

Sources of Law

Law

Where legal rules come from, and which prevails in a conflict.

Source and authority.

Source	Made by	Status
Constitution	Founding or amending process	Highest, where one exists
Legislation	Parliament or legislature	Binds courts
Delegated legislation	Ministers under statute	Valid within delegated power
Case law	Judges deciding disputes	Binding via precedent
International treaty	States, then incorporated	Depends on the system

Educational reference. The hierarchy differs fundamentally between systems with and without constitutional review of legislation.