivists have access to all closed archives and perform necessary archival work on them.
10. Archivists participate in the decision-making process on access.
Enjoy the delicious process of archival research!